



# Parramatta North Public School

## Stage Two Newsletter

### Term One, 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school year where we are looking forward to providing meaningful, stimulating and enjoyable learning experiences. We look forward to your support throughout the year.

#### CURRENT SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

To assist with the safe drop off and pick up of all students we ask that all parents

- say goodbye at the designated drop off points – gates 2, 3 or 5
- Stage Two classes are **dismissed from Gate 5** (or the gate designated for the youngest child in your family). Students will be called in the order parents are lined up. Please remain socially distanced, 1.5m apart, whilst waiting for children at pick up time and move promptly off the school grounds as per DoE guidelines
- Advice for parents and families can be found at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>
- Our assemblies will remain 'virtual' and be posted to our Google Classroom. Take some time to enjoy watching these with your children
- Please visit your child's virtual classroom (Google Classroom) regularly – here we post assemblies, highlights of special events, classwork and homework

#### HIGH EXPECTATIONS

It is expected that students will develop sound work practices, completing set tasks to the best of their ability in the classroom and at home. School equipment is to be brought to school daily and kept in good working order. Students are expected to be safe and respectful learners. We expect students in primary classes to now take more responsibility for their own learning.

#### HOMEWORK

Homework allows for the revision and consolidation of concepts taught but it also helps develop self-discipline and time-management skills. Homework is posted on Google Classroom every Monday. It should take around 20 - 30 minutes to complete. In addition to this time, all students should be reading for at least 20 minutes per night. If students have problems or concerns with the task, they can discuss it with their teacher. Homework is to be submitted online by Friday. If students are handing in a book, it needs to be in on Thursday so that it can be wiped and stored before being marked.

#### SCRIPTURE

At present, we are unable to accommodate scripture lessons this term.

#### ABSENCE NOTES

Students should only attend school if they are 100% well. It is a Departmental requirement that a note explaining an absence is provided to the teacher when a student returns to school. Please ensure these notes are signed and dated. Alternatively, absences can be reported by using the school app.

**Any student who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.**

#### UNIFORM

Please ensure your child wears the full uniform each day to school. Students need to wear their blue PNPS school hat every day. As the weather is always changing, please leave a jumper and raincoat in your child's school bag. **All items of clothing MUST be labelled with your child's name.** School sunglasses can be worn all year.

**Boys – all year** school hat, blue school polo shirt, grey shorts or long pants, grey socks and black shoes. Blue school jumper.

**Girls** - school hat, blue school polo shirt and blue skirt or long pants OR checked school dress, white socks and black shoes. Blue school jumper.

Winter: Grey pinafore, white long sleeved shirt, black shoes and **black tights**. Blue school jumper or stage three senior jacket.

**Sport** – school hat, gold school polo shirt, blue shorts, skirt or track pants, white socks and sports shoes. Blue school jumper.

#### FOOD AT SCHOOL - being nut aware

It is essential for the safety of all our students that nuts and nut products are not brought to school for recess or lunch. This includes all nuts as well as muesli bars and spreads like peanut butter or Nutella.

#### BIRTHDAYS

At this time, we **are unable to accommodate** any birthday food, treats or gifts for the class. Please do not send any items to share to school. We thank you for your support in this matter.

#### COMMUNICATION

Our newsletter is distributed via email on Monday. It is published fortnightly and contains important dates as well as student achievements. Our school website ([www.parramattn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.parramattn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)) contains valuable information about school events, notes and excellent links to other resources. If your contact details (*address & telephone numbers*) change, it is essential that you inform the Office staff and update your details. Download the school app from the app store or google play, to receive up to date information. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

#### SUPPORT STAFF

Our students are supported by dedicated and enthusiastic support teachers including Ms Aspin and Ms Heron (EAL/D), Mrs Eltakchi, Miss Connolly and Ms Anthony (Learning Support), Mr Jones (RFF), Mrs Wilson (Library), Mrs Malek (Farsi) and Mrs Arora (Hindi).

## KEY LEARNING AREAS

### ENGLISH *Reading and Viewing, Writing and Responding, Speaking and Listening*

Students in Stage 2 will be working on gaining a deeper level of understanding and greater fluency when reading more complex texts. We will be including novels, shorter readers, The School Magazine, poetry and non-fiction texts in our reading program this year. Opportunities to improve reading skills through guided, shared and independent reading activities operate continuously in the classroom. School Magazines are used regularly throughout the year. A note outlining this subscription will be sent home shortly and we would appreciate prompt payment.

This term in writing, we will be focussing on writing to persuade and entertain. By increasing skills, knowledge and understanding of English through the explicit and systematic teaching of writing skills, grammar, sentence structure, punctuation and spelling, students' written texts should improve. Students will be exposed to more complex spelling lists throughout the term. In Year 3 students use a lead pencil for writing and gradually acquire the skills of Foundation Cursive writing (running writing). In Year 4 students are working towards the acquisition of their Pen Licence – the teacher will let you know when to bring a pen.

To ensure that students reach their potential in oral communication, many and varied opportunities to develop skills will be offered. Tasks range from group to individual responses. Some tasks will require preparation at home.

### MATHEMATICS *Number, Patterns & Algebra, Data, Space & Geometry, Measurement*

Mathematics is divided into 5 strands with a strong emphasis on working mathematically. Studies have shown that by working in mixed ability groups, students learn from each other. Emphasis is given to practical number activities up to 4 digits as required by the syllabus. Students will have opportunities to learn space & geometry and measurement concepts by using equipment and applying known strategies to solve problems. All lessons incorporate a reasoning and working mathematically component. Opportunities will be provided for students to extend their knowledge/skill base by completing more complex tasks independently or in groups.

Students will be developing and enhancing both English and mathematics skills that will support their participation in NAPLAN assessments (yr 3 only) that will be held in May (Term 2).

### HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

In Semester One, our focus will be on History. The students will be undertaking the topic 'Community and Remembrance'. Students will explore the historical features and diversity of their local community and investigate how things have changed or continued over time. They will investigate the sense of connection, belonging and identity.

### SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

This term, students will explore the topic, 'The Sun, Earth and Moon.' Students will investigate the Earth's relationship to the sun and moon, the rotation and its link to the seasons. Students will design and construct their own planet from paper mache. Students will access ipads, desktops, XOs and infinities to build their computing skills.

### PDHPE

Personal Development sessions will look at Anti-bullying, PBL lessons and relationships. Crunch 'n' Sip is a vital aspect of every morning session. Students are encouraged to bring a small amount of FRESH fruit or vegetables, which are cut up and ready to eat and water to drink. On Friday mornings, students will participate in school sport activities. PSSA will not be run this term.

### CREATIVE ARTS *Visual Arts, Drama, Dance and Music*

Students in Stage 2 will be exposed to all strands of Creative Arts throughout the term. In Term One there is a focus on drama skills. Students will also participate in visual arts experiences where they will explore different elements of art.

### LIBRARY SESSIONS

Our borrowing day is **Wednesday**. All students must have their library tote bag to borrow and have returned their outstanding book. Reading is an essential part of homework and school life, we encourage all students to participate in the Premiers Reading Challenge – you can start recording books from 1<sup>st</sup> March via the student portal.

### MONEY

When students are asked to pay for specific events, **all notes and money MUST be in an envelope and handed to the Class teacher. Payments can also be made online via the 'Make a payment' tab on the school website.** Online payments must have the receipt number recorded on the permission note. **No money will be accepted in the afternoon.**

Should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of your child's schooling please contact the office on 9630-1768 and ask for your child's teacher to contact you. A note in writing of any particular concerns you feel we should be aware of is also a great method of communication. We look forward to seeing that every student is known, valued and cared for as they grow throughout the year.

Regards,

**Mrs Bradley, Miss Dodd & Mr Wylie**  
Stage Two Teachers

**Mrs Murdoch**  
Stage 2 Assistant Principal

**Mrs Methven**  
Principal