



PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

25 February 2022

"Respect is the Key"

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



CARE – about yourself, others, learning and the environment ISSUE 2 | TERM 1 | WEEK 5

Our Students Excel

2022 Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival was held at Great Lakes Aquatic and Leisure Centre on Tuesday 15 February. Due to COVID restrictions things were a little different again this year, with only competitive swimmers able to participate. Well done to all our swimmers who attended the carnival and swam in their chosen race/s. It was great to see so many students participating and trying their best. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the day a great success.



Term 1 Diary Dates

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDER

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Wednesday, 2 March | Zone Soccer Trials for selected students |
| Friday 4 March | Scripture resumes (please return your 2022 permission notes) |
| Friday 11 March | Hunter Regional Swimming for qualifying students only |
| Thursday 17 March | Stage 3 CPR Program 9 am to 10 am |
| TBA | Cross Country |



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Our Students Excel

Manning Zone PSSA Touch Football Trials

Congratulations to Hunter and Ben for representing our school at the Manning Zone Touch Football trial on Monday, 21 February. Well done Hunter and Ben for participating in the trial. We are very proud of you both.



Ben and Hunter

Manning Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival



PPPS 2022 Zone Swimming Team

Back Row: Aria, Georgia, Alice, Bella, Felix, Jasper.

Middle Row: Harley, Emily, Malea, Jonah, Bodhi, Kayne, Jett, Ariel

Front: Byron, Ozzy, Melaleuca, Violet, Coco, Lachlan

Absent: Sienna, Marlo, Mason, Ben

Congratulations to all of our students who represented our school at the Zone Swimming Carnival at Manning Aquatic Centre Taree on Wednesday. Our talented swimmers were a credit to our school. Thank you to Mr Wilson and Mrs Kekwick for accompanying the team on the day and to all the parents who provided transport and cheered our team on.

A special mention to the following students who qualified for the Hunter Regional Swimming Trials at Lambton on Friday, 11 March. We wish you good luck.



- **Byron** – 10 yrs 50 m freestyle
- **Alice** – Open 100 m freestyle, 12 yrs 50 m freestyle, 12 yrs 50 m butterfly, 12 yrs 50 m backstroke
- **Jasper** – 8 yrs 50 m freestyle





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School Happenings

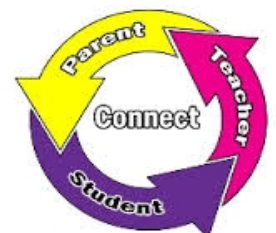
Welcome Kindergarten 2022

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our 2022 Kindergarten students and their families. We have had a great start to the year and look forward to a very productive and fun year. Mrs Dorfling and Mrs Hunt are very impressed at how quickly our new students have settled into school routines and how much they are enjoying learning.



Getting to Know You Interviews

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your interest in our parent/teacher "Getting to Know You Interviews" which, due to COVID restrictions, were again held over the phone. If you were unable to book an interview time but would like to speak with your child's teacher please contact the office. The interviews are a wonderful time for you to share with us information about your child.





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Supervision at School Term 1 - 2022

The supervision and safety of students is an important component of schools. Staff have a 'Duty of Care' during school hours. We ask all parents to support the following to ensure appropriate safety and supervision of our students at all times. As restrictions ease, we will update our expectations.

- **Morning bell 8:55 am** – families are asked to have children dropped off before 8:55 am. The bell rings and we go directly to classes. On Monday morning there is a short assembly under the COLA.
- **Afternoon pick up** – students who are being picked up in the afternoon must only be collected from the double gates at the hall, all students catching buses should be in bus lines with their supervising teachers. At no time are students allowed to leave the school grounds, wait outside school gates or cross any road without direct parent supervision.
- **Before school 8:30 am** - A reminder to parents that there is **no** supervision for students at school before 8:30 am and after 3:00 pm. Students should not be left in the school grounds unattended at these times. Please book into our OOSH for before and after school care.
- **Office Hours:** 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
- **Weekends** – no students or families should be in the school grounds on the weekends, especially unsupervised.

Information for our Parents

Expressions of Interest for High School – Year 7 2023



NSW Department of Education "Expression of Interest" forms for High School were sent home earlier this week. This form should be completed by parents and carers of all students requesting placement in Year 7 at a NSW Government school next year. After the Expression of Interest has been processed, your child will be offered a place at a government school. The high school will then send you an "Application to Enrol" form to be completed later in the year. Please return all completed "Expression of Interest" forms to the office as soon as possible.

Kindergym/Gym Program

Students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will have the opportunity to participate in a Kindergym/Gym program guided by an accredited leader, Kate Kinnear. This program assists students in development and co-ordination, confidence and self-esteem. The program will run over a 10 week period on Friday mornings commencing 4 March 2022. The program will continue for 4 weeks in Term 2. The cost of the program is \$15 per child. Please return the completed permission slip and payment to the front office. Payments can also be made on the school website by [MAKE A PAYMENT](#) clicking on the tab.



Lost Property

Please remember to write your child's name on all school items – hats, jumpers, lunchboxes, drink bottles etc. We do our best to return all items to students however it is often difficult when lost items do not have a name on them. Lost property can be collected from the front office.



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P & C News

2022 P&C Executive Team

Our first P&C Meeting for our 2022 P&C Executive Team was held on Tuesday 15 February. Our 2022 P&C Executive Team are as follows:



- **President:** Ali Joyce
- **Vice President:** Anna O'Meara
- **Vice President:** Juliet Miller
- **Secretary:** Rachel Walker
- **Treasurer:** Sara Lennon

We are looking forward to a fabulous year.

The next P&C Meeting will be on:

- Tuesday 22 March 2022 at 6 pm in the Library.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Thank you to our P&C for supporting our Zone Swimming Team by supplying our swimming team with caps. They look fantastic!

School Parking

Parking - School Zone Fines

A reminder about parking at the front of the school. Last year the ranger consistently visited our school between 8 am to 9.30 am and 2.30 pm to 4.00pm. The Ranger can be in the Palms area at random, warning drivers about the parking rules. See below for infringements.

Parking Fines

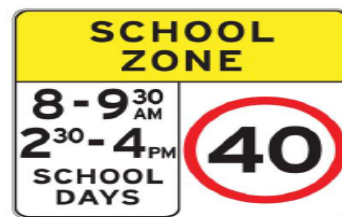
- Bus zone - \$337 fine and 2 demerit points
- No Stopping - \$337 fine and 2 demerit points
- No Parking - \$187 fine and 2 demerit points

Speeding Fines

- Exceed speed 10km/h and under in a school zone - \$472 and 2 demerit points
- Exceed speed over 10km/h in a school zone - \$588 and 4 demerit points
- Exceed speed 20km/h in a school zone - \$707 and 5 demerit points

Kids look to you to keep them safe...

Know the signs.
Know the rules.



40km/h School Zone

The 40km/h school zone speed limit must be observed during school zone operating times.



Bus Zones
Stopping is not permitted during the times shown on this sign.



No Stopping Zones
Stopping is not permitted at any time.



No Parking Zones
Drivers may drop off or pick up children during the times shown, but note:
• The maximum stopping time is 2 minutes
• The driver must remain within 3 metres of the vehicle.

Fines and loss of demerit points apply.

A road safety initiative from MidCoast Council





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COVID Intensive Learning and Support (CILSP) - 2022

Late last year the NSW Government announced that \$337 million would be spent on small group tuition in schools across the state. This was to ensure that student learning was supported following the disruptions experienced in 2020 with learning from home because of COVID-19 and in some cases drought, floods and bushfires.

The COVID intensive learning support program is focussed on the development of core content and skills in numeracy and literacy.

At our school, we are extremely fortunate to have sourced an incredible team. Lorna Tavener, Jessie Meehan and Mel O'Neill, who have extensive teaching experience, are our CILSP Team. They will begin to work in classrooms next week. Data has been used to identify students who would benefit from additional support to "raise the bar" in their learning. In Years 1 and 2 the focus will be on reading, writing and numeracy, while in Year 3 and Year 4, it will be on reading and writing for this first semester.

There will be ongoing communication among teachers, tutors and parents. If your child is selected to participate in these groups, you will receive a letter next week.



Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters

Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps build and maintain friendships with their peers.

If students miss the foundation skills in the early years of school, they may have problems early on.

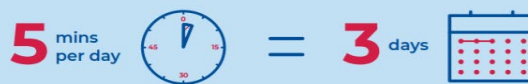
Regular attendance at school will help your child succeed in later life.

We understand that life happens but it is very important to let the school know when your child will be away and why your child was absent.

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss days per year



education.nsw.gov.au



Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life



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The importance of a positive mathematics mindset

The importance of a positive mathematics mindset


Recently students from year 1 to year 6 at Pacific Palms Public School completed a mathematics food metaphor. This is where the students had to describe;

if mathematics was a food, it would be.... because....

The reason behind this activity was to reveal things such as; the intensity of students' affection or disaffection towards mathematics and the persistence levels, confidence, and growth mindset of the students. Below are some examples of the students' work.

Name Jonah Necessarian Class 5/6k Date: 11/2/22

If Mathematics was a food, it would be....?

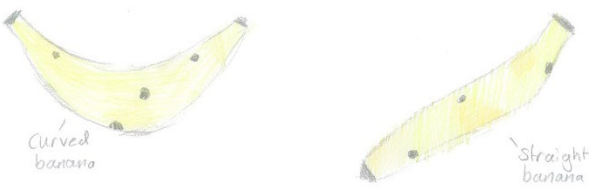


Taco

Because...
Explain your food choice. E.g. I choose fish because it is hard to eat but very delicious, there can be bones in the fish which make it tricky to eat, but it is worth it in the end.
I like tacos because their crunchy and extra extra meaty thats why i like Tacos

Name Hannah Jeffs Class 5/6B Date: 21.2.22

If Mathematics was a food, it would be....? A banana

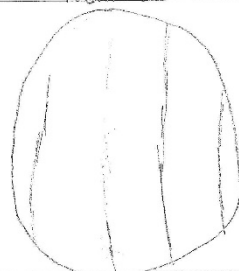


Curved banana straight banana

Because...
Explain your food choice. E.g. I choose fish because it is hard to eat but very delicious, there can be bones in the fish which make it tricky to eat, but it is worth it in the end.
Sometime a banana might be straight (like maths can be straight forward sometimes) or curved (like maths can be a bit tricky and not straight forward) so you have to keep picking to find a straight banana and in the end you will find one!

Name Jack Dries Class 5/6B Date: 21.2.22

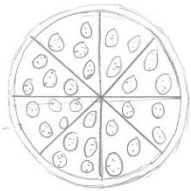
If Mathematics was a food, it would be....? watermelon



Because...
Explain your food choice. E.g. I choose fish because it is hard to eat but very delicious, there can be bones in the fish which make it tricky to eat, but it is worth it in the end.
Some bits are mushy and some are hard out at the end it is really good

Name Jett Class 5/6k Date: _____

If Mathematics was a food, it would be....?




Pizza

Because...
Explain your food choice. E.g. I choose fish because it is hard to eat but very delicious, there can be bones in the fish which make it tricky to eat, but it is worth it in the end.
I choose pizza because it's easy to chew and hard to swallow

Name Emily Class 5/6k Date: 11.2.22

If Mathematics was a food, it would be....?



Because...
Explain your food choice. E.g. I choose fish because it is hard to eat but very delicious, there can be bones in the fish which make it tricky to eat, but it is worth it in the end.
I like fruit a lot, sometimes when I have a wobbly tooth fruit is hard to eat.



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The importance of a positive mathematics mindset

The idea that some people are "maths minded" is incorrect. This fixed ability mindset about mathematics is damaging to the students and stands in the way of mathematical achievement. The teachers at PPPS are creating mathematics communities where students are encouraged to believe that:

- ✓ All students can achieve at high levels with multiple opportunities and encouragement
- ✓ Mistakes and struggle are extremely important
- ✓ Mathematics is not about speed but more about persistence and resilience.

Teachers' messages are hugely powerful. As parents are a child's first teacher, this includes parent's messages. Please help us to create students who believe in themselves and have positive mindsets by reinforcing the message of the lifelong capacity of the brain to learn.

Please do not tell your child that you hated maths or were not good at maths at school, they may then use this as an excuse to have a fixed mindset about hating or being bad at maths.

If we all work together on developing your child's growth mindset we will instil a love of lifelong learning and improve our results in mathematics.

Mrs Lynelle Patterson - APCI

I had a hen that
could count her
own eggs. She was a
mathemachicken.

MRS. E
TEACHES
MATH

Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

Welcome back to another year of learning and fun. A special warm welcome to new families and to families that have a child starting their educational journey in kindergarten at Pacific Palms Public School.

Again, we start the year with minor challenges due to the ongoing Covid 'distraction.' Each day brings new information and new regulations. There are however some certainties: we are well equipped to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for staff and students; there will be NO school closures; interruption to student learning will be minimal; parents, volunteers and community members will be invited back into the school as soon as it is deemed safe and appropriate. We have been living with restrictions now for almost 2 years. During that time, we have learnt so much! The resolve, professionalism and endurance of staff must be applauded as must be the humour, resilience, and flexibility of our learners. We have had the most wonderful start to the school year. Thank you for playing your part in supporting and encouraging your children be engaged and successful in school.





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Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

We have had a wonderful start to the new year with all teaching and support staff and students settling happily into new classrooms and routines. We currently have an enrolment of 278 students across 11 classes. Since returning to school, our staff have had many meetings to complete mandatory training and to begin the complex task of organising our event calendar. There will be additional notes and messages throughout the term from individual year groups/teachers so please remember to check your child's bag for notes daily. Effective communication with families remains a priority. Please follow our (private) Facebook page and website for school news and updates. The newsletter is published 3 times a term and shared via email and is available in hard copy if you require.



Drops offs



A gentle reminder to parents/friends using the 'Kiss and Drop' zone at the front of the school in the mornings and afternoons. This is a 'drive through' zone where you are allowed to park for 3 minutes to drop off or collect students. You are not able to leave your car unattended in that time. PLEASE drive to the end of the zone so that other cars can pull in behind you, to prevent traffic congestion. Let's work together to ensure it works effectively at both drop-off and pick-up.

School Uniform

We are proud to be part of Pacific Palms PS and all students are required to wear full school uniform to school each day, this includes the school hat and jackets/jumpers. We will send home a note next week clarifying the expectations, we have been very impressed so far. A reminder for socks – they should be ankle/short in length and white. NOT long, branded or black please. Minimal jewellery. If families need any support with uniform requirements, please contact the school office on 6554 0249 or your child's teacher.

School Planning for Excellence

Staff meetings and professional learning opportunities have allowed us to determine our school priorities for the year and to set goals against the School Excellence Framework. While our core programs are already underway, we are busy establishing the extra-curricular offerings including lunch clubs, kindergym, excursion planning, sport team preparation and much more to come. I'm always a little in awe of the teachers who take on these additional tasks and give up so much of their time to provide special experiences and opportunities for our lucky students. It's going to be a GREAT year!

Pacific Palms Public School - VISION

We thank the parents, teachers and students who provided feedback on our school's vision. Our draft vision has evolved to the following:



PPPS is a community of learners; inspired to thrive in a respectful, inclusive environment that promotes high expectations. We support wellbeing, maximise academic growth and empower self-directed learners for positive future pathways.



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Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

School Improvement Plan (SIP) 2021-2024

- Strategic Direction 1: Student Growth and Attainment (literacy and numeracy)
- Strategic Direction 2: Building Teacher Capacity (Professional Learning and writing curriculum focus)
- Strategic Direction 3: Inclusivity and Engagement (all students academic, physical, social and emotional wellbeing)

Each day as I walk through the gates at Pacific Palms Public School I am reminded of how fortunate we are as a school community. We live in a beautiful area, have a support network, we have well-resourced classrooms and exceptional staff; we are supported by families who value and engage with their child's education and our children enjoy picturesque, safe play areas. Pacific Palms Public School deservedly enjoys a reputation for being inclusive, caring and dedicated to the pursuit of excellence. Let's enjoy all that 2022 promises.

Yours in learning

Melissa Merchant
Principal



"Children want the same things we want. To laugh, to be challenged, to be entertained and delighted."
Dr Suess



Pacific Palms Netball Club is looking for new junior players!

If you are turning 7-12 yrs in 2022 we would love for you to join us.

Contact Ali on 0412 706 530 for more info or head to our facebook page for registration details.



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PPPS UNIFORM SHOP



Parents are welcome to come to the canteen to purchase uniforms between 9am – 9.30am on Thursday mornings for EFTPOS Sales or anytime on the Qkr App.

Second-hand uniform items available at the uniform shop for \$5 an item.

All other orders are to be made via the Qkr App for Thursday collection. Uniforms can be sent home with your child or collected from the office after 10:00am.

Pre-orders for uniform bottoms will be made each term (cut off dates advertised at the start of each term).|

Please drop any second-hand uniforms in good condition to the canteen on Thursdays between 9-9.30am or to the office.



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Master Fay Shacklock: 7th Dan International Black Belt
Ambassador for Australian Taekwondo
Inductee into World Taekwondo Hall of Fame.
Our association is Australian Taekwondo, the only Taekwondo recognised by the National Sport Commission and the Australian Olympic Committee.

Learn the Art of Taekwondo

Come along and join a family friendly sport which teaches not only the art of Self-defence but is fun, high energy and teaches the 5 principles of Taekwondo: Courtesy, Integrity, Perseverance, Self-control and Indomitable Spirit.

All ages welcome from School age to mums and dads, encouraging family groups to train together in 2 Club locations:

Forster – Multi Purpose Hall, Great Lakes College, Forster Campus
Tuesday and Thursday 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Pacific Palms – Multi Purpose Hall, Pacific Palms Public School
Wednesday 3:15pm – 4:15pm

Costs:

\$10 per student per lesson
Families of 2 or more \$20 per lesson

Plus insurance and uniform costs.

Associated with government "Active Kids" \$100 voucher initiative.

All enquires phone Master Fay Shacklock on 0431 742 360
Email: fay.shacklock@gmail.com

LET'S STOP BULLYING





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JOIN NOW



Australian
Air League

NSW Group

NSW GROUP IS NOW ENROLLING



Since 1934 the Australian Air League has been teaching young boys and girls nationwide all about aviation, while helping them develop important life skills like leadership, discipline, self confidence and teamwork. When you join the league you will make new friends and take part in fun and exciting activities, on the ground and in the air.

Each week you will attend your local squadron where you will learn valuable skills and take part in fun and interesting activities and classes. Some of our classes include Meteorology, Navigation, Photography and Community Service. Squadrons also attend training camps, sport and recreational days, flying experiences and ceremonial drill.

We welcome boys and girls from the age of 8 years old from all different cultures and backgrounds. Parents and families are welcome to support or even join their local squadron as a volunteer. All adult members and volunteers are Working with Childrens Checked.

The Australian Air League is running both a fun and educational programme that is making fine citizens out of our young Australians.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE AND YOUR CLOSEST SQUADRON PLEASE CONTACT

**Email: development.nsw@airleague.com.au
www.airleague.com.au Email: info@airleague.com.au**

Free Call: 1800 502 175





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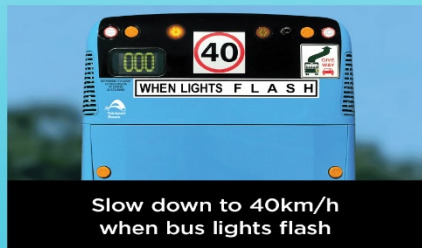


Back to School Bus Safety

With the school holidays coming to an end and students heading back to school this week, motorists are asked to make safe driving their number-one priority.

For motorists

- School zones are now back in force. Reduced speed limits and additional demerit points apply.



Slow down to 40km/h when bus lights flash

- Sticking to the speed limit and following the road rules in school zones.
- You must also slow down to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing.
- Lights flash on buses to warn motorists that buses are picking up and dropping off children.
- Looking out for children crossing the road near bus stops, in school zones or along bus routes.
- Giving way to buses when they merge back into traffic.

STOP!

one step back from the kerb

LOOK!

continuously both ways

LISTEN!

for approaching traffic

THINK!

is it safe to cross the road?

For parents

- Never drop off or meet your child on the opposite side of the road to the bus stop or call them across the road.



- Always drop them off or meet them on the same side of the road as the bus stop.
- Remind your children to always wait until the bus has gone before choosing a safe place to cross the road.





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A fresh start in 2022

Our school is proud to be a SWAP IT school—encouraging students to eat everyday foods to help them grow, learn and play!

Start the year strong by packing lunchboxes full of everyday foods and drinks.

What's in an everyday lunchbox?

- **Crunch&Sip®**: vegetable sticks or fruit
- **Recess**: ready to eat vegetables or fruit and one other everyday snack e.g. popcorn, yoghurt, rice crackers
- **Lunch**: a sandwich, wrap, roll or alternative such as pasta salad or leftovers
- **Drink**: water or reduced fat plain milk
- + Something to keep the lunchbox cool e.g. an ice brick.



<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/packing-an-everyday-lunchbox>

