



Claremont Meadows Public School

Term 1 - Week 8 - 2022

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

Induction Ceremony

On Friday 4th March we held our Induction Ceremony which went off beautifully. It was wonderful to see so many of our students standing proud and accepting their badges with pride. A big thank you to the parents who were able to join us for this important assembly.

Congratulations to all our 2022 student leaders.

Recent Floods/ wet weather.

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation and support during the recent heavy rains. We had several teachers who were impacted and could not get to school, coupled with staff off sick and then COVID absences. Our back oval is still very wet in parts and not useable for a few more days at this stage.

Drop off and Pick up Changes

In the Mornings:

We will continue with the meet / greet at the front gate with our Captains and Prefects assisting Kindergarten students. This process has been very effective in allowing a very quick and smooth start to the school day. We appreciate your support with this strategy.

In the afternoons:

From Wednesday 16th March 2022 gates will be opened at 2.45 pm and parents will be allowed in to collect their children. I need to re affirm and remind everyone of social distancing (1.5m) and we request that you abide by this whilst on school grounds. There is limited room around kindergarten and the new building so please be mindful of not overcrowding these spaces. Our gates will be closed and locked at 3.15. Pick up / drop off for the YMCA will continue to be via the gate near the car park.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend each school day. It is important to maintain good habits and routines for students, ensuring they miss as few days as possible. Please try to minimise unnecessary days or partial days from school and try to schedule any medical appointments later in the day or after school. We understand this is not always possible but your support with this is appreciated.

If your child has cold / flu like symptoms, then they will need to seek medical attention and a COVID test. Should your child have COVID they will need to remain at home for a 7-day period and return once you receive the release from NSW Health. If they are deemed a close contact similarly, they need to remain at home until the family member receives their clearance. This process is in place to keep everyone safe and healthy and your support with this is both important and welcomed.

I need to seek your support in being vigilant with COVID, we have a high number of students absent each day with COVID or from being a close contact.

School Photos:

Due to the poor weather conditions, we experienced last week coupled with COVID 19 isolation restrictions our school photos have been rescheduled to take place on **Friday 20th May 2022**. All payments made will be honoured and carried forward to the rescheduled date. Please ensure your child is dressed in their **FULL SUMMER SCHOOL UNIFORM** for this occasion (including white socks and black shoes).

P & C

Easter Mufti Day - All children can wear mufti to school on Friday 1st April 2022. We ask that children bring an Easter egg to donate to the P & C to be used to make the Easter raffle prizes.

Please make sure children wear clothing that is appropriate for school and participating in school sport including closed in shoes and shirts that cover shoulders.

Raffle Tickets

All children are receiving a book of tickets for the P&C Easter raffle which will be drawn on Friday 8th April. There will be a variety of Easter hampers as prizes. For each raffle ticket book returned, the child's name will go into a class draw to win an Easter egg.

Please make sure that all tickets and money are returned to the money slot by **Wednesday 6th April**. If you wish to sell more there are extra books available at the front office for children to collect.

There will be a prize for the child who sells the most books of Raffle Tickets that are returned by the due date.

Easter Hat Parade: This will be held on Friday 8th April commencing at 9.30am.

We are asking students to make an Easter hat **at home** to wear on the day during the parade. Please note no great expense is required for this activity. Simplicity and creativity is the way to go! Items found around the home are ideal. Please do not attach chocolate Easter Eggs to hats as they easily become dislodged and can create a mess.

It is expected that students from the Support Unit and K-6 participate in this event. We encourage parents to take this opportunity to work with their children on this fun celebration. Each class will parade along with their buddy class around the COLA area, so the more hats the better.

Please note that prizes will **not** be awarded for students' hats, the emphasis for the parade is on participation and enjoyment.

To maintain Covid safety: parents will be allowed to attend but we ask that you maintain social distancing and not attend if unwell or have any flu / cold like symptoms.

The P & C raffle will be drawn at the end of the parade and winners (if not students) will be contacted at the conclusion of the event.

We look forward to seeing all the colourful and creative hats on the day.

P & C AGM meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd March 2022 at 9.30 am in the school hall. This will be our first face to face meeting in two years. We have a few vacancies on the P&C and would love to see lots of new parents join us and be part of a great team. The P&C runs activities and raises funds for the enjoyment of all students and to assist in purchasing school items for the benefit of our students. Across the years this has included: air conditioners, interactive whiteboards, class readers and lots of literature materials, they have paid for the Young Leaders Day and they assist the school when a need has arisen.

Please come and join us, learn about our activities - Everyone is welcome!

Parking Outside the School:

Please be advised: at the front of the school there are two parking sections.

One side is the **kiss and drop** which is directly outside our special unit classrooms, this is a 5-minute maximum drop off and you **must not leave your vehicle**.

On the other side of the crossing there is a bus bay that is specifically for school vehicles dropping off students to our Special needs unit and large buses for school excursions. No parking is allowed at any time there.

In this area at the front of the bay closest to the crossing there is space for two cars for disabled parking, you cannot exceed 15 minutes and police may fine you if you stay longer; you must also display a disabled parking sticker.

Please be aware police regularly patrol outside the school during morning and afternoon pick up times and we would hate for anyone to receive a fine for not parking correctly.

Can I please remind all YMCA before and after school care parents / carers of the importance of not walking their children through the staff car park. Only use the designated pathways.

This is for the safety of all students, staff and visitors.

Please remember that if your child is riding a bike or scooter to school, they must wear a helmet. It is recommended that students under the age of 10, do not ride to school unless accompanied by an adult. Students are requested to get off their bike/scooter at the school fence and walk them in. There is a holding bay for them between the Year 5 and Year 6 classrooms.

Regards

Ms S Le Ban

New Parent Online Portal

As many of you know we have a new parent portal that allows you to see your child's absences and send in reasons for unexplained absences. In time, other services will be able to be accessed through this portal. Currently newsletters, notes and messages can also be viewed through the portal.

Re Student attendance:

This platform is just another way to communicate why your child was away from school. Other avenues include the Enews app, email, phoning the school or sending a note in.

- Please be aware that there is often a delay of a few days from when you communicate the reason to the school until you will see it recorded against your child's attendance in the portal app. This is because once you notify us of a reason the teacher, needs to then record the reason and add the appropriate code. The office staff can take a message from you for an absence, but they then send it to the class teacher to be recorded hence the delay.
- Note that some absences will stay as unjustified even if you have provided an explanation, this will occur if the reason is not a legally valid reason. The absence or late/early arrival will be documented as explained but unjustified.
- If you kept your child home during the recent floods due to minimal supervision, we still need you to let us know that was the reason and not sick or on holidays etc. This will then be recorded as approved Leave.
- COVID: If your child is a close contact and you have informed us, please be aware that your child will still be marked as an unexplained absence until they return to school and bring work that they completed. Work can be accessed through the following site. Click on parents and carers and this will take you to 2022 digital learning packs, click on primary and then select your child's grade. Please find below the link for this resource.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/learning-from-home>

The teacher will then assess the work and change the Unexplained to Flexible. If your child is a close contact and not well, then advise the school that they are sick and they will be recorded as Sick. If your child has covid they will be recorded as Sick. Completion of work from home is not expected when students are sick, but where possible, for well students who need to remain home as a close contact.

Please be patient as we work through this new platform, and we all become familiar with its functions. If you have not yet signed up to the parent portal, please phone the office to obtain your personal key access. There is a unique key for every parent or carer who is listed in our system. You will also need to have a valid/ working email address to use this platform.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 & 5 will participate in the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) online next term.

These tests will commence on Tuesday 10th May. Students sit assessments in writing, reading conventions of language (spelling, grammar & punctuation) and numeracy. Students in Years 3 and 5, will receive a separate information sheet outlining in more detail the process.

These tests are completed online except for the Year 3 writing test which is still a paper test.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child participating in these assessments, please contact the school or speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,

Debra Puckeridge.
Deputy Principal

2022 Staff

Principal - Ms S Le Ban
Deputy Principal - Mrs D Puckeridge

Kindergarten

KC Ms Cremona (Assistant Principal – Kindergarten and Year 1)
KB Miss Bennett
KG Miss Cohen (Rel Assistant Principal -Mon-Tuesday)
KP Miss Pierce
KV Mrs Vleeskens

Year 1

1B Mrs Browne
1C Mrs Blanch
1H Miss Homan
1M Mrs McNamee
1W Miss Woodward

Year 2

2M Mrs McCracken (Rel Assistant Principal – Year 2)
2C Mrs Custodio
2T Mrs McPherson
2S Miss Sorensen

Year 3

3K Mrs Kenny (Rel Assistant Principal – Years 3/4)
3W Mrs Warburton
3F Mrs Fenech

Year 4

4H Mr Hadley
4D Mrs Dutton
4M Miss Morawsky

Year 5

5F Mrs Fotokopoulos / Mrs Hall (Friday)
5J Mr Jackson
5X Mr Xuereb

Year 6

6N Mr Nicholls (Assistant Principal – Years 5/6)
6J Mrs Jackson
6G Miss Gauci

Support Unit staff

Ms Speed (Assistant Principal)
Miss Moore - Teacher
Mrs Atallah – Teacher
Mr Baltetsch – Teacher
Mrs Dianna Gett – RFF Teacher
Mrs Trivarelli – School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Walton - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Torrington - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Riley – School Learning Support Officer

Teacher Support Staff

Ms James, Mrs Dhawan, Mr Smith, Mrs Kennedy, Mrs Holliday
Ms Carson, Mrs Hall, Mrs Holliday, Mrs Frugone, Mrs Nelson and Mrs Pyne
Assistant Principal Curriculum & Instruction - Mrs Vassiliadis and Ms Cremona (Mon- Tuesday)

Librarian - Mrs Griffiths

Administration Staff

Mrs McQuillan Mrs Taylor Mrs Ryan

General Assistant - Mr Brown

School Learning Support Officers

Mrs Thomas Mrs Curtis Miss Freshwater Mrs Cook
Mrs Powell Mrs Galka Mrs Spencer Mrs Wikaira

School Counsellors

Mrs Fairall Lee and Ms Breen

Healthy Kids



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Good for Kids good for life

SNACK TIME!

It's important for kids to have healthy snacks through the day to help them meet their nutrition and energy needs.

Choose snacks based on vegetables, fruit, milk, cheese, yoghurt and wholegrain bread, crackers and cereals.

Quick and easy snack ideas:

- Cut up vegetables, fruit and cheese so they are easier to grab and eat for snacks during the week.
- Plain yoghurt and fruit.
- Make plain air-popped popcorn by adding $\frac{1}{4}$ cup popcorn kernels to a paper bag or container and microwave for 2 minutes. Lightly season with salt or spices.
- Add vegetables (fresh or frozen in to homemade snacks such as muffins, pikelets, scones and slices. Recipes available at: <http://goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/>

