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2021 Term 2 Week 4

Principal's Report

Welcome back to Term 2. Our school is continually growing and changing and part of the change this term has been the Stage 2 and 3 students moving into the new learning spaces. Students and staff are excited by the large flexible learning spaces and having the opportunity for inquiry based learning to take place fostering the students' curiosity. We are really very lucky to have such an innovative learning environment for our children! We will update you when the next classes are transitioning to the new learning spaces.

Staff Update

Our Stage 1 and 2 classes have become very full and so we created two new classes for the beginning of Term 2, S2L with Ms Lihou as the classroom teacher and S1A with a new permanent teacher appointment to our school, Mrs Amos. I know that you will welcome them into our school community

Deputy Secretary of Education, Leanne Nixon's visit

On Monday the Deputy Secretary of Education, Leanne Nixon, visited Northbourne PS. The student leaders proudly shared our Northbourne journey so far and showed Ms Nixon around the school.

Ms Nixon said of NPS "Foundation Principal Michele Hedge and her staff are doing a fabulous job of building a strong culture and shared vision for Northbourne PS. Students in every classroom were excited to tell her about the exciting move to the new classrooms"

We thank Ms Nixon for taking time out of her busy schedule to visit NPS and share her wisdom on creating a strong culture in a new school. Our student leaders represented us proudly.



Growing Strong Minds

We are implementing a wellbeing package called 'Strong Minds'. It is a whole school approach to wellbeing for all children K-6, staff and parents. It is based on developing twenty-four character strengths. Some of our strengths are more prominent, and these top five strengths are referred to as our 'signature strengths'. Research into character indicates that when we know and apply our signature strengths our wellbeing improves. Signature strengths have been found to be positively associated with academic performance, intrinsic motivation and effort. You might hear your children talking about their character strengths and throughout the year your child might receive a Strong Minds Award. A parent information session will be held later in the year.



Cross Country Carnival

Our very first Cross Country carnival took place on South Creek Green, at the beginning of Term 2 and what a day we had! There was excitement all around with the children eager to compete. Congratulations to all of the children who entered the event and completed the course. I was impressed with the determination of everyone who competed. Thank you to Ms Vernon, Mr Petrovic and Mr Marchetta for their organisation of the event.

The children who placed in the school Cross Country will be attending the Zone Cross Country at Paterson Reserve, Quakers Hill on Friday 21 May. Notes have already been sent home to those students requiring this information. Ms Vernon, Mr Petrovic and Mrs Mavros will be accompanying the students to the carnival. I'd like to wish all children competing the best of luck.

Run well!



Parent Teacher Meetings

It was great to see so many parents and carers meet with teachers for parents meetings! I know you would have gained an insight into the learning happening in your children's classroom and had the perfect opportunity to discuss their progress to this point. I'd like to acknowledge the work of the classroom teachers who gave up many hours of their personal time to prepare and deliver the interviews.

NAPLAN 2021

This week students in Years 3 and 5 completed the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) which assessed the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The results of the test will provide important information to the teachers about what each student can do and will be used to support teaching and learning here at NPS. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement.

Congratulations to all of the children for their commitment to achieving their best results. We are very proud of your efforts this week!

School Zone Traffic

Thank you to all of the parents who follow all road rules around the school and use the pedestrian crossings. I have been speaking to students in the fortnightly assembly about crossing the road safely using the pedestrian crossings and holding a grown parent's hand. I am aware that the Bolwara Drive gate doesn't have a crossing close by but there is a pedestrian island that you can use to assist with crossing the road. Teachers are on the gates so children can always ask the teacher to assist them to cross the road.

A number of parents have been voicing their concern about how dangerous the roads have become around the school. It is important for every single parent in our school community to take a role in keeping our children safe by driving carefully and crossing the road using the marked crossings. It is not someone else's responsibility to care for our children it is the collective responsibility of our community!



Sporting House Groups

It is with great pleasure we have announced our sporting house teams. Recently staff and students from Kindergarten through to Year 6 were able to vote on the names of our school sporting houses. At Northbourne Public School we have chosen to use native Australian animals as our house names, written in the local indigenous Darug language. The four house groups will be:

Dingu (din goo) meaning Dingo – Yellow house

Jirrability (jirrab ity) meaning Black Snake – Red House

Buru (boo roo) meaning kangaroo – Green house

Mariong (mari ong) meaning emu – Blue house

The children have been allocated to their sports house as of this week. We look forward to many sporting events where the children can proudly wear their house colours and represent their sporting

team!

OC Applications 2022

Online applications for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2022 have now closed. Staff will now complete the necessary paper work to complete the applications. You will receive 'Test authority' letters which will advise parents when and where the test centre for your child will be to enable your child to sit for the OC test.

Quote of the week...

This week's quote is linked to our Strong Minds character strengths program.

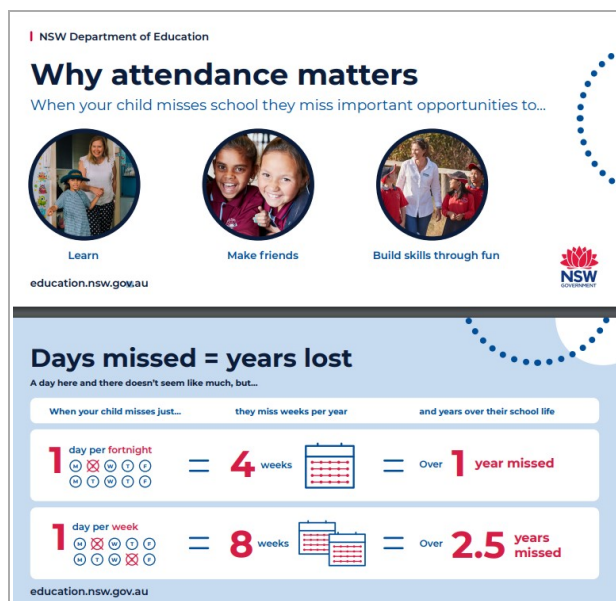


Mrs Hedge
School Principal

Attendance

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.



Late Arrivals

Being late for school has a negative impact on your child's learning. Being just 10 minutes late every day adds up to an hour a week of lost learning. Over a year this adds up to one week of school missed in a year!

Being late for class often means important instructions are missed and the class is interrupted. Your child may feel uncomfortable and on the outer with peers. Children need to arrive on time ready to settle into their school work. Arriving at least 5 minutes before the first bell allows your child to interact with their peers and teacher and get themselves ready for their busy day.

Attending School regularly and arriving on time helps prepare children for the real world, where it is expected that they turn up to work every day and on time.

| If your child misses.... | That Equals... | Which is... | Over 13 years of schooling that is..... |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 10 minutes a Day | 50 minutes a Week | 1.5 Weeks per Year | Nearly <u>1/2 Year</u> of lost learning |
| 20 minutes a Day | 1 hour 40 minutes a Week | 2.5 Weeks per year | Nearly <u>1 Year</u> of lost learning |
| 30 minutes a day | 1/2 a Day a Week | 4 Weeks per year | Nearly <u>1.5 Years</u> of lost learning |
| 1 hour a Day | 1 day a Week | 8 Weeks per year | Nearly <u>2.5 Years</u> of lost learning |

Anzac Day Ceremony

On Monday 26 April our school leaders lead the ANZAC day ceremony in the new school hall. The level of respect and sense of occasion for the day was certainly noteworthy.

These leaders helped to guide young students to understand the traditions and facts of ANZAC day and share songs, poems and stories that highlight the sacrifices and heroism of everyday Australians.

We were all reminded that we have a role to build peace within our communities: today, tomorrow and forever.



Stage Three Science Incursion

During our Science incursions, the science teacher instructed us bit by bit, slowly enough to take breaks and talk about the process. The experiments were harmless and anyone who took part in them was hooked and had the desire to do more.

We were first introduced to what matter was and how it works. Later we were told to get into groups of 5 or 6 and be seated near a desk. We noticed a few things on our desk and were curious to know what they were. When it was time, the



instructor gave us permission to touch the objects on the table. After a few minutes of feeling everything, the instructor explained how loose or tight the atoms of the object we touched can be.

Eventually, after we were shown dry ice, we were told about how freezing cold it was. The whole class went outside with big tubes and soap for each group. Our instructor had also brought a container with dry ice inside. The tubes were filled with hot water. We had to be very cautious and move away from the dry ice as she dropped it into the tubes. Straight after, bubbles started flowing out of the tube. It was perfectly safe to hold the bubbles. Whenever you popped them, mist would appear and vanish into thin air. We then went inside and discussed why and how the bubbles reacted. Very soon after, it was time to leave. We thanked the science instructor and said goodbye. Once we got outside, the whole class started ranting about how great it was. Everyone was very disappointed to leave.

Overall, every second being in the incursion was amazing and states of matter became easier to understand.

Cassie S3K



Our class was one of the lucky Stage 3 classes who got to attend the 'Mad About Science' incursions. We revised Matter in our first incursion and were introduced to the subject we are going to learn

this term, Global Sustainability. There were short, simple yet educational and entertaining experiments to help us learn. Each experiment was supervised by an instructor and our teachers.

Our first incursion was on matter, the thing that is contained in everything around us. The smallest particle of matter is an atom. We learnt about the three states of matter, solids, liquids and gases. Our instructor showed us how different states of matter are different by drawing how the particles are stacked in each state. We were then taught about how each state turns into the other – freezing, melting, evaporating and sublimation. Sublimation is when a solid turns into a gas without becoming a liquid first. We were confused so our instructor brought out dry ice as an example (it is carbon dioxide frozen at -78 degrees C). We went out and did a few dry ice experiments. Dry ice plus hot water and dishwashing liquid created bubbles that we could touch and pop. The lesson ended with the instructor making dry ice bubbles which

were large, fell on the floor and bounced.

We had a great time and learnt a lot.

Mayam S3K

Global sustainability is about keeping the earth healthy and clean so living things can survive.

Due to pollution, greenhouse gases are being released, destroying the atmosphere. We need the atmosphere to control the heat.

Carbon dioxide and methane form one layer of the atmosphere. When the sun hits that layer it transfers into the atmosphere which then makes the earth warm.

We did experiments where we looked at measuring the temperature of water with and without a lid to represent this heating. We also did experiments on two different types of packing used in parcels to see which one would break down in water. Another experiment is continuing in our classrooms, we put seeds in a closed bag with wet cotton wool and some in an open bag and are observing them to see what will happen.

We learnt that we need to care for the earth and find new ways of producing electricity and plastic. That is why global sustainability is very important and we need to work together.

Sana S3M



Road Safety around the school

It is vitally important that all parents and carers always keep student safety at the forefront of their minds when driving and parking around the school. Please adhere to all road rules when driving motor vehicles, including parking signs watch carefully

for students.

We now have regular visits from council rangers and police will conduct random visits from time to time. In addition, please use the pedestrian crossing to ensure our students are crossing the roads safely.

Thank you for adhering to these rules for the sake of all our students.



Road Safety Information

Community Talk

On Friday the 30 April, Miss Tran invited her mum, Mrs Tran to talk to Stage 3 about her experience moving from Vietnam to Australia as a refugee. Mrs Tran talked about how there was a civil war happening at Vietnam between the south and north.

She explained how she had snuck out at night with her family to catch a boat to leave Vietnam. She had stayed in a tight room for 6 days until reaching Malaysia. Unfortunately, the Malaysians didn't let them live there but let them stay temporarily for 9 months in a camp. After 9 months Mrs Tran had been interviewed by several countries only to find that Australia had accepted them.

Stage 3 learned that Australia is a fair country and not every country is as accepting. We also learned not to take things for granted. We thank Mrs Tran for her time.



Easter Hat Parade

Last term saw the very first Easter hat parade and it was an EGG-CELLENT occasion!

The children proudly paraded their hats and bopped to the Easter soundtrack. Halfway through the parade we had a visit from a very large, white, fluffy Easter bunny, who much to the delight of the children, joined into the parade with the same energy and enthusiasm.

We would like to thank you all for your support of this special event. Your generous donations of Easter eggs and purchases of raffle tickets made this day a great community event. There were over 200 families who joined us on ZOOM which gave us a sense of the strong community that we are building together at Northbourne PS.

It was so lovely to see the many children who went home with an Easter basket to share with their family. In addition, we were able to raise \$2425 which will be used to support the creative programs across the school.

Many thanks to Miss Banning and her team of helpers!

