



Diary Dates

- Every Thursday - Parade 1:50pm
- 19/2 - Student Leadership Induction
- 24/2 - Year 6 RSL Excursion ★
- Week 6 - Clean Up Australia Day
- Week 8 - Stand Together Day/
Harmony Day
- 17/3 - P&C AGM ★
- 18/3 - NAIDOC Disco
- 19/3 - Year 4-6 Sports Gala
- 19/3 - Bravehearts Performance
- 25/3 - Cross Country
- 1/4 - Last day of Term 1 ★

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

2021 is the "Year of Positivity" in our school as we continue to focus on building positive school culture and continue with our high expectations for our school community. We will be building on the good work achieved last year and continuing the work from our new four year plan for the school. We are committed to improving student outcomes. In order to achieve this, communication between home and school needs to be regular and productive. I encourage parents to visit your child's classrooms regularly to understand what is being taught and to ascertain how well your child is achieving. When parents take an interest in their child's education, outcomes improve. I thank you in advance for your support and assistance in ensuring 2021 is a successful year. We, the staff, are excited about the year ahead and look forward to being a part of your child's lives this year.

Last week we finalised our Day 8 numbers. Day 8 is an important day in all schools as it determines school funding for the year. For 2021 we finished on 356 students. This is an increase of 25 students on 2020 and a sign that more families want to join our great Parramatta community. This means the school will have 16 classes this year, one more than last year. On behalf of the school, I would like to welcome all our new families and I look forward to meeting you around the school.

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere."

- Chinese Proverb

P&C Meeting

The school's Parents and Citizens' Association AGM will be held on **Wednesday 17 March** in the Junior undercover area from **3:00pm**. The AGM is where we elect our new committee for 2021. During this meeting, an executive will be elected to lead the P&C during 2021. The P&C Association is an active and supportive group that works tirelessly throughout the year to provide additional resources and services for the students in the school. If you are able to commit some time to support this group, please come along to the AGM. Every little bit of support is greatly appreciated. I hope you are able to join us.

We will also hold a general meeting straight after the AGM.



Regards

Michael Patane
Principal



Bikes and Students

It is great to see so many students riding to school each day. It is important though when riding to school that students abide by these rules:

- Wear an appropriate helmet and make sure it is clipped on correctly;
 - **Disembark** from their bicycle when they enter the school grounds;
 - **Lock their bikes up with an appropriate chain** at the bike racks located outside B block;
 - Do not ride bikes or scooters in the school grounds;
 - Only one person per bike/scooter;
 - Only go into the bike shed if you are collecting a bike.
- Thank you for considering these rules.



Hats

Our Sun Smart policy stipulates bucket or broad-brimmed hats.



Caps are NOT acceptable.

Students who do not have appropriate hat wear will not be permitted to play.

Hats are available from the Tuckshop for \$15.

In Case of a Cyclone

Upon a cyclone warning, parents are advised to listen to the radio re possible school closures.

- Should a cyclone threat emerge unexpectedly during the school day, parents may be advised at short notice by radio of impending school closures. We will ensure that appropriate supervision is maintained until all students are collected from school.
- Be prepared when school re-opens to send your child/ren to school with their own drinking water and lunches. It is possible that our tuckshop may not be open immediately after.
- Also, keep an eye out on our Facebook page.

Radio	Frequency
HOT FM	103.5 FM
STAR FM	99.5 FM
ABC	106.7 FM
ABC - Beaches	99.5 FM
STAR	102.7 FM
4AM	846 AM
ABC	801 AM

Upcoming Event

Student Leadership Induction Ceremony

Friday 19th February at 08:40am,
our student leaders will be inducted into
their new position and presented with
their leadership badges.



Attendance

As we commence the start of a new year, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away, such as illness. Research shows that students who have a good attendance record are more likely to achieve high results. Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late, being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Visit the Department of Education and Training website for more information: www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts



Our school attendance target for each student is **92%**. Last year our attendance was only at **86.1%**. I know we can do better this year.

Religious Instruction

Queensland state schools embrace a multitude of cultural, religious and non-religious beliefs. Under the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*, schools are to provide Religious Instruction (RI) if approached by a faith group seeking to provide RI and students of that faith attend the school.

RI informs students about the beliefs and values of a particular religion. It is delivered by volunteers of a faith group using instructional materials approved by that faith group. RI is required to be consistent with legislation and Department of Education policies and procedures.

All RI instructors must hold a blue card and participate in compulsory Student Protection and Code of Conduct training. RI instructors are only entitled to deliver the RI program as outlined. A school staff member will be present during the delivery of RI.

Participation in RI is not compulsory. Any student (except Prep students) may participate in RI if a parent has provided written instructions to the school.

Students are allocated to RI based on information provided by parents on the completed *Application for student enrolment* unless other written instructions have been provided to the school.

Note: This consent remains in effect unless the parent informs the school otherwise in writing.

Bravehearts

Bravehearts, Australia's leading child protection organisation will be holding a performance at Parramatta State School on **Friday 19 March** at 1:30pm.



Guidance Tips

Be on time every time - Teachers love parents who respect bell times, being late to school means your child walks into a lesson that is already underway. It is embarrassing for your child and it can take them a while to settle down and focus on the lesson.

'Beat the buzzer' game

A playful way to get kids ready on time in the morning. Getting your children ready for school or to leave the house can be a challenge. Here's a fun way to encourage them to cooperate.

Do you find yourself nagging and shouting a lot in the mornings?

Try 'Beat the buzzer', a game developed by researchers from RMIT University, Victoria. The key to this game is rewarding your child for being on time and ready. Praising your child will make an enormous difference. Parents often don't feel like praising their child for being ready on time because it's behaviour that is expected. But if you don't praise it, don't expect it!

How to play 'Beat the buzzer'

1. Explain that you want to introduce a game called 'Beat the buzzer' to help with getting ready in the mornings.
2. Establish a 'ready time' – your child must be ready for school at this time.
3. Together, write a list of what your child needs to do in the morning. With younger children, you do the writing, but ask them to help you draw a picture for each step. Explain exactly what you expect children to do on their own and what you will help with. The list might look something like this:
 - Eat breakfast;
 - Get dressed;
 - Brush teeth/wash face/brush hair;
 - Pack bag;
 - Put on jacket/hat/shoes.
4. When you have a list that you're both happy with, put it up where your child can check it throughout the morning.
5. Explain to your child what will happen if he is ready on time, and what will happen if he isn't.

6. Choose some special rewards for beating the buzzer. Make up a simple chart to keep track of success with ticks or stickers. Activities with mum or dad are often the most effective rewards.
7. Choose some appropriate consequences for not being ready. These could include not being allowed to watch TV, or going to bed 10-15 minutes earlier.
8. Set the timer and leave your child to it. Let her know that you have set the kitchen timer for the required amount of time. Now it's up to them.
9. Watch for your child being independent and responsible. Praise and encourage them. But avoid giving reminders and instructions – this will just lead you back to nagging and fighting.
10. If your child gets all the tasks done by the time the buzzer sounds, they win.
11. Encourage your child to check the list rather than telling them what to do next. This will help them become more independent. It also reduces nagging from you.
12. After a week or two of success, begin to phase out the rewards over another 3-4 weeks. Your child might need to be on time two, three, four, then five days in a row to earn the reward (make the reward a little bigger each time). Then make rewards a surprise. Your child won't know when a reward is on offer – it just happens every now and then.



Even when your child is regularly ready on time, praise them occasionally.

When your child is not ready:

If at the end of the time your child isn't ready:

- Calmly let them know that the buzzer has sounded, and get them ready.
- Remind them that they can try again the following morning.
- Follow through with the consequence you decided on.

★ ★ Student Achievements ★ ★

Congratulations to this fortnight's award recipients:



Student of the Week Awards



Overall Student of the Week



Class Highest Attendance

Activity Schedule T1

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BEFORE SCHOOL (7:45am)	Breakfast (Miss Kitty)	Breakfast (Miss Kitty)	Breakfast (Miss Kitty)	Breakfast (Miss Kitty)	Breakfast (Miss Kitty)
FIRST LUNCH	P-2 Soccer (Mr Hall)	3-6 Technology		3-6 Dance (Miss Kitty) P-2 Netball (Miss Dale C)	3-6 Basketball (Mr Cotter) P-2 Dance (Miss Kitty)
SECOND LUNCH	P-2 Basketball (Mr Cotter)	Netball (Miss Dale C)	Garden Club	3-6 Soccer (Mr Hall) P-2 Basketball (Mr Cotter)	Garden Club (Miss Jen)
AFTER SCHOOL					

2A Classroom News

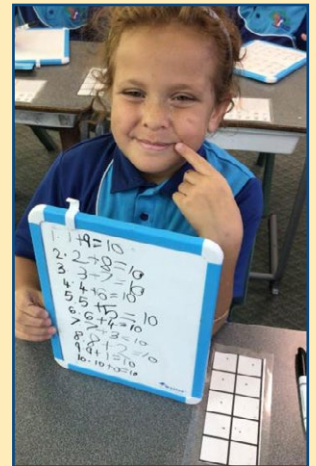
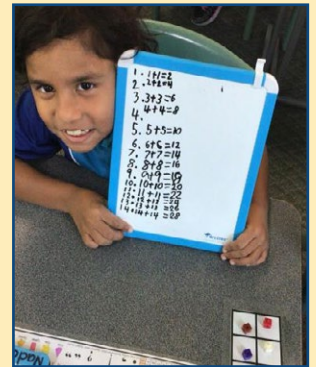
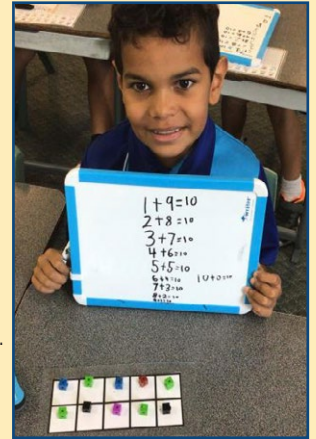
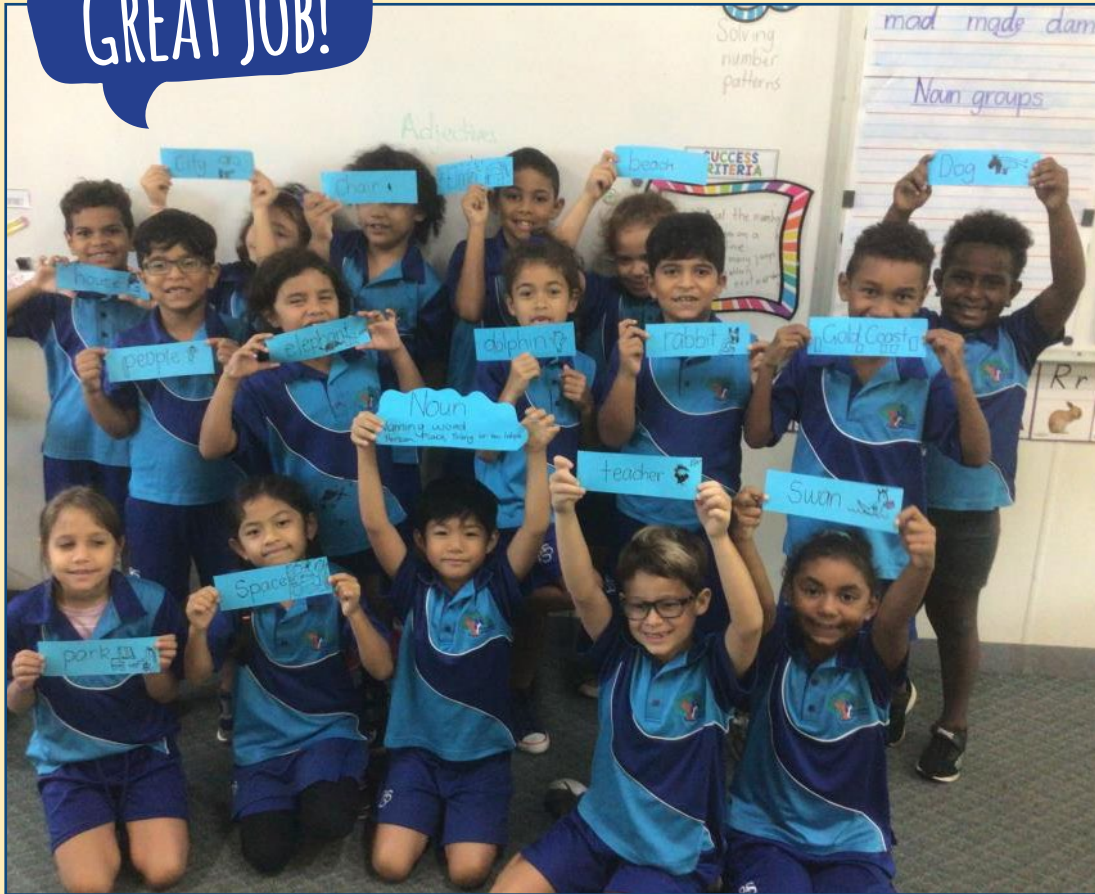
We have been busy learning about classroom expectations and how we can be the best learners in 2A this fortnight.

In English we have been learning about nouns, verbs and adjectives. We made our own list of nouns, verbs and adjectives and put them on our classroom walls to help us when we write our narrative sentences.

In Mathematics we have been working hard to recall our number facts and use number lines to create skip counting patterns.

We also had a special guest, our Principal Mr Patane, come in and teach us about bookwork and handwriting.

GREAT JOB!



HPE - Basketball

In HPE, Years 1-6 are currently participating in a unit of basketball. For the Health component, students are learning strategies to work together cooperatively such as sharing, using manners and encouraging their classmates. In the Physical Education component, all students are developing and refining their basketball skills such as passing, dribbling and shooting with proper technique. The culminating activity for this unit is students in Years 3-6 are participating in a lunchtime basketball competition. The competition is class versus class and is gender based. Monday is Year 4, Tuesday is Year 3, Wednesday is Year 5 and Friday is Year 6. Students are putting in additional time before school and at lunch to practice their skills to be ready. There are even rumours of a teacher versus students game for the winning sides.



play cricket IT'S FUN, IT'S FAST, IT'S A BLAST!!



CRICKET BLAST!

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