

# HOLGATE NEWS

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Wednesday 20 August 2025

## Principal's Report

## THE AGENCY

**Dear Students, Parents, and Staff**

### **Creative Arts Expo and Public Education Week Success**

Our Creative Arts Expo and Public Education Open Classrooms was a resounding success and a great example of the quality of Public Education, showcasing fantastic student and parent, carer and grandparent engagement. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated teachers and support staff for their organisation and preparation, which made this event possible. Feedback from students, parents, carers and grandparents has been overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the creativity and enthusiasm displayed throughout the day.

I'm also thrilled to announce that the clay models created during the Creative Arts Expo will be exhibited at the Fries Creek Winery during the Sculptures in the Winery event during the October long weekend. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to have their work showcased in such a beautiful setting.

### **Spelling Bee Results 2025!**

Super congratulations to our two school finalists in the NSW Spelling Bee competition for 2025 April and Cleo. You both did yourselves and our school proud. Congratulations to Cleo for coming third in the State for the NSW Spelling Bee!

### **New Website!**

Our new school website has gone live! Please click on the link to explore our fantastic site. I would like to acknowledge Mrs. King and the office staff for their hard work and extra effort in completing this project ahead of schedule and making it look so great. Our new website will be easy for our office staff to maintain and keep relevant.

<https://holgate-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

### **Year 6 Fundraising and Leadership Opportunities**

It was heartwarming to see our Year 6 students demonstrate remarkable leadership and mentoring skills, guiding their peers and fostering a collaborative spirit while they raised money for their Year 6 Farewell. Their efforts produced a staggering \$612 to go towards their farewell. Our Year 6 students are planning another fundraiser this term, information to come. During this term our Year 6 leaders will be organising Curriculum Workshops on Wednesday 17 September for all the students K-5 to engage in. This is a great leadership opportunity.

### **Peer Mediator Training Years 4, 5 and 6**

Our Year 6, 5 and 4 students are engaging in Peer Mediation training on Wednesday 10 September. This initiative aims to equip students with essential conflict resolution skills, fostering a positive school environment. Our students will learn effective communication techniques, active listening and problem-solving strategies that will empower them to mediate conflicts among their peers. The training will be interactive and engaging, providing students with practical tools they can use in real-life situations. By becoming peer mediators, students will not only enhance their leadership skills but also contribute to a more harmonious school community.

## Everyday counts

Just a reminder that regular school attendance is crucial for your child's education. We acknowledge that there has been a lot of illness, but there are still students having days off when not ill. Missing just one day per week can add up to eight weeks over a year, resulting in 2.5 years of lost learning over their school life. Even missing one day per fortnight can accumulate to four weeks in a year, equating to a full year of missed education. It's important to prioritise consistent attendance to ensure your child doesn't fall behind or continues to feel a sense of belonging at school. Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher, one of our Assistant Principals, or me if you need any advice or assistance regarding school attendance.



## Uniform 2025

We are currently in transition with our uniform and are finalising our new design. Our office staff and teachers have received a few inquiries regarding uniform expectations. Please see below the expectations:

**Girls Summer Uniform:**

- Girls Summer Dress
- Black Polo Shirt
- Girls Maroon Skort / Shorts

**Boys Summer Uniform:**

- Black Polo Shirt
- Boys Grey Shorts

**Winter Uniform:**

- Girls: Black Polo Shirt, Maroon Fleece Track Pants or Maroon Jazz Pants, Maroon Fleece Zip Jacket/Maroon Fleece Sloppy Joe. Winter tunic or skirt, yellow shirt and maroon or grey stockings.
- Boys: Black Polo Shirt, Grey Cargo Pants, Maroon Fleece Track Pants, Maroon Fleece Zip Jacket/Maroon Fleece Sloppy Joe

**Accessories:**

- Maroon Wide Brim Hat or Maroon Bucket Hat (mandatory for outdoor play) - Available for purchase from school office.
- Maroon School Bag, Library Bag - Available for purchase from school office.
- White / grey socks.

## Public School Student Survey Results are in

Our students in Years 3-6 Term 2 participated in the Public School Student Survey.

Here are strengths:

- *High Expectations* School: 97% | SSSG: 94% | NSW: 94%

The school outperforms its peers and the state average, indicating a strong academic culture and teacher expectations.

- *Classroom Management* School: 90% | SSSG: 87% | NSW: 87%

Our school outperforms its peers and the state average which contributes to a conducive learning environment.

- Engagement & Explicit Teaching Engagement: 86% | Explicit Teaching: 90%

Both metrics are slightly higher than SSSG and NSW, showing that students feel involved and understand lesson objectives clearly.

- *Sense of Belonging (Overall, Connectedness, Supportive Adult)* School scores 82–88% across all belonging indicators

Consistent with or slightly above peers and NSW averages, suggesting strong emotional and social support for students.

- *Experienced Bullying* School: 23% | SSSG: 38% | NSW: 40%

This is a major positive outcome, the school has far lower bullying rates than peers and state.

- *Experienced Discrimination* School: 27% | SSSG: 32% | NSW: 34%

Again, a positive sign the school has lower discrimination incidents than the peers and state average.

Here are areas for improvement:

- *Effective Feedback* School: 75% | SSSG: 76% | NSW: 76%

Slightly below both comparison groups.

- *Motivation* School: 76% | SSSG: 78% | NSW: 77%

A minor gap, but still an opportunity to boost student enthusiasm and interest in learning and embedding feedback structures on goal setting and during learning could be enhanced.

### **We are excited to announce our Book Week celebrations**

Thank you to those that joined us at for the Book Week Parade today in the hall. It was great that parents attended and cheered on our students as they showcased their favourite books and characters. The festivities will continue tomorrow with our Treasure Hunt Performance, which promises to be an engaging and enjoyable event for all. We look forward to celebrating the joy of reading with our school community!

### **Our school enrolment update**

Currently we are only taking local enrolments for Kindy 2026. Our projected enrolments for 2026 currently are 105. If you are planning on leaving or need to discuss enrolment at our school for 2026, please contact me. Accurate enrolment projections are essential for informing our school and this information significantly impact budgets and class allocations. It's crucial that we strive for accuracy to ensure a smooth planning process. Your support in this would be appreciated.

Kind regards, Mrs Gordon

### **Dates to remember**

Event	Year	Date	Note Due/Cost
Book Week Performance	K – 6	Thursday 21 August	Permission and payment due now
ICAS Spelling	Enrolled	Friday 22 August	Closed
ICAS Maths	Enrolled	Wednesday 27 August	Closed
Tour and Taster sessions at Erina High School	Yr 5	Monday 1 Sept	Notes due Mon 25 August
P&C Meeting		Monday 1 Sep	7pm in staffroom
Father's Day BBQ		Tuesday 2 Sept	8am info below
PSSA Athletics	Selected	Friday 5 Sept	
School Open Day	All welcome	Tuesday 9 Sept	RSVP to office
Local final Public Speaking		Tuesday 9 Sept	
Peer Mediator Training	Yrs 4, 5 and 6	Wednesday 10 Sept	
Tour and Taster sessions at Erina High School	Yr 6	Monday 15 Sept	Info to come
League Tag Gala Day	Yrs 1 & 2	Tuesday 16 Sept	Info to come
CC Public Speaking Final	Selected	Wednesday 17 Sept	

P&C Trivia Night		Friday 19 Sept	See below for info
NSW Health Dental Van		Mon 22 – Friday 26 Sept	Information has been sent home. Please return if attending
Final day of Term 3	K – 6	Friday 26 Sept	

This newsletter is published in Weeks 2, 5 and 8. The next on Wednesday 10 September 2025

The next assembly is on Friday 29 August 2025 at 2pm in the school hall.

### Read and Discover (RAD) Awards

**Bronze Award (50 Nights):** Knox Birch; Jude G;

**Silver Award (100 Nights):** Billie B; Hazel Mc;



### Administration

#### Kindergarten Headstart Program

Our comprehensive transition program is an integral part of ensuring your child is supported and ready as they begin their primary school journey.



If you have enrolled your child to start Kindergarten in 2026, we look forward to welcoming you and your child as they participate in Headstart on the following dates:

Thursday 23 October 9:30am – 11:00am

Thursday 13 November 9:30am – 11:00am

Thursday 30 October 9:30am – 11:00am

Thursday 20 November 9:30am – 11:00am

Thursday 6 November 9:30am – 11:00am

Thursday 27 November 9:30am – 11:00am

#### NSW Health Primary School Dental Program

NSW Health is working with the Department of Education and public primary schools to offer free dental check-ups and preventive care, to all students as part of a school-based mobile dental program. Our school has been selected to participate the program.



Many parents may not realise two important things about their children's teeth:

1. Good oral health is essential for children to successfully learn and participate at school, and
2. NSW Health offers free public dental health services to all children under 18 years of age.

Learning and behaviour difficulties at school can start with tooth and gum problems. That's because decay and gum disease can cause pain and difficulties in eating, sleeping, talking, concentrating, and learning, which can in turn affect a child's behaviour in class. A child with tooth decay may feel self-conscious about the way their teeth look and feel, making it harder for them to join in class and social activities.

Our school is participating in the program and offering students the opportunity to have free dental check-ups in a comfortable and familiar environment at school. With a parent/carers consent, students are able to have a free dental check-up and free preventive care.

**The program is scheduled to visit our school in Week 10 from 22 September to 26 September 2025.**

A Parent Information and Consent Pack will be sent home with each student, and includes information sheets, consent forms and the program privacy statement. Parents/carers who want their child to receive care are advised to:

1. Read all the information provided in the pack
2. Carefully complete all the fields of the consent forms
3. Return the consent forms to the school as soon as possible

More information about the program or how to access public dental clinics is available on the NSW Health website at:

[https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/primaryschool dental\\_or](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/primaryschool dental_or)  
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth/Pages/default.aspx>

It is not usual practice for parents to attend these school-based appointments.

If you wish to accompany your child to their dental appointment, please contact NSW Health Public Dental Services Central Coast on phone: 1300 789 404 to make an appointment at one of their NSW Health Dental Clinics.

**If you have any questions, please contact CCLHD Primary School Mobile Dental Program – Wyong Hospital on 4394 4842 or email [CCLHD-MDC@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CCLHD-MDC@health.nsw.gov.au)**



## School News

### Public Speaking

The school final of public speaking was held on Tuesday afternoon with many excellent speeches presented. Congratulations to the following stage finalists who presented their speeches on the day:

**Early Stage 1:** Aadel, Elodie and Dory

**Stage 1:** Lyla, Georgia, Leo and Luca

**Stage 2:** Emily, Neiko, Adelaide and Mahdi

**Stage 3:** Jayda, Cleo, Knox, Piper and Maike

It was a hotly contested competition with a great variety of information and humour shared.

Stage winners will be announced on Monday morning and winners will be invited to attend the Central Coast Public Speaking final to be held on 9 September at Niagara Park Public School.

Julie Papps

## Holgate P & C News

Hello everyone,

As we dive into Week 5 of Term 3, there's a buzz of excitement in the air as we celebrate Book Week 2025! We are excited to witness the creativity of our students as they transform into their favourite literary characters. It's always a delight to see the imaginative outfits, and we can't wait to see what this year brings!



Looking ahead, Father's Day is just around the corner. It's a special time to celebrate the wonderful fathers and father figures in our lives.

Trivia Night is also fast approaching! It's shaping up to be an evening filled with fun, laughter and a little friendly competition. Gather your team and get ready to put your knowledge to the test.

We hope you all have a fantastic week and look forward to seeing everyone dressed up at the Book Week Parade!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Father's Day BBQ Breakfast**

Our Father's Day BBQ Breakfast is fast approaching! All dads and significant others are invited to a delicious BBQ breakfast starting at 8am. in the school BBQ Area on Tuesday 2 September. It's a fantastic opportunity to enjoy a yummy breakfast, and connect with other families. We will be serving bacon & egg rolls, drinks and giving away some AMAZING prizes from our Father's Day raffle. Raffle Tickets are available to purchase at - \$4ea or 3 for \$10. You will also be able to purchase more tickets on the day.

Also a gentle reminder to please complete the Father's Day breakfast order form that was sent home and place it in an envelope with your child/s name/class and amount clearly labelled on the front and return directly to the office by Thursday 28 August 2025.

#### **Call for Volunteers**

We're reaching out with a special request for some helping hands! On the morning of Tuesday 2 September, for our Father's Day BBQ Breakfast. We need some volunteers to assist us starting from 7am. If you're available and would love to lend a hand, we'd be incredibly grateful. Please send us an email at [holgate.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:holgate.pandc@gmail.com) to let us know you're interested. Your support makes all the difference, and we truly appreciate it.

#### **Trivia Night**

Join us for an unforgettable evening at the Holgate Public Schools Annual Trivia Night, set for Friday 19 September from 6:30pm to 11pm. This exciting event promises not only challenging trivia rounds but also fantastic entertainment and incredible prizes up for grabs. It's a perfect opportunity to gather with friends, test your knowledge and support our school community. We encourage everyone to attend and make it a night to remember. Additionally, if you have an item that you would like to donate for our trivia night auction, please contact the P&C via Facebook or email at [holgate.pandc@gmail.com](mailto:holgate.pandc@gmail.com)

Your generous contributions play a crucial role in the success of our fundraising efforts, and we are immensely grateful for your support.

#### **Upcoming P&C Meetings**

Our next P&C meeting is scheduled for Monday 1 September at 7 pm in the school office. Everyone is welcome to join us. It's a great opportunity to discuss upcoming events, provide feedback, and get involved in the exciting things happening behind the scenes at our school. Your insights are invaluable to us, and we love the opportunity to connect with members of our school and the wider community.



## Stay connected

Don't forget to follow our school's Facebook page, check the website and School Bytes portal regularly to stay updated with the latest news and events. Once again thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. We look forward to more community events in the coming months and hope to see you all there.

Holgate P&C

## Canteen/Spriggy

A reminder on how to order.

Clearly write your child's name, class, and order on a brown paper bag and your child will place it in the lunch tub in the morning.

Alternatively order over the spriggy app before 8.30 am Friday.

<https://www.spriggyschools.com.au/get-the-spriggy-schools-app>



To say thank you to our Dads/Grandads/significant males, Holgate P&C will be hosting a Father's Day BBQ Breakfast. During this time, we will be serving bacon & egg rolls, drinks and giving away some AMAZING prizes from our Father's Day raffle.

Keep an eye on our P&C Facebook page for prize details.

**Date: Tuesday 2nd September 2025**

**Time: 8-9am**

**Where:** BBQ area bottom playground (in the hall if raining).

**Cost:** Bacon & Egg Roll + coffee, tea or juice - \$8 per person (don't forget to order for kids as well)

Raffle Tickets - \$4ea or 3 for \$10. You will also be able to purchase more tickets on the day.

Please complete the form below (one per family) and place in an envelope with your child/s name/class and amount clearly labelled on the front and return directly to the office by **Thursday 28th August 2025**.

Payment options include:

**Cash** - Please include the correct amount in the envelope labelled FD Breakfast with Slip inside.

**Electronic Transfer** - Holgate Public School P&C NOT THE SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

BSB - 082 574

ACC - 03 797 2903.

Ref: Fbsurname

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### FATHERS DAY BREAKFAST- Tuesday 2nd September 2025

CHILD/CHILDREN'S NAME:.....CLASS/s:.....

NUMBER OF B&E Rolls (\$8pp):..... NUMBER OF RAFFLE TICKETS:.....

\$4ea or 3 for \$10

☐ Cash Amount Enclosed:.....

☐ Online Payment Amount:..... Date Made:.....



# Open Day

Don't forget about our next Open Day on **Thursday 9 September 2025**.



*You're invited to our school* Join us for an exciting opportunity to explore our school community!

## OPEN DAY

**Tuesday June 24 and Tuesday 9 September at 9am**  
 189 Wattle Tree Road, Holgate  
*Please R.S.V.P*  
 Ph. 02 43 677 444  
 E: holgate-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



## OPEN DAY

*What to expect*

- Guided walk through tours of the school
- Meet our dedicated staff
- Learn about our enriching programs and extracurricular activities
- Information on how we support every student in our care

This is a fantastic chance to discover all that our school has to offer and see firsthand how we create an environment where every student is known, valued, and cared for.

*We look forward to welcoming you!*

## Kindergarten 2026 HEADSTART PROGRAM

Our comprehensive transition program is an integral part of ensuring your child is supported and ready as they begin their primary school journey. If you have enrolled your child to start Kindergarten in 2026, we look forward to welcoming you and your child as they participate in Headstart on the below dates.



### Session Dates

**9:30am - 11:00am**

Thurs Oct 23rd  
 Thurs Oct 30th  
 Thurs Nov 6th  
 Thurs Nov 13th  
 Thurs Nov 20th  
 Thurs Nov 27th

**Parent & Carer  
 information session  
 held on  
 Thurs Oct 23 at 9:30am**



### OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the NSW curriculum, Holgate Public School offers a wide range of opportunities for students to discover, develop, and nurture their talents and interests. Some of these opportunities include:

- Band
- Dance group
- Choir
- Robotics
- Lego League
- Primary Schools Sports Association sporting opportunities
- Visual Art enrichment activities
- STEM groups
- Leadership excursions
- High Potential enrichment activities

### GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

(02) 4367 7444  
 holgate-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
<https://holgate-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>  
 189 Wattle Tree Rd, Holgate

### DISCOVER THE JOY OF LEARNING AT OUR OPEN DAYS!

Holgate Public School conducts guided tours for all students and families interested in joining our community. Please contact the office for dates and times.



### BENEFITS OF A SMALL SCHOOL

#### PERSONALISED ATTENTION

Smaller school sizes often mean that all the teachers can give more individualised attention to each student and know all students making them known, valued, cared for.

#### STRONG COMMUNITY

Holgate Public School fosters a close-knit community where students, parents and teachers know each other well, creating a supportive environment.

#### INCREASED PARTICIPATION

More opportunities to participate in various activities, such as sports, music and leadership, which can enhance their school experience.

#### STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS

Easier for teachers to build strong relationships with their students, which will lead to a more positive and engaging learning environment.

#### FOCUS ON SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Smaller schools emphasise social-emotional learning, helping students develop important life skills.

#### FLEXIBLE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

More flexibility in curriculum and teaching methods, allowing for innovative approaches to education.

#### ENHANCED COMMUNICATION

Communication between parents and teachers is more direct and effective in smaller settings, leading to better collaboration on student progress.

#### REDUCED ANXIETY

The environment in small schools is less overwhelming for some students, potentially leading to lower stress levels and better mental health.







## Thinking of Selling?

**Interested in understanding where  
your property sits in the current market?**


You deserve a hard-working agent with exceptional market knowledge who genuinely cares about your real estate needs and will get the best possible result in today's evolving market.

Reach out for a confidential discussion with Ingrid and the Gittoes Acreage Team – we are here to help you make informed decisions about your property presentation, pricing, and the sale process.

**TRANSPARENT   PROFESSIONAL   KNOWLEDGEABLE   HONEST**



**Ingrid Medlicott** *LREA/BBus*  
0428 372 953 | [ingridm@gittoes.com.au](mailto:ingridm@gittoes.com.au)

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## NORTH AVOCA SLSC REGISTRATION DAY

The 2025/26 Surf Life Saving Season is upon us.  
Come to our registration day and let us welcome you  
and your family to our club!!!



SUNDAY 14th  
SEPTEMBER

9AM - 12PM @  
THE SURF CLUB

Online registrations  
<https://northavoca.com.au>



# READ CLINIC

## PSYCHOLOGY

Supporting Young Minds at The READ Clinic

[www.thereadclinic.com](http://www.thereadclinic.com)



**Immediate Availability  
with Child Psychologists!**



**Experience in:**

Anxiety, stress, and mood concerns  
Learning difficulties, ADHD and ASD  
Social skills and friendship challenges  
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Scan the QR code to book

C2/20 - 24 Karalta Road, Erina  
2.4/69A Central Coast Hwy,  
West Gosford

02 4363 6600




[support@thereadclinic.com](mailto:support@thereadclinic.com)

[www.thereadclinic.com](http://www.thereadclinic.com)



**JOIN NOW**

**NSW GROUP  
IS NOW ENROLLING**



Since 1934 the Australian Air League has been teaching young boys and girls nationwide all about aviation, while helping them develop important life skills like leadership, discipline, self confidence and teamwork. When you join the league you will make new friends and take part in fun and exciting activities, on the ground and in the air.

Each week you will attend your local squadron where you will learn valuable skills and take part in fun and interesting activities and classes. Some of our classes include Meteorology, Navigation, Photography and Community Service. Squadrons also attend training camps, sport and recreational days, flying experiences and ceremonial drill.

We welcome boys and girls from the age of 8 years old from all different cultures and backgrounds. Parents and families are welcome to support or even join their local squadron as a volunteer. All adult members and volunteers are Working with Children Checked.

The Australian Air League is running both a fun and educational programme that is making fine citizens out of our young Australians.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE AND YOUR CLOSEST SQUADRON PLEASE CONTACT

Email: [development.nsw@airleague.com.au](mailto:development.nsw@airleague.com.au)

[www.airleague.com.au](http://www.airleague.com.au)

