



# Brewarrina Central School News

*Term 4, Issue 2, 2022*

## **Book Parade for K-6 classes**

Our Primary classes held the annual Book Parade on Thursday, 27th October on the school Basketball Courts. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend and celebrate our school's love of books, literature and learning! After the Book Parade, our K-6 students celebrated with a Halloween disco in the school hall. A great day all round for our K-6 students!

## **New Staff on board**

I would like to welcome Miss Skinner and Miss Monrroy-Alvarez, who have joined us on staff to support our teaching and learning for Term 4. We still have a few unfilled vacancies for permanent teaching staff in the school and we are currently in the recruitment process for those positions to be filled for a 2023 start. Last term, Mrs Jennifer Smith started at our school and is working daily as a teacher across K-12. Mrs Smith has also been a welcome addition on staff.



## **State Athletics Visit**

Congratulations to Tashahn W for his involvement in the PSSA State Athletics Championships last week. Thank you so much to

the community for the support you provided to Tashahn, before, during and after his events.

## **Kinderstart**

I would like to send out a warm welcome to our future Kindergarten students, who started our Kinderstart orientation program this week. Every Monday and Tuesday (except for Monday, 14th November) our 2023 Kindergarten students will be attending school and working with one of our new staff members, Miss Skinner, as well as Aunty Rosie. This is great way for the children to get used to the routines and expectations for school when they start in 2023. If you have a child who turns 5 before August 1, 2023, you are able to enrol them for Kindergarten next year. Please contact the office for more information.



## **HSC Exams**

Our Year 12 students are in the final stages of their HSC exams in the next couple of weeks. This Friday, students will be sitting exams for Biology and Industrial Technology.

Next week, on Tuesday is Visual Arts, Wednesday, PDHPE and Friday is Food Technology.

We wish our students all the best for success.

## **NASCA Start**

The National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy (NASCA) has started at our school this week. Marcia Bill will be our school's NASCA coordinator and will be working with our High School girls in a mentoring capacity in this role. NASCA empower Aboriginal young people to: Improve school attendance and ultimately school performance, Develop specific career pathways and work-ready skills, Strengthen cultural pride and Identity, Build life skills, personal development and long-term resilience.

An official information session for parents and students will be scheduled as soon as it is safe to travel to Brewarrina for the staff of NASCA. I'm sure you will be looking forward to working in partnership with NASCA to provide wonderful opportunities and experiences for your child.

## **High School Expectations**

I have had the pleasure of joining in with the High School student/staff meetings and it is great to see many students receiving awards and prizes for their appropriate behaviour and positive work attitudes.

## **Mobile Phones**

Currently, the high school staff are closely focusing on eliminating phone misuse in the classroom. If a child is using a phone in the classroom environment, they will receive a warning. If repeated warnings are given, your child will receive a formal caution about inappropriate behaviour. Please encourage your child to leave their phone at home, or indeed, if they need to bring it to school, to not be using it during school time.

## **Leaving School grounds without permission**

The high school staff are also focusing on ensuring students remain in class and in the school grounds. Our canteen is providing a free recess and free lunch options, so there is not a need for a child to leave the school grounds to get food. Other food items are also available for

sale in the canteen. Students are required to sign out of school if they leave the school grounds and will be marked as absent until they return. Please encourage your children to remain at school during school hours.

## **New Behaviour Strategy introduced by the NSW Department of Education**

Our Student Behaviour Strategy helps build an inclusive education system where every student is known, valued and cared for, and all students can learn to their fullest ability. We know that students who feel supported and safe are more likely to be more connected to school and active participants in their learning.

Positive and respectful learning environments promote wellbeing, engagement and improved academic achievement. The Strategy supports a preventative, positive, student-centred, school-family-community approach in which consistency is key. The needs of all students will be met by a care continuum.

## **What is a formal caution for a behaviour of concern?**

A behaviour of concern is something someone does that might cause or has caused harm or danger to themselves or others. A formal caution tells a student that their behaviour caused or may cause harm or danger to themselves and other people. It is designed to let you and your child know that their behaviour needs to improve.

A formal caution is a letter in which your child's behaviour of concern has been recorded. Your child will not be suspended at this time.

Further reading is available at the following link:  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/behaviour-support-toolkit/support-for-parents/-student-behaviour>



## **Flood Warnings**

Due to severe weather warnings in our area we remind our communities to please stay safe. Never enter floodwater. If it's flooded, forget it!

The major cause of death during floods is from people entering or travelling through floodwater. This includes driving, riding and walking through floodwater and children playing in floodwater.

Floodwater may be deeper or faster flowing than it appears and can contain hidden debris.

Consider the following during periods of significant rain or flood:

Drive safely – don't feel pressured by vehicles behind you or your passengers to cross a flooded road. Even emergency services will only enter the water as a last resort.

Realise your best plan may be to avoid travel altogether. Sometimes your only option will be to wait it out.

At all times, make sure your phone is charged and a charger is available in the car or at work. In a life-threatening emergency, call 000 (triple zero).

A 'road closed' or a 'road flooded' sign means that road is unsafe to travel on. Find alternate ways which are free from floodwater or wait until the 'all clear' is given for that road. It is safer to turn around than to enter floodwater.

Please keep up to date through the Live Traffic, BOM and SES websites

**Mr Shaun Graham**

**Executive Principal**

## **Secondary News**

Hi everyone, the Secondary Department has been a hive of activity in the past few weeks. It

has been fantastic to walk into classrooms and see some great work that students have been doing.

Effective learning happens when students are on time to class- we expect all our students to return on time after breaks and to be at school ready for learning at 8:45. We have an Attendance Team that monitors attendance. If you need support getting your child to school please reach out.

We continue to work with students regarding mobile phones- as we improve our practices to be more consistent, students have responded positively. And thank you to parents for your support- by working together we achieve the best outcomes for our kids.

Year 6 to 7 Transition is to begin in Week 7- the timetable is still being developed. This is always a highly anticipated program for the students and we are pleased to be welcoming them into the Secondary Department and hope they find the experience enjoyable so they look forward to next year. More information will go home to parents towards the end of the year regarding what students will need when they start high school.

Information regarding HSC Minimum Standard Testing is within this newsletter- all students must sit the tests before the end of Year 12 in order to meet the requirements for the HSC credential. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions about this.

I hope everyone is remaining safe during these uncertain times with the flooding.

In the next few weeks, students will complete online Check In Tests as well as VALID- these tests provide ongoing data on the progress of our students and how we can develop our teaching to support student growth. Currently all teaching staff are engaged in Professional Learning in Vocabulary- we are learning new strategies to explicitly teach students about words so that they broaden their knowledge, deepen reading and understanding skills and lift their overall literacy.

## **Safe Respectful Learners**

The following students were drawn out of the PBL box at our Secondary Assembly:

### **Week 2**

Canteen vouchers:

Jessie-Maria Walsh

Isabelle Williams

Michael Trapman

Aaryan Palta

\$20 Apple gift voucher:

Michael Trapman

### **Week 3**

Canteen vouchers:

Isabelle Williams

Wayne Smith

Darnell Heatherill

Sayed Boney

\$20 Apple gift voucher:

Matthew Barker

Well done to our Safe Respectful Learners, and I am so pleased to see the box filling up fast- I have promised the students if they fill it by Mid Term Break we will have a Reward afternoon, so it is completely up to them if they get there.

Please contact the school if you would like to discuss your child and their learning.

**Mrs Trapman**

**Head Teacher**

## **Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)**

### **Focus Weeks 4 & 5- Managing Stress**

Ongoing focus all term is LEARNERS

PBL lessons are delivered in class every week to teach students the expected behaviour.

Positive behaviour is then reinforced through our school-wide token system and in-class rewards systems.

This fortnight through PBL lessons, students will be learning about how to recognise stress, what may cause it and helpful strategies to cope.

Sometimes, we are faced with difficult situations that we have to deal with. Dealing with these difficult situations calmly and positively, will help you build up your resilience so you are able to deal with other, more challenging situations as you get older.

It can be hard to deal with these situations and sometimes, we react in a negative way.

Gidgee the Goanna says "Give it a go!" and we love to see all our students doing their best to display our school values of SAFE RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

**Mrs Trapman**





Dear Year 8 Parent or Carer

The *Validation of Assessment for Learning & Individual Development* (VALID) test for Year 8 students will be held between **Monday 24 October** and **Friday 4 November 2022**. The test takes approximately 75 minutes. The **VALID Science 8** test is an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer.

*VALID Science 8* contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including scientific investigations. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the *NSW Science Years 7–10 Syllabus (2018)*. Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas.

Students also complete a survey about their opinions, attitudes, and values about science.

*VALID Science 8* contains audio, so each student needs to bring suitable **headphones or earbuds** that connect to a device. Schools will indicate if students need their own device.

If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact your child's school to discuss special provisions or exemption from the test.

Results of the test will be available during Term 1, 2023. Information about each student is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that the right to privacy of all students is maintained. A personalised electronic report describing the knowledge and skills demonstrated by your child in the test will be available from their school. There will also be information about how your child's results compare with overall performance of all students in the test across NSW.

The principal of your child's school can provide you with more details about the VALID program if you require additional information.

Yours sincerely



Paul Wood  
**Executive Director, Educational Standards**



## Reading, writing and numeracy — skills for everyday life



The HSC minimum standard has been introduced to ensure students have the reading, writing and numeracy skills needed for everyday life, work and further study.

### What this means for students

Students need to meet the HSC minimum standard to receive the HSC. To show they meet this standard, students need to achieve Level 3 in short online reading, writing and numeracy tests. Schools will help students to decide when they are ready to take each test. Students get four chances a year to sit each test, from Year 10 up to five years after starting their first HSC course.

Only students who meet the HSC minimum standard will receive an HSC testamur.

### Provisions and exemptions

Students do not need to meet the HSC minimum standard to:

- study HSC courses
- sit HSC exams
- receive HSC assessment and exam results
- receive an ATAR
- receive a Record of School Achievement.

Provisions are available for some students with disability. Some students with a disability studying Life Skills courses may also be exempt from meeting the minimum standard to receive their HSC testamur.

Find out more at  
[educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/HSCminimumstandard)

## Year 7 English

Congratulations to our Year 7 students on finishing a very busy Term 3. The class created a magazine with every student choosing a report or article they wanted to research, write and submit. This term is off to a busy start again with tutoring continuing for some students and our new unit of poetry followed by a film study. I am already impressed with some of the poems created and the way the class is analysing and deconstructing different forms of poetry including Cinquain, Free verse and Haiku. It has been an adjustment coming from primary school, but I am proud of the way the students that have stepped up and are participating in their learning every day. Below are some Extended Cinquain poems that they created earlier this week.

This week I have sent home a homework booklet with the students, each week there is a reading and comprehension task they are to complete and return for marking. We are working on building their confidence to read aloud and understand what they have read. If you have any spare time to listen to them read that would be a big help. As a school we have been focusing on building our students vocabulary knowledge. As part of that we have a word of the week, which we explore and use in our writing to help build our knowledge of meaningful words in different contexts.

Thanks,

**Mrs Turnbull**



Games- By Michael	Fruit- By Isabelle
Its fun playable game very fun game I am never bored when gaming gaming	Yummy very fruity extremely tasty, great refreshing, sour, delicious apples
Great awesome games easiest game, Buitt I love versing others and win X-Box	Sweet scrumptious Kiwi tasty and amazing reminds me of avocado's peaches
Online playing all night I love beating others there is never a boring day favourite	Fruity very healthy healthy for your body tastes amazing with chocolate and cream melon
Sisters- Taniqua	Dirt bikes - Ashton
Fighting yelling at them scratching, sooking, screaming I love to play with my sisters growling	Noises dirt bikes are cool I love riding my bike burnouts, Wheelies and a fishy Favourite
Loving caring for all always finding their stuff I always steal their clothes and shoes sisters	Riding always zooming Honda is the best brand My favourite thing to do is ride 2 stroke
Best friends straighten my hair never leave each other we always hang out together forever	Heavy 2 strokes are loud Crusin' around the bush I go riding with my best mates relief



clontarf  
foundation

# Brewarrina Top Attenders Take on the Snow

During Week 9 of Term 3 Brewarrina Academy rewarded students that had 80% attendance and above with a trip to the snow.

With a majority of our young men and a few staff never experiencing snow it was a trip that these young men will never forget.

We set off on a Sunday traveling for Wellington where we were met with a warm welcome from Wellington Academy. With a famous game of Clontarf spotlight and a few pizzas the young men went off to sleep dreaming about the slopes they would be skiing and snowboarding down.

With a early morning rise Brewarrina and Wellington Academy headed for Jindabyne Central School. With excitement in the boys' eyes, we arrived to the warmest of welcomes from the Jindabyne Central School principal. We couldn't say the same about the weather with it being freezing cold. The lads take in the sights of Jindabyne staring at the snow on top of the mountains in the distance.

With enthusiasm and optimism in the eyes of the students and staff, Brewarrina and Wellington set off. We arrived at the bottom of Perisher Mountain and get fitted snowboards, skis, jackets, shoes and lessons before setting off to take on the mountain. The young men being athletes took no time to conquer the slopes, advancing quickly through the lessons and then taking the chair lift to the top and coming down. The highlight of the day had to be the experience of skiing and snowboarding at night with people everywhere.

It's safe to say the experience will be one remembered for a lifetime. With laughs, good food and great company this trip is a highlight not only for this term but the year and many to come.





## Check-in assessment- Term 4

Check-in assessments are online assessment for students in Years 3 to 9. They are mapped to the NSW Syllabuses and National Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions. There are two assessments:

1. Reading

2. Numeracy

Each assessment consists of between 40 to 50 multiple choice questions.

The assessment can supplement existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

## Assessment windows for Term 4, 2022

### **Term 4:**

Years 3, 4, 5 - Weeks 1 to 4 (10 October to 4 November)

Years 7, 8, 9 - Weeks 3 to 7 (24 October to 25 November)

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school on 6839 2186.

### **Yaama everyone,**

All of Brewarrina Central School would like to congratulate Tashahn Waites for his awesome efforts at State Athletics. He made his family, school and community very proud! It was lovely to see the staff and students gather in front of the big screen to watch Tashahn compete and cheer him on. The atmosphere was awesome and I know Tashahn has inspired some of our younger students to get to State.

Welcome to our KinderStart students! They have had a wonderful start to their schooling and their teacher, Miss Skinner, has been super-excited to meet them all. The transition from Preschool to school has been made much easier with the addition of Aunty Rosie to our staff, whom the kids have missed since she retired from Preschool.

This week we have celebrated Book Week and Halloween. A big thank you to Miss Austin for her organisation of the Book Parade and all of the staff and families for getting costumes ready. The kids had a great time showing off their outfits, as did some of the staff. Every child received a book to celebrate the importance of reading. After the Book Parade we had the Halloween Disco. This was a fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell. Thank you to Mr Kerrigan and the 5/6 students for providing refreshments for the Disco.

Just a reminder that being at school every day is really important. If your child is sick or affected by flooding then please ring the school to let us know.

Have a great fortnight and take care,

**Beck Williams**

**Deputy Principal**





# Book Week Parade





# Kinder Start 2022





## Dates to Remember

- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Book Week Parade and Halloween Disco for Primary
- Clontarf Awards Night 8<sup>th</sup> November
- 11<sup>th</sup> –15<sup>th</sup> November –Mid Term Break
- 29<sup>th</sup> November – Qwestacon
- 7<sup>th</sup> December – Presentation Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> December – Year 6 Farewell

## Around the Traps

