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2021 Term 1 Week 8

Principal's Report

Wow what a wonderful term we have had at Northbourne Public School getting to know one another and growing our school community. Staff have been developing rich and authentic learning experiences tailor made for the students. The children have made new friendships and settled in beautifully. We are all enthusiastic about what our future will bring promoting curiosity and a love of learning. Thank you for the support and encouraging words of so many parents and carers throughout the term. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of everyone who has made Northbourne the special place that it now is!

HARMONY DAY

Since 1999, more than 77,000 Harmony Week events have been held in childcare centres, schools, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies across Australia. Harmony Day is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism and is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values. Australia is one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world and we should celebrate this and work to maintain it.

We will be celebrating **HARMONY DAY** at NPS on Friday 19 March. It is a special day where we will be completing class tasks highlighting the importance of embracing cultural diversity. Children have been asked to wear orange clothing or cultural dress on this day.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING AND VIOLENCE

We are supporting this day of action on Friday 19 March. Children have been asked to wear the colour orange on this day. Staff will be reinforcing the message "**Bullying. No Way! Take action every day**" in lessons during the next week.

NAPLAN 2021

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. These tests are administered in May each year.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

This year NPS students in Years 3 and 5 will be completing NAPLAN via the pencil and paper process. More information on NAPLAN will be sent home to parents at the beginning of Term 2.

PARENT and TEACHER MEETINGS

Parent and teacher meetings this year will be on Monday 22 March and Tuesday 23 March. The interviews will be held from 2:45pm until 7:00pm on the Monday evening and between 2:45pm and 4:00pm on the Tuesday afternoon. This year bookings will be online. Notes have already been sent home giving the specific details of how to make a booking. Make sure you make a booking before 4pm today.

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS

We have been asked by Busways to ask those families who are interested in using the school bus service to apply for opal cards. This is an important process because the Opal data collected determines the level of service provided, therefore, these applications will assist our cause in securing a bus service for Northbourne PS children. Students who may like to catch the bus into the future should now apply for an opal card through this website <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/home#/>

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photographs will be taken at school on Tuesday 27 April by MSP photographers. More information will be sent home before the end of term.

TELL THEM FROM ME SURVEY 2021

We are delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at:

For more information please click on the link below.

<https://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school. We want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. An opt-out form has already been sent home

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

- Kaylene Park who has been successful at reaching the State Swimming Championships representing Sydney West. Well Done Kaylene!

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The school holidays will commence on Friday 2 April and school will resume on Tuesday 20 April 2021.

We've had an amazing first term as Northbourne Public School and look forward to seeing everyone back after the holidays. Thank you for your support during Term 1. Have a great Easter!

Regards

Michele Hedge
Principal



School Zone Offences

It's always disappointing to receive feedback from parents and community members about dangerous and disrespectful road safety behaviour in and around the school. Recently, we had a visit from the Road Safety Officer from Blacktown City Council who has sent this information through to me to share with the Northbourne community.

Dear Ms Hedge

I visited your school yesterday afternoon following concerns about road safety issues around the school. I'd like to make the following observations to share with your parents:

1. Thank you to the parents and students who used one of the pedestrian crossings to cross the road. Well done. Unfortunately some children and some parents decided not to cross safely at a pedestrian crossing even though there was one nearby. This is dangerous and foolish behaviour for children to witness as they are likely to copy what the adults do.
2. There are two more pedestrian crossings to be installed by the Department of Education around the school in the coming months. One of these will be on Bolwarra Drive and the other on Northbourne Avenue. Until these crossings are installed please take care getting children across these roads.
3. There is a Bus Zone on Bolwarra Drive outside the school gate. Many vehicles were parked in the area yesterday afternoon during the pick up time. The fine for parking in this area is at least **\$344** and also has **2 demerit points** as this is a school zone.
4. There are **No Parking zones** on Beale Street. This is the **Kiss and Drop area** for the school at the moment. This means that during the times shown on the sign, vehicles cannot be there for more than 2 minutes and drivers must remain within 3 metres of their vehicle. The fine for disobeying a NO Parking sign is at least **\$191** and also has **2 demerit points** as this is a school zone.

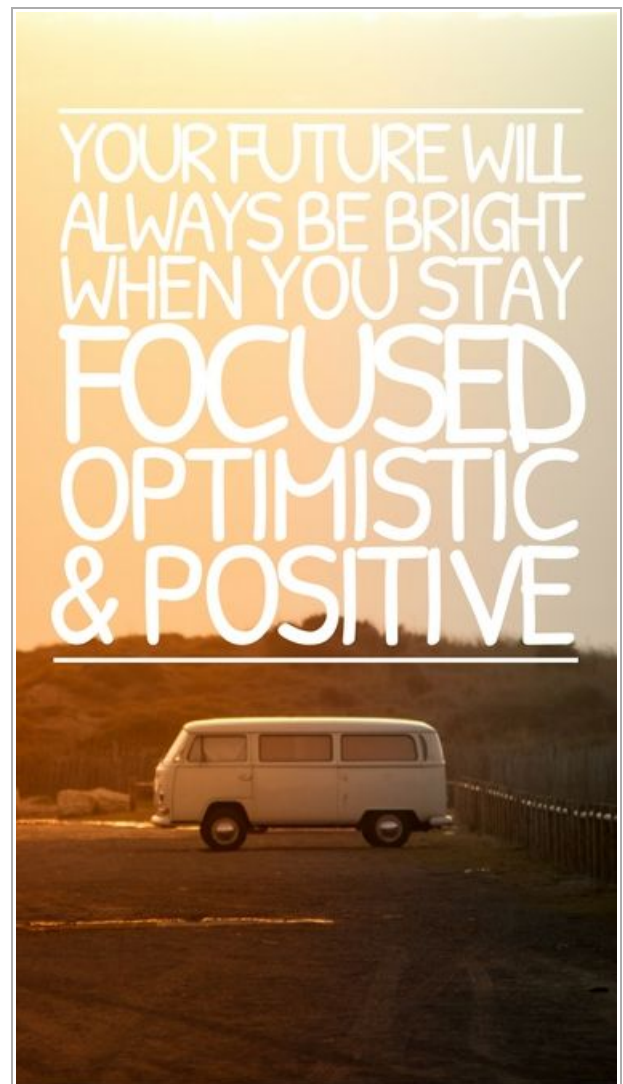
6. Lots of parents parked and walk in to collect their children. Parking away from the school helps to relieve congestion at the gate. Just make sure that you do not park over or blocking a driveway. It is also illegal to park within 10m of an intersection. Both of these are offences that can also get a driver a fine.

I look forward to working with the school community to help keep our children safe.

Please take some time to review the expectations on the roads around our school especially during school zone times.



Quote of the week



Bandage Bear Appeal

On Wednesday 10 March, the Northbourne Public School community was in full support of the Bandage Bear appeal with many students arriving in the morning holding their very own teddy bear. With the support of the students, families and staff we were able to raise an impressive \$1,336. It was a wonderful day and the funds raised will help the children at The Children's Hospital Westmead.

My New Gallery

