

CREEKSIDE NEWS

October 18, 2021

WELCOME BACK TO ALL!!!

Term 4, Week 3 saw dinosaurs, unicorns and very happy teachers welcome the return of our K-2 students to full-time face to face learning, which we were delighted with. Term 4, Week 4, Monday 25th October will see the return of our remaining students to our school, which we're sure you will all be very happy with as well. The learning from home period has been long and arduous for all involved but it looks like we're now coming out the other side. We know that appreciation can be thrown around lightly and can at times be done flippantly but please be assured that your support throughout this time, for us, has been invaluable and we cannot thank you enough for all you have done to ensure that learning in some form has continued for your children. We are very excited and also very keen to see the remainder of the school year finish with as much normality as possible.

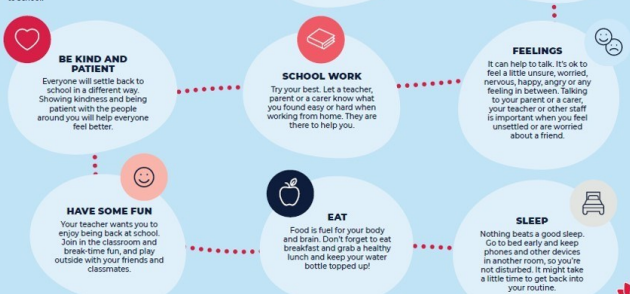
Well, it seems incredible that, after the restrictions we've all endured, we are now very close to the pointy end of the year and things will be getting very busy VERY quickly. For us as a staff, we just could not be happier with the way in which our students have gone about the business of learning and improving, despite such adversity. So from us, as a staff, congratulations to our fantastic and awesome students, for your efforts over the course of the year thus far. You have all done really well to keep learning and we are all very proud of you. Well Done!

Speaking of learning, our teachers will, in the coming weeks, be very heavily involved in finalising assessments for 2021 and will begin report writing for second semester. For those who had students at Dora Creek in 2020, you will recall that the Semester One 2020 reports were modified versions of our usual reports and did not require grading for students using the A-E scale, due to COVID and the "learning from home" period. Reports for second semester this year will be completed using the same format; i.e. there will be no A-E grading for students in years 1-6. These students will be provided with reports that mirror application descriptors in the same way as those for students in Kindergarten. These reports will include comments that provide a reduced picture of achievement and application, along with comments regarding a child's strengths; as well as any areas for development. Reports will be made available for students on presentation day. At this point in time, both the Presentation Day and the Year 6 Farewell have been tentatively booked to occur at the Workers Club on Monday, December 13, in the hope that restrictions around school gatherings will be eased prior to the end of the school year. Unfortunately, due to the "person limit" rule required at indoor venues, this, at this point, does not necessarily look as if it's going to happen in the manner we are used to. **Whilst the Year 6 Farewell can proceed, at this point only teachers and students will be permitted to attend under COVID safe restrictions, as defined by the existing public health order.** With regard to presentation day, the Workers Club currently has a "gathering" limit in its auditorium and, as you can appreciate, we will have 115 students and at least 8 staff present for our presentation day; which clearly will not meet social distancing requirements. **This means that our annual presentation day may have to be moved to our top COLA; again, at this stage, with no parents and families.** We appreciate that you may have heard on the commercial news networks recently that school presentations etc. can now go ahead; however, there is a caveat- they may only be conducted under strict COVID guidelines. Thank you for your understanding in tricky circumstances.



HELPFUL TIPS FOR COMING BACK TO PRIMARY SCHOOL

Your teacher is looking forward to seeing you and we know that you are looking forward to seeing your friends. Sometimes learning from home felt easy, sometimes it felt a bit hard. Everyone has a different learning from home story to tell. Here's some helpful tips for you as you get ready to return to school.



There are more ideas on looking after yourself on the Department of Education's [student mental health and wellbeing](#) pages.

NSW Department of Education



Return to School Guidelines

As mentioned on the front page, we are over the moon to have all of our students back on site this coming week. With this in mind, it is now time for us to ask for your cooperation in ensuring that, as per government advice related to COVID, the number of adults on the school site is absolutely minimised. Therefore, each morning, when dropping off your child(ren) at school, we request that you please drop off at the school gate, and also refrain from entering school grounds during afternoon pick-up. As per organisation last year, we wish to advise that students in walkers lines will be brought down to the footpath near the pedestrian gate to be handed over to carers. You do not need to enter the school to meet your child(ren). This means that we must now formally ask parents and carers to remain off-site, unless visiting the office to complete school business; and only after contacting to the office to advise us of the requirement for you to enter school grounds; or if you are involved in important face-to-face meetings with staff members. In asking this, we are merely aiming to meet the expectations of the expert advice of the day, which we are bound by, and we thank you in advance for your support in following these guidelines.

- Students should arrive at school as close to bell time as possible, to minimise mixing of class groups in the morning and should be dropped off at the entrance to the walkers' path.
- Release point at the end of the school day will also be at the school's walkway entrance. Please remain in cars and/ or at a suitable distance from others and the school walkway entrance. Our staff members will ensure your child/ ren get/s to you.
- Kindergarten and their siblings will assemble in the top COLA at 2.25pm, before being escorted to the front gate by Mrs Green.
- Years 1-6 will assemble in the top COLA where they will then depart class by class. Mr Borrow and Mrs Clark will escort them to the front gate. Bus lines will be behind class lines in separate groups.
- All enquiries or concerns should be done via telephone or email. Your first point of contact is your child's classroom teacher, unless your enquiry can be dealt with by the school office staff, e.g. uniform/ medication/ other enquiries unrelated to classroom operations.
- Please note that students are expected to return to Face to Face learning on their commencement date. If your child has a condition that means it is not safe for them to return to school, you will need to provide a medical certificate. We encourage you to speak with your health professional to develop a COVID-19 Action Plan to support decision-making about your child's activities, including attendance at school. If the school does not receive conclusive medical evidence, unfortunately the this is an unjustified absence. At home learning materials will not be provided for students who do not return to school, unless the above conditions are met.

Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2023- Applications now Open

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2023, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 10 March 2022. Detailed instructions on how to apply and the link to the online form are available at

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>

If you have a child in Year 5 who you believe may suit this setting, please contact the office for an information form.

Key Dates - Year 7 selective high schools entry in 2023

Date	Activity
19 October 2021	Applications open for placement in Year 7 in 2023.
17 November 2021	Applications close for placement in Year 7 in 2023.
10 March 2022	Selective High School Placement Test
17 March 2022	Illness/misadventure requests submitted
24 April 2022	Last day to change school choices
May-June 2022	Selection committees meet
Early July 2022	Placement outcomes expected to be released
July 2022 to May 2023	Parents accept or decline offers
Mid-July 2022	Results enquiry due 5 working days after outcomes are released
Late July 2022	Appeals due 15 working days after placement outcomes are released
Early-August 2022	Reserve lists activated until at least May 2023
October 2022	Appeals outcomes released
14 December 2022 at 3pm	Students who have kept offers are removed from reserve lists
Mid-January 2023	Authority to attend letters for entry in 2023 are sent



Running into 2022 like Taking Enrolments NOW



If you are aware of any students in the community who are intending to enrol for Kindergarten, or any other grade in 2022, please advise their parents to contact the school office as soon as possible. We still have “out of area” spaces available subject to successful application, although these places are filling fast.

Contact the office on 49731261

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

5/11/2021

The sausage sizzle from last term will go ahead in Week 5. There will be no need to re-order, if you have already submitted the order forms, and paid for the meal deal.



What sort of start is your child getting?

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	and over 13 years of schooling that's...
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly <u>Half a year</u>
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 year</u>
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 Weeks per year	Nearly <u>1 and a Half years</u>
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 Weeks per year	Over <u>2 and a Half years</u>

Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!!

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

P & C News

Huge thanks - as always - to the school's teaching, admin and support staff. With only a few days' notice, they've smoothly switched us into home learning, providing fantastic care and resources for all students and with short notice once again, transitioned the students back to face-to-face learning. It also goes without saying, that all of our wonderful parents and carers deserve a round of applause for your continued commitment to home learning; THANK YOU for supporting the learning and wellbeing of DCPS students.

Uniform

In some exciting news, Rachael Wheeler has kindly volunteered to become our new P & C Uniform Co-ordinator. Her first action was to order some new school shirts and source some new products, so watch our for more information about that soon.

We have a number of old style shirts for sale at \$15 each; there is limited stock in sizes 6,8,10 and 14. Get in quick for a bargain. When we return to full school operation, when advised by the Department of Education, the uniform shop will open every Monday morning from 8.30 to 9.00 am and again on Thursday afternoons at 2.15 pm to 2.45 pm for all your uniform orders.

Please contact the office on 49731261 to book an appointment.

Canteen News

- A new meal deal will be coming out for Friday of week 7, keep a look out for the order form which will be sent home in week 6.
- We are still looking for a canteen coordinator and active volunteers to get our canteen up and running, if you are interested, please contact the office for further information.

Fundraising

- The P&C are hoping to create a cookbook filled with our community's family favourite recipes as a meaningful way to raise some much-needed funds for our school. We are hoping to fill it with much loved, tried and true family favourite recipes to share with each other and the wider community.
- We want this cookbook to reflect our school community and encourage photos of the meal cooked/ made, a photo of your family enjoying the meal, and/ or your child's illustration of the meal.
- If you have a recipe that is thoroughly enjoyed in your home, we invite you to contribute. It could be a cultural dish, or a recipe that you love to bake. Maybe it's a lunchbox hit, a favourite family dinner, or a special occasion recipe that's been shared for generations.
- If you would like your recipe to be included as part of this great project, we would ask that all recipes be submitted by the end of week 6.



**In Hibernation
until further notice.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

25/10/2021—29/10/2021

- **Bandana WEEK** \$5 (optional- pay throughout the week for **Friday 29/10/2021**). Money raised will support the CANTEEN

5/11/2021

- **Sausage Sizzle**— Orders carried over from previously advised Meal Deal day; no need to re-order

17/11/2021 (TBC)

- Week 7 Meal Deal

13/12/2021

- Presentation Day and Year 6 Farewell

NOTES HOME

Cook Book Template—
to be emailed by
classroom teachers