



PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

17 December 2020

"Respect is the Key"

www.pacificpal-p.schools.nsw.gov.au



CARE – about yourself, others, learning and the environment ISSUE 12 | TERM 4 | WEEK 10

OUR STUDENTS EXCEL

Celebration of Success

On Monday 7 December we held our end of year "Celebration of Success" assembly to recognise students in our school who have worked hard this year and demonstrated a number of outstanding achievements. Congratulations to our 2021 Leadership team, Green Team and House Captains who were presented with their badges, particularly Amelie and Ethan who were introduced as our new 2021 school captains. Congratulations also to our students who were presented with major awards, most improved awards, academic awards, teachers' choice awards and class awards. We are very proud of you all.



2021 School Captains

Amelie and Ethan

2021 Leadership Team

Back Row L-R:
Audrey, Millie, Luke,
Sione

Front Row L-R:
Ryan, Ethan, Amelie, Tilly



2021 Sports Captains

Back Row L-R:
Harrison, Lilly, Billy,
Wendy

Front Row L-R:
Wiley, Kirra, Isabelle, India



2021 Green Team

Back Row L-R:
Jye, Vann, Indigo, Lilly

Front Row L-R:
Ivy, Sienna, Harper, Lila



2021 Term 1 Diary Dates

The following events are happening in the first few weeks of Term 1 2021:

2021 Events Calendar

Wednesday 27 January	Staff Development Day – Teachers only
Thursday 28 January	Staff Development Day – Teachers only
Friday 29 January	First day of school for students returning to Year 1 through to Year 6
Friday 29 January to Wednesday 3 January	Best Start Assessment appointments for Kindergarten students.
Thursday 4 February	First day of school for Kindergarten
Tuesday 9 February	Swimming Carnival for students in Year 3 through to Year 6 (students in Year 2 who are turning 8 years old in 2021 may attend if they would like to but must be able to competently swim 50 metres).



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OUR STUDENTS EXCEL

Celebration of Success Major Award Winners 2020



Academic Awards
Adam and Milla



Sport Champions Award
Koby, Emma and Eve



Stan Trudgett Memorial Scholarship - Riley and Abbie



Cultural Award
Olivia



Citizenship Award
Zeb



VIEW Club Award
Joey



CARE Award-in memory of Luke Ballard - TJ



Great Lakes College Year 7 Scholarship
Mechaella



Boomerang Beach Surf Co – Personal Achievement Award - Zac



Grahame Blades Stage 2 Citizenship Award
Lyle



Anne Masters Jnr Citizenship Award
Leilani

Sponsors for Celebration of Success

We wish to thank the following sponsors for their generous support of our Celebration of Success Assembly.

Grahame Blades
VIEW Club

Anne Masters
Great Lakes College Forster Campus

Boomerang Beach Surf Co- Ken and Dale Reynolds
Club Forster

Wendy and Barry Ballard



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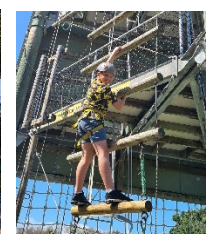
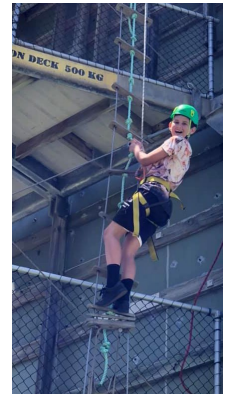
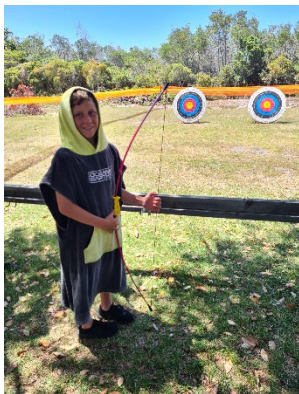
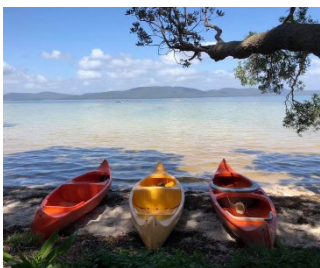


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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Yr 6 Camp Elim Excursion

It was a successful day at Camp Elim with smiles all round. Luckily, we had good weather with sunny blue skies followed by a beautiful cool breeze in the afternoon. To begin, the children were placed in small mixed groups and allocated an activity. The activities included, rock climbing, abseiling, canoeing, archery and 'The Giant Swing'. Each group spent roughly one hour at each activity then rotated to the next. The most popular activity was 'The Giant Swing' due to its staggering height and challenging pull-release. Many children swung upside down showing off their bravery and fearless talent. Several teachers gave 'The Giant Swing' a go with children pulling them to the highest point and laughing devilishly. The day was filled with fun and exciting activities that ended with happy, exhausted faces and giggles that made you smile from ear to ear. Thank you to all the staff and children who made the day so enjoyable!





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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

High School Orientation



Year 6 students enjoyed an orientation day at Great Lakes College Forster Campus on Tuesday 1 December. The students were placed in groups and experienced a day in the life of a high school student with timetabled lessons from a variety of faculties. This process is an excellent way to prepare the students for the world of many classrooms and teachers a day, in many different places. We are very proud of our Year 6 students and wish them all the best for their future endeavours.



K-2 Movie Excursion

Year 1 and 2 headed off to Great Lakes Cinema and One Mile Park on Thursday, 3 December. Students had an exciting day with their teachers and learning support officers. They enjoyed a fun movie with popcorn and a drink, and were thrilled by the experience. Students then enjoyed a picnic lunch at the park, followed by play on the equipment and games in our gorgeous local environment. We made our exit with our exhausted children (a few had a nap on the way home) and we arrived safely home in the Palms. We were very proud of our beautifully behaved students and the cinema commented on how well-mannered they were. Well done to our K-2 classes!





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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Big Buzz Excursion

On Tuesday 8 December students in Year 3, 4 and 5 went to Big Buzz. This fun day out allowed students to try out multiple waterslides, play in the pool, get lost in the water maze and slide down the slide. We had a record of 72 slides down the Kamikaze waterslide during our visit. The kids made the most of their time at the adventure park and had an amazing day.



Year 6 Graduation

On Wednesday, 9 December our Year 6 students celebrated their time at Pacific Palms Public School by attending their Graduation dinner. Thank you to Ms Williams, Mrs Knight, Mrs Brislane and Mrs King for a wonderful send off, it was really appreciated by the students and their parents. A special thank you to the Year 6 students, it has been a pleasure and we wish you the best of luck in high school. You will be missed! Thank you also to Lexi for the delicious catering, Alex from Martin & Ko. for providing the amazing lighting and décor, and Matt and Mel Williams from M&M Signs for the 2020 farewell sign.

MARTIN & KO.





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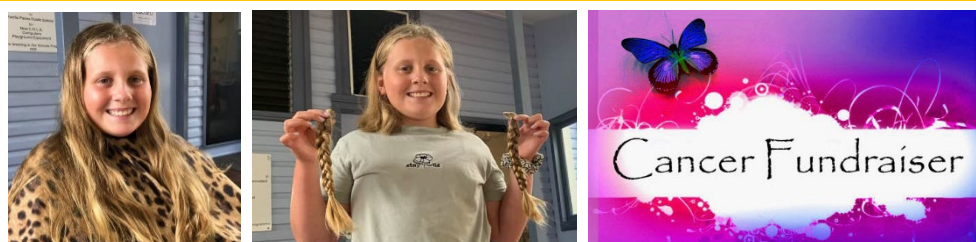
"Musicals" Celebration Concert

Our "Musicals" Celebration Concert was held on Friday 11 December. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 guidelines we were only able to offer an invitation to our Kindergarten parents to attend. KM and K/1D performed live on stage followed by the virtual viewing of the 1/2S, 1/2K and 2/3G performances and the presentation of the Kindergarten graduation certificates. A big thank you to all of our amazing Kindergarten to Year 2 teachers for their hard work throughout the year. Well done to our talented students, it was a wonderful performance and we are very proud of you all.



Fantastic Fundraising Abbie!!

Abbie you are an absolute star! Abbie wanted to raise money to help her nanna who is going through chemotherapy and has lost her hair. Abbie will donate all money raised to her nanna's charity. On Wednesday Abbie cut off her long locks to donate her hair. To date Abbie has raised over **\$2500**. Abbie you are an inspiring and beautiful individual.





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P&C NEWS

Pacific Palms P & C Association Executive 2021

On Monday 23 November at our P&C AGM our new 2021 Executive team was elected as follows:

- President – position vacant
- Vice President – Anna O'Meara
- Vice President – Sarah Downs
- Treasurer – Henry Joyce
- Secretary – Rachel Walker



At the next general meeting in Term 1, we will be taking nominations and voting for a president. Come along and join us, the more the merrier.

Flavour of the Palms Recipe Book

Thank you to Anna, Sarah and Henry for pulling off a Christmas miracle by getting copies of the P&C recipe book early from Sydney and for running the P&C stall at the Palms markets last Sunday. The recipe books look amazing and are selling fast. Thank you for all your hard work.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we come to the end of an extraordinary year, it is the perfect time to reflect and acknowledge the great school community we have here at Pacific Palms Public School. Even though we had a smooth start to the year, things changed very quickly, requiring changes to be made almost overnight. We have all adapted to a new way of working and living with COVID-19. Our priorities remained the same as yours, to keep our community safe. We are proud of how our school has adapted and continued to flourish.

Despite the challenges 2020 has thrown at us, we have continued to enjoy many wonderful student and staff achievements – across academic pursuits, on the sporting field, creative and performing arts, and through many other areas where our students have been able to demonstrate their talents and leadership skills.





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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I take this opportunity to commend the families, teachers and students on the excellent outcomes that have been achieved in the most challenging of years. We have grown academically through our learning, both online, at home and in the classroom and created new ways to support social and emotional wellbeing for all. Thank you to our community, who have been outside our school gate most of the year. We have appreciated your support and commitment. Thank you to our staff, who this year more than ever have gone above and beyond on every level. It is a privilege and a joy to work with our staff – watching them this year adapt and adjust to the unbelievable amount of change on every level was truly inspiring. To our students, you showed great determination, resilience and motivation during the year that COVID-19 impacted our world. We are so proud of you and all you have achieved.



While families have been outside the school, we have been busy working through some maintenance and school grounds/buildings upgrades this year. This year we have had major renovations completed on our canteen building, new roofing replacing old, air conditioning in 7 classrooms and the library.

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding service of our P&C Association. They work tirelessly behind the scenes to support our school. This year was very successful in a number of 'different' ways, including zoom meetings! Can we congratulate our P&C President Jodie Dries, who has completed her 3 year tenure and has accomplished so much! The recipe book has been such a success and a wonderful celebration of community, a great way to end 2020. The P&C run canteen has also been a great service to our school this year, operating in a safe way, Lexi has been amazing and we thank her for her work. We were also able to spend the \$10 000 donation from the P&C Fair, to purchase school resources, wet weather games and library furniture.

Our community really stepped up when the changes made meant that their children needed to stay at home and learn from home. The way that parents, grandparents and others embraced all the different technologies we started to use was nothing short of incredible. I can't thank the community enough for their work with our students to ensure that any disruption to their learning was kept to a minimum. A special thank you also to all of our essential workers in our community who made sure we all stayed safe and well in an unprecedented year.

Finally, I want to mention the extraordinary executive staff I work with each and every day. They provided me with great support to navigate this unusual year. The way in which all of the executive worked together to support the teachers was incredible. I relied heavily on their skills



and knowledge to help me navigate the way to best support our teachers and staff. The Learning At Home Hub was key to the school being able to support our students and the executive were paramount to the success of this process. To Lyn, Katrina and Helen, thank you for all your support and guidance throughout this year. You are a truly gifted group of professionals and can take great pride in the school which you run. PPPS would not enjoy the excellent reputation it has in our community without your dedication and skills. Thank you.



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Farewells and new staff

Lorna Tavener has been a valuable member of our staff since 2013. She is well known for her contribution to school life, school community and curriculum knowledge, supporting many staff over this time. Lorna has been our Learning and Support Coordinator, supporting and extending students learning and working alongside teachers and parents. Lorna and her wonderful talents will be missed and we wish her the very best with her retirement. We wish her and Ted safe travels and lots of great adventures, we hope that she will remain working at our school next year on a casual basis.



Lauren Perkins will be joining our team in 2021. Lauren will replace Lorna as our Learning and Support Coordinator 3 days a week. Lauren has moved to our area with a young family from Killarney Heights Public School, where she has been assistant principal for a number of years. We know you will make her feel welcome.

Sue Cunich has been successful in her appointment as Instructional Leader in 2021 in Wagga. Sam Bowkett has also taken up a leadership position for 2021 at Rukenvale Public School in the north of the state. We wish them both well, two temporary appointments for classroom teachers in 2021 will be made for a January start.

Lori Salt has worked at Palms since 2011. Next year Lori will take up the role of School Administration Manager at Forster Public School. We know she will be amazing and we will miss her greatly.



If this year has taught us anything, it is to live in the now. Be kind now. Put down the phone, talk to a friend, spend time with your family and enjoy life by being grateful for the small things – the sunshine on your face, the sand beneath your feet, the salt water on your skin and the company you have. I wish all you a safe and happy holiday and a healthy 2021.

Yours in learning

Melissa Merchant
Principal



DON'T CRY
BECAUSE IT'S OVER,
SMILE
BECAUSE IT
HAPPENED.
- Dr. Seuss

THE BEAUTIFUL PROJECT.COM



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BUSHFIRE PLAN UPDATE

We are pleased to inform you that our school has updated our Emergency Management Plan for the bushfire season. This has been done in consultation with the RFS, who have been on site to see our facilities and plan. The Department has also launched a Bushfire Strategy offering resources and support to schools.

Pacific Palms Public School is in a bushfire prone area and identified as Category 2 on the Department's bushfire register and it is important that we undertake appropriate emergency planning and monitor bushfire conditions during the bushfire season and be ready to act when required.

Our plan may involve students sheltering in our school hall. We will always be in contact with parents via social media, app and email. Please ensure your details are up to date! In case of any emergency we will also be in close contact with our local RFS and local Mid Coast support.

If you want to report a fire please call the **Bushfire Information Line 1300 679 737**.

New update for Fires Near Me NSW

Please update your app or check the website, you'll see new icons for bushfires across NSW. This is part of a new national approach to warnings. Over time they'll be used for more hazards in more locations, so you can expect to see the same approach whether you're at home, work or travelling. 🔥

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/>



KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN AN EMERGENCY

A new national system for warnings means you will see changes to the way incidents are shown on our app and website



ADVICE



WATCH AND ACT



EMERGENCY WARNING



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Education

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SUMMER PROGRAM

Active OOSH @ Pacific Palms

Dec
Jan
↓

			Thur 17 Under the Sea	Fri 18 Edible Science
	Mon 21 Sports Day	Tue 22 Master Chef	Wed 23 Wildlife Australia	Thur 24 Christmas Party
				Fri 25 CLOSED Christmas Day
	Mon 4 CLOSED Operating at Forster	Tue 5 CLOSED Operating at Forster	Wed 6 CLOSED Operating at Forster	Thur 7 CLOSED Operating at Forster
				Fri 8 CLOSED Operating at Forster
	Mon 11 Inflatable Day	Tue 12 9D Cinema	Wed 13 Junkyard Beats	Thur 14 Ninja Warrior Day
				Fri 15 Disco & Karaoke Day
	Mon 18 Great Lakes Cheerleading	Tue 19 Colour Run	Wed 20 My Pet Dinosaur	Thur 21 Circus Day
				Fri 22 Fizzics Science
	Mon 25 Water Fun Day	Tue 26 CLOSED Public Holiday	Wed 27 Movie & Pizza Day	Thur 28 Back to School Party!
				Fri 29 CLOSED 1st Day of School

WHAT TO BRING TO OOSH

- ✓ A BROAD BRIMMED HAT
- ✓ A BOTTLE OF WATER
- ✓ LUNCH AND SNACKS
- ✓ BIKE OR SCOOTER (IF YOU LIKE!)

BOOK NOW!!!

TEXT OR CALL 0407 903 979
Email: accounts@activeoosh.com.au



Please ensure you confirm your enrolment in MyGov to reduce your fees

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