



BORONIA PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Email: boroniapk-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.boroniapk-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 Week 2

1 February 2022

WEEK'S EVENTS

Tue 1 Feb	Years 1-6 commence Term 1
Wed 2 Feb	Kindergarten commence Term 1
Wed 2-Fri 4 Feb	PSSA summer sport trials

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to a new school year at Boronia Park Public School. It is great to be back at school and I was delighted to see all the students faces this morning, albeit a little taller than at the end of last year! Following two jam packed staff development days last Friday, and again yesterday, planning is well underway with a strong emphasis on student improvement in literacy and numeracy.

I look forward to welcoming 61 new Kindergarten students tomorrow. We also had 13 new students from Years 1-6 start today. This means an additional 10 new families have joined our Boronia Park PS community. Welcome!

Students will remain in their 2021 classes for this week. I understand how challenging this is for everyone. This year, we have some uncertainty regarding class structures until numbers can be confirmed. I am hopeful that by the end of this week students will be placed in their 2022 classes.

As we begin the new year, there are a few important messages to get out. Firstly, as was noted at the end of last year, the canteen will be **closed** for the time being as renovations continue.

Our staggered end to the day **will** continue.

Pick up	Earl Street	Pittwater Road – top gate	Pittwater Road – BBCC
3:00	A-C	D-G	H-K
3:10	L-N	O-R	S-Z
3:20	DOZO, after care (BPCC, Inspire), walking or riding home.		

Students being collecting at DOZO, walking home, riding bikes/scooters home, or those attending BPCC/Inspire, will not be released by their child's teacher until 3:20pm. DOZO will resume, beginning this afternoon.

Accompanying this newsletter are two further notes. The first note comprehensively covers how the school will be managed moving forward, in a COVID safe manner. If you have any further questions, please contact the school. The second note is from our Premier, Mr. Dominic Perrottet, addressed to all parents and carers.

I am looking forward to a busy and productive year. I understand that the year has not started as smooth as what we would have liked, however I am confident, by keeping student needs central to every decision we make will ensure that 2022 is a successful year.

Mrs Ward
Principal

OFFICE REPORT

STUDENT MEDICATION

Reminder that all prescription medication is to be provided to the school office in a Webster-pak, or a similar blister pack provided by a pharmacy. Webster-paks are multi dose systems prepared by pharmacists to reduce the possibility of error and comply with medication management regulations.

Medication must be brought to the school office by a parent/caregiver.

The Webster-pak must be clearly labelled with:

- The prescription label
- The student's name
- The name and dose of the medication
- The time of administration (on bell time)

Medication will only be administered on a school bell. This is to ensure that all medication is being taken consistently at the same time every day and to minimise disruption during class time. The bell times are 9:20am, 11:00am, 11:25am, 1:00pm and 1:50pm.

Any changes in medication or prescriptions must be presented to the school with a letter from the doctor and accompanied by a new Webster-pak that reflects the changes.

These procedures are in place as a direct measure to ensure the correct dose is being administered every time to the correct student.

If your child no longer has a medical condition requiring support at school, please let the school office know as soon as possible by emailing:
boroniapk-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

CREATIVE ARTS

Welcome back to BPPS for 2022! Our Creative and Performing Arts program is all set to go and we are looking forward to welcoming new and returning students to our ensembles.

JOINING AN ENSEMBLE

Information and permission notes will be sent out over the next fortnight for Junior Choir (years 3&4) and Senior Choir (years 5&6), Recorder Groups (year 2 and up with a year 1 group opening up in the second half of the year), Boys Dance Crew (3-6), and T-Crew (years 1-2).

TRAINING BAND

If your child is in years 3 or 4 and you have not had a chance to enrol them in the Training Band, please contact Mrs Nylund ASAP. We have places available for low brass (trombone/euphonium/baritone), trumpet, clarinet and saxophone and strongly encourage students to get involved learning an instrument and being part of the ensemble. There are so many benefits to learning to play an instrument in an ensemble and learning to read music.

WHICH BAND IS MY CHILD IN?

Tutors should have informed students which band their child is in this year. Please contact Mrs Nylund if you are unsure. Students are allocated the band which is the best fit for them based on the most comfortable level of playing for them.

ENSEMBLES SCHEDULE

- Instrument lessons with tutors commence next week (Week 3 commencing 7 Feb)
- **String Ensemble** commences Week 3, Monday 7 February, 8:15am with Lily Innes
- **Concert Band** commences Week 3, Tuesday 8 February, 7.45am with Nate Porter
- **Performance Band** commences Week 3 Wednesday 9 February, 7:30am with Mike Rix
- **Boys Dance Crew** (years 3-6) commences Week 4 Thursday 17 Feb at lunchtime in the hall with Tanya Carne. Numbers are limited.
- **Boys T-Crew** (years 1 & 2) commences Week 4 Friday 18 February (number limit to apply)
- **Training Band** commences Week 5 Monday 21 February, 7:45am in the school hall with Nate Porter
- **Recorder Groups** commence Week 5 Wednesday 23 February, 8:15 & 7:45am in the KM classroom with Jackie Brighton
- **Senior Choir** commences Week 6 Monday 28 February, 8:15am in the library with Mrs Nylund
- **Junior Choir** commences Week 6 Thursday 3 March, 8:15am in the hall with Mrs Nylund
- **Drama Group** - auditions to be held Wednesday 2 March at lunchtime in the hall with Mrs Nylund. Students in years 4,5&6 can audition. 20 students are accepted. Rehearsals are held on Wednesday afternoons 3:30-4:30pm in the 5S classroom. Students who have previously been in the ensemble must attend the auditions.
- **Rock Band** commences Week 6 Wednesday 2 March, 3:30pm in the hall with Mike Rix.
- **Band Instrument Sectional Workshops - Saturday 19 March from 2pm.** Students from training, concert and performance bands will attend a 1 hr intensive group

tutorial at school designed to develop ensemble playing skills. Further details will be confirmed.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Nylund.

Mrs Nylund

Creative/Performing Arts Coordinator

Jenny Nylund - lindsayandjenny@hotmail.com

Mob: 0410 377 250

DEBATING

Year 5 and 6 students interested in being part of our Debating Club will be meeting Tuesday mornings from 8:30am in the library, beginning week 3 (Tuesday 8 February). Morning meetings will take place in term 1 only, and lunchtimes in terms 2 and 3. Please return the Expression of Interest note sent home this week to Mrs Hunt. We encourage all students interested to give it a try.

Mrs Hunt, Mrs Mugglestone, Miss Kilmore

KINDERGARTEN

Welcome to Kindergarten at Boronia Park Public School!

First day of Kindergarten, a maximum of 2 parents per child can drop their child at the Pittwater Road gate. If parents need to settle their child, they may come briefly on site.

Please note the following staggered start time for the first day only:

9:20am	Last name A-G
9:30am	Last name H-N
9:40am	Last name O-Z

The Kindergarten teachers are really looking forward to getting to know all the students and helping them settle into school-life, learn and grow. A letter will come home tomorrow with information about Best Start.

A reminder that classes will form at the end of the week. A letter will come home on Friday letting you know your child's class teacher.

Introducing the 2021 kindergarten team

KM – Mrs Fiona Mugglestone

KS – Miss Tara Smith

KT – Mrs Angie Taylor (Kindergarten Assistant Principal)

Upcoming dates for Kindergarten Parents

- Monday 14 February - Meet the teacher
- Tuesday 8 March 6:30-7:00pm
Literacy parent information evening
- Tuesday 15 March 6:30-7:00pm
Numeracy parent information evening

We look forward to a wonderful partnership with you throughout 2022!

Kindergarten Teachers

SPORT

SUMMER AND WINTER PSSA TRIALS

PSSA Trials for all sports will commence today and continue throughout the week, weather permitting.

Summer trials - Cricket, Softball, T-ball and Newcombe Ball.

Tuesday 1 February and Wednesday 2 February

Winter trials - AFL, netball, soccer and Tiger Tag
Thursday 3 February and Friday 4 February.

Students can bring any equipment they would like to use for the trials and will be their own responsibility. Equipment will be provided by the school and no new equipment needs to be purchased.

Please ensure to wear a hat, apply sunscreen and a water bottle.

Mr Smyth and Mrs O'Brien

P&C

THANK YOU FROM ProjectKindness!

ProjectKindness would like to extend our deep gratitude to the Boronia Park Public School community.

Your generous contributions of many very good, and in some cases brand new, school and other shoes have assisted Caseworkers and the following organisations as they begin planning their support for children in 2022:

- Barnardos
- Sydney Children's Hospital Network
- Key Assets
- Vinnies

Caseworkers have stated what a wonderful, invaluable project this is. One which lessens the financial burden of families who are our most vulnerable and living on the poverty line.

The Boronia Park Public School P&C Team

CANTEEN



The canteen is closed for at least another 4 weeks. No orders are to be placed online. Parents will be advised as soon as it is up and running. We apologise if this may cause any inconvenience.

UNIFORM SHOP

Orders for uniforms will continue online via Flexischools. The Uniform Shop will fill orders on a Monday and Friday and parents will be contacted to organise collection from the school office.

COVID

We will start 2022 with a layered approach to COVID-smart measures that have been developed in partnership with NSW Health to help to minimise transmissions at school. The health and wellbeing of our students and staff remain our priority, and these measures are designed to help to keep our school open and our students learning in the classroom. These key measures include:

- Rapid antigen test (RAT) kits have been provided to all students to help monitor your child's health and minimise transmission of COVID-19 across our school.
- Wearing of surgical masks indoors is required for all staff and strongly recommended for all primary students. Masks will be provided by the school if required.
- Only fully vaccinated visitors essential to delivering and supporting learning or wellbeing can come on a school site.
- Cohorting practices will be adopted as appropriate.
- Our staggered pick-ups will continue.
- We will continue to use good hygiene, enhanced cleaning, good air flow and ventilation in learning spaces, as well as physical distancing practices.

While this is not going to be a normal start to the school year, we know that being together in the classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow. Your child's relationship with their teacher is important, but as we manage potential disruptions to staffing due to COVID-19, they may get to meet more teachers than usual.

Rapid antigen testing

Rapid antigen test (RAT) kits were distributed last Friday, and again yesterday, for all students and staff at the start of Term 1. If you were unable to attend the school to collect them, please contact the school and we will try to organise alternate arrangements.

The use of RAT kits is an important step to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. They are a quick and easy screening tool to help detect COVID-19. It is a simple process of placing a nose or throat swab in a chemical solution, which is put onto a scanning device. Results can be ready within 15 minutes. Use of RAT kits is highly recommended but not mandatory.

Instructions are included in the kits detailing how to use the tests, check the results and dispose of the tests safely. You can also download the instructions through the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) External link website. The user guides will also contain a contact number for the suppliers if you need additional support.

Additional information

School staff **will not** be administering the rapid antigen tests to students.

RAT kits should be completed at home in the morning before attending school. The Department is currently recommending completing the tests every **Monday** and **Wednesday** morning.

If a student or staff member receives a positive RAT result, they need to:

- record the positive RAT result through the Service NSW website link or Service NSW app link
- notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR result as soon as possible
- follow NSW Health advice to isolate for 7 days.

It is recommended that staff and students that return to school after recovering from COVID-19 do not participate in rapid antigen test surveillance for 28 days (four weeks after recovery) following release from self-isolation. This is due to NSW Health advice that people who have recovered from COVID-19 have a low risk of contracting it again in the following 28 days. After 28 days (from week five after recovery) staff and students may resume participation in RAT surveillance.

Unwell at school

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.

If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.

If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative and they are displaying no symptoms OR they are diagnosed as another condition such as hayfever, the student or staff member can return to school.

In NSW, positive COVID-19 cases are provided a Medical Clearance Notice after 7 days and allowed to leave self-isolation as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms.

What happens when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

Under the new close contact rules, schools are no longer included in contact tracing. I will inform the school community when there is a positive case in our school and advise families on public health advice, including monitoring for symptoms.

Use of surgical masks

All school staff will be required to wear masks indoors.

No vented or cloth masks should be worn. If required surgical masks will be available at schools.

Primary school students are strongly recommended to wear well-fitted masks indoors.

Masks are also strongly encouraged in outdoor settings where you cannot physically distance. Your child can remove their mask when eating, exercising or playing a musical instrument.

Visitors on school sites and vaccinations

No parents, carers or visitors will be allowed on school site until further notice with the following exceptions:

- Volunteers or staff operating uniform shops and canteens must be fully vaccinated.
- Visitors supporting school operations and curriculum delivery must be fully vaccinated.
- Allied health partners for the wellbeing of students must be fully vaccinated.

All staff on school sites are required to be fully vaccinated, including having their booster when eligible.

We strongly encourage our students and their families to consider vaccination when eligible.

Ventilation

We will continue to follow NSW Health ventilation guidelines that natural ventilation is the most effective measure so we will maximise fresh air flow in learning spaces through opening doors and windows.

This approach is strongly supported by expert advice. Where natural ventilation is not sufficient, mechanical ventilation and/or air purification will be used and we will continue to use outdoor settings where possible.

Air purifiers have been provided to schools as a supplementary measure to support common areas in schools and can be deployed at the principal's discretion. These purifiers could be located in areas where high levels of student and staff mixing occurs, such as staffrooms, internal canteens, student centres and music rooms.

Cleaning

We continue to have enhanced cleaning focusing on high-touch and high-traffic areas.

Mrs Ward
Principal



Dominic Perrottet MP
Premier of New South Wales



Dear parents,

When school goes back, there is usually a collective sigh of relief from parents that can be heard around the state, along with the customary first day nerves, tears and cheers for our newest, youngest starters.

But heading into the third year of a global pandemic makes life a bit different, and I know every parent has concerns about what 2022 holds for kids in school.

After so much disruption and home learning last year, the Government understands just how important it is to give every student the opportunity to get back into the classroom, and to do it safely.

That is why everyone in our state's education system has been working in overdrive to get our schools ready to welcome students back safely on day one. I'm immensely grateful to our teachers and administrative staff, and especially our Principals and Deputy Principals, for the amazing job they have done to get us here.

Safety in schools is our top priority, and we are taking every step necessary to prove a safe learning environment, including free rapid tests for every student, maximised natural and mechanical ventilation, sensible mask requirements, increased cleaning and other measures.

The past few years have taught us to expect bumps in the road ahead, but even though the coming months may be challenging, the Government knows the positive difference every day of school education can make for our kids, both now and into the future.

So I am determined to make this year as seamless as possible for you, your families and your kids, and I hope getting back to school will ease some of the pressure for you too.

Thank you again for your efforts over the past two years. We have come a long way, and I have no doubt that if we keep working together, we will rise to whatever challenges may lie ahead.

I will make sure to keep you updated, and your schools and the Department of Education will of course keep you informed every day too.

All of us are united in our determination to give our kids the very best opportunity to get the best education possible, while staying safe, healthy and happy.

Wishing you and your families a fantastic start to the 2022 school year.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Perrottet MP
Premier