



newsLETTER

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SHELLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

30th October 2020



Principal's Report



Whilst it has been another busy fortnight of teaching and learning at Shelley, we have also been reflecting on all of the activities that would have normally taken place at this time in our usual busy pre-COVID world. The most obvious of these is that our Year 4, 5 and 6 students would by now have experienced their annual camps, but there have also been many other whole school and stage events and activities which we have missed out on this year. We are missing having parents and visitors attending our assemblies and visiting classrooms, we miss parents being able to gather for P&C meetings and we miss parents being involved in other activities, such as Kindergarten Orientation information sessions and the preparation for the Year 6 farewell. Yet we are not alone. Schools all across NSW are following the same restrictions and challenges. I would like to sincerely thank the Shelley community for the way you continue to support us through these unusual times, and for your assistance in ensuring that we follow all the NSW Health and Department of Education guidelines, to make sure that Shelley PS remains a COVID-safe environment for our students and staff.

Of course, there are still many events taking place at school. Kindergarten and Year 2 recently had a wonderful incursion, with a visit from one of the keepers and some of the animals from Featherdale Wildlife Park. Year 1 students enjoyed a Brewongle incursion, learning about Darug culture and bark canoe making. Last week we held our Book Week, with students in so many fabulous costumes parading in their stage groups, to showcase their favourite books. Stage 3 students took part in their annual Book Tasting event on this day. Students in Years 1-6 learned about financial literacy in Smartbanking incursions.

This week and next week, our Year 6 students are also participating in our annual Transition to High School program, where students have the opportunity to get "a feel" for the high school experience: visiting different classrooms for various subjects, working with a range of students and teachers in a day, learning to follow a timetable and getting their various homework tasks completed on time.



Another focus around this time of year is Grandparents Day. This is always a favourite amongst our school community and we usually welcome hundreds of grandparents and guests for a lovely morning tea, before visiting classrooms. This year we welcomed grandparents and parents to visit the boundary fences of Shelley PS for a Grandparents Day Learning and Art showcase, with every child in the school having a piece of work displayed.

Nevertheless, we are delighted that so many families were able to take the opportunity to come and enjoy the work of our students. (My sincere thanks to the Shelley staff who worked so hard to organise and display the learning and art showcase!).

At Shelley, we always endeavour to share these activities with our parents, through photos in the newsletter. We also use Social Media (Facebook and Instagram) regularly so that parents can stay connected with what's happening at Shelley, even if they are not able to be here at school for special events. We now have over 540 people following Shelley PS on Facebook and 460 Instagram followers. If you haven't done so yet, like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram, to keep in touch.

With Kindergarten Orientation coming up, we have needed to find other ways to share information about our school with our new families. One of the ways we are doing this is through a series of videos. This week on FACEBOOK we launched one of the videos of Shelley Public School – with our Student Leaders, taking people on a short tour of our school. If you haven't seen it yet, have a look on our Facebook page and enjoy this little showcase of some of the things we do at Shelley PS.

Next week Music Count Us In for 2020 will take place. "Music: Count Us In (MCUI) is Australia's biggest school initiative. Music: Count Us In brings teachers, parents, students and the music industry together in celebration of music and music education". School children from all over Australia take part in the biggest simultaneous sing-along in the entire world. This is our sixth year of participating in MCUI – and our teachers and students have always found it to be a fun and uplifting experience to celebrate music. Unfortunately we will not be able to come together as a whole school – or even as a stage group, and we will not be able to participate in a mass singing as we know it. However, that will not stop schools across Australia, including Shelley, coming together for this event. Our classes will watch a live video stream – and join with thousands of students across Australia to 'sing' the AUSLAN (sign language) version of the Music Count Us In song for 2020 'You Won't Bring Us Down'.

Kindergarten Orientation

Letters about Kindergarten Orientation program have now been posted. If you have a child starting Kindergarten next year, and have not yet received the information, please contact the school office as soon as possible. There will be no Parent Information Session, however this information will be conveyed via the Information Package, as well as some video links which will be provided.

The orientation dates are:



Orange Dinosaurs

9:30 – 11:45am Tuesday 17th November

9:30 – 11:45am Tuesday 24th November

Purple Dinosaurs

9:45am – 12:00pm Tuesday 17th November

9:45am – 12:00pm Tuesday 24th November



Blue Dinosaurs

9:30 – 11:45am Wednesday 18th November

9:30 – 11:45am Wednesday 25th November



Green Dinosaurs

9:45am – 12:00pm Wednesday 18th November

9:45am – 12:00pm Wednesday 25th November



Each session runs for 2 hours and 15 minutes. We seek your support to follow our COVID restrictions, by ensuring that children ONLY attend their designated two sessions.

We look forward to welcoming our 2021 Kindergarten students and many new families to Shelley.

To all our current families - if you have a child starting Kindergarten next year and you have not yet enrolled them - please do so immediately, so they don't miss out on orientation!

Change to Afternoon Pick-Up Arrangements

If your child's after school pick up arrangements change (especially which gate they will be leaving from) – please assist us by notifying the class teacher in writing. This applies whether the changes are just for the day, for the week – or for the rest of the year. It is important that all teachers have up to date information, to help us ensure the safety and well-being of all students.

Where you need to make last minute changes to after school pick-up, please notify the school office on 9622 8359, so this information can be passed on to the class teacher.

Head Lice Reminder

The presence of Head Lice (Nits) is an ongoing problem in schools. I am frequently contacted by parents about the presence of head lice – and particularly the treatment and re-occurrence of them. From my own experience as a parent, I know how frustrating treating head lice can be!

We need the support of parents to help minimise their spread, by detecting and treating head lice.

It is suggested that one of the best methods for reducing lice infestations is for each school community to work together. Could I ask all families to please check their children's hair this weekend – between Friday 30th October and Sunday 1st November? If you detect lice – complete your chosen method of treatment over this same weekend. Together, we can hopefully reduce lice in our school community.

I have included the link for the current information available from the NSW Government Health website:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/headlice/pages/default.aspx>

It is essential that parents check students' hair regularly. If you see any evidence of lice or eggs you will need to treat your child, and the whole family before your child returns to school. If unsure, your local chemist would be able to advise you on the appropriate treatment for head lice. Left untreated head lice will quickly spread through a class and students often become re-infested.

Please remember- this is not something to be embarrassed about – as head lice like to “set up camp” in clean hair, not dirty hair!

Are you Moving?

Thank you to the parents who have already responded to the newsletter over the past two weeks to let us know if you are moving. For those who may have missed this important information: It is that time of year when we are starting to plan for the 2021 school year. It is important for us to have up to date information about the number of students we can expect to have in each year group.

If your family will be moving in 2020 / 2021, or your child will no longer be attending Shelley PS, we ask you to notify us as soon as possible. Please complete the tear off slip below and return it to the office.

Selective High School 2022

If your child is currently in Year 5 and you are interested in applying for Year 7 entry into Selective High School for 2022, it is important that you apply online soon. Online applications will close on 16th November. Please be mindful that no late applications can be accepted.

Jo-Ann Campion

ARE YOU MOVING?

In order to assist with our planning for next year please indicate below if you will be moving residence and/or your child will be attending a new school. **Please return to the office or your child's teacher.**

Name of Student: Class:

Name of Student: Class:

New School: Leaving Date:

Parent / Guardian's signature: Date:



Deputy Principal's Report

#MathsTrainsBrains

Minister Mitchell launched the #MathsTrainsBrains campaign this week, aiming to help change and improve perceptions of mathematics in parents, carers and the wider community.

We use maths every day, in almost everything we do. Explore how, with fun, practical activities for young minds.

<https://shelley-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/news/2020/10/maths-trains-brains-for-the-future.html>



Pinnacle our Highest Award Congratulations Kya 6D



Congratulations to our Kindergarten Super Stars: Zachary and Jude KT



Congratulations to our Stage 1 Super Stars: Metin 1R, Noah 2J, Eli 2J, Haarsini 2J, and Jada 1C



Congratulations to our Stage 2 Super Stars: Reisha 3S, Tamara 3L, Mia 3S, Anastasia 3S, Kaitlyn 3T, Dalia 4J and Maan 4J



Congratulations to our Stage 3 Super Stars: Kevin 5/6T and Saesha 5G, Abigail 6E and Jasmine 6E



Year 5-6 Book Week



Year 3-4 Book Week





K-2 Book Week







Australian Childhood Anxiety TREATMENT STUDY

Free home-based assessment and treatment for 7 to 12 year old children with fear and anxiety disorders.

Does your child become very afraid of certain situations or objects, worry about a lot of things, get very distressed, or try to avoid things they fear?

About the study

Our team at Griffith University may be able to assist you. We are conducting a nationwide study that includes the following services at no cost to families:

- A thorough assessment of your child's anxiety with a trained psychologist via the telephone;
- Your child receiving one of two kinds of home-based treatments delivered on a PC, laptop or tablet; and
- Two follow-up telephone assessments with a trained psychologist 6- and 12-months after treatment to track your child's progress.

The study aims to find out if these two treatments are as effective as each other, and which children have the best response to each kind of treatment. This will mean that there are more evidence-based treatments available for helping anxious children.

About the treatments

Each treatment involves your child completing treatment sessions at home on a PC, laptop or tablet.

Each treatment involves your child learning practical strategies to better manage anxiety.

- One treatment helps children learn to control the focus of their attention on helpful things around them.
- The other treatment helps children learn to think differently and approach things they fear.

Each treatment includes information, telephone or email support for parents in assisting their child to better manage anxiety.

Prior studies have shown that children who complete each treatment experience significant reductions in anxiety.

Contact us

This study is being funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and is led by Professor Allison Waters and a team of experts in childhood anxiety disorders.

For more information about our study and our team, or if you would like your child to participate, please contact us:



(07) 3735 3351



cadrp@griffith.edu.au



griffith.edu.au/childhood-anxiety-treatment-study



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