

Week 8, Term 4

Friday 6 December 2024

We are so proud of you Chelsea!

Warami (Hello),

Following on from her recent success at the NSW PSSA Athletics Championships, last week Chelsea represented our school and state at the School Sport Australia National Athletics Championships. In my 20 years of teaching, Chelsea is only the second student I have had the pleasure of supporting at a national event, it truly is an amazing achievement.

Chelsea represented us in three events; 100m, 200m and the 4 x 100m relay. She placed 6th in both the 100m and 200m events and 3rd in the 4 x 100m Relay. Finishing in the top 10 across Australia is an amazing achievement. Our school and community are so very proud of you!



Coming Soon at Werrington County PS...

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9	9 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec Recognition Assembly K-6 9.15am	12 Dec	13 Dec
10	16 Dec Year 6 Graduation and Farewell Reports sent home	17 Dec	18 Dec Principal Assembly – 1.45pm Year 6 Arch 2.45pm Last Day for students	19 Dec Staff Development Day Students do not attend school today	20 Dec Staff Development Day Students do not attend school today
Term 1, 2025 1	27 Jan Holidays	28 Jan Holidays	29 Jan Holidays	30 Jan Holidays	31 Jan Staff Development Day Students do not attend school today

Staffing Update

As the end of the year approaches, we have some staff movements heading into 2025...

- Mrs O'Shea is heading off on Maternity Leave before welcoming her first baby in early 2025. We wish her and Mr O'Shea all the best for the safe arrival of Baby O'Shea.
- Ms Willick is leaving us at the end of the year as she pursues a career in data analytics with the Department of Education.
- Mis Di Biasi is leaving us at the end of the year as she looks for work that is closer to home.
- Mrs Fabricato in the office will be heading off on Maternity Leave as her and her husband welcome their third child in February.

We are welcoming the following new staff in 2025...

- Mrs Katrina Cotsford – Assistant Principal
- Ms Kaila Zeeman – Teacher
- Miss Emma Wood – Teacher
- Mrs Nicole Rooney – Teacher

I would also like to congratulate two of our SLSOs who have obtained their teaching approval and will be joining us as teachers next year...

- Miss Kristy Mulford
- Miss Madison Goodwin

2025 Assemblies

In 2025 we will be following the same schedule as 2024 for when assemblies are held, we are hoping this will assist parents and caregivers to attend our assemblies when their children are receiving special awards. Below is the overview of assemblies for 2025...

- K-6 Assembly (2.15pm Wednesday, gates open at 2pm)
 - Merit Awards
 - Superkid Raffle Draw
- K-6 Extra Curricular Assembly (2.15pm Wednesday, gates open at 2pm)
 - All sporting, dance, debating etc awards from the term
 - Parents will receive a letter if your child receives an award at this assembly
- K-6 Principals Award Assembly (2.15pm Wednesday, gates open at 2pm)
 - Ribbons, Banners and Pins for students who have handed in their award book by Week 8
 - Parents will receive a letter if your child receives an award at this assembly
- Presentation Day (Wednesday, Week 8 Term 4, Times TBC)
 - Parents will receive a letter if your child receives an award at this assembly
- Recognition Assembly (Wednesday, Week 9 Term 4, Times TBC)
 - Parents will receive a letter if your child receives an award at this assembly



Week	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2	No Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly
4	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly
6	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly
8	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	K-6 Assembly	Presentation Day
9	K-6 Extra Curricular Assembly	K-6 Extra Curricular Assembly	K-6 Extra Curricular Assembly	Recognition Assembly
10	K-6 Principals Assembly	K-6 Principals Assembly	K-6 Principals Assembly	K-6 Principals Assembly

2025 Student Leadership Team

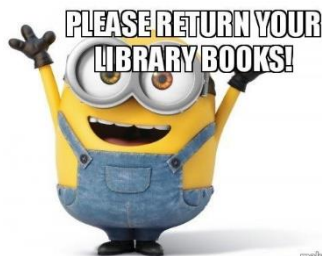
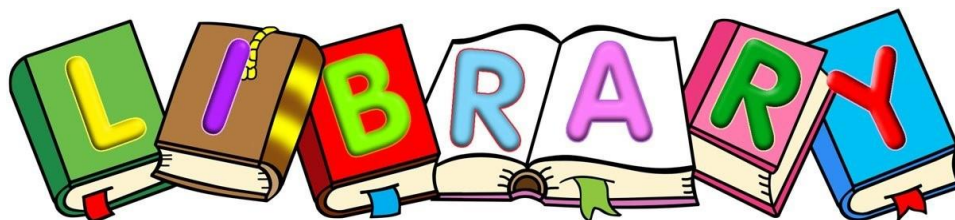
At our 3-6 Presentation Day Assembly this week we inducted our new Student Leadership Team for 2025. Congratulations to our...

Custodian Captain – Dominic
School Captains – Lachlan and Mila-Jade
Vice Captains – John and Harper
Prefects – Temani and Olivia



Yanu (Goodbye)

Mrs Belinda Clarke
Principal



After a wonderfully busy and productive year, the borrowing of library books has finished as we have now commenced our annual stocktake. I would greatly appreciate the return of all library books that are at home, as soon as possible. Thank you to all the students who have already returned their books.

All students that have library loans have been issued with reminder notices.

Please remember that all lost or damaged books need to be paid for.

Once a student has returned all their library books, they will receive a ticket to go into the ice block draw. The first of 5 draws will commence next Monday.

Mrs Baxter
Teacher Librarian
PRC Coordinator
Book Club Coordinator



NSW Department of Education

Applying for my child to attend an opportunity class or selective high school

Why selective education?

Grouping high potential and gifted students together and using special teaching methods supports their:

- academic development
- emotional wellbeing
- friendships and social life.

Students tell us that they enjoy learning more when their classmates have similar abilities and interests.

Is it right for my child?

Here are some signs that your child may benefit from selective education.



learns quickly and easily



goal-driven



asks complex questions



good memory



curious and creative



deeply explores passions

Keep in mind, some children's high potential may be hidden. Being in an opportunity class or selective high school could help.

How can I support my child through the application process?



Talk to your child about the **benefits** and **challenges** of selective education and address their questions and concerns.



Ask your **child's teacher** (or other staff who know them well) whether they think selective education will suit your child.



Apply for any required **reasonable adjustments** for disability or medical conditions.



Encourage your child to use the department's **free resources** to prepare for the test.



Remind your child they only need to do a **small amount** of **preparation** for the placement test, and **don't** need coaching.



Support your child to continue **co-curricular activities**, see friends, eat healthily and sleep well in the lead-up to the test.

The **Equity Placement Model** reserves up to **20% of places** in opportunity classes and selective high schools for high potential and gifted:

- students from low socio-educational advantage backgrounds
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students
- students from rural and remote locations
- students with disability

Learn more: edu.nsw.link/equity

Resources in other languages:
edu.nsw.link/shsoc_languages



Financial support

edu.nsw.link/pubedu

The [Public Education Foundation scholarships](#) offer financial support to help young people at NSW public schools to access opportunities and reach their potential.

Please note there are no fees to apply and sit for the placement test, and there are no extra fees to enrol in a selective high school or opportunity class.

Get ready to apply

Learn more at our [website](#):



Telephone interpreter service

If you need interpreter assistance to speak with your child's class teacher please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. Tell the operator the phone number you want to call and the operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with the conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

education.nsw.gov.au/shs-oc



DID YOU KNOW PENRITH CITY COUNCIL CHILDREN'S SERVICES NOW OFFERS ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES TO THE PENRITH COMMUNITY?

Our Services:

- **Speech Therapy:** Helping children improve communication, pronunciation, feeding and language skills, empowering them to express themselves confidently.
- **Occupational Therapy:** Assisting children in developing fine motor skills, coordination, and independence, so they can thrive in everyday tasks at home and school.

Our experienced, compassionate therapists create individualised plans tailored to meet your child's unique needs, ensuring they reach their full potential in a fun and nurturing environment.

**CHILDREN'S
SERVICES
PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL**

Is your child facing challenges with speech, language, feeding or motor skills? We're excited to announce the launch of Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy services designed to support children's growth and development, right here in Penrith.

Why Choose Us?

- Expert care with a personalised approach
- Convenient, local service in Penrith
- Support for children aged 0-12 years
- Medicare, NDIS Care Packages and Private Health Care patients all welcome

Get Started Today!

Early intervention is key to unlocking your child's abilities.

Scan the QR code below and complete the Expression of Interest



penrith.city/childcare

Teacher Feature

MISS WOOD

Who is your favourite artist?

Sabrina carpenter.

What is your favourite thing to do in your spare time? I like going to the gym and spending time with friends and family.

If you had one subject to teach, what would you choose? Definitely maths and science.

If you won a million dollars what would you do with it?

Save some of it, buy a house and do a bit of shopping as well.

What was your dream job when you were younger?

A fashion designer because it's so creative, but then I decided to teach.



MRS DRUCE

Do you have any pets? I have two budgies called Karie and Jess.

What do you like about working in schools? I really like the community of schools. I also love learning and teaching kids.

What was one of the best moments you experienced as a kid?

Probably spending time with my cousins.

What's your favourite music?

It depends on what I'm doing but I love all music.

What does Christmas mean to you? Christmas is all about being thankful for my family and spoiling them. I also love having a chance to relax.



MRS SCHILD

What year did you start teaching at WCPS?

I started teaching in 2012.

What is your favourite year to teach?

My favourite year to teach is Year 6!

Are you excited for Presentation Day?

Yes, it's really exciting being able to recognise our students' successes.

What is the best advice you would give to our Year 6s going to high school?

Work hard and enjoy yourselves along the way.

Are you going anywhere over the Christmas holidays?

I will spend Christmas holidays with my family down south, hopefully at the beach.



Our Feature Teachers have been interviewed by our Student Leadership Team.

Coming Soon at Werrington County PS...

Term 4, 2024 and Term 1, 2025 Overview

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7	25 Nov Stage 3 Leadership Speeches 11.30am	26 Nov Kindergarten Orientation Visit 4 - Library/Sport	27 Nov	28 Nov	29 Nov Orders due back for cookie fundraiser Special Education Excursion
8	2 Dec	3 Dec High School Orientation - Public Schools	4 Dec Presentation Day Assembly K-2 10.15am 3-6 11.45am	5 Dec	6 Dec Newsletter Day Christmas in the Courtyard 5.30pm Last day to hand in your 10 awards for this term
9	9 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec Recognition Assembly K-6 9.15am	12 Dec	13 Dec
10	16 Dec Year 6 Graduation and Farewell Reports sent home	17 Dec	18 Dec Principal Assembly - 1.45pm Year 6 Arch 2.45pm Last Day for students	19 Dec Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today</i>	20 Dec Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today</i>
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2	3 Feb Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today</i>	4 Feb Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today</i>	5 Feb Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today</i>	6 Feb First Day for all students K-6	7 Feb Newsletter Day
3	10 Feb	11 Feb	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb
4	17 Feb Twilight Swimming Carnival 7- 9pm	18 Feb	19 Feb K-6 Assembly 2.15pm	20 Feb	21 Feb Newsletter Day
5	24 Feb	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb
6	3 Mar	4 Mar	5 Mar Zone Swimming Carnival K-6 Assembly 2.15pm	6 Mar	7 Mar Newsletter Day



Our School Values and Expectations

We are **Curious, Collaborative**
and **Compassionate**

Step 5 Purple Slip



Step 4 Red Slip

Principal

Step 3 Orange Slip



AP Reflection Time

Step 2 Yellow Slip



Step 1 Name on Chart



Verbal reminder



Back on track and Chill Zone

You can turn this around
😊

Think it through

Take some deep
breaths

Move on from the
mistake

Time to have a chat

- Talking when someone else is talking
- Using the furniture in the wrong way
- Using equipment in the wrong way
- Not sitting on the floor correctly
- Distracting yourself or others
- Leaving rubbish on the floor

Implementation of Berry Street/Bill Rogers Strategies to assist in turning behaviour around.
If behaviour is repeated student moves to yellow step

Take 5 Completed

- Throwing objects in the classroom
- Back chat
- Not following instructions
- Not completing your work

If behaviour is repeated student moves to orange step

AP Reflection Time

- Not following instructions after being asked multiple times
- Not keeping your hands and feet to yourself
- Hurting others on purpose
- Using rude or inappropriate language when speaking to someone
- Wrong place at the wrong time multiple times, on purpose

If behaviour is repeated student moves to red step

- Drawing on school or another person's property
- Hitting, punching or kicking because you want to hurt someone
- Stealing
- Repeatedly being disrespectful or disruptive
- Repeatedly not keeping your hands to yourself
- Bullying
- Cyber bullying
- Racist language
- Repeatedly using rude words
- Repeatedly in the wrong place at the wrong time

If behaviour continues student moves to purple step.

- Continually doing the wrong thing
- Brought a weapon to school
- Being physically violent and attempting to harm others



Tuning in to Kids

6 week parenting program that helps you support your child to understand and regulate their emotions.

Term 1
2025
ONLINE

This program helps parents and carers of children 12 and under to "tune in" and improve communication and connection with their kids.

Discover practical tools that help you build emotional intelligence in your child and support you to manage challenging behaviour.

The program will cover:

- Foundations of emotion coaching
- Regulating and working through emotions
- Identifying and validating emotions
- How to develop emotional intelligence
- Developing resilience and facing challenges

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: 20th February 2025

Register now via our secure online portal

SCAN HERE



We acknowledge and respect the Traditional knowledge holders and custodians of the land on which we work, the Darug and Gundungurra people.



Program details

Where: Online via ZOOM

When: Wednesdays
26th Feb - 3rd April
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Cost: FREE for residents of Penrith & Blue Mtns LGA

For more information or to register via our website:

Phone: 4720 6500

Email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

Web: www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au



Parenting Programs TERM 1, 2025

Courses provided FREE to residents of Penrith & Blue Mtns LGAs.
Phone 4720 6500 or email groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

FREE

Program	Date/Time	Location	Register
Circle of Security <small>Eight week program that helps parents form secure relationships and stronger bonds with their children.</small>	Every Wednesday 19th Feb - 9th April 10:00am - 11:30am <small>** Childcare available ** Must register</small>	Blaxland Uniting Church Hall • 72 Old Bathurst Rd BLAXLAND	
Tuning in to Kids <small>Six week program that teaches parents to help children understand and regulate their emotions.</small>	Every Wednesday 26th Feb - 3rd April 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Online via ZOOM	
123 Magic & Emotion Coaching <small>4 week parenting program that equips you with the skills to manage children's challenging behaviours.</small>	Every Monday 24th Feb - 17th Mar 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Online via ZOOM	
Anxiety Coach <small>4 week parenting program that helps reduce anxiety and build resilience in your children.</small>	Every Tuesday 4th Mar - 25th Mar 6:00pm - 7:30pm	Nepean Christian School (Puggles Preschool) 836 Mulgoa Road MULGOA	

Register online at www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au



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123 Magic & Emotion Coaching

4 week parenting program that equips you with the skills to manage children's challenging behaviours.



Term 1
2025

ONLINE

123 Magic & Emotion Coaching is a FREE 4 week parenting program that teaches carers positive parenting skills that produce quick results.

Discover practical tools and learn strategies that help your children aged 2-12 identify and manage the emotions that are driving their behaviour.

You'll learn emotion coaching and cognitive strategies that you can teach to your children.

The program will cover:

- How to manage challenging behaviours
- How to use positive parenting skills
- Helping children manage emotional responses
- Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE: 20th February 2025

Register now via our
secure online portal

SCAN HERE



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Program details

Where: Online via ZOOM

When: Mondays
24th Feb - 17th March
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Cost: FREE for residents of
Penrith & Blue Mtns LGA

**For more information or to
register via our website:**

Phone: 4720 6500

Email: groups@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

Web: www.gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

KARATE KIDS



HOLIDAY PROGRAM

BEGINNER KARATE PROGRAM

12pm to 12:45pm TUESDAY 14 JANUARY '25
12pm to 12:45pm SATURDAY 18 JANUARY '25
12pm to 12:45pm TUESDAY 21 JANUARY '25
4pm to 4:45pm SATURDAY 25 JANUARY '25
Ages 3-4 can attend our 'yoji' classes for these 2 weeks

PENRITH PRIME DOJO, 1B, Henry Lawson Centre, 61-79 Henry Street, Penrith

ONLY \$35: Includes all 4 sessions and a free training t-shirt

1 adult per family can participate for free when registering children

(PLEASE BRING A WATER BOTTLE)



TO BOOK YOUR PLACE CALL OR TEXT RACHEL:

0439 473 997

OR SCAN THE QR

Registrations close 13 January

E: rlane@gkrkarate.com

