



# PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

18 March 2022

"Respect is the Key"

[www.pacificpal-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://www.pacificpal-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)



CARE – about yourself, others, learning and the environment ISSUE 3 | TERM 1 | WEEK 8

## Our Students Excel

### Our first Assembly for 2022

Today we were able to hold our first Assembly for 2022 and welcome parents into our school again. Our Assembly was led by our 2022 Leadership Team and attended by students from Years 3 to 6 and many parents/carers and families. Students were presented with their swimming ribbons and trophies. A special mention to Kora and Lesley Duff (our P&C uniform volunteer) who were presented with the Super Awesome Awards from Mrs Merchant. What an amazing achievement!

Photo: Kora and Mrs Merchant



### 2022 Swimming Champions and Winning Sports House

Congratulations to the following talented students who were presented with their 2022 Swimming Age Champion trophies at our assembly today.

- Junior Boy: Byron
- Junior Girl: Bella
- 11 yrs Boy: Jonah
- 11 yrs Girl: Emily
- Senior Boy: Harley
- Senior Girl: Alice

Back Row: Emily and Byron  
Front Row: Alice, Bella,  
Jonah and Harley



### 2022 Winning Sports House

Boomerang Sports House was announced as our 2022 Champion House for swimming with the highest point score tally at our recent school swimming carnival. The award was accepted by Boomerang House Captain, Isabelle. Well done Boomerang!

Photo: Isabelle and Mrs Merchant

## Term 1 Diary Dates

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

### UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDER

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Tuesday, 22 March   | Harmony Day + Meal Deal + dress up                          |
| Tuesday, 22 March   | P&C Meeting at 6 pm in the Library. All welcome.            |
| Thursday, 24 March  | Cross Country on the back oval – Junior 9.45 / Senior 10.30 |
| 28 March to 1 April | Year 4 Swim School – all week                               |
| Monday, 28 March    | Leadership Photos   |
| Wednesday 30 March  | Ride to School Day – more information out soon              |
| 4 April to 8 April  | Year 3 Swim School – all week                               |
| Wednesday, 6 April  | Flood Fundraiser – cake stall, mufti, donation              |
| Friday, 8 April     | K-2 Easter Hat Parade at 2:15 pm in COLA. Parents welcome   |
| Friday, 8 April     | Last day of Term 1 – school holidays commence               |
| Wednesday 27 April  | Students return – First day of Term 2                       |



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## Our Students Excel

### Hunter Regional Swimming Trials

On Friday, 11 March our amazing swimmers travelled to Lambton to represent the Manning Zone at the Hunter Regional Swimming Trials. Congratulations to Alice, Ariel, Jasper and Byron who competed in individual swimming races and to our boys relay team – Jasper, Felix, Marlo and Byron who swam against the best school relay teams in our region.

Back Row: Felix, Alice, Ariel, Byron  
Front Row: Jasper, Marlo



A very special mention to Jasper who came first in the 8yrs 50m Freestyle and qualified for the NSWPSA Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. We are very proud of you.

Photo: Congratulations Jasper!

### Manning Zone PSSA Football (Soccer) Trials

#### Manning Zone Boys Football (Soccer) Trials

Jaspa, Jett and Max represented our school at the Zone Football (Soccer) Trials on Wednesday, 16 March. Congratulations to all three boys who were selected and will now represent the Manning Zone at the Hunter Regional Football (Soccer) trials in Newcastle.

Photo: Jaspa, Jett and Max



#### Manning Zone Girls Football (Soccer) Trials

Malea and Eden represented our school at the girls Zone Football (Soccer) Trials on Wednesday, 16 March. Congratulations to Malea who was selected and will now represent the Manning Zone at the Hunter Regional Football (Soccer) trials in Newcastle.

Photo: Malea and Eden



## School Happenings

### CPR Awareness Training

Our Stage 3 students took part in CPR Awareness Training yesterday. Cameron was very impressed with our student's knowledge and engagement. An important life skill to learn. Well done everyone!







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## INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS



### Kiss and Ride Zone

**Parking reminder:** Kiss and Ride Zones are designed for your convenience and for your child's safety. Designed for quick entry and exit, these zones minimise congestion and risk when used properly by all parents and carers.

These zones operate under the same conditions as no parking zones, which means you may stop to drop off or pick up children for a maximum of **2 minutes**. You are required to remain in, or within 3 metres of, your vehicle. Days and hours of operation may apply to some zones.

This is a busy area each morning and afternoon, please follow the rules to keep all our students safe. 🙌

### Harmony Day Celebrations – Tuesday 22 March

Within Harmony Week we will hold our Harmony Day celebrations. Harmony Day is a celebration of a diverse Australia, and at Pacific Palms we spread the Harmony Day message that 'everyone belongs'!



Next Tuesday children can come to school dressed in a respectful national costume or they can choose to wear something **ORANGE** on this day to show their support for being inclusive. Traditionally, orange relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. It also signifies social communication and meaningful conversations.



The P&C are offering a **Harmony Day Meal Deal**: Chicken Fried Rice with a Spring Roll and Fortune Cookie from Drift. If your child would like to participate, please order on the Qkr! app today.



### Year 3 and Year 4 Swim School



Due to COVID restrictions and lockdowns our Year 3 and Year 4 students will be participating in the Swim School Program at Great Lakes Aquatic and Leisure Centre. The intensive program runs every day for one week and caters for non-swimmers to advanced swimmers.

Students will leave school by bus at 11.15 am for a 12 pm start at the pool. Students will have 2 lessons each day with a break for a light snack in between. Students will return to school by bus before 3 pm.

The cost of the program is \$79, please return permission notes to the office. Payment can be made at the office or by the parent online payment (POP) on the school website [Home - Pacific Palms Public School \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Home - Pacific Palms Public School (nsw.gov.au))



- **Year 4 Swim School Program** from: Monday 28 March to Friday 1 April (Term 1, Week 10)
- **Year 3 Swim School Program** from: Monday 4 April to Friday 8 April 2022 (Term 1, Week 11)



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## INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS

### Cross Country – Thursday, 24 March

Our annual school cross country races will be held on the school oval on next Thursday, 24 March.

- **Junior Cross Country:** 9.45 am to 10.30 am – Kinder, 6 and 7 year olds will race on the junior course. Year 2 students turning 8 yrs old in 2022 will watch.
- **Senior Cross Country:** 10.30 am – Main circuit – All Yr 3 to Yr 6 classes will meet on the oval. Students in Year 2 who are 8 yrs old or turning 8 yrs old in 2022 will join them.

Parents are welcome to attend and should meet on the oval. Parents will need to check-in with the QR code on the day.



### Easter Hat Parade – Friday, 8 April



Our K-2 Easter Hat Parade will be held on Friday, 8 April at 2.15 pm in the COLA. We are asking students in K-2 to show off their creative flare by constructing a hat at home to wear for the parade. A prize will be awarded to a student in each class with the most innovative hat. Parents are invited to watch the parade. The P&C raffle will be drawn on the day.

## P & C NEWS

### P&C Meeting – Tuesday 22 March

Please join us for our next P&C Meeting which will be held on Tuesday 22 March in the Library. We would love to see more new faces.



### Sandpit Toys

Thank you to our P&C for donating new sandpit toys. They have finally made their way out into the sandpit for our students to enjoy.

### P&C Easter Raffle – Drawn Friday, 8 April



Hop online now to our Qkr app to get your raffle tickets for our P&C Easter Eggstravaganza Raffle!

We have some eggcellent items up for grabs...

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize: - Signature Graze Box from Sea & Salt Grazing Co and \$70 gift voucher from Flowers by Fillery
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize: \$75 gift voucher from Juju in Forster
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> prize: 2 x kids Easter Fun Baskets (value \$50 each)





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## Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

We have had such a busy few weeks, both in the classroom and on the sporting field. It was wonderful to invite parents in for our Year 3 to Year 6 assembly. We are planning for many more in Term 2.

Thank you to our Year 6 Leadership Team who were mature when leading our assembly.



**It's Harmony Week next week:** a time to celebrate that all important message "Everyone Belongs"! Exploring understanding, tolerance and creating strong inclusive communities is a priority for all NSW Public Schools. On Tuesday students can come dressed in cultural dress or the colour **orange**. There is a P&C Meal Deal and classroom activities to celebrate.

**EVERYONE  
BELONGS**

### Cross Country

We will be holding our annual Cross Country races on the school oval on **Thursday 24 March 2022**.



- **Junior Cross Country:** 9:45 am - 10:30 am Kinder, 6 and 7 year olds will race on the Junior course. Students who are 8 yrs old or turning 8 in 2022 will watch.
- **Senior Cross Country:** 10:30 am main circuit - All classes year 3 to year 6 will meet on the oval in the class seating area. 8-year-olds from the 1/2 Classes will join them.

### NAPLAN Online 2022

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

NAPLAN is a nationwide measure through which parents, teachers, schools, education authorities, governments and the broader community can determine whether or not young Australians are developing the literacy and numeracy skills that provide the critical foundation for other learning and for their productive and rewarding participation in the community.

NAPLAN is a point-in-time assessment that allows parents to see how their child is progressing against national standards in literacy and numeracy and over time.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of each school's assessment and reporting process, they do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance. Your child's teacher will have the best insight into your child's educational progress.

NAPLAN results do not measure overall school quality.







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The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or 'domains') of:

- reading
- writing
- language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.



If you do not want your child to participate in NPALAN testing please let us know.

For more information about the move to deliver NAPLAN in a computer-based environment, go to [NAPLAN Online](#).



I don't know about you but I'm loving this milder weather. Isn't autumn just the best?

Thanks for being such a supportive school community. I think we're awesome!



Yours in learning,

Melissa Merchant  
Principal



**"You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."**

**Dr Suess**







## P & C Easter Raffle

**Hop online now to our Qkr app to get your raffle tickets for our P&C Easter Eggstravaganza Raffle!**



*We have some eggcellent items up for grabs...*

**1st prize**

- Signature Graze Box from Sea & Salt Grazing Co AND \$70 gift voucher from Flowers by Fillery



**2nd prize**

- \$75 gift voucher from JuJu - in Forster



**3rd and 4th prize**

-2 x Kids Easter Fun Baskets (value \$50 each)



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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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**swop it**  
everyday in the lunchbox

## Grab & Go Snacks



Everyday snacks are an important part of the lunchbox.

Keep snacks bite size and easy to eat so your kids can have lots of time to play! Here's a few ideas:

- Choose snack sized vegetables like baby cucumbers, snow peas and cherry tomatoes that are ready to eat
- Choose other everyday snacks that are easy to eat like mini hot cross buns, wholegrain crackers, popcorn, yoghurt cups or cut-up fruit.
- Some kids may be put off by foods that have been squashed. Store easily squished items like cherry tomatoes or grapes in containers. Remember to make sure the lids are easy to open!

<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/swap-it-sweet>





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27 March 2022

*A Committee of Pacific Palms Arts Inc*

11 March 2022

## Virtual PPWF 2022 Bill Gammage & Bruce Pascoe

Severe floods and wild fires are happening across the Country – and this is an important opportunity to share Indigenous knowledge. Our virtual PPWF 2022 is scheduled for **9.30am to 12noon Sunday 27 March 2022** with Bill Gammage and Bruce Pascoe, authors of *Country – First Knowledges*.

Registrations are open at <http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/> or Humanitix.

Bruce discusses farming, plants and animals and Bill describes fire and the difference between traditional Indigenous cool burning – that protected Country, fauna and flora in sustainable ways for over 65,000 years – and today's wild fires.



Cool burns



Wild fires