



PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



30 October 2020

“Respect is the Key”

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



CARE – about yourself, others, learning and the environment ISSUE 10 | TERM 4 | WEEK 3

OUR STUDENTS EXCEL

Introducing our 2021 Student Leadership Team



Amelie, Audrey, Millie, Tilly, Ethan, Luke, Sione, Ryan

It was very exciting to announce our 2021 Student Leadership Team last week. Congratulations to Amelie, Audrey, Millie, Tilly, Ethan, Luke, Sione and Ryan. The 2021 Student Leadership Team presented their speeches yesterday and students in Year 2 to Year 5 were then given the opportunity to vote. Badges will be presented at our Senior Celebration of Success assembly on Monday, 7 December 2020. We are very proud of all students who were prepared to try out for these roles. Voting was quite close so all children should feel very proud. Other leadership opportunities for next year include Sport House Captains, Green Team, Library Monitors and our Kinder Buddies program.



UP COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 4

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDAR	
Monday, 2 Nov	Year 6 Athletics Day and Yr 6 Cross Country
Monday, 9 Nov	P&C AGM @ 6.00 pm. Venue to be confirmed. Financial members may vote.
Thursday, 12 Nov	Assembly online
Friday, 13 Nov	Happy Start for our 2021 Kindergarten from 9.30 am to 12 pm
Monday, 16 Nov	Pirates of the Curry Bean – Performance
Tuesday, 17 Nov	Pirates of the Curry Bean – Performance
Thursday, 19 Nov	Pirates of the Curry Bean - Performance
Friday, 20 Nov	Happy Start for our 2021 Kindergarten from 9.30 am to 12 pm
Friday, 27 Nov	Happy Start for our 2021 Kindergarten from 9.30 am to 12 pm
Friday, 27 Nov	Yr 6 Camp Elim Excursion



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2020 STANSW Young Scientists Paper Plane Challenge

Congratulations to Ollie, Rhys and Jaspa for being finalists in this years 2020 STANSW Young Scientists Paper Plane Challenge. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, throws were recorded and entered online. They were judged for distance and airtime. The competition received well over 300 entries from 76 schools around Australia and one international school in Iran. Jaspa was 6th overall for Year 4 airtime. Ollie PB'd beating last years 7th placing, in distance, with 6th this year! Rhys was 24th overall for distance. Well done boys!

Congratulations (left to right) Ollie, Rhys and Jaspa



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Book Week Celebrations

Our Book Week enthusiasm again this year was amazing. It was wonderful to see our students and staff embrace the book character dress up and come up with such creative and wonderful costumes to celebrate the 2020 Book Week theme of “Curious Creatures, Wild Minds”. Congratulations also to all our Book Week award winners.





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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Our New Playground

On Monday our local member for the Myall Lakes Electorate, Stephen Bromhead MP visited our school to officially open our new playground with Jodie and Brenda. Thank you again to our wonderful P&C who applied for the “My Community Project” to replace our aging playground equipment last year. There was a fantastic response to the voting process and interest in a new, safe and fun play space for our students. Thank you to all who voted, the playground has been very popular and the kids love it.





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INFORMATION FOR OUR FAMILIES

Kindergarten 2021 Enrolments

Enrolment for Kindergarten 2021 is now open. With updated Covid-19 guidelines, we will now be able to run our 4 week Happy Start transition program. Enrolment packs are available for collection at school. We also have lots of new information for our new Kindergarten students available on our school website, including a 13 minute virtual parent information video. Please contact the office if you have any enquiries.



<https://education.nsw.gov.au/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment/primary-school-enrolment>



Year 6 Excursion – Camp Elim

We are excited to announce that Year 6 will be offered an end of year excursion to Camp Elim on Friday 27 November at a cost of \$45. Activities offered include archery, instructed canoes, adventure tower and giant swing. This camp aims to provide our year 6 students with a rewarding experience. Please return permission notes and money to the front office.

Pirates of the Curry Bean – Musical Production 2020



We are really excited about our upcoming musical performance. As you are aware Mrs B and Ms Perkins and our Stage 3 students have been behind the scenes here at school working hard on our musical to be held in Week 6. While there are more restrictions on the audience this year, many other parts of the musical will go ahead within the current COVID guidelines, which are being updated regularly. As a staff we have spent significant time planning ahead to keep our community safe and to give our students the best opportunities and experiences possible. We understand the value of the performing arts to uplift our students and support student wellbeing.



In 2020 we are planning (adhering to the current COVID-19 Guidelines):

1. Dress rehearsal (K-2 student audience) Monday
2. Matinee (3-4 student audience) Tuesday
3. Matinee (80 5/6 students from Hallidays Point Public School) Thursday
4. Live stream to a private link for parents to watch on Tues Matinee
5. A professional film business records the musical – a link sent to parents to watch afterwards.



We understand our community are very keen to have an adult audience and watch their children perform and are understandably disappointed this is not possible at this time. The rehearsals have been going really well and we know our students are super excited about performing.



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Year 6 End of Year Events 2020

It is hard to believe that in just a few short weeks our wonderful Year 6 students will be leaving us and moving to high school! As usual, Term 4 is a busy time for our year 6 students and this year is no different. While there are some restrictions still in place, we will be going ahead with all our end of year events, in a COVID-19 safe manner.



Some of the things to look forward to include.....

- | | |
|---|--|
| ★ Sports Coach Visit – Cricket sessions | ★ Pirates of the Curry Bean musical |
| ★ Year 6 Athletics Day | ★ Beach visits/excursions |
| ★ GLC – Staff visits/Zooms | ★ Class parties |
| ★ NAIDOC Week | ★ Talent Quest |
| ★ Year 6 Cross Country | ★ Celebration of Success Assembly and awards |
| ★ GLC High School Orientation Day | ★ Year 6 Graduation |
| ★ Camp Elim day excursion | ★ Year 6 March Out – final day |



We are looking for alternatives and new ways of doing things all the time. As restrictions lift, we will adjust our plan accordingly. We understand this has been a difficult year for many and are keen to end 2020 in a positive way at school.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

How astounding to find ourselves in November, with Term 4 well underway and the end of the school year just two months away!! Of course, this time of year brings so much excitement and opportunities. We are continuing to plan for COVID safe end of year events. We will go ahead with all our usual Term 4 special occasions, some may look a little different this year. We will update you soon with more details. Term 4 always makes us collectively enormously proud. So much to look forward to!



Year 6, not long now!

It is a sad time of year when we all come to the realisation that our Year 6 students will be ending their primary school education and moving onto high school. Only seven weeks to go for them. Some of them have been with us since beginning Kindergarten. That is seven years in the same school with many of the same friends and teachers. Our thoughts are with them as they come to terms with leaving the comfortable confines of our supportive little school to join the throngs of the larger population of a high school campus with multiple teachers and classrooms for the different subjects they will be learning. A huge change lies ahead not only with the school change but with growing up as well. It is not easy being a young person between childhood and adolescence. Our thoughts and wishes are with you, Year 6. Make these last weeks of primary school the best you can! Leave us with fond memories of you.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2021 School Structure

It is that time of year again when our school starts planning for the school structure for the next year. How we structure classes for 2021 will depend on the total number of students enrolled for 2021, the staffing entitlement the Department of Education allocates and numbers in each grade. We currently have 34 Kindergarten enrolments. We are planning for 11 classes.

As always teachers are in the best professional position to make the decision about where a child should be placed for the optimum possible benefit of a child's educational progress. We know that children grow and change as they progress through school. They change socially and their associations with other children change. Academically they may need support or face additional challenges. As always, it is important to remember that students are placed in classes to enhance their learning opportunities with sound teacher professional knowledge backed by assessment, work tasks and classroom teacher observations and expertise on the educational, social and emotional growth of a child. We do welcome your input in this process if you believe there are extenuating circumstances that need to be considered when placing your child in a class for 2021. If this is so you are welcome to make a phone call to discuss this matter. Remember this process is totally confidential. Please remember that all these requests will be taken into consideration but we cannot guarantee that it will be possible to fulfil these requests, as numbers, teachers available and professional educational judgement will determine the final outcome. Classes will be formed at the end of the year for 2021 but as always may not be set until the beginning of 2021 when numbers of students on seats become apparent.



Student Reports

Teachers are currently working hard on assessment tasks, discussing work samples and writing Semester 2 Reports. A copy of the written report will be sent home on Tuesday 15 December 2020.

Pacific Palms Public School P&C AGM

The P & C Association AGM is being held on **Monday 9 November at 6.00 pm** after the monthly P&C Meeting at 6:30pm. We are receiving new updated COVID-19 guidelines next week, this will include an update. It may mean we can meet face to face! We will let you know ASAP. All positions will be declared vacant. There are members of the current Exec that are moving on. This gives the opportunity for some new people to be on the P&C. To ensure the successful continuation of our P&C it is crucial that these roles are filled. Please join us, we look forward to seeing you.



Staffing

We are currently finalising teaching and support staff for 2021. More information in the next newsletter when we have positions confirmed.

Mel Merchant
Principal

"We rise by lifting others."
Robert G. Ingersoll



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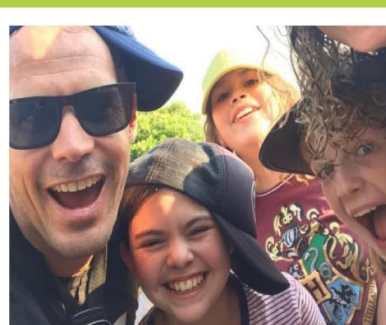
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Parents and families,

Community Interest Survey - Pacific Palms Aquatic Centre (swimming pool)

Please take 5 minutes to complete the survey at the below link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8HH7D6T>

