



Term 4, Week 3

27 October 2020

COMING EVENTS

28 October	Buffalo Creek – Year 1
28 October	P&C Meeting, via Zoom
29 October	Buffalo Creek – Year 2
30 October – 6 November	K-2 Virtual Book Week Performance
3 November	Kindergarten 2021 Orientation
5 November	K-6 Book Week Dress Up

Value Awards Week 1 & 2

K/1K – Valor A/Liam C	KE – Boston B/P.K M	KG – Evie B/Iris Z	KJ – Theo T/Ariana R
1J –Charlize W/Micheal W	1S – John K/Harrison M	1W – Finn K	2A – Joseph MS/Jake N
2B – Ella L/Bianca C	2F – Alec Z/Freya B	2G – Mian F/Rafaela M	3/4G – Sophia C/Holly W/Lachlan M
3H – Nicholas D/Jack A	3P – Cameron T/Lillian O/Alexander A/Andie S	4FE –Parisha R/Arabel K/Daniel C/Aneesah F	
5A – Freya D	5M – May L/Josie B/Caitlyn L/Lucas M	6G – Nina T/Macro H/Ryan M/Trinity B	6R – Hine R/Max S
6S – Remy S/Ava S/Gloria C/Dominic S			

World Teachers' Day – This Friday 30 October Celebrating quality teaching and inspirational teachers

This Friday NSW will celebrate World Teachers' Day.

World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to celebrate the 160,000+ hardworking and dedicated primary, secondary and early childhood teachers in NSW.



2020 has been a year like no other with teachers having to adjust their teaching practices in response to the outbreak of COVID-19. There are lots of ways our community can show

appreciation and support to your child's class teacher. Suggestions include writing a message of acknowledgement or thanks, students creating handmade cards, small gifts such as chocolates, hand-picked flowers from the garden or fresh fruit.

The teachers will celebrate by enjoying a BBQ breakfast on the day. If you would like to shout a coffee for a teacher for the morning, please send \$3 in an envelope labelled with 'world teachers' day'. We will place a bulk order on the day. Thank you to those who have contributed, your support and gratitude is appreciated.

Tea Towel Fundraiser - \$15

The P&C are excited to announce the GPS 2020 fundraiser: a Commemorative Tea Towel. Featuring every student and teacher's very own self portrait. These large, high quality tea towels are made with 100% ethically grown natural cotton. A long lasting keepsake for family and friends, and delivered in time for Christmas. Orders close November 6. Order yours today via the Qkr! App <https://qkr.mastercard.com/store>.



The graphic features a dark blue background on the left and a yellow background on the right, separated by a curved line. At the top left is a white line-art icon of a folded towel, and at the top right is a white line-art icon of a pencil. A teal circle is positioned in the center where the two background colors meet. The main title 'GPS 2020 Fundraiser' is written in large, bold, white sans-serif font across the middle. Below the title, on the left, is a photograph of four children holding up their completed tea towels. The towels are white with colorful text and drawings. One towel clearly shows the names 'Bylbo', 'Woolden', 'Spencer', 'Woodrow', 'Alexander', 'Flinders', and 'Wordsworth'. To the right of the photo, there is text in white and yellow. The text reads: 'The P&C are excited to announce the GPS 2020 School Fundraiser: A Commemorative Tea Towel Featuring every student and teacher's very own self portrait! These large, high quality tea towels are made with 100% ethically grown natural cotton. A long lasting keepsake for your family and friends.' At the bottom, it says 'Orders Close November 6th' in yellow, followed by 'Order yours today via the Qkr! App' in white, and the URL 'https://qkr.mastercard.com/store' in white. A teal circle is also located at the bottom left of the graphic.

GPS 2020 Fundraiser

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Book Week – Celebration Next Week

The official CBA book week celebration was last week with the theme 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. As our K-2 students will be participating in a virtual excursion on Friday October 30, we will celebrate book week in Week 3 with a K-6 dress up day. Students are encouraged to dress as their favourite book character on Thursday 5 November. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no parade.



Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle with them each day, labelled with your child's name. The water filling station is available to refill bottles, however the bubblers are still not available for student use.

Students Unwell

In accordance with advice from [NSW Health](#), parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. We have also had a number of children attending school with stomach bugs, please keep them at home for at least 24hrs when they have been unwell.

If your child has borrowed any clothes from the school office, please return these clothes to the school.

Colgate Community Garden Challenge

Congratulations to our school community who has won a community garden set made of recycled materials as part of the Colgate Community Garden Challenge. Our school is one of only 7 schools to take out the biggest prize!

Thanks to your incredible recycling efforts, we have diverted over 80,000 pieces of oral care waste from landfill during the competition alone!

This garden set includes 1 garden bed, 1 bench with planter boxes, 1 picnic table, and a \$200 Bunnings Warehouse gift card. These will be delivered early next year and will be a wonderful addition to the kitchen garden which is currently being planned.

Thank you to Inbal Luft for coordinating this initiative on behalf of our parent community.

Attendance and Absences

Parents of children from Kindergarten to Year 12 must ensure their children attend school every day. On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral.

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within the 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record.

Students should also arrive at school on time each day to avoid missing learning time.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters



When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

-  Learn
-  Make friends
-  Build skills through fun

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



Changes to Staff Development Days as of 2021

The following amendments to School Development Days (SDDs) will take effect from the beginning of the 2021 school year. The amendments will impact the number of SDDs occurring in Terms 1 and 4, while SDDs occurring in Terms 2 and 3 will remain the same.

Commencing at the start of 2021, the changes include:

- an increase from one to two SDDs at the commencement of Term 1
- a decrease from two to one SDDs at the end of Term 4.

The School Development Days are scheduled for the following dates:

- 27 and 28 January, students return 29 January 2021
- 19 April, students return 20 April 2021

- 12 July, students return 13 July
- 17 December, students finish 16 December 2021

Early Arrivals to School

Parents are reminded that morning supervision does not begin until 8:40am. Students should not be in attendance prior to this unless attending GOOSH or band. Any student who arrives before 8:40am must go to the office as a matter of safety, and parents will be notified. Parents should arrange alternate childcare if child is arriving at school early on a regular basis. Kids Capers (GOOSH) have availability and can be contacted on 9817 3977 or 0481 436 746.

P&C Meeting & New Executive

A reminder that the next P&C meeting is taking place via Zoom tomorrow, Wednesday 28 October. New members are welcome and encouraged. The agenda includes a focus on succession planning as there are currently vacant positions, including the position of President.

Please email Alice Beer alicebeer@hotmail.com for zoom details.

Strategic Improvement Plan

School improvement is at the heart of what we do each and every day, underpinned by a strong moral purpose and a shared commitment to ensuring growth and achievement for all students.

This year concludes our current School Plan 2018 - 2020 and our school has already started the process for our new school planning cycle to create our 2021 - 2024 Strategic Improvement Plan.

The leadership team and all staff have been involved in developing our situational analysis where we, as a school community, evaluate 'where we are now?' in order to identify 'where we want to be?' and 'how good could we be'. We are currently undertaking an authentic assessment of current programs and practices in our school. We will use this information to inform our improvement journey in the areas of learning, teaching and leading which are the three domains of the School Excellence Framework.

Consultation with the community in relation to our new Strategic Improvement Plan will occur this term. Current evidence and research show a strong link between parental engagement and a student's wellbeing and learning. More information about this process will be communicated in the coming weeks.

Inclusive Education Statement for Students with Disability

Last term, the Department of Education released an updated inclusive education statement to support the Disability Strategy 2019. The statement sets out the principles of inclusive practice to guide how we continue improving practice in our schools.

- Student agency and self-determination
- Parent and carer inclusion
- Social and cultural inclusion
- Curriculum inclusion
- Workforce capability for inclusion
- System inclusion

AS a school we will be unpacking the resources provided to reflect on, and improve our current practices and processes as we move into the next planning phase. The full statement and supporting resources can be viewed at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/disability-strategy-resources/inclusive-education>

Staff Professional Development – SISA Time

The recent focus areas have been ‘use of data to inform practice’ and assessment.

Below are extracts directly for CESE’s publication

<https://www.cese.nsw.gov.au/publications-filter/what-works-best-2020-update>

Use of data to inform practice

Teachers use data to check and understand where their students are in their learning and to plan what to do next. Effective analysis of student data helps teachers identify areas where students’ learning needs may require additional attention and development.

Key points

- Effective analysis of student data helps teachers identify areas in which students’ learning needs may require additional attention and development.
- Data can also help teachers see which students may be struggling to engage with particular learning areas, and understand which students respond better to different teaching approaches in their classroom.
- Teachers need access to tools, skills and training to help them interpret and use data effectively.
- Teachers should analyse their own impact and use this knowledge to change what does not work and keep what does work.

Assessment

High quality student assessment helps us know that learning is taking place. Assessment is most effective when it is an integral part of teaching and learning programs.

Key points

- The primary role of assessment is to establish where individuals are in their learning so that teaching can be differentiated and further learning progress can be monitored over time.
- Assessment is most effective when it is an integral part of teaching and learning programs.
- Accurate conclusions about student learning are reliant on rigorously-constructed assessment tasks, teacher collaboration and the use of marking rubrics.

Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2022

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2022, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

- Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>
- The application website opens at that link on **13 October 2020 and closes on 16 November 2020**. You must apply before the closing date. There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Team for assistance.
- You must submit only ONE application for each student.



We are still taking enrolments for Term 4. If you would like your child to learn an instrument this term please contact us at info@bennelongmusic.com.au or check out our website at www.bennelongmusic.com.au for more information on what we offer.



Healthy Lunch Box website

A one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about packing a healthy lunch box.



Need help packing a lunch box?

Check out our new [online presentation](#) that will show you how easy it can be to pack a healthy lunch box that your kids will love to eat!

For recipes, tips and more visit:

healthylunchbox.com.au



Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box