



Busby Public School

Together we are a community of empowered learners

Term 1 Week 11

Dates to Remember

Friday 8th April
Wednesday 27th April
Thursday 28th April
Thursday 5th May
10th - 20th May

Mon - Thurs
Fridays

Last day of Term 1
Term 2 begins - Students return to school
Anzac Day Commemorative Ceremony
K-6 Assembly - parents welcome
NAPLAN Year 3 & 5

Breakfast Club
GOT Game

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we approach the end of our first term, I wanted to thank our school community for navigating another complex term that has impacted us all significantly. Many students and their families, along with our staff, have been subjected to positive cases of COVID-19 or have had to isolate due to household contacts and we continue to see this trend as we approach the holiday period.

Here at school, it has become increasingly more difficult to find teacher replacements each day. We continue to exercise our creativity and resources to ensure classes are covered. Despite all these challenges, I am seeing happy children engaging in quality teaching and learning in every classroom across the school. I have been thrilled with the positive feedback from both families and staff following feedback surveys.

Extended Leave Applications

If travel during the school term is necessary, an 'Application for Extended Leave' needs to be completed and then approved by the principal. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and, therefore, contribute to your child's total absences for the year. Application for Extended Leave forms are required when a student will be absent from school for more than three (3) days.

To apply for leave, you can refer to the School Attendance Policy and the Student Attendance in Government Schools Procedures document for more information.

You can now find the Application for Extended Leave form on our school website. Please be aware this is not an e-form. Follow the steps below;

- Print and complete the leave form
- Scan and email the form to the school, including return transport tickets and an itinerary
- Principal will review the application and contact the family where applicable

*Please note, in some cases a meeting will be required

Extended Leave Form

https://busby-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/b/busby-p/notes/general-notes/Application_for_extended_leave2022.pdf

NAPLAN

This year, students in Year 3 and 5 will participate in NAPLAN between May 9-20. All students at Busby will complete this assessment online in 2022. As children progress through their school years, it is very important that checks are made along the way to see how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and mathematics – skills that will set them upon the path to success as adults.

NAPLAN is a point-in-time assessment that allows parents to see how their child is progressing in literacy and numeracy against the national standard and compared with their peers throughout Australia. At the classroom level, NAPLAN provides additional information to support teachers' professional judgement about student progress.

ACARA encourages students to participate in NAPLAN tests based on their needs. Adjustments are available in NAPLAN tests for students with disability to support students' access to the tests. Some students with significant intellectual disability and/or students with significant coexisting conditions, which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests, may be exempted from sitting the tests.

Parents of students should meet with their child's teacher and discuss any adjustments that may be suitable for their child this term. No late applications can be considered by NESA. Adjustments should reflect similar support and assistance provided in the classroom for assessment activities.

As this is the last newsletter for this term, I would like to thank the staff for their extraordinary work and care of your children in difficult circumstances. Thank you to our wonderful students who brighten our days. I wish you all a very happy and safe Easter and holiday break. Our students return to school on Wednesday 27 April.

Lisa Ritherdon

FROM THE DEPUTY

Snake Tails Incurion

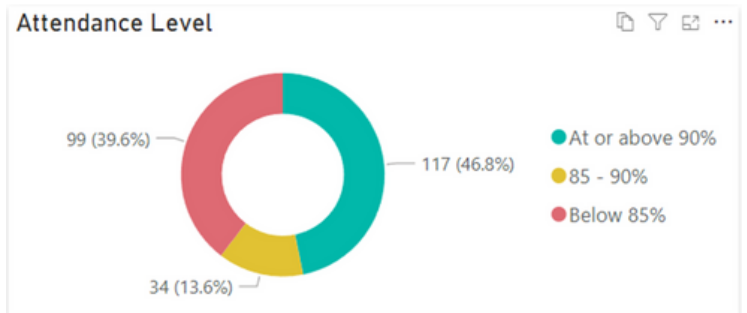
Last Wednesday, Busby students had the opportunity to attend Snake Tails. This incurion was the first event of this kind since the start of the COVID pandemic in 2020. As you can imagine, the students were very excited to attend this special event.

The presenter, Bob, shared his extensive knowledge about reptiles and even brought some special guests to visit the school. The students I spoke to were eager to share the information they learned and they even got to touch some of the reptiles that Bob brought with him. Our teachers used this experience as a prompt for writing, and I was amazed by the writing that was shared with me. It was fantastic to see so many of the Busby students excited about their experience.



Attendance

Student attendance continues to be a focus this term. As of Monday 4 April, our school attendance rate is at 86.6% and remains higher than the state attendance rate. Currently the number of students who are at or above 90% attendance is 46.8% and this is higher than the schools in our local area. The graph below shows the breakdown of the attendance levels of the students in our school.



In school days, students in the green section (at or above 90%) have only had 1 – 2 days absent this term. Students in the yellow section (85 – 90%) have been absent 3 – 5 days this term. Students in the red section (below 85%) have been absent 6 or more days this term.

Now that the borders are open, we understand that some of our families may be planning trips to visit family members interstate or overseas during the school term. If this is something that you are planning, it is important that you complete an 'Application for Extended Leave'. This can be collected from the school office and should be returned for the Principal to approve. If you have any questions about school attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school and speak to the assistant principal looking after your child's grade.

Dannielle Chew

Share Our Space

We're open every day during the school holidays!

During the upcoming school holidays our school gates will be open to everyone to give them access to recreational areas, playgrounds and sports courts.

Our school is your school so whatever it is that you decide to do we hope you enjoy sharing the space.

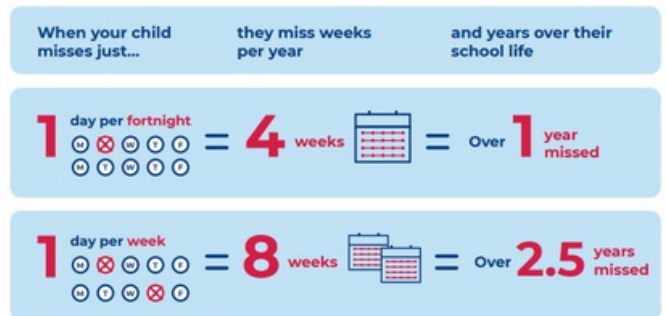
We're open from Saturday 9 April to Monday 25 April from 8am to 5pm every day during the school holidays, including public holidays. Please visit edu.nsw.link/ShareOurSpace to find out which one of our gates will be open before you visit.

We're also keen to know what you think about using our school during the holidays through our online feedback form. Please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/0dYKCC7PhN>



Days missed = years lost

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



Term 1 Updates

Orange Support Unit

Students in Orange have had a fun end of Term 1 with lots of learning.

In English, students have been reading books and learning to sound out new words. They have also been working hard to improve their handwriting

In Mathematics, students have learned the different ways of writing numbers and subitising. They are currently working on differentiating between left and right, and before and after.

In Science, students in Orange have been learning about living things and their need for energy to grow. They have also been studying about the different sources of energy: sunlight and food. They are waiting eagerly to see their seeds sprout.

ES1 & Stage 1

We have reached the end of Term 1, already! Students in K – 2 have had a busy term of learning about letters and sounds in order to read and write at their level of understanding. We have also had a focus on reading more and varied books to students to deepen their knowledge of texts by gaining an understanding of word meanings and therefore more understanding on the theme of the book.

Each class has been participating in daily number talks, where students learn how to show a number in many ways. It has been so pleasing to see students enthusiastically participate, displaying their knowledge of number sense. To see some of the wonderful work being done in our classrooms, please visit our class pages on the Busby Public School website.

On behalf of the K – 2 team, I would like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday.

Happy Easter!

Mrs Brasier
K – 2 Assistant Principal



Stage 2

Stage 2 has had a great start to the year. During Term 1 we have been focusing on character descriptions. During reading, we have learned to interpret a character's actions to determine what the character is feeling and what type of personality they have. This has helped us write character descriptions of our own using appearance, feelings and character trait adjectives.

In Maths, we have been busy learning to partition 3 and 4-digit numbers in standard and non-standard ways. We have

Stage 2 continued

used this information to help us add, subtract, multiply and divide. Each day we have been involved in Number Talks where our teacher gives us a number sentence to calculate. We use all our knowledge of numbers to work out different ways we can solve the problem and we discuss this with each other.

Stage 3

Wow, Term 1 is done and dusted! Where did it go?

Stage 3 had an incredibly busy term full of learning, events, fundraising and assessments. In English, all 3 classes focused on imaginative texts and created some interesting stories that included excellent grammar and punctuation. In Mathematics we started daily number talks where students were required to complete mental computations and explain the strategies that they used. We have seen a lot of improvement since we started this. This term we have also had check-in assessments and NAPLAN practice keeping us busy.

As well as learning in the classroom, we got a start on our Year 6 fundraising and hosted our first mufti day, which was a success! We held an Easter egg guessing competition (the winner will be revealed at the Easter hat parade) and Year 6 even designed and finalised their jerseys. The school captains hosted their first assembly and did an amazing job. We held the first Market Day in a long time, and it was so great to see our Year 6's in their element. Stage 3 was also part of the Western Sydney University First Foot Forward program where they were shown the choices they have after high school.

This term we also had the Snake Tails incursion and the students were so excited to see the reptiles and snakes. Even I got to hold part of a snake!

Wishing all families a safe break and looking forward to seeing you all back in Term 2!

Mrs Parker



Award Systems

We would like to explain the systems we have in place to award our students here at Busby Public School.



Attendance Awards

Attendance Awards are given out by classroom teachers to those students who have been at school for a whole week, commencing on the Monday of each week.

Once students have collected 5 of these awards, they hand them into their class teacher. Students are then given an Attendance Award at our fortnightly whole school assemblies.

These students then go into the draw to win an iPad Mini. The iPad Mini draws occur once a semester. The winner will be drawn prior to going on the School Holiday break of the July holidays and Christmas holidays.



Class Awards

Our students receive class awards from teachers across all Key Learning Areas. Teachers can hand these out at any time for outstanding work or effort in classroom lessons. At our fortnightly whole school assembly, teachers award 3 students, one for English, Mathematics and any other area.

Students need to collect 5 of these to then gain a Bronze Award. When they collect another 5, they are then awarded a Silver Award and so on up to Platinum. As students gain each award over the year, we hold an event as a reward for their efforts. These are held in the last week of a term.



Busby Bucks

Busby Bucks are earned by students, either on the playground or in the classroom. Students who have been 'caught' following school rules or simply being a good friend are rewarded for their actions. Students get to shop with their 'Busby Bucks' at our Market Day Stall which is held at the end of each term.

Applying for a place in an Opportunity Class for 2023.

Parents of Year 4 students enrolled in NSW public and non-government primary schools can apply for a place for their child in an opportunity class. Opportunity classes cater for intellectually gifted and high potential students who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates of their own academic standard. These classes help students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, using specialised evidence-based teaching methods and materials. Year 5 enrolments are available at 76 primary schools across NSW. Parents apply when their children are in Year 4.

Before the child is offered a place they must sit an Opportunity Class Placement Test. The 2022 Opportunity Class Placement Test will be paper-based. There will be three tests conducted on the one day, consisting of Reading, Mathematical reasoning and Thinking skills, in that order.

Successful students are offered placement, and if the parents accept the offer, the students usually attend the opportunity class full time in Years 5 and 6 at the relevant public school. This is a two-year placement program and there is no provision to apply for Year 6 entry only.

Parents must apply online at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/publicschools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunityclasses/year-5>. Online applications are open from **Tuesday 26 April to Friday 13 May 2022**. **You must apply online by Friday 13 May 2022**. The application site will close at 11.59 pm on 13 May 2022. This closing date will be strictly observed, except where there is a shortage of suitable candidates or where extenuating circumstances are serious, well documented and prevented both parents (if applicable) from applying for the entire time applications were available.

If you are interested in applying for an opportunity class placement for your child and your child is in Year 4 please contact Mrs Teuma on 9607 7211 for further information.

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE



Don't stop in a BUS ZONE

Penalty: \$352* and 2 demerit points



Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school:

- Slow down to 40km/h in the school zone and stay aware of crossings.
- Always park legally around the school.
- Always keep your seatbelt buckled until the vehicle has stopped.
- It is safest for children to get in and out of the car through the footpath-side door.
- Manoeuvres such as U-turns and 3-point turns are dangerous during the busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Model safe and considerate behaviour for your child - they will learn from you.
- Always give way to pedestrians, particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Never double park - it puts children at risk.
- Never park in a 'No Stopping' or 'Bus Zone'.
- 'No Parking' is for drop-off and pick-up only.

Please park safely and legally, even if it means walking further to the school gate. Parking signs are planned with children's safety in mind.