



Parramatta North Public School

Stage Two Newsletter

Term One, 2025



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

Pick Up and Drop off Procedures: School Hours 8:30am – 3:00pm

MORNING DROP OFF

From 8:30am, all students may enter through GATES 2, 3 and 5 ONLY. Students move directly to the COLA (near the hall). Staff are on duty on the COLA from 8.30am.

AFTERNOON PICK UP

Gates 2, 3 and 5 will be opened at 2.50 pm.

Parents can enter the school via Gates 2, 3 or 5.

3pm Students in years 1-6 will be dismissed from the Court COLA area. Siblings of kindergarten students will be waiting under the COLA. Please collect students from the class teacher then move off site. Students who walk home by themselves will be dismissed from GATE 3.

Please inform the office of any changes to personnel picking your child up.

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. Homework is to be completed at home in your child's homework book and returned each Friday. Parents can provide homework support by checking the tasks are completed and offering encouragement and praise for a good effort.

SCRIPTURE

Scripture lessons are conducted on Wednesday from 9.30 -10am. Please ensure that you have notified the school office of your religious preference for your child.

ABSENCE NOTES

All students will continue to 'Strive for 95' because the greater the attendance, the greater the achievement!

Parents/carers are required to explain the absences of their children from school promptly. An explanation for absence must be provided to the school within 7 calendar days of the first day of any period of absence. Please call or email the school to provide an absence notification.

Parents/carers will be informed when the SchoolBytes app for attendance is available for use.

If students are arriving late or leaving early, a parent must sign them in or out at the office. Please inform the school of any change in routine to 'pick-up'.

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.**

Boys (all year) – school hat, blue school polo shirt, grey shorts or long pants, blue school jumper/jacket, grey socks and black shoes.

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

Sport – school hat, gold school polo shirt, blue shorts, skirt or track pants, blue school jumper/jacket, white socks and sports shoes. Blue school jumper or stage three senior jacket.

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 and 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) contains 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.

SUPPORT STAFF

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

KEY LEARNING AREAS

ENGLISH

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.

This term in writing, we will be focussing on writing for imaginative and persuasive purposes. 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 students 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

Mathematics is divided into several concept areas 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 March (Term 1).

HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

In Semester One, our focus will be on Geography. Students will explore the natural characteristics of Australia and other parts of the world. Through country studies of Australia and China, they will investigate climate, natural vegetation, and native animals. They will also develop an understanding of world geography, learning to identify the locations of other countries in relation to Australia. Students will examine the significance of Australia's natural environments, considering how living things, including humans, depend on these environments for survival. This will include discussions on essential needs and how they are sourced from the natural world.

SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY

This term, students will investigate changes caused to the Earth's surface as a result of natural and human interactions. They will investigate their impact on the environment and learn about sustainability, responsible resource management, and the role of the Sun's heat and energy in nature.

PDHPE

During Personal Development sessions, students will learn about respect, empathy, and valuing diversity to build inclusive relationships and strengthen personal qualities that support health, safety, and well-being. During Physical Education sessions, students will take part in activities from around the world, learning games from different cultures and teaching them to others. 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 Semester One. In drama, students will develop confidence in their voice, gestures, and movement through drama activities such as improvisation, mime, and storytelling. Students will also participate in visual arts experiences where they will explore different elements of art.

LIBRARY SESSIONS

Our borrowing days are **Tuesday (4/3M & 5/4P)** and **Wednesday (4/3WS)**. 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 Premier's Reading Challenge.

MONEY

Throughout the term, students will be asked to pay for specific events. Payments can be made online via the **School Bytes Parent Portal app**.

Register for the Parent Portal via the QR Code or visit <https://portal.schoolbytes.education>



Important Dates

All events are displayed on the calendar on the school website and on the term planner sent home each term.

Stage Two classes are **dismissed from the court area**. We request that all parents wait outside in the playground each afternoon, so that all students may be safely dismissed. Due to safety and duty of care, teachers are unable to discuss student concerns when they are collecting or dismissing their class. Should you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of your child's schooling please contact the office on 9630-1768 and make an appointment to speak with your child's teacher.

Regards,

Miss Morrison, Mrs Schembri, Mrs Postlethwaite
Stage Two Teachers

Ms Wimmer
Stage 2 Assistant Principal (rel)

Mrs Methven
Principal