



# PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13 May 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 4 | TERM 2 | WEEK 3

## Garden Grooves – see you there tomorrow!

**FUNDRAISER EVENT 1-5PM**  
**MAY 14 2022**

 **PALMS PAVILION | TIONA**  
[WWW.GARDENGROOVES.COM.AU](http://WWW.GARDENGROOVES.COM.AU)

 **PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOLS P&C ASSOCIATION**

**FUNDRAISER EVENT 1-5PM**  
**MAY 14 2022**

**What to bring to the Garden Grooves**

- \* Hats and sun cream
- \* Picnic (Food van also available)
- \* Picnic rug and chairs- lots of seating available in the licensed area
- \* BYO water bottles / water will for sale at the Pavilion bar
- \* BYO tumbler for wine, plastic wine glasses available from bar

**No BYO alcohol**  
\* See you on Saturday!

**PALMS PAVILION | TIONA**  
[WWW.GARDENGROOVES.COM.AU](http://WWW.GARDENGROOVES.COM.AU)



## Term 2 Diary Dates

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

### UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDER

Monday 16 May	NAPLAN for Year 3 and Year 5 – Reading
Tuesday 17 May	NAPLAN for Year 3 and Year 5 – Numeracy
Thursday 19 May	NAPLAN for Year 3 and Year 5 – Catch up
Friday 20 May	Last gym session for Kinder to Year 2 students
Tuesday 24 May	Visiting Author – session with Year 1 to Year 3 students
Wednesday 25 May	Simultaneous Reading Day – Reading at 11 am
Thursday 26 May	Visiting Author – session with Year 4 to Year 6 students
Friday 27 May	Zone Cross Country for qualifying students – notes home next week
Tuesday 31 May	Breakfast Program commences
Thursday 2 June	Athletics Carnival – more information to come
Friday 3 June	Assembly in the hall commencing at 9 am. All welcome.
Sat 4 & Sun 5 June	Youth Art Exhibition in the hall



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## Our Students Excel

### Anzac Day Dawn Service

Our Year 6 Leadership Team attended and represented our school with pride at the ANZAC Day dawn service at the Pacific Palms Community Centre on Monday 25 April 2022. Our students laid a wreath on behalf of the school in remembrance of those men and women who fought for our country. A special mention goes to Alice who spoke beautifully when she read the poem "In Flanders Field". It was a moving tribute to the brave men and women who have fought for Australia in times of conflict. You were all a credit to our school and represented yourselves with respect and honour.



### ANZAC Day Assembly



Our school held its ANZAC Day assembly on Thursday 28 April 2022. We are so proud of the conduct of our Leadership Team and all students who attended. It was an emotive assembly and our students listened thoughtfully throughout. We learned about the original ANZAC story while also acknowledging all men and women who have served our country. Before recital of The Ode, a wreath was respectfully laid in honour of our Anzacs by our oldest and youngest students. Thank you to Mrs Rowe who brought in much-loved memorabilia from those in her family who knew war. **Lest We Forget**



## School Happenings

### Year 2 Swim School

Our Year 2 students had a wonderful time at our intensive swim school program last week, which caters for non-swimmers to advanced swimmers. It was great to watch the student's confidence in the water grow throughout the week, along with improvement in their swimming skills and technique.







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## School Happenings

### Artist in Residence – Stage 3

Our Year 5 and Year 6 students have spent the last two Monday mornings with two artists from our local community. In this activity students created a Woven Wool Sculpture like the Tjanpi Desert weavers. During Week 1, they created an Armature (skeleton) of an animal from found objects and materials. Then in Week 2 students used wool and raffia to weave the body. We then photographed these with a natural environment. I think you will agree, they look fantastic. Thank you to the Pacific Palms Art Festival Inc for sponsoring this amazing initiative.







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## Information for our Parents

### Skoolbag App – Discontinued

We are currently transitioning to the Parent Portal in SENTRAL for all communication with parents and carers, therefore Skoolbag will become non-operational from this week. To notify us of your students' absences, we ask that you contact the school office by phone or email. We anticipate that the SENTRAL parent portal will be operational from Term 3. This will be an easier way to communicate with school using the app or text and for us to send notifications.



### Winter Breakfast Program



We are looking for willing and able volunteers to join with the happy, healthy, environmentally-friendly Palms 10 week breakfast program. All volunteers will need a current volunteer's "Working with Children Check" and meet mandatory health requirements. Volunteers are needed from 8.00 am to 9.30 am each Tuesday morning on the following dates. Please let Mrs Dorfling know by 23 May if you are available to help out.

#### Term 2

31 May, 7 June, 14 June, 21 June, 28 June

#### Term 3

19 July, 26 July, 2 August, 9 August, 16 August

### Parent/Carer Classroom Volunteers

We are very excited to be able to invite parents and volunteers back into our school and to give our students the opportunity to share their learning and success. If you have some time and are available to help in your child's classroom, please let us know. Classroom teachers will be in contact to arrange a suitable time. As parent/carers will be working as volunteers supporting curriculum delivery in the classroom, the current DoE requirements must be followed. We do ask that all parent volunteers be double vaccinated.



**Visitors on school sites-** <https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/covid-19/school-settings#Visitors2>

Schools and early childhood education and care (ECEC) services can invite visitors to their sites regardless of their vaccination status, in line with settings in the broader community.

Workers and **volunteers must meet double vaccination requirements including:**

- volunteers or staff operating uniform shops and canteens
- **visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery**
- allied health partners for the wellbeing of students
- university and TAFE students coming on school sites to complete their practicum or teacher training.

### Voluntary Contribution Fee and Resource Levy

After consultation with the P & C, the following fees have been set for 2022. The school Voluntary Contribution Fee for 2022 has been set at \$40 per child, capped at \$80 per family. The Resource Levy has been set at \$50 per student. Statements to families were sent home last term. Payment can be made at the front office by cash or EFTPOS. Online POP payments can be made on the school website [www.pacificpal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.pacificpal-p.schools.nsw.edu.au) click on the **MAKE A PAYMENT** tab.



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## Information for our Parents

### Stage 2 Outdoor Education Experience - Aussie Bush Camp – Years 3 & 4



Our Year 3 and Year 4 students are very excited to be attending the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens from **Monday 20 June to Wednesday 22 June 2022 – this is only 5 weeks away!** The camp aims to provide students with an opportunity to interact with their friends outside of school, participate in team building activities, challenge themselves, develop self-confidence and have some fun. Some of the camp activities

include rock climbing, canoeing, fencing, dual flying fox, high ropes, archery and so much more. A "What to Bring" list and medical form was sent home with students this term. Please return all medical forms to school as soon as possible. Final payments are also now due.

### Athletics Carnival – Wednesday 29 May 2019

Our whole school athletics carnival will be held on Thursday 2 June on the back oval. Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 may come to school dressed in their sport house colours. Parents and grandparents are welcome to attend to encourage and support their children. We look forward to seeing you for an enjoyable day. We may require parent volunteers to assist with timekeeping and other duties on the day. If you are unsure of your child's sports house, please contact the front office.



### Stage 3 Canberra Excursion - Years 5 & 6

We are very excited about our Year 5 and Year 6 overnight Canberra excursion which will take place in Term 4. Our students will have the opportunity to travel on a four day and three night adventure from **Tuesday 15 November to Friday 18 November** to Canberra. Students will be visiting Parliament House, Questacon, Australian Museum, Australian Institute of Sport, War Memorial and the Dinosaur Museum. This excursion is always a favourite with students and we encourage everyone to join in as there will be a huge variety of rich learning experiences available over the four days. Thank you to those parents who have returned the permission note and paid their deposit. Final payments are due by Tuesday 1 November. More information will be given out to students as the camp gets closer.



### SMS Student Absence Notification

SMS student absence notifications are sent weekly for any unexplained absences. Parents are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven days to the school. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 days of the first day of any period of absence. Please contact the school by phone, in person, email or note from home. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any attendance concerns regarding your child. The NSW Department of Education School Attendance Policy can be viewed at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy>





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## Welcome Kim Curran – Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction

Hi Pacific Palms community!

My name is Kim Curran and I have been fortunate to successfully apply for the Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction position at the school. I have been teaching for a long time and have experience across K-6, but my great love is teaching Kindergarten.

I have moved from Wentworth Falls in the Blue Mountains, where I have lived for 30 years, and am very excited to move to this little piece of paradise near the beach. I can't wait to get to know everyone in the community!



## Art Festival News



**Youth Art Exhibition** - The Youth Art Exhibition will be held on Saturday 4 June (2 pm to 4 pm) and Sunday 5 June (10 am to 4 pm). The presentation of the Youth Art Awards will be held on Saturday 4 June at 2.30 pm. Entry is open to children aged 5 to 16 years. All entry forms must be returned by Friday 27 May 2022. (More info available on page 9)



**Pacific Palms Art Festival** - The annual Pacific Palms Art Festival will be held in the school hall over the June long weekend – Saturday 11 June and Sunday 12 June 2022 from 10 am to 4 pm each day. Entry forms are available at [www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/pacific-palms-art-festival](http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/pacific-palms-art-festival)

Opening night tickets for Friday 10 June 2022 (7 pm to 10 pm) are available for purchase at a cost of \$45 (includes light supper and drinks) online at [www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au](http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au)

Raffle tickets will be going home to all families this term and will be available for purchase at \$2 per ticket or 3 tickets for \$5. The prize has been donated by 2021 winner Christina Hall "Looking Out". Tickets will be drawn Monday 13 June 2022.

The Pacific Palms Art Festival is a major fundraiser for our school and your support is appreciated.

## Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

Times flies when you're having fun! Well we are having plenty of fun and it's halfway through May already! Our school is buzzing at the moment! Students have participated in the ANZAC assembly, Mother's Day stall, school photos, our first whole school assembly with parents for a very long time, NAPLAN, Artist in Residence program, kindergym, swim school, lots of individual sports too. Staff are working on student assessments, conducting collaborative consistent teacher judgement sessions and writing reports this term. While the weather has continued to be wet and the oval and grass areas are very moist, we have managed to play outside on most days this term.







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## Principal Message from Mrs Merchant

### Term 2 Calendar

We are very excited to see so many events back as we continue to plan for exciting academic, social, emotional and external opportunities for our students. We are looking forward to the amazing P&C event Garden Grooves this weekend and hope to see you there. This term we also have the Pacific Palms Arts Festival and the first overnight camp since 2019 is going ahead for Stage 2. We also have our breakfast program back this term and our athletics carnival. So much to look forward to!

### NAPLAN Online

This week Year 3 and Year 5 have participated in The National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) along with their peers across the country. The students were supported by their teachers throughout the assessment process. At Palms, our students always strive for their personal best - a test on one day as a single event can never measure all that makes your child who they are. These assessments are just another activity our students do as part of their learning. Our teachers ensured that our students were as relaxed as possible as they completed the assessments.

We are very proud of our strong academic performance and growth in NAPLAN. We have enjoyed ongoing and continued improvement, and in 2021 PPPS was categorised as 'Excelling' in regard to growth/improvement/progress of our students.



### School Projects

We have a number of projects that are finally going ahead after long COVID delays. We are super excited to see these completed this financial year.

- COLA covered walkway to office
- Covered walkway to library entrance
- Covered area to 5/6K and 5/6J complete
- P&C Garden project near canteen
- P&C Dolphin play space structure

### Parent communication

We are currently working on some protocols/guidelines for parent communication at PPPS. This will include information about the Sentral Parent Portal.

### Art Festival

We look forward to seeing everyone in the coming weekends at the annual Pacific Palms Art Festival. Thank you to all the students who have entered artwork, there is a great collection. Don't forget to take a ticket in the raffle to be in the running to win the beautiful artwork from the 2021 winner, Christina Hall.



Yours in learning

Melissa Merchant  
Principal

*"I like having conversations with kids. Grownups never ask me what my third favourite reptile is!"*  
Simon Holland



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NSW Department of Education

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



## Days missed = years lost

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

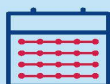
When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per **fortnight**  
M ~~W~~ T F  
M T W T F

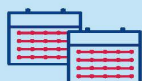
= **4** weeks



= Over **1** year missed

**1** day per **week**  
M ~~W~~ T F  
M T W ~~F~~

= **8** weeks



= Over **2.5** years missed

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At Pacific Palms Public School

# YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

Open to all children age 5 - 16 years

**Saturday 4th June ~ 2pm - 4pm**

**Sunday 5th June ~ 10am - 4pm**

DOWNLOAD ARTIST ENTRY FORMS  
AT PACIFIC PALMS ARTS INC WEBSITE

[www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/youth-art](http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/youth-art)

Awards will be presented on Saturday 4th June at 2.30pm

Enquiries email: [palmsartfestival@gmail.com](mailto:palmsartfestival@gmail.com)  
or contact Cath 0434 678 381

Exhibition Entry \$2 adult  
children free





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pacific  
palms *arts* inc



**June Long Weekend**  
**Saturday 11th & Sunday 12th June**  
*at Pacific Palms Public School*

# Art

# EXHIBITION & SALE

Pre-purchase tickets for  
*Opening Night*

**Friday 10th June 7pm - 10pm**

\$45 per person - includes light supper & drinks

**Tickets on Sale NOW** online at [www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au](http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au)

**Ticket numbers limited - Get your tickets early!!**

Email enquiries: [palmsartfestival@gmail.com](mailto:palmsartfestival@gmail.com) or contact Cath 0434 678 381

Exhibition Open 10am - 4pm Sat & Sun Entry \$2 adults - children free

**ARTIST ENTRY FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE:**  
**[www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/pacific-palms-art-festival](http://www.pacificpalmsartsinc.org.au/pacific-palms-art-festival)**

Funds raised go towards creative arts programmes at Pacific Palms Public School





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# Primary ETHICS

ETHICS EDUCATION  
FOR CHILDREN

THINK • REASON • DISCUSS

## Do something life-changing! **Volunteer to teach ethics** at your local school

Ethics classes help children develop the life skills they need to voice their opinions, listen respectfully to others and make decisions based on evidence and reasoning rather than habit or peer pressure.

Thousands of volunteers from all walks of life and of all ages teach ethics every week. We offer free training, full lesson materials and ongoing support.



**You'll get as much out of it as the children do!**  
**Visit: [PrimaryEthics.com.au](http://PrimaryEthics.com.au) to learn more**



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## #LetsTalk About Mental Health

A Special Event brought to you by Man Anchor and Surfing NSW.  
A free workshop kickstarting the conversation around supporting positive mental health.

### Book Now!

#### When:

Wednesday 18th May  
6.30pm – 8pm

#### Where:

Pacific Palms Recreation Club  
3957 The Lakes Way,  
Elizabeth Beach, NSW 2428

#### Cost: FREE

#### To book your spot email:

[ash@mananchor.com.au](mailto:ash@mananchor.com.au) M: 0420 435 329



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[www.mananchor.com.au](http://www.mananchor.com.au)

