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Newsletter - Term 1 Week 10 - 2022

Principal's Report

As we draw closer to the end of Term 1, it's great to see many examples of our school community coming back together, face to face, to work in partnership to support the learning of the students.

Last Friday we were able to hold our first K-6 assembly in the hall. Thank you to the parents and carers who came along. It was special to see you in person as we celebrated Harmony Day, 1N class item and the school's current sporting achievements.

Across Week 10, class teachers will be holding parent teacher interviews. These are an opportunity for parents and carers to fill teachers in and ask any questions about how their child is progressing academically and socially so far this year. Teachers will also be keen to update parents and carers on the resilience and adaptability of the students in a term that has seen lots of changes due to periods of isolation.

We are also very much looking forward to the end of term Easter celebrations. There is further information detailed in this edition of the newsletter as we are holding a K-2 Easter Hat Parade and Virtual Showcase. Students in K-6 will watch the parade and K-2 students will participate in the parade. Only K-2 parents and carers will be invited to attend. This, combined with the movement to an online virtual showcase for the presentation of the Eggshibition winners and Raffle draw, has allowed us to plan for a whole school event inline with the COVID-smart guidelines.

As this is the last newsletter for Term 1, we wish all our families a safe and happy school holiday.

Mrs Waring K-2 Assistant Principal & Mrs Pryor 3-6 Assistant Principal

COVID-19 Restrictions Update

There has been an update to the COVID-19 protocols. Instead of 8 weeks, it is now 12 weeks that students and staff are recommended to not participate in rapid antigen testing.

From the Department of Education, updated 29 March 2022:

- *It is recommended that students and staff that return to school after recovering from COVID-19 do not participate in rapid antigen testing for 12 weeks following release from self-isolation unless they develop new COVID-19 symptoms. This is due to NSW Health advice that people who have recovered from COVID-19 have a low risk of contracting it again in the following 12 weeks.*

K-2 News

K-2 News

It's hard to believe that next week is Week 11. We are looking forward to an exciting end to the term with our Easter celebrations, including a hat parade and an extra session of K-2 Got Game on Friday. The students will also have their usual Got Game session on Thursday as well.

Congratulations to 1N for their amazing performance at the K-6 assembly last week. It was lovely to have so many families there to watch. We have included the video of the performance in this week's newsletter.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2l7XGc8DGs4?showinfo=1&rel=0>

K-2 Reading and Home Reading

What are decodable readers?

In term 2, K-2 students will be bringing home decodable texts as part of their Home Reading program. The texts provided to

students will be focused on spelling patterns that have been explicitly taught in the classroom.

Decodable texts are specifically written for beginning and early readers as they develop their blending and segmenting skills and knowledge of the alphabetic code. The primary purpose of decodable texts is to provide students with the opportunity to practise what has been taught during explicit, systematic phonics instruction in the classroom. Decodable texts support students as they practise blending the letter-sounds they have been taught through words, in continuous meaningful text. Decodable texts encourage the habits of strong readers through the accurate reading of words and limit students from guessing texts based on pictures, context, sentence structure or first letters. Decodable texts increase in complexity as the student learns more of the phonetic code.

How can I support my child's reading at home?

We would recommend that your child reads their decodable texts multiple times over a few days. This helps to build fluency and comprehension. Encourage your child to sound out words that are more difficult. For example;

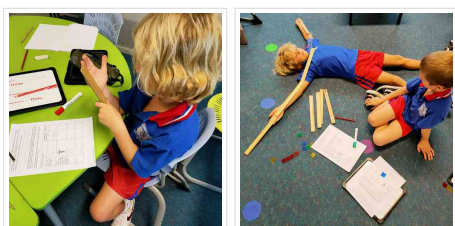
b - ea - ch for the word **beach**

While your child is reading aloud you might ask questions such as;

- * What do you think might happen in this story?
- * What word do you think should come next?
- * What was that character's name again?
- * which words do you think best describe this character?
- * Does anything in this book seem familiar to you?

Mathematics in Stage 1

In Stage 1, we have been learning how to measure lengths using both formal and informal units. The photos below are of our Year 2 students experimenting with using centimetre rulers to measure objects.



3-6 News

3-6 News

We're in Week 10 and it's great to see many of our students and staff returning from isolation periods and continuing to work hard in the classroom.

This week we were able to provide time for students to catch up on any of the online tests that they have missed over the past few weeks. These include the Year 4 and Year 6 Check In Assessments, NAPLAN Practice Test (Year 3 and Year 5 only) and Literacy Pro Assessment (all students 3-6). We have included some further information in this newsletter for parents

and carers to give you a bit of information on these assessments.

Literacy Pro (Lexile)

Students have completed a classroom-based reading test as part of Scholastic Literacy Pro. The program is designed to develop successful readers by evaluating student's reading abilities and motivating them to read more at appropriately challenging levels.

In the test, students read a series of short passages from books and informational materials. After each passage, the student completes a fill-in-the-blank sentence. The test is taken on a computer or tablet and lasts about 20 minutes. Test results are reported using a readability measurement called the Lexile. Think of a Lexile measure as you would the reading from an outdoor thermometer. Just as you can use the temperature on a thermometer to decide what kind of coat to wear, a Lexile measure can be used to decide how difficult a book to read compared to your reading ability.

When a student's reading level (Lexile) is in the range of the Lexile level of a book, the student can read that book with confidence and control. At this target rate of comprehension, material is challenging without being frustrating or boring. This encourages the student to read more, and reading more in the targeted range will increase his/her Lexile measure, furthering reading skills.

Q. How often do students complete the Literacy Pro Assessment?

A. Students complete the Literacy Pro Assessment once a term. There might be some situations where a student is asked to re-sit the assessment within the one term.

Q. My child has told me their lexile is BR. What does this mean?

A. A lexile that has BR, stands for 'Beginning Reader'. This indicates to the teacher that the student is still working on aspects of reading that are important building blocks towards the ultimate goal of comprehension. These include oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary and fluency.

Q. How can I support reading development at home?

A. There will be plenty of classroom incentives to keep students working toward their reading goals, but we need your help too. To continue to grow as a reader, encourage your child to:

- Read 20 minutes a day from books you find within a Lexile range of about 50 Lexile points above to 100 points below his/her current Lexile measure.
- Choose books on a variety of topics, fiction and nonfiction.
- Discuss books they are reading with friends and family, asking questions before, during, and after.
- Keep track of new vocabulary learned and use new words in conversation and writing.
- Use context clues and a dictionary to understand unfamiliar words.

Q. What are Lexile Quizzes? Can we complete these at home?

A. The completion of quizzes through the Literacy Pro portal is something that all classes will be working on and any extra practice at home would be beneficial. There are two options for completing quizzes.

Scholastic Learning Zone website:

<https://slz04.scholasticlearningzone.com/resources/dp-int/dist/#/login3/student/AUS8XVC>

Option 1: Login and click **Literacy Pro**

Using the search feature, search a novel that you have recently read. If there is a quiz associated with this text, you can click the 'Take the Quiz' option. Please note, we encourage students to borrow at least one lexile book from the library each week. These books should have associated tests.

Option 2: Login and click **Literacy Pro Library**

Navigate to the 'Books' page by clicking 'Books' along the top of the screen. Students can then search and read online books. After reading an online text, they can then complete the quiz for that book.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit in May each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students do. As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy. NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards overtime.

We have now completed our practice sessions for NAPLAN. During these sessions, students were able to become familiar with the online testing platform and types of questions that will be asked.

If you feel your child needs further opportunity to experience the online platform, or they were absent for the practice test, visit the NAPLAN demonstration site. This site has public demonstration tests designed to help students become familiar with the types of questions and related functionalities available.

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

Further information on NAPLAN will be provided in early Term 2.

https://cronullasps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3532/naplan_information_for_parents_and_carers.pdf

Please note it is really important that students have headphones for the NAPLAN test in May.

Year 6 to Year 7 Transition

Thank you for returning the High School EOI Forms. We are in the process of organising a visit to Cronulla High School in Term 2 and will let you know when this date is confirmed.

Selective High School Testing

We wish all our Year 6 students who are completing the Selective High School Placement Test this Thursday the best of luck.

Tomorrow, Thursday 31st March, the selective high school test will be held at Cronulla South Public School for all students who applied. If you have a child in year 6 who has applied, you will have received an email with a notification from the High Performing Students Team titled: Test centre advice: Selective High School Placement. This will include a PDF with the Test Centre Authority that needs to be brought to the school on the day of the test and a document called 'Test Information for parents and students' which contains important information about the test.

At school, the Test will be held on the northern site and so on this day, all year 6 students sitting the test should come to the northern playground and assemble with the K-2 students. Mrs Pryor will be administering the test in our Learning Pool room. It is expected that the test will take most of the day, however, students will be at the end of the day brought to the southern site and their home classes to be dismissed as usual.

PSSA 3-6

With the announcement of PSSA returning in Term 2, we have started the process of PSSA trials for students in Year 3 - Year 6. Next term, the PSSA teams will be in soccer, rugby and netball. We have held one round of trials already. We will continue our PSSA trials for the next two Fridays, weather permitting.

Easter Celebrations

Easter Celebrations

A huge thank you to families for your generous support of our Easter celebrations through your Easter egg donations and selling of raffle tickets.

Please ensure all raffle tickets are returned to the office by Monday 4th April.

A reminder to our Year 6 parents/carers that we are putting the Easter Egg Baskets together on Thursday afternoon at 3pm in the 5/6N classroom. The more hands, the quicker the job, so please come along if you can. If you are able to bring along some tape, ribbon and cellophane that would be helpful. We will also have some at school.

K-2 Easter Hat Parade

This coming Tuesday 5th April 2022 we will be celebrating Easter with a Hat Parade for our K-2 students. 3-6 students will watch the parade (weather permitting).

K-2 students will need to make their hats at home and bring them to school on the day. This year we will be having a 'Recycling Theme' for the hat designs. We would like to encourage students to make their hats using recyclable or reusable materials found around the home. This is an inexpensive option for families that also helps to communicate the importance of sustainability. All students are encouraged to participate and share in the fun.

On the day, K-2 students only may wear mufti clothing on the day. Children need to wear closed in shoes.

Parents and friends who have children involved in the parade (K-2) are invited to attend the parade. The parade will commence at 9.30 am on the Southern Site (3-6 site), weather permitting. If inclement weather, only K-2 students will participate in a parade in the hall, with the event live streamed to families via our Facebook page.

Virtual Showcase

The second component of our Easter celebrations is the virtual showcase. The broadcast will begin at 12:00pm.

This special live event will include:

- A showcase of the Eggshibition
- Announcement of the Eggshibition winners
- Easter Raffle Draw

Please click the link to join: <https://tinyurl.com/3y9xrk65>

Password: csps

You will need a registered zoom account.

School Photo Catch-Up Day

Students who were absent from school photo day on Thursday 17 March, will have the opportunity of having their individual portrait and any pre-ordered sibling photos taken on Friday 8 April.

We will also be having the Year 6, Leaders, Sports Captains, Tech Team and News Team group photos on this day.

Students who are having their photo taken will need to wear full summer uniform. Students are more than welcome to bring their sports uniform to school so they can change uniform once their photos have been taken.

SchoolBytes Payments and Consent Reminders

As we have moved away from sending home hard copy notes and are now using a new platform called SchoolBytes to send out electronic consent and fee notices, please see below recent emails which will require payment and/or consent:-

- Statement of Account for Semester 1 Fees - due 7 April 2022
- K-6 Whole School Cross Country Carnival - due 7 April 2022

All SchoolBytes emails will be sent from "noreply@mail.schoolbytes.education". If you have not received either the Statement of Account for Semester 1 Fees or K-6 Whole School Cross Country Carnival in your inbox, please check your spam/junk folder. If you are still unable to locate either email, please contact the school office.

News Team

Poem by Zoe N

The stoke of catching a perfect wave is pure joy.
The tranquility of standing there, listening to the oceans sounds is a genuine moment.
The ocean eager to share it.
Feeling the fresh breeze blow in your face.
A rush of energy spreads across your body
as you lightly place your hands up on the barrel of the wave.
Not a way to capture this moment but only to embrace it.
As a stowaway in your mind that will be there, always.

Harmony Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Oy2O-Hv5IY>

Big and Little Buddy Program

As COVID restrictions have lifted this year, Year 6 have been visiting Kindergarten to enjoy some reading, sport and quality lunchtimes together each Friday. Kindergarten have been grouped with Year 6 to help them settle into school and offer a friendly face by their side. "They are new to our school and maybe need a welcome or help getting used to big school!" said Ollie L, from Year 6. It is a valuable part of our school tradition to help the kindergarten students smoothly transition into their new environment. "Our Kindergarten/ Year 6 Buddy program provides Kindergarten students with a supportive positive role model and memories that last a lifetime," said Mrs Palmervale.

When Year 6 spend time with their buddies, they help them start the school year and ensure the boys and girls feel comfortable. "My favourite thing to do with my buddy is to have tea parties," says Zoe C from Year 6. Year 6 are so lucky to have this privilege, and have this time with their buddies. Having buddies reminds Year 6 of fond memories of when they were back in kindergarten. It is now their turn to take on the role of leaders. Year 6 have at all times been supportive, nurturing and helpful towards Kindergarten. Zara from Year 6 stated, "I like to skip with my buddies at sport, socialise with them, and just hang out all together."

The Kindergarten students really enjoy spending time with their big buddies on Fridays. "For most students it is the highlight of their week," said Mrs Palmervale. "I love my buddy because we play soccer together," said Cameron from Kindergarten. The big and little buddies look forward to seeing what term 2 holds and further strengthen the bond they have already created.

Student Lighthouse Team

We have had an amazing response to our Student Lighthouse Team initiative, with plenty of students from Years 2-6 completing the expression of interest. Our Staff Lighthouse Team is looking through these this week and will hopefully form our Student Lighthouse Team to be announced in Week 11. Thank you also to those parents who joined us at the information session in Week 8 or watched the recording.

Once formed, the Student Lighthouse Team will meet regularly throughout the year and put together their ideas about how to improve the school and projects they want to see happen. It is all about student centred and led initiatives, as well as training

up and equipping students with leadership skills in organising, communicating, collaborating and implementing events and projects. From a brief read through of the applications, we are really excited to see all of these ideas and the vision that students have for our school.

We are hoping to have some Action Teams up and running as soon as possible once our Student Lighthouse Team meets and these teams will be open to expressions of interest from all students K-6. Students who applied to be part of the Student Lighthouse Team but were not selected this time will be given preference to participate in Action Teams as we would like to support the development of their leadership skills as well. Ultimately we would like to see students from across the school involved in these Action Teams so that every student can see that they are a leader at Cronulla South Public School

K-6 Whole School Cross Country - Parent Helpers Needed

With our Cross Country Carnival being held on Friday 29th April, Mr Jennings is asking if any parents would be available to assist on the day.

The role entails at least 6 parents to stand out on the track as course checkpoints to make sure students stay on course. Helpers are required to have a current working with children check or declaration supplied to the office and be able to arrive at Miranda Park at 8.45 to assist setting up the track.

If interested please contact the office by the end of this term.

Scripture and Ethics Program

Special religious education (SRE) and Special education in ethics (SEE)

NSW public schools allow time for Special religious education (SRE) and Special education in ethics (SEE), where authorised teachers of approved providers are available. Our SRE and SEE programs will commence in Week 1 Term 2.

We have had a lot of interest from families in our Ethics program. At present, we are only able to offer Ethics classes (SEE) to Stage 1, 2 and 3 students and numbers in classes are limited, so students will participate in the program either in Semester 1 or 2 for 2022. Primary Ethics are currently seeking mentors to accommodate our numbers. We have attached a flyer if you would like more information on how to become a Primary Ethics educator.

https://cronullasps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3538/ethics_flyer.pdf

CSPS Dance Program

The Year 5 and 6 Girls Dance Ensemble commenced their lessons during lunchtimes. They have been working hard to prepare an audition video for an up coming performance. We wish them good luck in their preparations and audition.

Our 2-4 Girls and 2-6 Boys Dance Ensembles will commence in Term 2.

Leader in Me and Positive Behaviour for Learning

It was fantastic to have our first combined K-6 Assembly in what has felt like far too long. The students were making excellent positive behaviour choices and there were so many tokens given out that there seemed to be a clicking sea of cicadas tapping away on the hall floor. They soon made their way into the respective stage token boxes.

Having spent a couple of weeks focusing on Habit 3: Put First Things First, we now move on to Habit 4: Think Win Win. Habit 4 is all about how we work effectively with others, how we negotiate and come up with solutions where everyone can win. It can be a tricky habit for us to learn and get the hang of, but it greatly helps our relationships with peers, parents and teachers when we do. This fortnight, students will be thinking about courage and consideration and how to balance the two when making effective decisions in the classroom and on the playground.



Our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus this fortnight is looking at the playground and morning assemblies. Classes will be discussing how we can be Safe, Respectful and Active Learners in these areas, as well as thinking about how we can Think Win Win. This is especially important in playing games, negotiating rules and expectations and making positive choices in regards to packing up equipment and moving quickly to the correct area when the first bell rings. Thank you for supporting your children to make positive choices in the playground at school.

P&C News

Canteen update

Thanks to Nikita, Bianca, Corrin, Bel, Casey, Johnnele, Kristy, Dan, Germaine, Sheila, Matt, Lauren & John for helping out over the last fortnight.

We still have some spots to fill on Thursday this week and next, please sign up if you can.

The roster for next term is now available. At this stage there is no day that we will be able to open the canteen due to a lack of volunteers. We will provide further updates as we get closer to the dates but expect a number of days to be closed.

We understand that the hours don't work for everybody (and that especially at the moment there are lots of other things going on for everybody) but if you have aunts/uncles/grandparents/older siblings that could do a couple of shifts a year it really would make a difference. While we have a core group of people who help out regularly and more who help out on a casual basis, we really do need a lot more hands on deck. This term we have had an average of 150-170 different students ordering each week but only 30 different volunteers.

[Cronulla South Canteen Roster \(signup.zone\)](#)

If you can't help out during canteen hours but have some time to help with other tasks please contact us at cspscanteenroster@gmail.com.

Thank you. Canteen.

you can redeem your free \$100 voucher with us! If you haven't got your voucher yet head to www.service.nsw.gov.au for more details.

To enrol your child or for more information please head to www.stellarperformingarts.com, or contact Ashleigh on 0403 999 400 or at admin@stellarperformingarts.com.

https://cronullasps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3530/school_crossing_supervisor.pdf

https://cronullasps.schoolzineplus.com/_file/media/3531/sutherland_shire_youth_week_2022.pdf

Community Events

Early Bird Special with Stellar Performing Arts!

At Stellar Performing Arts Academy we provide a fun, safe and stimulating environment to boost your child's confidence and enrich their self-esteem. In our Term Time program, students will learn fun new skills through improvisation, mini scripts, creative costumes, movement, voice, and lots more! The benefits of this unique program extend far beyond the performance space, ultimately equipping your child with essential life skills, helping them to be more creative and confident.

We currently have our Early Bird special on when you book before the end of term. You will receive a saving of \$30! Jump on to www.stellarperformingarts.com now to take advantage of this great offer.

CSPS Upper Primary (Yr 4-6)

- Wednesday May 4 to Wednesday June 22 (8 lessons)
- 2:50pm - 4:00pm
- CSPS Library

CSPS Lower Primary (K - 3)

- Thursday 5 May to Thursday 23 Thursday (8 lessons)
- 2:40pm - 4:00pm
- CSPS Library

Don't forget that Stellar Performing Arts is a registered provider of the NSW Government Creative Kids Program, so