



Schofields Sparkler

**SCHOOL
BANKING IS
STILL ON HOLD.**

**DATE TO BE
ADVISED WHEN IT
WILL RESUME**

P&C Email
Any P&C related
queries can be
emailed directly to
[schofieldspandc
@gmail.com](mailto:schofieldspandc@gmail.com)

Dates to Remember

15/12/2020 - Year 6 Farewell

16/12/2020 - Last day of Term 4
for Students

17/12/2020 & 18/12/2020 – Staff
Development Days

29/01/2021 - First day Term 1 for
Students

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Dear Parents/Caregivers,
Principal's Report

PRINCIPAL'S MEDALLION PRESENTATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who received their Principal's Medallions in Week 5.

Achieving this award shows their ongoing and consistent efforts to be Safe, Respectful and Responsible learners and school citizens.

5/6B - Nicholas Barclay, Apphia Nelapati, William Woodbury

5/6C - Ciara Finn, Mannat Ali, Nygel Shah, Razi Hancock, Sarah Woods

5/6K - Sonia Chin, Vanshika Kumar, Khyden Curry-Jones, Naratan Madhan

5/6M - Khristina Patel, Steven Whalan

5/6P - Aryan Gupta, Eli Rozic, Aariz Khan, Amber Wright, Brinley Sim, Jap Singh

5/6W - Marla Despi, Jacinta Smith, Aroosh Matta, Sienna Ormsby, Dennis Thomas

RIVERSTONE HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to Sonia 5/6K and Kaiden 5/6C who have received Riverstone High School Year 7 Scholarships. This prestigious award recognises their hard work and commitment to reaching their goals.

END OF YEAR ASSEMBLIES

Our end of year assemblies will be very different this year. We will be holding four assemblies for the presentation of student and class awards, one for each stage. We will be holding one K - 6 assembly for the announcement of the 2021 student leaders. Unfortunately, parents will not be able to attend these assemblies.

KINDER ORIENTATION

Our 2021 Kindergarten students have completed their transition/orientation visits. I would like to say thank you to all the children and families involved, particularly for their patience and understanding when following our COVID protocols to get everyone safely on and off site. Thank you to Mrs Holloway, the Kindergarten team and all staff involved for their planning, flexibility and efforts in welcoming our next group of Kindergarten students.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION CEREMONY

We will be holding a short graduation ceremony for Year 6 on the morning of Tuesday 15 December. Each family of Year 6 students will be allowed one visitor who may attend. More details will be communicated directly to Year 6 shortly.

Requirements below will be in place:

The meeting will be held outside under the COLA.

Attendees will be required to remain in their seats unless addressing the meeting.

Physical distancing protocols must be followed.

Attendees will be required to complete a COVID declaration form including details required for contact tracing.

DECEMBER P&C MEETING

Great news. Updated guidelines will allow the December P&C meeting to be held on site. There will be a number of safety requirements with which we will need to comply but it will be great to end the year with a face to face meeting.

Requirements:

The meeting will be held outside under the COLA.

Attendees will be required to remain in their seats unless addressing the meeting.

Physical distancing protocols must be followed.

Attendees will be required to complete a COVID declaration form via a QR Code including details required for contact tracing.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

It was great to have forty five participants in our first School Excellence Parent Consultation session. The session provided an overview of the School Excellence cycle for 2021-2024. A survey of what families value most in education was also conducted to assist us in planning our directions for the school over the next improvement cycle. The survey was also made available to all families via our SkoolBag app.

The word cloud below shows the words families thought were most important to them to be included in our school vision.

Our next sessions will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, 2 December.

Again, there will be two sessions of the meeting:

Session 1: Midday - Wednesday, 2 December

Session 2: 7:00pm - Wednesday, 2 December

Topics covered will include:

A review of the data and findings from student, parents, staff and system sources and draft strategic directions and priorities for the next improvement cycle.

Our final consultation for 2020 will be held at the December P&C meeting at 7pm on Monday, 7 December.



A day in the life of Eucalyptus Pod

In Geography: we are learning all about how people influence places by researching zoning laws, the Great Barrier Reef and bushfires.

In PE: we are super lucky to have the educators from Run West and Footsteps teach us about fitness and dance as a form of exercise.

In Science: we have learnt about adaptations of plants and animals.

In Creative Arts, we have experimented with different dance styles and forms. We've had fun developing our own groovy dance moves!

In PDH: we learnt what the differences between emergencies and disasters are, as well as how to support people experiencing them.

I like being in Eucalyptus because all my friends are there and my favourite teacher, Miss P - Inwichep

I like being in Eucalyptus because I now have more friends in my class - Aryan

In English, we have learnt about logos and universal symbols and we love doing literacy contracts every morning!

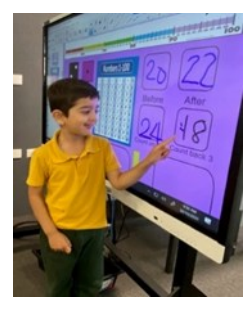
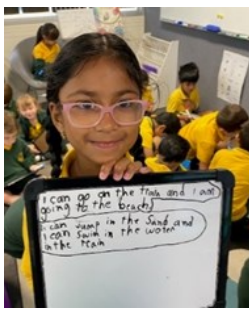
Being in Eucalyptus is very fun! All the teachers make learning fun and enjoyable - Evie

I love being in Eucalyptus because all the teachers come together to plan the best lessons for us and all the students are kind and caring - Varshika

In Maths: we have enjoyed tackling open-ended problem-solving tasks in our differentiated Maths Groups!

A Typical Day in KM

We usually start our day with morning routine which includes Number of the Day and Sentence of the Day. We are getting very good at writing interesting sentences.



Then we learn about sounds. We love singing and performing the actions for the Soundwaves chant. After that, fruit break and story time. Then it's time for Literacy groups with fun activities like ipads, handwriting, word work and writing activities as well as reading with Mrs Mitchell in the engine room.



After recess, we usually have Maths. We like playing card and dice games as well as counting games on the interactive whiteboard and practical activities like hefting!



On some days we have Mrs Rogers-Falk for History, Mrs Wilson for Library and some days we go to the new Kindergarten Cottage with Mrs Freund and KC (our Pod buddies) to do Science and Art.

In the afternoons we do other activities like Health, Handwriting and Scripture.

We always have great fun in KM!

A day in the Waratah Pod

Waratah pod includes: 3/4B, 3/4G, 3/4D, 3/4TK



It has been a calm and smooth transition for students in Waratah. This term, they have enjoyed diving deeper in their learning across all Key Learning Areas. Students have compared different rainforests across the world and have learnt the harmful impact of palm oil especially to the critically endangered orangutan. In English, students have been writing and reading different texts about Fairy Tales, Mythical Creatures, Dreaming Stories and Cultural Stories. During Maths, students have been discovering different angles in the natural environment and have had the opportunity to work with different teachers. Lots of fun has been had during Science, where students have made butter (and some lucky teachers taste-tested it on pikelets)! Students have loved having Tijana from Footsteps teaching them fun moves to “Waka Waka” and can’t wait to perform in costume at the end of the year. This week, students have loved learning about the 2020 NAIDOC week theme “Always Have, Always Will Be”. They have discovered and researched information about Dharug country and have considered the meaning of the 2020 slogan.

Students in Waratah begin their day with literacy groups, where they complete grammar games, reading, comprehension and writing. Waratah students have taken pleasure in using Story Jumper to publish their excellent writing. This website has enabled them to add dialogue and animation, turning their writing into life!

After recess, students complete Maths activities in differentiated groups. They use inquiry-based learning to delve deeper into different topics. So far this term, students have explored, shapes, whole number, angles, addition and subtraction. In the afternoons, students rotate between groups completing geography, health and art. They have enjoyed making new friends and learning new skills with different teachers.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF BANKSIA POD

1/2A, 1/2D, 1/2M and 1/2T love learning in Banksia pod. Every day we get to work with our own teacher and with other teachers in the pod. Having four teachers means there is always someone who can help when we get stuck.

Our reading group and maths groups have students from all the classes in them, so we get to make new friends all the time. We get to work with different teachers for different subjects, so we get to know all our teachers really well and they get to know us.

The different parts of our pod are named after Australian habitats. Sometimes we have to stay in one habitat while we work – other times we get to choose which habitat we get to work in. We love getting to pick which habitat is the right learning space for us. Some people like to work in the Burrow where it is quiet and we can spread out, some people like working at the tables in the Desert, and some people like to use the café seating or the beanbags in the Treetops.

Our teachers love to come up with fun and challenging activities for us, we get to use the Beebots robots in Maths and once we even had a whole day of STEM where we raced our balloon powered cars we made for homework!



SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?*

FACT Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need **YOU** to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones.

<p>No Parking No waiting. You have 2 minutes to drop-off or pick-up. You must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.</p> <p>No Stopping You must not stop on a length of road with a No Stopping sign. The first 10m from an intersection is a no stopping zone. Yellow kerb lines are also No Stopping zones.</p> <p>Bus Zone Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone.</p> <p>Mobile Phones Extra fines apply for using mobile phones in a school zone. <small>May be subject to Double Demerits</small></p> <p>Speeding Offences 40km/h is the limit. Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones. <small>May be subject to Double Demerits</small></p>	<p>Pedestrian Crossings 1. In a queue of traffic, no part of your vehicle can stop on a pedestrian crossing. 2. Do not let your child in or out of a vehicle at a pedestrian crossing as this is a No Stopping zone.</p> <p>Driveways & Footpaths Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.</p> <p>U turns Illegal on or near a pedestrian crossing and across double white lines.</p> <p>Double Parking Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.</p>
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PENRITH CITY COUNCIL
Fines current as of November 2019. Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.

Please follow the road rules. An explanation of the road signs and the penalties for offences are included to the left.

Please move forward as far as possible at the kiss and drop.

GENERAL NEWS

IDENTIFICATION

Occasionally there is a need for parents to collect their children early from school which requires the office staff to check parents identity. As a matter of course please ensure you have photo ID e.g. Driver's Licence with you when you visit the office.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2021

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2021. If you need an enrolment form please come in to the school office and pick one up or download one from the school website.

If you know of anyone that has a child that is due to start Kindergarten next year, please refer them to the school office.

If you have a completed form please drop it in to the school office with your child's birth certificate, immunisation history statement and 1 x proof of address.

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property basket is now located outside the school admin building. Please clearly label your children's belongings as there are quite a few items in lost property without names.

Communicable Diseases Factsheet

Impetigo

Impetigo is a highly contagious bacterial infection of the skin.

Good hygiene helps prevent spread of infection.

If antibiotics are given it is important to finish the whole course to make sure the impetigo will not recur.

Last updated: March 2017

What is impetigo?

Impetigo is a bacterial skin infection caused by *Streptococcus* and *Staphylococcus* bacteria. It is commonly known as 'school sores' because a majority of cases are in school-aged children. However, it can also affect infants, adults and adolescents.

Uncomplicated impetigo does not cause permanent damage to the skin, but is highly contagious.

What does it look like?

Impetigo occurs in two forms, blistering and crusted. In blistering impetigo the blisters arise on previously normal skin, and rapidly grow in size and number. The blisters quickly burst and leave slightly moist or glazed areas with a brown crust at the edge. The spots expand even after they break open and can be many centimetres wide. They sometimes clear in the centre to produce ring shaped patterns. They are not usually painful, but can be itchy.

Crusted impetigo has a thick soft yellow crust. Beneath this crust is a moist red area. Crusted impetigo spots grow slowly and are always smaller than the fully developed spots of blistering impetigo. They are not usually painful, but can be itchy.

Impetigo can occur on top of other skin conditions, particularly itchy ones. When the skin is scratched the infection can enter through the broken skin. Some of these conditions are atopic dermatitis (eczema), scabies, insect bites and head lice.

In cases where a larger area of skin is affected, patients may also have a fever, swollen lymph nodes or feel generally unwell.

How is it diagnosed?

Your doctor may diagnose impetigo based on a visual inspection of the blisters/ sores, or by taking a swab to test for bacteria and check which antibiotic to use. The result of the swab takes several days.

How is it treated?

Depending on how bad the infection is, your doctor may recommend the use of an antibiotic ointment or oral antibiotics in severe cases. Antibiotic ointment should be continued until the sores have completely healed. If oral antibiotics are given it is important to finish the whole course of treatment (usually 5 days) and not stop when the impetigo starts to clear.

Sores should be cleaned every 8 – 12 hours, dried thoroughly and covered with a waterproof dressing. Bathing the blisters with salty water will help to dry them out (use saline solution or dissolve about half a teaspoon of salt in a cup of water).

How is it spread?

Impetigo is very easy to catch from other people. Impetigo is usually spread through direct contact with other infected people.

The bacteria primarily enter through damaged skin. People with conditions causing long-term damage to their skin, such as eczema or atopic dermatitis, are at greater risk of infection.

How can you avoid spreading the infection?

While you have the infection:

- Sores should be kept clean and covered with a waterproof dressing to prevent them being touched or scratched.
- Used dressings should be placed in a sealed bag and put in the garbage bin as soon as they are removed.
- Hands should be washed thoroughly with soap and running water for 10 – 15 seconds after sores are touched or redressed.
- Children with impetigo should be kept home from school or other group settings if their wounds cannot be kept covered until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has been started, or until the blisters have dried out if antibiotics are not used.

To prevent impetigo children should be taught:

- To wash their hands often with soap. Resources on handwashing can be found at <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/ch55>.
- Not to scratch scabs or pick their nose.
- Not to share their clothes, towels, or toothbrushes.
- To have scratches and cuts cleaned and covered.

Parents should be careful not to allow items such as clothes, towels, bed sheets, razors or toothbrushes used by the affected person to be used by others. Other grooming items, such as nail scissors or tweezers, should be disinfected/washed thoroughly after each use.

In addition to general hygiene measures, specific measures to prevent spread in schools and childcare include:

- Teachers, children and families should understand the importance of hand washing, covering sores and staying home if sick
- Hand washing products (soap dispensers, running water and paper towels) should be available and accessible
- Activities should allow time for hand washing as part of routine practice (before eating and after going to the toilet)
- Temporary exclusion from child care or school if their wounds cannot be kept covered until 24 hours after antibiotic treatment has been started, or until the blisters have dried out if antibiotics are not used
- Surfaces such as counters, desks and toys that come in contact with uncovered or poorly covered infections, should be cleaned daily with detergent, and whenever visibly contaminated.

Impetigo is dangerous for babies

It is important for people with impetigo to keep away from newborns and young babies. Newborn babies are particularly susceptible to impetigo because their immune systems are not fully developed.

What is the public health response?

Impetigo is not notifiable in NSW. Public health units can advise on the control of outbreaks.

Group A streptococcal infection may lead to other rare conditions such as acute post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis 3–6 weeks after the skin infection, which is associated with antibodies produced to fight streptococcal infection.

In communities in Australia that have cases of rheumatic heart disease, episodes of acute rheumatic fever are thought to be triggered by impetigo as well as by throat infections with group A *Streptococcus*. In those communities prompt treatment and control of impetigo is an important part of preventing rheumatic heart disease.

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055

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Summer
2020/2021

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17th & 18th
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to 3rd January

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John Palmer PS – 7am to 6.30pm | Schofields PS – 7am to 6.30pm



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www.nwccm.com.au/childcare

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Due to COVID children cannot use the school bubblers.

As the weather is now warming up please ensure that you supply your child with a drink bottle.



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Keeping families and children well – COVID-19 bulletin

Issue 24: Monday 23 November 2020

Good morning,

Please click [here](#) to find the latest COVID-19 bulletin from the Western Sydney *Munch & Move* and *Live Life Well @ School* team.

The bulletin has been created to support your staff, children and families throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. It contains helpful information about the coronavirus (COVID-19) as well as tips for maintaining health and wellbeing during this time.

Please share this information with the families at your service or school. We recommend saving the PDF file and emailing this to them so that they can easily follow all of the links.

We would appreciate any feedback or suggestions you have on our 'Keeping families and children well – COVID-19' bulletin. Please click [here](#) to complete our short bulletin survey.

Kind regards,
The Healthy Children team
Western Sydney Local Health District

<https://www.wslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Healthy-Children> |
Email: WSLHD-LLWatS@health.nsw.gov.au



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District