Seven Hills North Public School
NEWSLETTER

A quality education in a caring environment

Issue 21 15.12.2020
Term 4—Week 10

DATES FOR DIARY

TERM 3

DECEMBER

16 Last Day of Term 4

Merry Christmas from all the Staff at Seven Hills North.

2021

TERM 1

JANUARY

26 Australia Day
27 Staff Development Day
28 Staff Development Day
29 Year 1 - Year 6 Students Return
Kindergarten Best Start

FEBRUARY

1 Years 2 - 6 Swimming Carnival
2 Kindergarten Best Start
3 Kindergarten Best Start
4 Kindergarten - First Day of School

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SCHOOL SECURITY
1300880021

From the Principal's Desk

Presentation Days

It was so lovely to welcome our families back into school last week to celebrate the success of our students at the various Presentation Day assemblies. We are pleased to have been able to finish the year with an opportunity to come together and celebrate the many accomplishments of our amazing students.

Throughout a difficult year, we have still enjoyed many wonderful student and staff achievements. It has been a pleasure to be a part of such a resilient and determined school community. Our staff and students have diligently been able to just 'get on with the job' of high quality teaching and learning. We thank all the students for their efforts this year, and for continuing to demonstrate that they are safe, respectful, responsible learners and outstanding citizens.

Presentation Day is also an opportunity for us to highlight the partnership between teachers and parents. This year more than ever, you have supported us in our role, taking on the responsibility for guiding home learning. The constant words of appreciation and encouragement that we have received from our school community has provided the momentum to keep us going through a year like no other. Thank you for the partnership and we look forward to another great year in 2021.

As you are aware, each of the five Presentation Day assemblies were filmed and individual photos were taken of all award recipients. If your child received an award, please email the school and a copy of this photo will be provided for you. The recording of each of the Presentation Days can be located on the link below. A huge thank you to Miss Blanch for editing and compiling the recordings of the assemblies.
https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/seven-hills-north-public-schoo/home

Year 6 Farewell

Oh, what a night! Our Year 6 Farewell was a huge success with everyone enjoying a fun-filled evening. We know that an event like this takes months of planning and I would like to acknowledge the enormous effort of our staff in organising such a fabulous night within such a short amount of time. A special thank you to Ms McDonald, Ms Mossfield and Miss Golcman for all their planning, hard work and guidance. Thanks also to the parents volunteers who helped to make this wonderful event happen at such short notice. I'm sure that our students will remember the night for many years to come!

Seven Hills North Public School Newsletter

I'd like to wish our departing Year 6 students all the best as they commence their high school journey. I know they are very well-equipped to take on the next part of their educational lives. On behalf of our school community, we wish you all the best.

I would also like to thank our students for their Year 6 gift to the school. They have donated new tables and seating to be installed in our Cooinda (quiet place). We look forward to using these in the new year.

Emery Shield – P&C Award

The Emery shield is an award presented by the P&C each year at our presentation day to recognise an outstanding contribution to the Seven Hills North community. The Emery family donated the shield in 1985 to be presented to an individual or group of students, parents, or staff who have made a significant contribution to our school community.

I would like to congratulate the recipient of this years' award, Mrs Geanette Saad. Mrs Saad has been an active member of our school community for over 10 years. She has worked tirelessly on many school BBQs, be they at sports carnivals, book parades, Bunnings or movie nights. Mrs Saad has also been heavily involved with the Year 6 Farewell over the years, from actively helping with the fundraising to working on the actual event itself. She has been a key member of our P&C, always on hand to help out with fundraising, such as the Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls, the Christmas Raffles, the Easter Raffles and many an election day cake stall or BBQ. Mrs Saad has been the President of our P&C and manager of the school Uniform Shop since the beginning of 2017. On behalf of our school community I thank Mrs Saad for her generous commitment to our school community.

Congratulations and Farewell Mrs Hilly

A special congratulations and fond farewell to Mrs Hilly, who has been a valued part of our Seven Hills North family for over 18 years. Mrs Hilly represents the very best of the teaching profession - a committed and passionate educator who gained the greatest joy from watching her students succeed. She was a strong proponent of the arts, particularly music education, led the school choir for a number of years. Mrs Hilly also worked tirelessly to ensure our students were successful in being nominated to participate in the much sought-after School Spectacular program. She was a major supporter of the next generation of teachers offering encouragement, mentoring and many words of wisdom to new members of staff.

It was with pleasure and pride that we were able to acknowledge Mrs Hilly's great career with the presentation of 30 Years of Service Certificate and Medal for Service to Students in Public Education. We thank her for enriching the lives of so many students and staff at our school and congratulate her for outstanding service to students in Public Education.

Staffing news

It is with a sense of sadness that I inform you that Miss Blanch will be taking leave from our school at the end of this year, to take up a temporary position at Austinmeer Public School. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Miss Blanch for all the great work she has done with the students in K/1 Bilbies and in her role as relieving Assistant Principal and wish her all the best for her new endeavours. We look forward to her return in 2022.

Celebrating Student Success

At our school, we have a number of ways of recognising student and rewarding those students who are demonstrating our school expectations. As we are not able to hold school assemblies at this time, we will acknowledge student achievement in our newsletter each fortnight.

Students receive merit awards if they are consistently displaying expected behaviours. Congratulations to our Silver and Gold award winners…

Silver Award winners: Hagen, Ema, William, Fatima, Alexie, Bethany and Evelyn

Gold Award winners: Hannah, William, Bethany and Tara

Principal Medallion

As part of our school's reward system, students earn Merit awards for being safe and respectful learners and friends. When a student achieves two Gold awards, the equivalent of 90 Merit Awards, they are presented with a Principals Medallion.

As part of this achievement, students who have earned a Principals' Medallion are invited to a morning tea at the end of each term. Congratulations to the students who have reached this level. I certainly enjoyed my morning tea with this wonderful group.

Principal Medallion winners: Hannah, Akash, Tara, Iris, Ryan, Hughie and Holly

Semester 2 reports

Your child's Semester 2 reports have been issued as paper copies on Monday afternoon. Additionally, reports are accessible as a PDF on Sentral. Some important points for parents to remember are:

- SOUND is the expected achievement level that most students should achieve in all learning areas.
- The reports are a POINT IN TIME report. This means that we only report on what has been taught and assessed over Term 3 and Term 4. Therefore, it is possible that your child has performed differently during this reporting period and may receive a different level to Semester 1 reports.

We do not schedule parent-teacher interviews at this time. However, should you have any concerns about your child's report, please make an appointment with your child's new teacher in the new year.

Thank you!

I would like to thank all our families for their support of our students and school in 2020 and wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Throughout the year, I have felt privileged to work with such an amazing community. Your support through difficult times has meant so very much to all of us and I look forward to continuing our successful partnership in 2021.

To those families who are moving on from our school I wish you all the best in your new endeavours. I am sure you will look back at your time at our school with fond memories.

School resumes for students in Years 1-6 on Friday, 29 January 2021. Kindergarten students will complete the Best Start assessment on Friday 29 January, Tuesday 2 February and Wednesday 3 February. The first day for Kindergarten students is Thursday, 4 February.

If you have any concerns regarding the security of our school throughout the holidays, please contact the School Security Hotline on 1300 880 021.

Have a restful and enjoyable break and we look forward to working with you in 2021.

Warm regards,

Mrs Renai Diamond
Principal

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Class of the Week: 1 Geckos

We can't believe it is the end of Year 1.

We have learnt so much and still had fun!

Do you need someone to find a quarter or half?

Or to write you a story about a dancing giraffe?

I can tell you about the continents, oceans and seas.

Or count to you in 10s, 5s or 3s.

I can tell you when to use a capital letter or full stop,

And I can throw a ball, jump, skip and hop.

Want to know the difference between adjectives and adverbs?

Come and ask me! My grammar knowledge is superb.

Do you need some information about snakes?

Want to know how you can learn from your mistakes?

I can tell you, I'm full of knowledge!

Forget about year 2, I'm ready for college.

I know all about how to be safe and healthy.

I hope all this knowledge will make me wealthy!

I'm full of ideas on how to relax when I have a busy mind.

Most importantly I know how to be friendly and kind.

I'm excited to see what next year brings,

I know I will learn a world of wonderful things.

1 Geckos students

YEAR 6 FAREWELL 2020

On Friday 4th of December, Year 6 had their farewell at Blacktown RSL. It looked a bit different this year, with no parents and less teachers... But it was just as fun and special!

There was a karaoke machine, a photobooth, lots of food and dessert.

Thank you to all the parents who helped out before and on the day, Lin (Charlie T), Fay (Felicity H), Monique (Eden G), Elizabeth (Jessica A) Shansel (Atilla S), Michael (William R). A special thank you to Cassandra (Imogen G) for baking cookies, Emma for making the cake and cupcakes, and Stella (Shane and Tara T) for organising our star banner and signs.

Thankyou also to Mrs Biggar, Mrs Aktas and Mrs Watkins for helping us with our wonderful mural and Ms Dundas for her hard work on our video morphing. Thanks also go to Mrs Mear and Mrs Connell for their help in the office and Mr George for all his handy work! If we have missed anyone your help and support has not gone unnoticed and we thank you too!

We are lucky that the COVID-19 restrictions eased just enough to allow for a Year 6 farewell. There were lots of photos and videos taken on the night, which are all available on the Google Site to view and download for Year 6 parents.

If you are a Year 6 parent and unsure how to access the photos and videos, please get in touch with the school who can assist you.

We wish Year 6 all the best as they move into high school and hope to see their smiling faces back for a visit in 2021.

Good luck Year 6!

Love from Ms Mossfield, Ms McDonald, Miss Golcman and Mrs Aktas

As the Year 6 teachers of 2020, we would like to bid a special farewell to our Echidnas and Quokkas. It has been an honour and privilege to be your teachers this year. We have learnt so much, had many laughs and it has been wonderful getting to know each and everyone of you. Year 6 2020 you are incredible human beings and we wish you all the very, very best for the future.

As Jack Johnson sung... "Who's to say, what's impossible?

Who's to say, I can't do everything?"

Year 6 2020, it's possible and you can do everything!!!!

Love Ms. Mossfield & Ms. McDonald

(the 2 Ms. M's)

Year 6

Year 6
Farewell Dinner 2020

ROYAL LIFE SAVING AUSTRALIA

On Friday 4th of December, K-6 participated in a Water Safety incursion run by Royal Life Saving NSW. As part of the PDHPE curriculum, students learnt skills, strategies and information to help keep them safe in and around pools, lakes, rivers and oceans.

With the school holidays approaching, this incursion helped students to recognise potential dangers around water, as well as learning to make the right choices when swimming. The session finished with a fun Kahoot quiz, where students worked in groups to answer questions about water safety and making safe, sensible choices around water.

If you are planning a holiday these summer holidays, we recommend having a discussion with your children on how to act safely and responsibly around water. This includes pools, lakes, rivers, oceans and water parks. The next page has more information regarding water safety on holidays.

14

EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER

Royal Life Saving

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

FACT SHEET No. 14

Water Safety on Holidays

Q. Why is water safety on holidays important?

A. While holidaying, you may experience aquatic environments you are unfamiliar with or that have changed since your last visit. To enjoy these locations safely, it is important to know the safety aspects that apply to different aquatic environments.

Q. What should I do if I'm holidaying in an unfamiliar aquatic location?

A. Conditions can change all the time, and a spot that was safe to swim at in the morning, may have developed a strong current by the afternoon. Before you enter any water body, spend time observing it, looking for any rips or currents. Ask a local about the waterway. Never dive in, always enter the water slowly, feet first.

Q. What steps can I take to keep my family safe when holidaying near the water?

A. Discuss with your children that they are not to enter the water without a parent present. Explain that even though they may be competent swimmers at home, the conditions can change dramatically in other environments and they need to be aware of this. Be aware of objects in the water, from rocks to watercraft. Obey any signs to stay in a designated area. Make sure you do the right thing as children will model their behaviour on you. Never swim alone and ensure children are actively supervised – Keep Watch and keep them within arms' reach.

Q. What about if I'm visiting a water park?

A. In exactly the same way as at a public pool, lifeguards at water parks are on hand to ensure that all patrons can enjoy their time at the facility. This does not mean they are responsible for babysitting young children. Parents must continue to actively supervise children within arms' reach at these venues. Please see Fact Sheet No. 11 – Public Pool Safety for more information.

Q. What dangers exist at inland waterways?

A. Many families enjoy holidays at locations near rivers, lakes and dams. It is important to remember that at these locations water conditions can change hourly. These locations can also present dangers with crumbling or slippery banks, shifting floors, submerged objects, watercraft and cold water. Many locations such as rivers, lakes and dams do not have lifeguards on duty.

Real Life Story - Family Holiday Drowning

Two people have drowned whilst on a family holiday. The father and son drowned after being caught in strong currents in a river near their campsite. Unable to make it to safety against the currents, they disappeared below the surface. Locals tried to help but were unable to resuscitate the pair. After the incident locals described the river as unpredictable.

ROYAL LIFE SAVING HAS DEVELOPED A NUMBER OF FACT SHEETS ON WATER SAFETY ISSUES IN AUSTRALIA.

Contact Royal Life Saving on: **1300 737 763**
or download them from: **www.keepwatch.com.au**

Water Safety on Holidays Checklist:

- ☐ Checked conditions with a resident local to the area before entering
- ☐ Swam in patrolled areas, where possible
- ☐ Condition of all equipment checked before use
- ☐ Observed for changing weather conditions
- ☐ Observed conditions of water before entering
- ☐ Watched out for other people or watercraft when in the water
- ☐ Ensured children are actively supervised (within arms' reach) at all times
- ☐ Refrained from drinking alcohol if planned to undertake aquatic activity

MAKE SURE YOU DO THE RIGHT THING AS CHILDREN WILL MODEL THEIR BEHAVIOUR ON YOU

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Seven Hills North Public School

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2021 CLASS EQUIPMENT LIST

Exercise books, arts/crafts supplies and some other selected stationery are provided by the school. Stationery that students are expected to have will vary from class to class and year to year.

The following is a general guide, teachers may request other items throughout the year.

Kindergarten

1 x painting shirt - long sleeved smock
2 x boxes of tissues
1 x earphones for computer—high quality
1 x library bag
4 x large glue sticks (preferably Bostic, no glue pens please)
4 x good quality whiteboard markers
2 x plastic A4 document wallets – (for home reading and communication)
2 x large packets of baby wipes
1 x blue, yellow, pink, and green highlighter
1 x bottle of liquid soap
1 x bottle of hand sanitiser
Empty egg cartons

Years 1 – 2

1 x painting shirt (needs to be able to cover uniform)
2 x boxes of tissues
1 x bottle of liquid soap
1 x bottle of hand sanitiser
2 x large packets of baby wipes
1 x earphones for computer - high quality
1 x library bag
1 x plastic A4 document wallets (for home reading and communication)
2 x A4 20 page display folder
1 x A4 book for homework (not spiral bound)
1 x A4 sketch book
1 x smaller pencil case (for desktop stationery)
1 x larger pencil case (for all other stationery)
4 x large glue sticks (no glue pens please)
4 x whiteboard markers
1 x set of 12 textas
1 x set of coloured pencils
4 x HB lead pencils
1 x pencil sharpener
2 x erasers
1 x ruler
1 x scissors
1 x blue, yellow, pink and green and highlighters (must be these colours to support VCOP program)

Years 3 – 4

1 x earphones for computer—high quality
2 x boxes of tissues
2 x large packets of baby wipes
2 x bottles of liquid soap
1 x painting shirt (needs to be able to cover uniform)
1 x A4 20 page display folder
1 x library bag
3 x large glue sticks (preferably Bostic, no glue pens please)
1 x set of 12 Textas
4 x HB lead pencils
1 x pencil sharpener
1 x set of coloured pencils
2 x blue pens (Year 4 only)
2 x black pens (Year 4 only)
2 x red pens
1 x 30cm ruler
1 x eraser
1 x small pair of scissors
1 x small pencil case —to keep desktop materials
1 x larger pencil case
1 x A4 book for homework (not spiral bound)
1 x A4 sketch book
1 x pocket dictionary
2 x whiteboard markers
1 x blue, yellow, pink, and green highlighters
No erasable pens

Years 5 – 6

1 x earphones for computer—high quality
2 x boxes of tissues
2 x large packets of baby wipes
2 x bottles of liquid soap
1 x A4 ruled homework book
3 x A4 20 page display folders
1 x sketch book
1 x small basic calculator
1 x library bag
3 x large glue sticks (preferably Bostic, no glue pens)
1 x set of 12 Textas
4 x HB lead pencils
1 x pencil sharpener
1 x set of coloured pencils
2 x blue pens
2 x black pens
2 x red pens
2 x whiteboard markers
1 x blue, yellow, pink, and green highlighters
1 x 30cm ruler
1 x eraser
1 x small pair of scissors
1 x small pencil case —to keep desktop materials
1 x larger pencil case
1 x pocket dictionary
No erasable pens

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