



ETTALONG
PUBLIC SCHOOL

HOMENOTE

KARINGI ST ETTALONG BEACH NSW 2257

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Term 2 Week 4

19 May 2020

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 18 May	Sturt and Flinders students return on Mondays and Wednesdays only.
Tues 19 May	Phillip and Blaxland students return Tuesdays and Thursdays only
Wed 20 May	Sturt and Flinders students return Mondays and Wednesdays only
Thurs 21 May	Phillip and Blaxland students return Tuesdays and Thursdays only
Fri 22 May	Students of essential workers please

Dear parents and carers

Cautious optimism paired with heightened hygiene is my motto at the moment. As we all look forward to our students returning to face-to-face lessons in the classrooms, one of the few positives to emerge from this crisis is the increased expectation of hygienic practices. We have plenty of soap and sanitiser and all children will be encouraged, and indeed expected, to use them regularly. I have also ordered new soap dispensers for all toilets in the school and these should be fitted within the next week because I am aware that as these items age, they do not always work efficiently.

Thanks to our Environmental Committee and Gardening Club, new native shrubs have been added to the quadrangle garden and new vegetable seeds added to the vegetable garden. I'm sure you will agree, our playground and gardens are looking fabulous.

New computer hard drives arrived last Friday to replace those made when dinosaurs roamed the Earth and when these are installed tomorrow. It will be 'all systems go!' And wait till I tell the children about the new Aero Club we have planned!

Our new sandpit opened yesterday to the delight of our Kindergarten, Special Education and Stage 1 students who were the first to play in it. Dump trucks and tractors were the order of the day as the children dug, moved and tipped their sand like professionals. We will continue with a play equipment and sandpit roster for all students while it is so popular, to ensure all children get to have a turn in there. The sandpit will be covered at the end of each school day and whilst heightened hygiene is pertinent, the toys and climbing equipment will be disinfected after recess and lunch every day.

Cheryl in the canteen thanks everyone who allowed their child to purchase recess or lunch last week. Opening hours this week will remain the same, recess and lunch, Mondays to Thursdays, inclusive.

Please remember, we are opening the back gates on the basketball court for your convenience as a Years 3 – 6 Kiss and Drop zone, entering the laneway from Uligandi Street then exiting to Karingi St. We again ask parents of K-2 children only, to use the designated Kiss and Drop zone in Uligandi Street to avoid congestion around our school gates, as social distancing rules continue to apply to adults.

Parents of Year Six students, please don't forget BWSC Umina Campus has set a new closing date for their specialist program applications. Application forms for Year 7 2021 CAPA, Enrichment, AVID and Targeted Sports Programs must now be returned to Ms Harrison by Friday May 29.

Breaking news: NSW school children will return to school five days per week, starting Monday May 25. I hope to receive more information from the Department of Education, this afternoon.

Lynn Balfour

Principal

ES1 Report Week 4

All of the Early Stage 1 teachers have been thrilled to see the girls and boys gradually returning to school. We have also loved our communication with our families on Google Classroom. The children have all been working so hard on their learning from home packs and it has been so wonderful that they have been remembering to bring their packs with them on their day at school. Parents and carers – you are to be congratulated for your dedication, persistence and creativity. We have definitely come together as an amazing team to continue the fine standard of education for your children. KZ have been sharing some great photos on our Google Classroom page.



What a wonderful home learning pace!



A creative letter 'u'.



Sasha turned 6!!!

Some of our support children working hard



Some of our kindergarten playing in our new sand pit

