



H O M E N O T E

Respect. Responsibility. Ready To Learn.

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Term 4 Week 5

2 November 2021

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Now until 17 Nov	Selective High School Applications are available online. Please see the link below.
Wed 1 Dec	School Photos

Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe that all of our students have been back in our school for a week and one day already! We have seen some very excited faces and I am not just talking about our students! Our staff are as excited as our students! In the last week, we have been overwhelmed with the efforts our students are applying to their learning. We have seen some amazing writing from Y4 and some terrific reading from Y1 and Kindergarten, just to mention a few outstanding efforts so far. Keep up the great work everyone!

Last Friday we resumed handing out our 3R awards. Congratulations to those students who received a certificate in our very first week back! We also started to give out positives. For the remainder of the year, we will be handing out two per week, one for the playground and one for the classroom. Last week, the box had over 200 tickets in it for just 5 short days!

At this time, we continue to request that if your child is unwell, you keep them at home. If your child, or anyone in your home, requires a Covid test, please let our office know and then email the test result through before your child resumes school. As mentioned above, our email address is ettalong-p-school@det.nsw.edu.au Once again, we thank you for your ongoing support in regard to this matter.

Due to the overwhelming number of orders at our canteen and the current restrictions that only allow Mrs Lynch to operate the canteen, we are currently able to offer online orders only. Online orders are available through My School Connect. Please note that the modified menu remains in place until further notice.

Just a reminder that the Central Coast continues to be part of Greater Sydney. We remain in Level 3 Plus restrictions. There is a lot of updated information for families and this continues to be available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families> and the Department of Education (DoE), in consultation with NSW Health have also released information for families in the unfortunate event of a positive Covid case in a school. With a small number of schools on the Central Coast again being closed for cleaning in this past week, we have included the Response Protocols from the DoE's website on the pages following. As you will read below, information in the event of a school closure, will be dispersed via email, our school's Facebook page, our school's website and via the DoE's Schools Update app. PLEASE take some time to make sure that your details are current in our school (mobile phone numbers and email addresses) as otherwise you may not be aware of a situation. The DoE and of course our school must follow the orders of NSW Health. This information can be found in full at the following address; <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/response-protocol>

Just a reminder that Selective High School applications for 2023 are open until November 17. All applications must be made online at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>

Please stay safe and well! And thank you for your ongoing support.
Jodie Campbell - Relieving Principal

3R's AWARDS

Class	Name	Class	Name
KS	Marnie McM	KT	Sebastian h
	Katana R-B		Travis L
KZ	Maddie K	KL	Jaxon P
	Connor Mcl		Emilia S
3S	Nahlia K	3R	San F
	Jordan P		Klyde P
3/4A	Haedyn E	4S	Ava R
	Emilia F		Amelia R

Class	Name	Class	Name
4B	Indiana C-A	4K	Keira B
	Will H		Tyler P
5H	Caiden D	5J	Teana f
	Sophia M		Talieya McM
6D	Jasper S	5T	Charlie C
	Sophie W		Lilly T
6R	Bridget O	6H	Cooper L
	Savannah S		Riley H
K/6R	Dylan I		
	Mason McD		

PLAYGROUND POSITIVE WINNER

Ruby K-6P

CLASSROOM POSITIVE WINNER

Harper 5H

P & C NEWS

We're back!!!! Woo-hoo! Firstly, a massive thank you to all our teachers and support staff for their tireless efforts to support our kids throughout another crazy lockdown. We appreciate all your hard work and the challenges you have yet to face, and we will help in any way we can!

Welcome back to all the students too! We know that catching up with all your friends and being back at school is going to feel pretty awesome!

Just a reminder that it is still a restricted menu with online ordering only at the canteen at the moment as well as online ordering for any uniform shop orders.

Please remember that we are available at epsandc@gmail.com if you have any questions or need help with anything.

SUPPORT NEWS



K6P have made been making this beautiful Sea Turtle, which we called "Pixie Blue" from recycled materials such as bubble wrap, plastic bottles, plastic scraps, foil cups, netting and wool scraps. We have talked about the importance of recycling and keeping our oceans clean.



EARLY STAGE ONE NEWS

I hope you all had the best time possible you could have with your precious families in the holidays under extenuating circumstances and in Covid lockdown. We are all so proud of our Kinder students and their families after 16 weeks of lockdown. We are forever grateful for your support.

Kinder have been back at school for 2 weeks, excited and with big smiles, eager to see their friends and their teachers and of course the lovely Mrs Campbell and Mr P. We remembered the "Day for Daniel" by wearing red, and we are now reading again and learning about number lines.



STAGE ONE NEWS

1F have been back together for two weeks now and settled in beautifully. We are remembering our rules and routines, particularly treating others with kindness during reading group activities. We are learning about fairy tales and working on character descriptions. This week, we wrote a fairy tale called The Magic Boots and completed a craft activity to match. 1F are spending 10 minutes a day practising skipping skills and we are improving every day. In maths, we have been focusing on counting backwards to solve subtraction problems.



Response protocols for COVID-19 cases- from the DOE'S website

A report by the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance into the transmission of COVID-19 within NSW schools has found the spread of COVID-19 within NSW Schools has been very limited.

Where there is a case of COVID-19 in the school community, the department has established systems and protocols with NSW Health to manage and respond accordingly to keep our staff and students safe.

Quick guide for parents and carers

NSW Health will advise your school or early education centre if there is a COVID-19 positive case on a day that your child attended and in turn they will let you know if your child has been named as a close or casual contact.

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms

If you or your child has any [COVID-19 symptoms](#)^{External link} get tested as soon as possible and [self-isolate](#)^{External link} until you receive a negative result. Common symptoms include fever, headache, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, runny nose or fatigue.

You must travel by private transport to be tested and wear a face mask. This applies even if you or your child is fully vaccinated.

Self-isolation rules are different depending on your circumstances. While it is likely that older children can isolate by themselves younger children may need their parent or carer to co-isolate with them.

If your test is positive you will be contacted by SMS by NSW Health and asked to follow their [advice for confirmed cases](#)^{External link}.

If your child is a close contact

If your child is fully vaccinated and has returned their negative day 6 test, they will generally be able to return to on-site learning after leaving isolation after day 7. Your child will still be required to test on day 12 and should continue to monitor for symptoms during this time and only return to their school or early childhood service if well.

If your child is unvaccinated, they can return to their school or early childhood service after they have received their negative day 12 test result and finished their full isolation period.

Please review NSW Health's full close contact information:

If your child is a casual contact

Your child can return to their school or early childhood service when they leave isolation after receiving their first negative COVID-19 test. All casual contacts need to follow the advice in the factsheets, attend for a day 6 test and only return to school if well.

Please review NSW Health's full casual contact information:

If your child is positive for COVID-19

Your child can return to their school or early childhood service once they have completed their isolation, have been medically cleared and have been provided with a medical clearance notice by a medical practitioner or a registered nurse. Your child should only return to on-site learning if well and not experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.

For further information on release from isolation, please review NSW Health's [release and recovery from COVID-19](#)^{External link} information or review the frequently asked questions on this page.

Resources to answer parent and carer questions

NSW Health has prepared a range of factsheets to answer questions about self-isolation and what to do if you, or your child, is named as a close or casual contact.

- [COVID-19 symptoms](#)
- [Confirmed cases](#)
- [Close contacts](#)
- [Casual contacts](#)
- [Self-isolation](#)

Response protocols for confirmed cases of COVID-19

The department has protocols in place where it is notified by NSW Health when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a school-age student, staff member or a member of the school community who has been on school grounds during their infectious period. In addition, schools and workplaces are required to notify confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the department's internal incident reporting hotline where the person has been on school grounds or involved in any school activities within the previous 3 weeks.

Where the person has not been on school grounds within the previous 3 weeks, there is no requirement to report these cases unless additional support and advice is required.

All confirmed cases are immediately assessed by the department and NSW Health to determine whether the student, staff or school community member has been infectious while at school, and to determine the appropriate course of action required to minimise the risk to the wider community.

Key actions include:

- contact tracing to identify all close contacts to a confirmed case – in some instances, this may require making the school non-operational while the contact tracing process is completed
- communication with parents advising them whether their child has been in contact with a confirmed case
- thorough cleaning of the school site to ensure the environment is clean and safe prior to the school resuming onsite learning.

Contact tracing

Parents will be notified by the school in writing if their child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19 while at school. Students who are identified as close contacts will be required to remain in home isolation and not return to school until the end of their isolation period. In this situation, the school will arrange for the student to receive their learning programs at home.

Students who are identified as casual contacts will be required to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to school. All families will receive a formal letter from the school to advise what to do if they have been at school on a day when the confirmed case was considered to be infectious.

School operations

Parents and carers will be notified if a decision is made to make the school non-operational for on-site learning to enable contact tracing and/or cleaning process to take place. Information about the operational status of the school will be disseminated using the school's information channels, including the [School Updates app](#), Facebook page and the department's website.

During this period, educational material will be made available through the department learning from home hub to enable students to continue learning at home.

Parents and students will be notified by the department when the school is ready to resume on-site learning.

Safety and hygiene

The department is continuing to work closely with NSW Health and other relevant agencies to ensure the best possible precautions are in place to protect students and staff in our public schools.

Schools have comprehensive infection control and first aid arrangements in place and are well practised in implementing practical strategies and standard precautions to prevent the spread of disease in our schools.

Good personal hygiene, including regular hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting and the use of personal protective equipment are vigorously applied across all schools.

Cleaning

All schools have COVID-safe plans and are taking precautions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission on-site. This includes enhanced cleaning 2 times a day in all schools in line with the latest advice from NSW Health and SafeWork Australia. Where there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, cleaning will be carried out at the school site in line with cleaning protocols agreed with NSW Health.