



**CRONULLA SOUTH
PUBLIC SCHOOL**



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Newsletter - Term 3 Week 6

Principal's Message

It's officially our half point in Term 3 and learning programs are progressing well across all classrooms. Teachers this term have been working hard on a new approach to programming weekly. Today teachers will be meeting to reflect on this so that we might refine our practice going forward.

Also this week, the school executive will be meeting to work on the first part of our 2021-2024 school planning process which is a situational analysis. The work completed on Friday will go towards part of an extended professional learning session for all staff next week which is known as a twilight session. The Twilight session will also include some professional learning around the use of 360-degree cameras in education as part of the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) initiatives at the school. The great thing about these cameras is the way in which we can take images in a range of settings and use them to create spatial learning spaces and creative tours. In Term 4 we are having a kit which is maintained by the STEM technology for learning team in the NSW Department of Education delivered to the school and we intend for it to be used.

This weeks newsletter contains the results of our survey designed to evaluate parent-teacher interviews. We had a great response and will use these responses to make some changes to our future parent-teacher offerings. Our teacher also evaluated the interviews and we have also included some results of that here.

Finally, next week we will be launching a survey to call for feedback on two school logo designs that have been created as part of an initiative to realign the branding of the school between the changes made in 2018 with the original branding that is still depicted in our school uniforms. This realignment particularly brings back the school motto which remains as 'Play the Game,' as in our 75th year as a school it is important to remember the history of the school. This will also allow us to

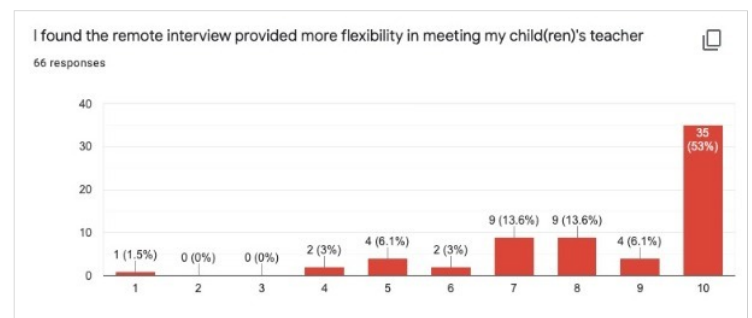
focus on some better wayfinding signage for the school which will help people find their way to different locations and a review of school uniforms. Please watch out for this survey.

Evaluation of Parent Teacher Interviews

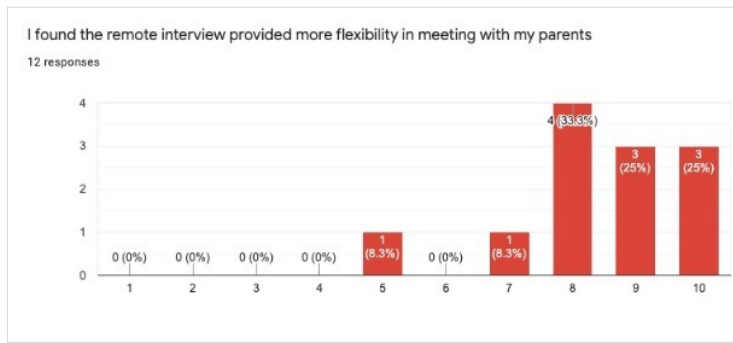
Traditionally schools have provided opportunities for parents to meet with teachers face to face at parent-teacher conferences or interviews. Typically these are massive operation for schools to manage and often parents have to reschedule days or just say no to meeting teachers because they cannot fit it in with work. Enter COVID-19 which has turned our worlds upside down. As with all curveballs, we have had to rethink everything we do and look at technology for solutions. In the case of parent-teacher interviews, we decided as many schools did that we could build on our understanding through distance learning of the way video conferences work and combine this with parents own familiarity and comfort of using this technology. The interviews progressed and the results of the evaluations are shown below.

The flexibility of accessing the interview

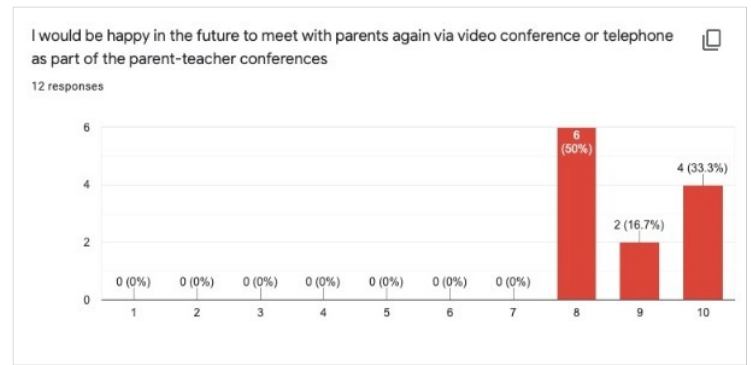
Parent



Teacher

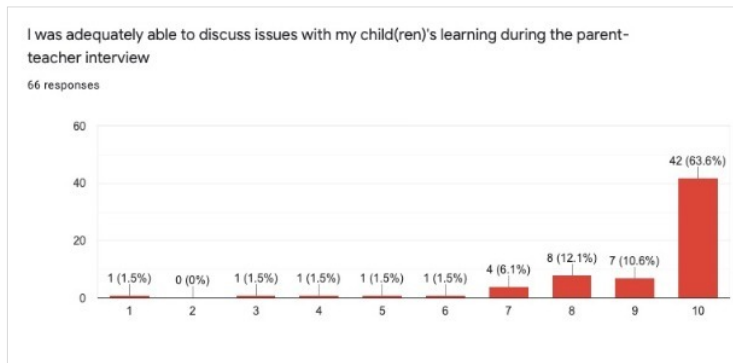


Teacher



The ability to adequately discuss student learning

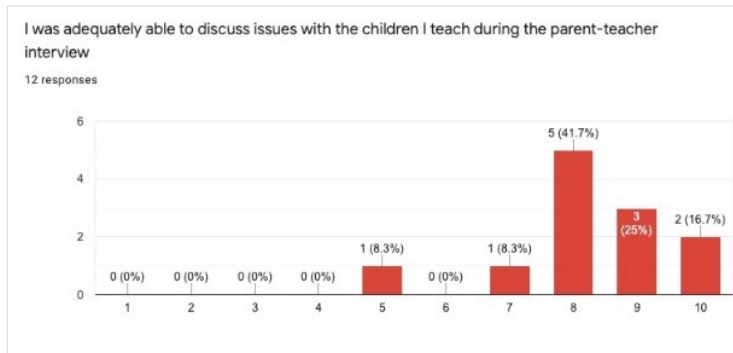
Parent



Discussion

The results of both parent and teacher surveys are equally positive when it comes to meeting remotely. The results show the majority of parents and teachers felt that the VC and phone provided more flexibility in the parent-teacher interview process. Similarly, there was agreement that the parent-teacher considered online allowed for adequate discussion. This in many ways is indicative of the familiarity that parents and teachers have with VC's. Finally, there was a clear positivity to the idea that interviews could be held online again in the future from both groups.

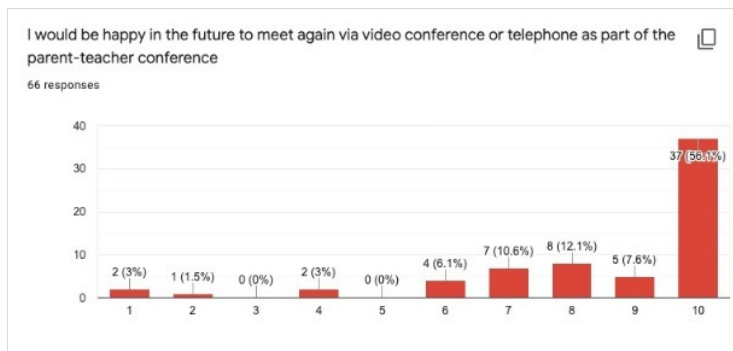
Teacher



However, we also asked for comments that allowed a deeper dive into beliefs. Some teachers and parents mentioned that this allowed for much greater flexibility in meeting and in some parents cases, they said that this was the first time they were able to meet effectively due to work commitments. Indeed for teachers, many found this more effective in allowing meetings to be set up at different times and allowing them to work on other tasks while waiting for an interview. However, there were also parent comments around a belief that the face to face element was more personable and that they would prefer to meet face to face. Likewise, many teachers also felt this element was missing and that it was important to establish relationships. Some teachers also commented on the fact that the interviews focussed discussion and with video allowed the face to face element to remain.

Happiness to meet again in the future by VC or Phone

Parent



Going forward

The results for the school are fascinating in that they offer a lens into how this could work in a post-COVID-19 restriction world where perhaps parent-teacher interviews could have time slots available for both. It is clear that teachers and parents agree that meeting is good and that getting rid of these in a post restriction world is not an option. We would though want to provide the option of a parent being able to zoom in. We would also like to offer the opportunity possibly for one parent to VC in while the other is face to face. As such the school is satisfied that while restrictions are in place, parent-teacher interviews online has been successful. Additionally, while the school would not see this as a permanent one or the other, a hybrid model is the best option in the post restriction future.

We are well into Term 3 and it is great to see the students engaged in all key learning areas. Thank you for supporting the students in presenting their persuasive speeches over the past month. We know that a lot of effort goes in behind the scenes to ensure the students feel confident and well prepared.

Lost Property

Just a reminder to please LABEL EVERYTHING. With Kindergarten and Year 1 enjoying lunch on the south site twice a week, there is an added responsibility for students to remember all of their belongings. Clear labels, especially on items that have been purchased second hand, are very useful for the teachers.

Class Equipment

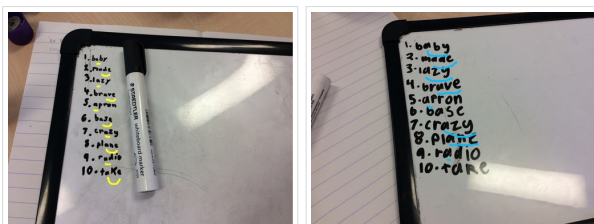
It is that time of the year when a few too many glue stick lids have been left off and the whiteboard markers have begun to run dry. If you are able to send either of these two items in, your child's teacher will be very grateful.

Year 2 Term 4 Learn to Swim

Thank you to all the Year 2 families who responded to our survey regarding the Term 4 Learn to Swim Program. This survey has now been closed. 85% of respondents indicated that they would allow their child to attend and so at this point in time, we are planning for the program to occur.

Synthetic Phonics and Decodable Readers

An effective literacy program will include explicit and systematic phonics instruction. As with all literacy learning, phonics instruction should take place within a meaningful, communicative, rich learning environment. At CSPS, we are using the Get Reading Right synthetic phonics program, including camera words (sight words). Teachers explicitly teach grapheme (letter) and phoneme (sound) knowledge to students, giving students multiple opportunities to explore these in meaningful texts. The decodable texts that we have introduced in Kindergarten contain a very large percentage of words incorporating the letter-sound relationships that the students have been taught. They also include the camera words that the students are learning. This makes them highly engaging for students as they can achieve success in reading. In this newsletter, we have decided to showcase some of the engaging phonics lessons that the students have been participating in.



Kindergarten

The Kindergarten students have been working very hard during the first half of Term 3. In English, we have been learning about

persuasive texts and presenting our speeches. In Maths, we have been focusing on fractions and time. A whole cookie is twice as big as half a cookie! Our Geography lessons are about our special places and we are so lucky to live and learn in Cronulla. In Science, we are studying movement and having fun rolling and sliding toys. We are skipping almost every day and dancing on Fridays, If you ask a Kindergarten student what they did at school they will probably tell you they played. We love this answer because we know the best way to learn is through play.



What did you do at school today?

I played!



Year 3-6 News

Stage 2

Stage 2 have been focussing on persuasive texts in class. We were very proud of all the children with their presentation of speeches over the last few weeks.

Stage 2 are also enjoying their Gymnastics program which continues to the end of term.

On the playground our main focus is to ensure that all children are sun safe.



Stage 3

Stage 3 have been learning the all about performance in Drama with Mr Taylor. This is some of Year 6 performing their skits with in the sunshine last week.



Spring is just around the corner and a couple of enthusiastic gardeners are helping to clear one of our garden beds. They've planted a few vegetables as well so we will be keen to see what happens! Thank you to Caleb and Jackson.

Leader in Me

Habit 3 - Put first things first



Work first, then play: I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and follow my plan. I am disciplined and organized.

Purpose: Putting first things first means to decide what is most important and to take care of that first. Thinking about what needs to be done tomorrow or by the end of the week can be overwhelming, especially for children. Learning to think of which things are the most important and taking care of them first allows children (and adults) to be less stressed.

Activity: A planner is a great organizational tool to write down and plan ahead for what is most important. Help your child find and use a simple planner. This could be one you buy at the store or a simple notebook that your child decorates.

Upstanders Update - Message from the Students

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

At Cronulla South Public School, we have recently started an Upstander program for kids, to help them understand and try to stand up to bullying. We have a wonderful group of enthusiastic children ready to help your son/daughter and prevent them from bullying. The variety of students helping with this program are also helping with separate activities included in the Upstanders program, such as making videos, talking about the program at assemblies, creating posters, helping on the playground and working with the teachers to find ways of encouraging others to help.

What is an Upstander?

An Upstander is a person who speaks or acts in support of an individual or cause. They don't stand by when they see someone being hurt physically and/or verbally. They look after others and are kind people and we encourage everyone to become an upstanding citizen.

This program is a great experience for everyone involved as it gives children skills for life ahead. As they will learn the skills they need to stand up for others and themselves. Everyone in this program has put in a lot of effort and work to make this program very successful.

What we hope to achieve

For the Upstander program we hope to inspire your children to stand up for others and themselves when bullying occurs.

Please keep up with our weekly updates and get involved.

If we all work hard together we can stop bullying all together at CSPS!

This fortnight newsletter was written by Elsie, Cyan and Kate.

CSPS News Team - Expression of Interest

The following expressing of interest will be handed out to students in Years 4-6 tomorrow.

https://cronullasps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/1869/cspnews_team_eoi.pdf

Band News

The band program has been suspended for the remainder of Term 3 due to the NSW Department of Education updated guidelines. All band parents should have received an email regarding their fee options from BandTime on 18th August, it was also resent on 21st August as there were some technical issues. If you have a child in the band program and have not received this email please contact via bandtime@engadinemusic.com.au.

Kind regards, the BandTime team.

Library News

Premier's Reading Challenge

Well done to all of the students in Year's 3-6 that have completed the Premier's Reading Challenge! The challenge closes this Friday 28th August and no further entries

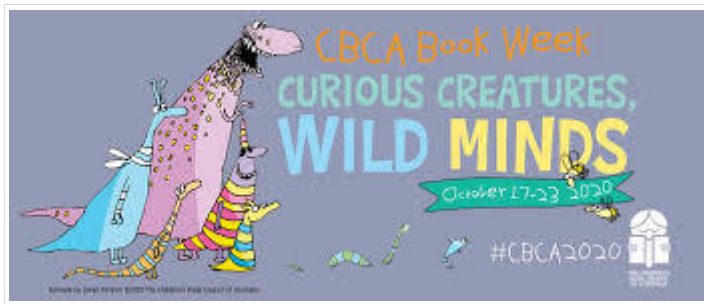
are able to be made after this date. Students in K-2 do not need to enter their books, this has been completed by Mrs Collins from the books they have read in class and in library. Students in Year's 3-6 have two more days complete their book entries on the [Premier's Reading Challenge website](#). Please forward any questions about the PRC to Mrs Collins via the school office.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be via Zoom next Wednesday 16 September at 7pm. The meeting link will be sent to the community later this week.

Book Week – Term 4, Week 2

The official CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia) Book Week dates for this year have been moved to Week 2 Term 4 (17th - 23rd October) due to COVID-19. During this week children will be invited to dress as their favourite book character and we intend on holding some form of a parade around the school. Exactly what Book Week celebrations will look like at CSPS is yet to be determined due to the changing nature of our current restrictions, however, please start thinking about your child's costume as we will definitely be dressing up! If inspiration is needed, the Book Week theme for 2020 is 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'.



P&C News

Canteen update

Thank you to Rachel, Mikki, Jaimie, Lauren, Kristy, Effie, Rochelle, Sally, Mardi, Brooke, Kylie, Jess, Mel and Fiona for volunteering and helping in the canteen over the last few weeks. Thank you to Mikki for purchasing and donating some new equipment for the canteen and for tidying up all the cupboards recently.

Thank you to Lauren who has offered to open the canteen on Tuesday 8th and 22nd September and thank you to those people who have put their names down to help on these days. There are only a couple of shifts that need filling for this term, if anyone is keen to help, please go to this website and sign up <https://signup.zone/cspc-canteen-roster>

The canteen last year made over \$20,000, which was donated directly back to the school to help all of our children.

Rachel who has been coordinating the canteen for a couple of years now is leaving the school next year, so we need someone to take on this role. If anyone is interested please email either Rachel on scottrachel1@sky.com or the canteen on cspscanteenroster@gmail.com.