



# Bellingen Public School

*'Courtesy and Knowledge'*

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Term 2 Week 6

Monday, 1 June 2020

## From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all our students and our new enrolments. It's very pleasing to see that everyone has been trying extremely hard to settle back into a routine. As part of that routine, class teachers will again be marking the roll each morning. If students are late it is important that they check in via the front office so that admin staff can make the necessary adjustments to the roll. Parents/carers are reminded to please ensure they provide an explanation for any absences. Absences can be communicated via a note, email, skoolbag app or phone call.

If parents/carers need to pick up their children before the end of the day please ensure you contact the front office before entering the school site. Staff will organise to locate the students and bring them to the foyer and send them to meet you when you arrive.

For pre-arrangement appointments it would be greatly appreciated if parents/carers could advise office staff of the intended pick up time. Reminders will be sent to teachers and students to help ensure that students attend the front office at the required time.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the new pick up arrangements at both William Street and Lovell Street. Please remember to use the designated crossing near bus lines and not to cross between the buses. This is very dangerous and may cause an accident.

Students are reminded that they need to wear a helmet when riding their bikes to and from school. The helmet laws for cyclists of all ages in NSW help prevent head injuries and brain damage from falls and crashes. The Road Rules state that a bicycle rider on roads and road-related areas must wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened. This applies to all bicycle riders, regardless of age, including children on bicycles with training wheels and any child being carried as a passenger on a bike or in a bicycle trailer.

With the return to school our lost property box has once again started to fill up. Please remember to ensure that all loose clothing items such as hats and jumpers are clearly labelled with each child's name. As the weather is starting to cool down please ensure your child is wearing the proper school jacket and uniform – no hoodies, coloured socks or different hats. We are proud to be students of Bellingen Public and wear our uniform respectfully. If you need support or would like to purchase new uniform items please contact the office.

Under the new guidelines for the operation of schools, it is suggested that students refrain from sharing drinks

and food. Unfortunately for the time being, this will mean that birthday cakes and other party food will need to be shared at home and not at school. I understand this will be disappointing and a little upsetting for some of our students but I'm sure if you talk with your child's teacher they will try and come up with some creative ways to help make students feel special on their birthday.

Parents/carers are reminded that our school canteen is only selling food via orders for both lunch and recess at the moment and it is important to ensure that students have adequate food and drink each day. As mentioned previously students should remember to bring a water bottle each day.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream" – Les Brown

**Ness Cavanagh, Principal**

## Musical News

This week marks the reintroduction of Choirs and String Ensembles. Hooray!!

Last week Kinder classes had Kinder Music with Mrs Huxter and the children loved it!

This will extend to Stage 1 Choir this week.

Stage 2 Choir will be coming, two classes at a time on alternate weeks with a culmination concert in week 10.

The Senior Choir, working on their advanced repertoire, will meet this week At 1pm on Wednesday.

Senior String Ensemble will rehearse at 12:40 on Friday and work with Ms Scott and Ms Phelan. They have been preparing through online tuition and there will be much excitement to play together after such a long time apart. Junior Strings are back on Friday afternoon from 2.10 with Ms Scott.

Band will recommence soon when Peter Morgan is able to come back to teach.

Fondest regards to all our usual participating parents. We will miss your help but hopefully it will not be for long.

## Uniform Shop

As the uniform shop is currently closed and the weather is getting cooler. Orders can be placed by dropping off an order form with the correct payment, office staff will fill the orders and call parents when ready to collect. Please note the Uniform shop accepts only cash or cheques, correct money would be appreciated.

## Library News

Could all students please begin to return overdue library books. No overdue library notices will be emailed or handed out this term, but please start to bring books back.



Books may be returned to the red 'Returns' trolley anytime, or left in the office if Library is locked.

**Mrs Mellalieu, Librarian**

**Attachments with this Newsletter**

- 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pavers Order form
- Aurora College Virtual Opportunity Class fact sheet
- OSCH Vacation Care program

**Stewart House – Donation Drive Postponed**



**Stewart House Donation Drive 2020**

Your donation supports the 1,700 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT.

« Stewart House was one of the highlights of my teenage years and I met so many people I am still friends with today. The dedicated staff that run this program are amazing. »  
 - Past student, Facebook review 2/10/2018

**NSW Public Education's  
Charity of choice**

Win a \$4,000 holiday to a destination of your choice

- Place a \$2 coin or equivalent in this envelope
- Complete entry details on the back
- Return to your school to be eligible for the draw



All entries must reach Stewart House by Friday 29th May 2020 in time for the draw at 12pm on this date

In light of the restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the final dates for entries, and the subsequent draw, have now been postponed from 29 May until a date to be decided in Term 4. Envelopes may still be returned to the school.

**Diary Dates**

**June**

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Queen's Birthday – public holiday

**July**

Fri 3rd Last day of term 2  
 Mon 20th SDD Term 3  
 Tue 21st First day back for students

**September**

Wed 16<sup>th</sup> School Photos

**Value of the Week – Democracy**

I understand democracy as something that gives the weak the same chance as the strong.  
 – Mahatma Gandhi

**Opportunity Class**

**Changes to the opportunity class placement process for 2020 Year 4 students**

The 2021 Year 5 opportunity class placement process was put on hold in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 situation.

We now have a revised and simplified timeline for the OC placement process to ensure that students and families can have certainty about their placement as soon as possible.

The changes include:

- A new date for online applications. Parents must apply between **9 June 2020 and 26 June 2020**. Late applications cannot be accepted.
- A new test date - Wednesday **16 September 2020**.

To ensure fair and consistent assessment of students across New South Wales, students will be offered places based only on their test results this year – there will be no school assessment scores.

There will also be no opportunity for appeals given the tight timeframes.

For further detailed information I encourage you to visit (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>)

Please see the note and flyer sent home with all Yr 4 students today.

**Aurora College**

The virtual school for rural and remote students

Aurora College is NSW's virtual school, offering a mix of online and residential school classes for high potential and gifted students in rural and remote government schools.

The school provides innovative, flexible learning in a whole new context, by allowing students to connect locally and to learn globally. Students connect with their teachers and classmates in timetabled lessons using cutting-edge technologies in a virtual learning environment.

Aurora currently offers selective classes in English, mathematics and science to Year 7-10 students and also gives Year 11 and 12 students the opportunity to study subjects not available in their own school.

In 2021, Aurora College will have an Opportunity Class for Year 5 students enrolled in rural and remote government primary schools. Students will study the content of the Mathematics and Science and Technology syllabuses, with a focus on STEM.



Application for entry into Year 5 in 2021:  
 Opens 9 June 2020  
 Closes 5pm 26 June 2020

For further information on how to enrol:  
<https://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/learn/opportunity-class/how-can-i-enrol/>

[www.aurora.nsw.edu.au](http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au) | or phone 1300 287 629