



Education

Bankstown South Infants School



Creating Our Future

Newsletter Term 4 Week 6, 2020



Wednesday – Library Borrowing Day
Friday – SportsPro Program



What's on @ BSIS

Term 4 Week 6

- **Monday 16th November**
 - El Play day
- **Tuesday 17th November**
 - 3rd Kindy Orientation
- **Wednesday 18th November**
 - Preschool Orientation day
 - El Play day
- **Thursday 19th November**
 - Preschool Orientation
- **Friday 20th November**
 - Preschool Orientation
 - Vision Screening

Term 4 Week 7

- **Tuesday 24th November**
 - 4th Kindy Orientation
- **Wednesday 25th November**
 - Preschool Orientation
 - Vision Screening
- **Thursday 26th November**
 - Preschool Orientation
- **Friday 27th November**
 - Preschool Orientation

Term 4 Week 8

- **Monday 30th November**
 - 2021 Leadership Speeches
- **Tuesday 1st December**
 - PNPS Orientation
- **Wednesday 2nd November**
 - Preschool Orientation
- **Thursday 3rd November**
 - Preschool Orientation
- **Friday 4th November**
 - Preschool Orientation



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Skoolbag 
Smartphone school to parent communication



Principal's Report

Term 4 is flying by and we have had lots of exciting and engaging learning opportunities happening both in and out of the classroom. It is wonderful to see how hard everyone is trying and to see the progress all our students are making. We have a very busy end to the term coming up so please ensure that you are reading all notes sent home and that you have the SkoolBag App and Class Dojo alerts turned on to keep up to date with everything.

SkoolBag App Update

The SkoolBag App has been updated by its developer and there are some issues with people not receiving alerts. Please check your SkoolBag App and delete the app and reinstall it if you are experiencing difficulties.

Weather

As the weather warms up it is important that all students wear an appropriate school hat each day. Summer is on the way and sun protection is an important part of student wellbeing. Please make sure students have a clearly labelled water bottle to drink from throughout the day. Parents need to be applying sunscreen to their children in the morning before school. Please ensure students are dressed appropriately for the weather. We have a number of students still wearing long sleeves, skivvies and trackpants every day. Please ensure students are wearing their summer uniform on the warmer days.

End of Term 4 2020

The last day for students to attend school in Term 4 2020 is Wednesday 16th December 2020. The staff will participate in Professional Learning on school site on Thursday 17th December and our school will be closed for the summer holidays on Friday 18th December 2020.

Students in Year 1 and Year 2 will return to school on Friday 29th January 2021. Kindergarten will begin on Monday 1st February 2021. Preschool and Early Intervention will have a staggered start and parents will be informed individually of their start date.

School Planning

We are currently beginning the process of developing a new 2021-2023 school plan. We will be asking parents for some feedback and ideas in the coming weeks. Due to COVID-19 restrictions we will be using digital media and return slips rather than hosting our usual parent forums. If you have any ideas or feedback for us before this please email me at kimberlee.collas@det.nsw.edu.au

2021 Organisation and Class Placements

During Term 4, we spend a great deal of time planning the class structures, staffing and class allocations for the next year. To do this accurately we need to know about children who may not have enrolled to begin Kindergarten, or more importantly, anyone who is leaving for another school. It is essential that we have written advice if your child will be starting late next year or if your family is moving. If your family will not be at school for the start of the school year we need to be supplied with a letter explaining the absence and clearly stating your intended return date. Without this we are not able to include your child when formulating classes and this greatly impacts on the start of the year. Please contact the school office on 9790 6176 or email the school to let us know as soon as possible.

Teachers consider many factors when grouping children into classes for the next school year and it is never an easy task. Besides the department's guidelines about the number of children in each class at different year levels we also consider:

- academic achievement levels
- special needs and medical issues
- relationships that should be split or continued (teacher/student, student/student)
- behavioural issues or concerns
- the numbers of boys and girls in a class
- teacher allocation

If parents have particular concerns or issues about the placement of their child for next year, now is the time to let the school know so we can consider this information when forming classes. Coming to discuss a child's placement next year once classes have been finalised is too late as we are unable to make changes once classes have started. We always undertake to do the very best we can for every student. Please remember it is not always possible to meet all requests. Specific requests for a particular teacher will not be considered.

Please write to me in a sealed envelope marked confidential by Friday 27th November 2020 with any information that you would like us to consider regarding your child in 2021. All requests are treated confidentially. Please remember that while we will do our best to meet requests, this is not always possible and all decisions made are in the best interests of our students.

As you may have heard in the media there will now be two Staff Development Days in Term 1 2021 instead of the usual two at the end of year in Term 4. **This means that students in Year 1 and Year 2 will return to school on Friday 29th January 2021.** Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th will be Staff Development Days. Kindergarten will begin on Monday 1st February 2021. Preschool and Early Intervention will have a staggered start and parents will be informed individually of their start date. Next year we will return into holding classes until numbers are confirmed. Once our numbers are confirmed we will form classes and announce teachers.

End of Year Events

While the department have lifted some restrictions on end of year school events we are still required to adhere to the 1 person per 4 square meter rule. This means that we have had to change many of our end of year plans. After discussion and consultation at the P&C meeting the following plans have been made for end of year events. We understand this may cause disappointment but unfortunately the restrictions are out of our control. The health, safety and welfare of our students, staff and community is paramount and all decision made are with this in mind.

K-2 Presentation Day

Presentation Day will now be split into two separate outside events. Years 1 & 2 will have one ceremony and Kindergarten will have a separate one. If your child is receiving an award you will receive a letter via email and one member of the family will be invited to attend. All parents will have allocated seating and will need to sit socially distanced from each other and adhere to our COVID guidelines. No younger siblings, toddlers or babies will be able to attend as we have strict participant numbers that we need to adhere to. We understand this may be disappointing for some families but are doing the best we can to at least allow some parent participation in the event. Presentation ceremonies will be held outside in the morning area and we will also need to rely on the weather. While we will be under the shade shelter, we encourage all guests to wear sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses and bring a bottle of water. We have no alternative if it is raining and will need to postpone the event if the weather is bad.

- **Years 1 & 2 Presentation Ceremony**

Wednesday 9th December 2020 ~ 9:15am - 10:00am in the morning assembly area.

- **Kindergarten Presentation Ceremony**

Wednesday 9th December 2020 ~ 10:15am - 11:00am in the morning assembly area.

Year 2 Graduation

The Year 2 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Tuesday 15th December and will also look different. This will be held outside in the morning area and 2 members of our Year 2 families will be invited to attend. All parents will have allocated seating and will need to sit socially distanced from each other and adhere to our COVID guidelines. No younger siblings, toddlers or babies will be able to attend as we have strict participant numbers that we need to adhere to. Year 1 students and Kindergarten siblings will be able to watch the ceremony in the morning area but unfortunately due to number restrictions Kindergarten classes will remain in their classrooms.

- **Year 2 Graduation Ceremony**

Tuesday 15th December 2020 ~ 9:30am - 10:15am in the morning assembly area.

End of Year Fun Day

The End of Year Fun day will go ahead as planned for students but unfortunately no parents can attend. We again understand this is disappointing but still have a wonderful day planned for our students and will share lots of photos with you all. A note with more information will be coming out today. Please make sure students have a full water bottle clearly labelled with your child's name on this day.

- **End of Year Fun Day**

Thursday 10th December 2020 – students only.

Preschool Graduation

The Preschool Graduation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 16th December and will also look different. This will be held outside in the morning area and 2 members of our Preschool families will be invited to attend. All parents will have allocated seating and will need to sit socially distanced from each other and adhere to our COVID guidelines. No younger siblings, toddlers or babies will be able to attend as we have strict participant numbers that we need to adhere to. Students in K-2 will not be attending.

- **Echidna Preschool Graduation Ceremony**

Wednesday 16th December 2020 ~ starting at 9:30am - 10:30am in the morning assembly area.

Students need to arrive for dressing into Graduation gown at 9:15 am sharp.

- **Koala Preschool Graduation Ceremony**

Wednesday 16th December 2020 ~ starting at 12:00pm - 1:00pm in the morning assembly area.

Students need to arrive for dressing into Graduation gown at 11:45 am sharp.

Early Intervention Graduation

Each Early Intervention class will have their own Graduation Ceremony in the Early Intervention playground. Ms Judy and Ms Elle will communicate with the families individually about the organisation of these events. All parents will have allocated seating and will need to sit socially distanced from each other and adhere to our COVID guidelines. No younger siblings, toddlers or babies will be able to attend as we have strict participant numbers that we need to adhere to.

Kim Collas

Principal

2021 Term Dates

2021 School Dates for Students

Term 1 – Friday 29 January 2021 to Thursday 1 April 2021

Autumn vacation - Monday 5 April 2021 to Friday 16 April 2021

Term 2 - Tuesday 20 April 2021 to Friday 25 June 2021

Winter vacation - Monday 28 June 2021 to Friday 9 July 2021

Term 3 - Tuesday 13 July 2021 to Friday 17 September 2021

Spring vacation - Monday 20 September 2021 to Friday 1 October 2021

Term 4 - Tuesday 5 October 2021 to Thursday 16 December 2021

Summer vacation - Friday 17 December 2021 to Tuesday 1 February 2022

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

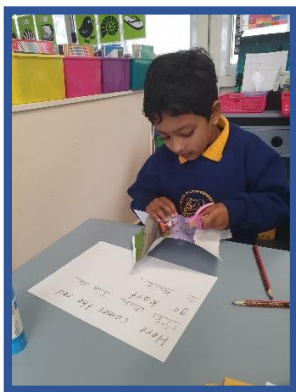
and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = **4** weeks = Over **1** year missed

1 day per week = **8** weeks = Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au

EAL/D Program

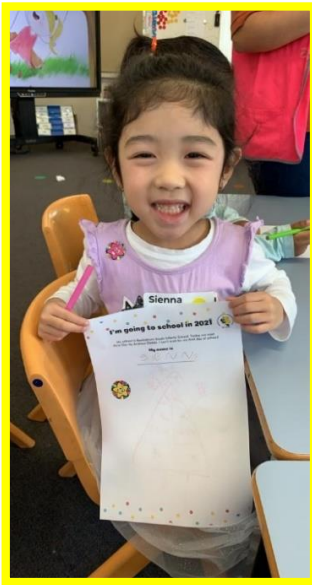


KB, KD and KS have all participated in an interactive EAL/D program this year. There has been a big focus on hands on activities, including measuring, cooking, experimenting, gardening and other interactive play activities.

All of these activities encourage the children to talk, which helps their vocabulary to develop.



Kindergarten Orientation



We have had 3 sessions so far of our Kindergarten Orientation. We were so excited to meet our Kindergarten 2021 students. All happy smiles greeted us and lots of fun was had at all 3 sessions. The children were able to experience what its like to be at big school and they have blown us away with how much they already can do! We look forward to seeing everyone again next Tuesday the 24th of November for our final orientation and celebration.





This term Preschool, Early Intervention and Kindergarten had a visit from Kindifarm. We fed baby goats, held baby chicks and rabbits and got to pat a duck!

We all had so much fun!









Preschool and Early Intervention





NAIDOC Week

NAIDOC week is a time when schools all over Australia acknowledge and celebrate that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. In preparation for NAIDOC week all students at our school designed a border so the acknowledgement of country can be displayed in every room.

At the Naidoc Assembly the winners were announced and they were presented with a framed copy of the acknowledgement to country to display in their classroom. The winners were: KB Mujtaba, KD Yahya, KS Ibrahim and Faith, IM Youstina, 1/2N Zaina and 2X Gelila.

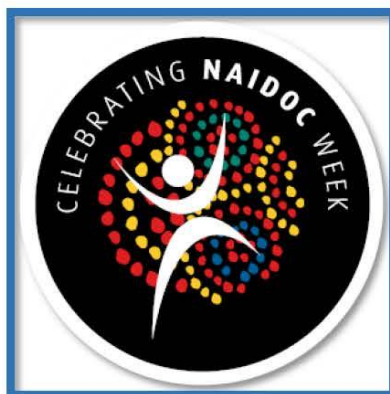


During the past couple of weeks every class has been busy designing and painting a paver for the Aboriginal Bush Tucker garden.

At the conclusion to the assembly on Friday the pavers were placed in our Bush Tucker garden by the students.

We would like to thank **Bunnings at Padstow** for the kind donation of outdoor paint to use on these pavers. We would also like to thank all the students who participated in the donut and ice block mufti day on Thursday. The funds raised have gone towards the purchase of these pavers and other stepping stones that will be placed in the garden.





Enhancing our outdoor learning environment and play spaces.



This year our school was very fortunate to receive a grant from the **Australian Government** through the Local Schools Community fund. With this grant of \$8820 our school has been able to improve our playground and develop our vegetable garden into an outdoor learning space.

We were able to use the services of a professional landscaper who suggested we use **sandstone boulders** as an edging around our bush tucker garden. This edging has helped to define the edge of the garden as well as stopping the mulch from being washed across the playground. Additionally, the children love to use the boulders as stepping stones and seating.

Our **new vegetable garden has seating all around the edge** which lends itself to outdoor learning. Many classes have used this area to discuss learning related to science, gardening and maths. This new garden bed is large and big enough to plant lots of vegetables such as spinach, parsley, beetroot and corn, just to name a few.



The funds have also enabled us to purchase much needed **outdoor tables** to be used so that the children can also write and draw during outdoor lessons.



The children are motivated to participate in outdoor learning and especially love being included in the gardening program.

The included photos show how much the children are enjoying using our improved outdoor learning spaces. Without this generous grant these improvements would not have been possible.



Starrs Planetarium



On Monday 2nd November Starrs Planetarium visited BSIS! Our stage 1 students travelled through the universe to engage in a 360 degree, 4K Earth and space adventure. The students entered an inflatable dome and were absolutely mesmerised at the real time images of the sun, stars and planets. We learned how to find constellations in the night sky and discovered how the earth's axis affects the seasons around the world.



Early Intervention

Time is ticking away as we speed through term 4. Our classes are preparing for kindergarten next year. There are lots of transition visits and meeting with new teachers. It is all very exciting!

We also welcomed the 2021 students to Early intervention in the “Stay and Play” days. Where we get to meet our new students for the first time and their lovely parents. Thank you to all the parents who got involved in the Disability Innovation Program – The Student Voice, I am pleased to report that the students, parents and teachers have all benefited from this pilot program. Early Intervention 2021 will continue to use this program in working with parents to amplify the child’s voice in their learning.



Gardening and Cooking Program

This year Mrs Chamron and Mrs Dion have incorporated cooking and gardening into their EALD and LAST learning programs.

These programs help the children to be motivated and engaged in their learning. It also supports their talking and listening skills and helps develop their vocabulary. Many children have benefited from being included in these programs.

We would like to acknowledge that **Greenacre Bunnings** has generously donated a garden shed so that we are now able to store our gardening tools in a safe dry place which is in close proximity to our vegetable garden.

This means that the gardening lessons can run smoothly because the children can easily access the equipment.



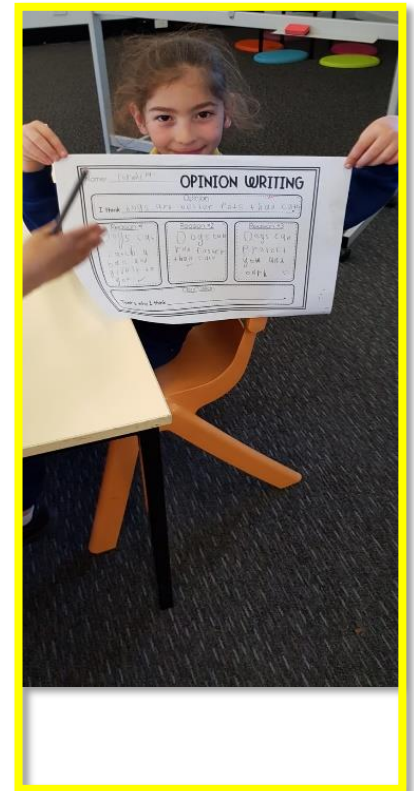
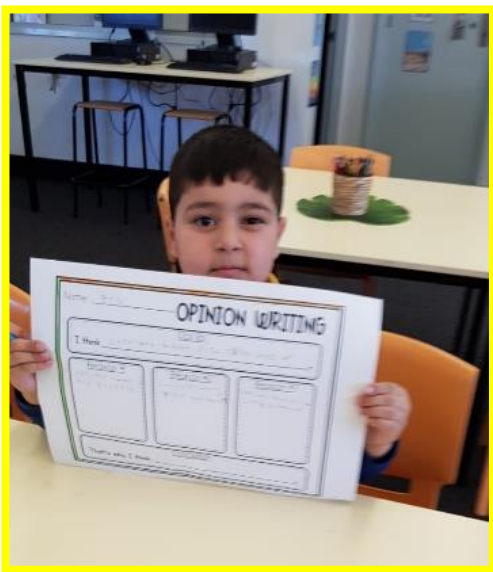
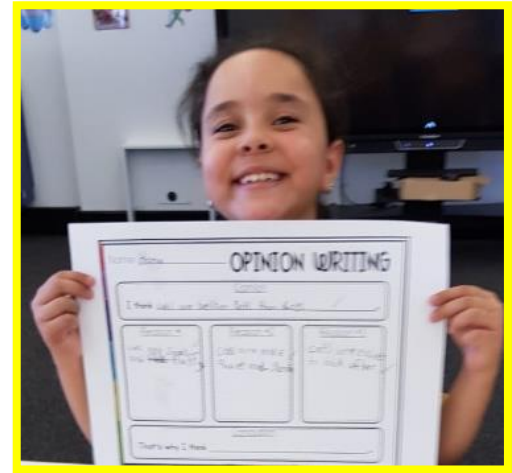


LAST Writing and Reading program this term

Students from 1/2N have been involved in a withdrawal writing group this year.

They are withdrawn from their class in a small group twice a week and are involved in scaffolded writing lessons which are programmed in line with their whole class writing program.

All of Stage 1 have received in class support for Reading and Literacy this year, with specific students benefiting from this program who are in need of additional support.



Uniform Shop

Uniforms can now be purchased from our uniform shop. The shop is now open 2 days per week.

Mondays 8.30am-9am & Wednesdays 2.40-2.50pm

Payment can be made by eftpos (preferred) or cash (only correct money will be accepted).

If you are unable to attend the shop during these times you may email your order to bankstowski-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au payment is then to be made via the "make a payment" tab on the school website. The order form and price list can be found on our school website www.bankstowski-p.school.nsw.gov.au

Please note that your order will only be packed during one of the above opening times and will be delivered to your child's class.

Please ensure your child is in full school winter uniform each day including black school shoes and a school hat.



Change of clothes

Can all families, especially Kindergarten and Preschool students please place a change of clothes in your child's school bag as this will help to stop our office staff ringing you to come up to school to change your child if required.



Homework Help



Homework help will be returning to our libraries. Please bring your own stationery as we will not be sharing resources. Some locations have changed times and days. Please note these changes in the table below.

Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre	Wednesday, 4-7pm
Campsie Library and Knowledge Centre	Thursday, 4-7pm
Chester Hill Library and Knowledge Centre	Monday, 4-7pm
Earlwood Library and Knowledge Centre	Monday, 4-7pm
Lakemba Library and Knowledge Centre	Monday, 4-7pm

To keep us all safe, we are required to limit the number of participants in each session.

Bookings essential for all programs.

To book your place, call your local library on the day of the program.

School Travel for 2021



2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

New Concession Entitlement Cards

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over), Distance Education Students and Home School Students
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older) □
Boarder Rail Pass.

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at:

<https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>



Dear Families and The Community of Bankstown South Infants School,

My name is Elias Issa. I will be your new Centre Manager of SMOOSH (Before and After School Care). I have been working in Children's Services for over the last ten years and have had many roles within my years of working in the field. I have a Certificate III in Children Services, Certificate IV in Out Of School Hours Care and a Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care.

I am beyond excited to be starting my new journey at Bankstown South SMOOSH and building a connection with the children, families, the school and community. I'm excited to explore, learn and have fun! But also "Becoming, Belonging and Being "as one.

About SMOOSH at Bankstown South Infants School:

Location: SMOOSH is in the school grounds and we are located in the school hall located near the school canteen.

Operating Hours: Before School Care 7:00am to 9:00am (opening from the 16th of November 2020) and After School Care 2:45pm to 6:00pm.

Vacation Care: Operates at Bankstown Public School from 7:00am to 6:00pm – All children from ages 5 to 13 years old are welcome to join our fun filled program ranging from in centre activities, incursions and excursions. Breakfast is supplied. Children will need to bring morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, drink bottle, hat and bag.

SMOOSH Menu: SMOOSH offers a range of food on our delicious menu. We have a breakfast club in the morning from 7:30am to 8:00am, afternoon tea from 3:30pm to 4:00pm and late snack from 5:00pm. Children and family suggestions are implemented into our food menu and our SMOOSH menu is reflected on the "Australian Guide To Healthy Eating". At SMOOSH we also cater to all dietary needs. We have a different menu implemented every two weeks so that children are getting different, nutritious, healthy food.

SMOOSH Program: SMOOSH before and after school care programs are committed to high quality care for each and every child, including those with additional needs. Care is provided in a safe, relaxed environment that nurtures creativity, social skills, life skills and physical activity appropriate for middle childhood. The educational programs take a holistic approach to your child's development, extending their competencies and skills, to enhance their learning and help them progress with confidence. Our programs are also recreation-based. We partner with children and families to plan activities, menus and inclusive experiences that support children's interests and needs. A collaborative learning community is encouraged by promoting opportunities for children to explore, discover and create.

If you have any other questions please don't hesitate to call me on 0431 452 311 (this mobile phone will always be on me) – email me on smoosh_bsis@secc.sydney – or come and say hello at our centre where we can give you a tour. I look forward to be working in your community.

Kind Regards,

Elias Issa – Bankstown South Infants School SMOOSH Centre Manager.

Please see below some awesome pictures of what we do here at SMOOSH.



**Watch our space
in 2021 for more
fun filled
activities.**



Connect with us on:



secc.sydney



South Eastern Community Connect

Term 4 2020 Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Oct 12	Oct 13 Life Education Van	Oct 14 Life Education Van Gymnastics Money Due	Oct 15 Life Education van	Oct 16 Preschool Acceptance Due P&C Zoom 9.30am
2	Oct 19 Book Week	Oct 20 Book Week	Oct 21 Book Week Tony Burke card competition closes	Oct 22 Book Week & Book Week Parade Pallet Play	Oct 23 Book Week
3	Oct 26 Book Fair	Oct 27 Newsletter Home Book Fair	Oct 28 Book Fair	Oct 29	Oct 30 World Teacher Day Kindy Farm Note/Money Due Starr's Planetarium Note Due
4	Nov 2 Stage 1 Planetarium	Nov 3 1 st Kindy Orientation	Nov 4 Kindy Incursion & Preschool & EI	Nov 5	Nov 6
5	Nov 9 Naidoc Week Preschool & EI Farm Visit Stage Public Speaking Finals	Nov 10 2 nd Kindy Orientation	Nov 11	Nov 12 Naidoc week Mufti & Donut Day EI Play Day	Nov 13 Naidoc week Recognition P&C meeting
6	Nov 16 EI Play Day	Nov 17 3 rd Kindy Orientation Newsletter Home	Nov 18 Preschool Orientation EI Play Day	Nov 19 Preschool Orientation	Nov 20 Vision Screening Preschool Orientation
7	Nov 23	Nov 24 4 th Kindy Orientation	Nov 25 Vision Screening Preschool Orientation	Nov 26 Preschool Orientation	Nov 27 Preschool Orientation
8	Nov 30	Dec 1 PNPS Orientation	Dec 2 Preschool Orientation	Dec 3 Preschool Orientation	Dec 4 Preschool Orientation
9	Dec 7	Dec 8 Newsletter home Y 2 Graduation Party @ Play Centre	Dec 9 Presentation Day	Dec 10 P-2 Fun Day	Dec 11 EI Graduation
10	Dec 14 EI Graduation	Dec 15 Celebration Assembly & Y2 Graduation EI Graduation	Dec 16 Last Day for Students Attendance Party Preschool Graduation	Dec 17 Staff Development day	Dec 18 School Closed