



NEWSLETTER

Tamworth West Public School

Week 8 Term 1 2020



NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE

I take this opportunity to advise parents that the Department of Education is in close contact with NSW Health in relation to COVID-19 updates and we are following all directives.

At this point in time Tamworth West Public School is operational and any student other than those identified in the advice for parents from the Department should be attending school.

The following students **SHOULD NOT** be at school:

- Any student who has the COVID-19 virus
- Any student who has come into close contact with someone who has the COVID-19 virus
- Any student who has been in China, Iran or South Korea in the last 14 days
- Any student who has passed through China, Iran or South Korea in the last 14 days
- Any student who is feeling unwell



We will continue to be vigilant in our request that teachers ensure a high standard of hygiene and immediately send to the office any student who is not feeling well.

We ask for your support by coming to school and collecting any child who is not well and not sending children to school if they are showing symptoms of illness or respiratory issues.

Sometimes we are unable to contact parents and carers because of incorrect information on file. Please ensure we have your correct information.

Although these are challenging times we are aware that the welfare of our students is the most important thing as we continue to deliver our educational programs.

Address: PO Box W3489, 65 Bridge Street

WEST TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Telephone: 02 6765 8316 **Facsimile:** 02 6762 1226

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

Web: www.tamworthw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

A note was sent home on Monday advising families of the following information:

A phased social distancing strategy was implemented from Monday 16 March 2020, to support ongoing school operations. The first phase included:

School assemblies

From Monday 16 March 2020, there will be no assemblies - morning or weekly. Information will be delivered to students via the classroom teacher.

Mass gatherings

From Monday 16 March 2020, we commenced reducing the mixing of students through the reduced use of common areas and staggered play times. Where possible, it is recommended that students arrive at school just prior to 9:25 am.

Until further notice our bell times are as follows:

8:55 am	Morning play
9:25 am	Lessons begin - students proceed directly to classrooms
11:05 am	K - 2 play
11:25 am	K - 6 lunch in classrooms
11:45 am	K - 2 lessons resume
	3 - 6 play
12:05 pm	3 - 6 lessons resume
1:15 pm	K - 2 play
1:35 pm	K - 6 recess in classrooms
1:50 pm	K - 2 lessons resume
	3 - 6 play
2:10 pm	3 - 6 lessons resume
3:25 pm	K - 6 end of school day



School excursions

All overnight excursions and school camps will be cancelled until further notice.

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 major excursions. More information will be provided as soon as available.

Activities and Events

All major Arts, Sports and Initiative activities and events will temporarily be ceased until further notice. This includes whole school sporting events and inter-school events involving three or more schools.

- Intensive Swimming - Cancelled. A note regarding refunds will be sent home to participants this week.
- Kindergarten 2021 Information Evening - Suspended - new date to be advised
- Willow Tree Horse Sports – Cancelled. A note regarding refunds will be sent home to participants this week.
- Harmony Day celebrations - Suspended - new date to be advised
- School Cross Country - Suspended - new date to be advised
- Easter Hat Parade - Cancelled

- School ANZAC Day Service - To be advised
- PSSA events and activities - Temporarily ceased
- North West events and activities - Temporarily ceased
- New England Regional Dance Camp – Suspended
- New England Regional Dance Camp Rehearsals - Suspended
- New England Regional Band and Vocal Camp – Suspended
- New England Regional Band and Vocal Camp Rehearsals – Suspended

In addition to this information we can now add the following:

Use of Water Bubblers

The use of our water bubblers has been identified as a potential transmission point and although there is no directive from the Department in relation to this at this point in time, we feel it best that students only use the drink bottle station to fill up their drink bottles. Students will be discouraged from drinking directly from the bubblers until further notice.

Please send a refillable bottle with your children if they require water throughout the day.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is suspended until further notice. Please ensure that your children eat breakfast prior to coming to school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

School Banking

School Banking on Wednesdays is currently suspended until further notice. Transactions can continue through the local branch of the Northern Inland Credit Union.

SRE (Scripture)

Anglican and Catholic Scripture lessons on Thursdays are suspended until further notice.

ANXIETY ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19

Are you worried that you or someone you know may have or has COVID-19; or are anxious about being in isolation and would you like to speak to someone about it?

Contact one of the services below for support or talk to your general practitioner.

- Lifeline Australia: 13 11 14 or [Lifeline Australia](#) A crisis support service that provides short term support at any time for people who are having difficulty coping or staying safe.
- Kids Helpline: 1800 551800 or [Kids Helpline](#) A free, private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25 years.
- NSW Mental Health Line: 1800 011 511 Mental health crisis telephone service in NSW.

I have included the COVID-19 advice for the NSW Community. Please find this included in this newsletter.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

A MESSAGE REGARDING MUSIC ONLINE LESSONS FROM MR BEVAN

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

In the event of Government closures to schools (outside of school holidays), I'll be continuing music lessons via Skype along with those who already do so.

In preparation for virtual music lessons via Skype could you please send an e-mail to ivanbevan@bigpond.com with your contact details and whether you're familiar or not in using Skype. This will allow students to continue with their music lesson from home in the event of a school closure due to COVID-19.

The lessons will be very user-friendly and accessible on all appropriate devices (iPads/smartphones/laptops). I feel that if things close down - staying active and engaged is essential.

I'm continuing to stay updated with all Government and the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommendations.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Regards,

Ivan Bevan

ROAD SAFETY CONCERNS

We continue to speak with students and parents regarding current road safety practices - especially in relation to after school on and around Church Street.

We have also been in contact with the Department's Asset Management Unit and council and we are currently working together to see if it is possible to create a drop off and pick up zone in William Street. While this will take some time to do, it is important that you know that we are trying everything to cater for the needs of our community in relation to transporting students to and from school. It is important however, that you help too.

Please be advised that after speaking with people and providing warnings, highway patrol officers and local rangers will now be issuing infringement notices.

I truly hope that this does not happen to you!



YEAR 7 2021 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORMS

The year 7 expression of Interest forms for 2021 are to be returned to school by Friday 20 March 2020. If you are applying to attend a **NON -LOCAL public high school** please telephone the front office and make an appointment to see me. As I am asked to verify all non-local applications it is important that we discuss the specific selection criteria relevant to your request. I am only able to support applications that meet criteria.

Have a wonderful fortnight and stay healthy.

Terrie Kay
Principal

FROM THE *Deputies*



High School Forms—DUE

Expression of Interest forms are due **FRIDAY 20 March**. Please ensure these are completed and handed to Mrs Spinks or the front office. A friendly reminder that if you are applying to attend a **NON –LOCAL** school you must ring the office and make an appointment with Mrs Kay to discuss your reasons for wanting an enrolment in a school outside of your zone. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Spinks.

NAPLAN— Tuesday 12 May till Friday 22 May 2020

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN— Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online in 2020. The NAPLAN Online assessment window is open from Tuesday 12 May till Friday 22 May 2020. Please find attached and information brochure providing further information. See your child's classroom teacher for any further queries.

SRE and SUPA club

As outlined in the parent information letter on Monday 16 March 2020, a range of activities have been suspended or postponed to assist with the social distancing strategy being employed by the Department of Education to support the wider NSW Health containment strategy.

In discussion with the co coordinators of Catholic and Combined Christian Special Religious Education (SRE) the decision has been made to cease the running of all SRE classes effective immediately. I would like to acknowledge the support from both the Catholic and Anglican Dioceses for their understanding in this matter.

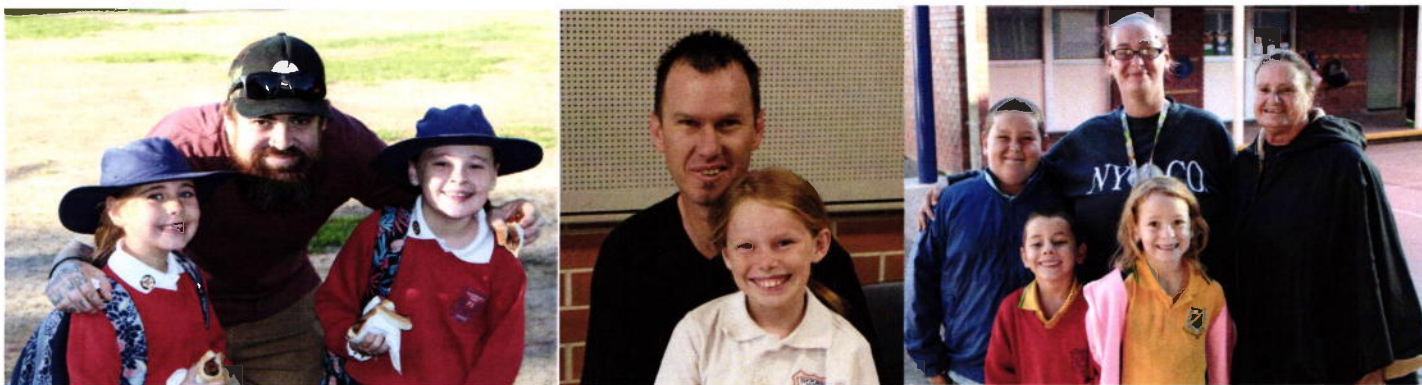
As SUPA club is a voluntary student activity this will cease running for the remainder of term 1. Further information will be provided when it recommences.

The Combined SRE Easter service scheduled from Thursday 9 April has also been cancelled.

Fathering Project

On Friday over 100 children and parents or family members gathered at the school from 7am in the morning for a BBQ breakfast. This was organised through the Fathering Project being run at Tamworth West. Paul Briscoe area coordinator arrived while it was still dark with SUPA coordinator Howard Barnes to assist with setup along with multiple Tamworth West staff throughout the morning. We are keen to hear from Dads and other father figures interested in getting together to support each other with being a significant person in the lives of children. We would love to hear your ideas on future gatherings. Please follow the QR code link on the brochure. One suggestion has been a working bee on a weekend around the school. See Mr Scarborough if you are interested.

A big thank you to two local businesses owned by families from our school who supported the BBQ with the provision of bread and meat. Bakers Delight at Shoppingworld and Westdale meats. Please support these businesses by frequenting these stores.



Scan this QR Code  

get involved
with our
Dads Group





...where dads and father-figures can gather, share, learn and laugh - with each other and their kids.

Ask a staff member or
visit thefatheringproject.org
to find out how.

© thefatheringproject #putfatheringfirst

in partnership
with
 **the fathering
project**

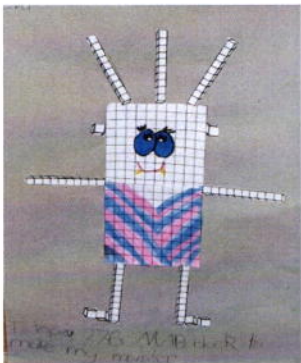


Wow! What a term we've had so far and we're only into Week 8.

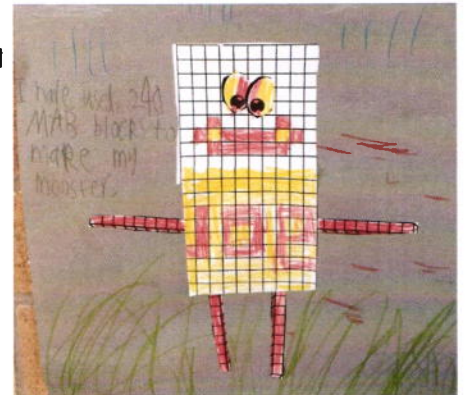
There has been lots of learning happening in all classrooms throughout the school and teachers have been working hard to provide rich, interesting and well-structured learning experiences in all Key Learning Areas.

Teachers have been meeting with their Instructional Leaders to develop personal goals ensuring they are developing the skills and knowledge to continue to be effective and competent teachers. They have been planning interesting and well thought out activities for Mathematics. This involves knowing where all their students are and being able to cater for their needs. It's been great to see staff wanting to learn more to enable them become better educators.

Stage One classes have been extremely busy with their learning. Year One students are using quality texts to investigate the ways the authors write texts and for what purpose. Year Two students have been looking at Natural Disasters using texts written by Jackie French investigating the rich, expressive language she uses to captivate the reader. It's been lovely to go into classrooms and hear children responding to the texts that they are being exposed to.



Year Two have been learning to count by 100's, 10's and 1's. It's great to see teachers coming up with creative and innovative ways to assist children in their learning. The children made monsters using Base Ten blocks and then had to use counting strategies to find the total of blocks used to make their monsters.



Stage One have developed a wonderful Visual Arts program to help develop their student's skills. Students investigated the different types of lines (straight, zigzag, curly) and created art pieces using these.

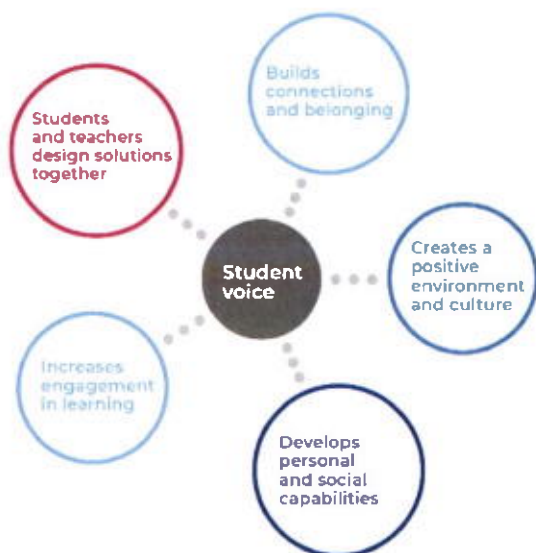


Jody Welsh
Instructional Leader

Wellbeing



Student Voice Participation and Leadership



In 2020 a focus for us at Tamworth West PS is to foster, encourage and develop student voice

Opportunities for student participation, leadership and decision-making help young people understand and advocate for their rights and responsibilities as active citizens. It assists students to have a real impact on their learning and school environment and prepares them to actively participate as engaged citizens

Every student is known, valued and cared for in our schools



Student participation: empowering students, preparing for life

- Focus on students as partners in decision making
- Create real opportunities for students to contribute at all levels
- Embed student perspectives into all decisions

How do we engage with students about their learning and wellbeing?

 Education education.nsw.gov.au @NSWEducation

Gratitude Empathy Mindfulness

SPORTS REPORT WEEK 8

North West Regional Swimming Trials

Last Monday 2 March 2020, 5 students from Tamworth West travelled to Armidale and attended the North West Regional Swimming Trials. Jace Dawson swam in the 8 Year Boys 50m and had the 10th best time. Mackenzie Kelly competed in the 50m Freestyle and the 50m Butterfly and placed in the top20 in both events. Our Junior Girls 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay team consisting of Claire Gardner, Jessie Sandison-Welch, Mackenzie Kelly and Ryleigh Woolfe won their heat and finished 17th overall.

Well done to these 5 fabulous swimmers!



Boys Cricket Knockout

On Friday 13 March our boys cricket team played in the first round of the knockout competition. To say that I was filled with pride is an understatement. Everyone present from both teams was inspired by the efforts of our boys, most of whom had never played a game of competition cricket, let alone seen a six stitcher in the flesh. Each of the boys from years 4, 5 and 6 gave 100% and conducted themselves admirably, with a high level of sportsmanship and integrity. We did lose the match but won a great deal of thanks from the Tamworth PS boys for getting in, having a go and ensuring they got to have a game of cricket. I was so encouraged by the boys' ability not to focus so much on the result but to get out and enjoy a game of sport together and against another school. All boys ended the game in high spirits.

The team was led by Jackson Hughes as captain and Nathan Mumford as Vice -Captain. Tamworth West batted first until just after drinks break and then fielded out all overs until all of the Tamworth PS team had a chance to bat.

The team also consisted of Harry Good, Karnu Pearce, Ryan Donohue, Jerome Lillicrap, Paiton Nicholls, Cooper - Lee Shaw, Oliver Beecham, Tyler Moffat, Travis Mumford and Declan Williams.

There were many memorable moments but a few would have to include:

- Jerome Lillicrap and Jackson Hughes efforts batting to get the teams first runs off the bat.
- Cooper - Lee Shaw and Travis Mumford taking a quick single between wickets.
- Nathan Mumford's stumpings from wicket keeper.
- Cooper - Lee Shaw bowling out Tamworth Publics high order batsmen.

All of the team giving everything batting and fielding out the day.

A big thanks to the Tamworth West parents for attending and supporting. To Mr Nathan Moffat for all his help organising the team. Mr Mick Turner for umpiring, Cayina school for late supply of reserve helmets and Tamworth PS students, Mr Payne and all spectators for their display of great sportsmanship and love of the game. It was a great display of what a love of sport does, brings people together.

Grant Scarborough

Zone Hockey Trials

Last Friday 13 March, Harry Good, Nathan Mumford, Travis Mumford and Angela Emery attended the Zone Boys and Girls Hockey trials at Oxley High School's synthetic field. All 3 boys were fortunate enough to be selected into the Zone team. This is an impressive result as they had also been representing our school in the Cricket Knockout earlier in the day. The boys will now represent Tamworth Zone at the Regional Hockey Trials hopefully at a later date. Congratulations to the boys and well done Angela.

Zone Football Trials

Year 5 student, Lachie Snape, trialled at the Boys Zone Football Trials last Tuesday, 10 March. Whilst Lachie was not successful in making the Zone team he enjoyed the opportunity and recognised it to be a valuable experience for future trials. Well done, Lachie.

Up Coming Events

Unfortunately, due to the implementation of 'social distancing' all Zone/District, North West, NSWPSA and NSWCHSSA activities will be **'temporarily ceased until further notice'**. This includes all Zone and North West trials and any school knockout games or gala days, e.g. the upcoming Touch Football Gala Day. The situation will be regularly reviewed and hopefully these activities will occur at a later date.

Jonathan Willis

Sports Organiser

FARRER OPEN DAY—POSTPONED

On advice from the Department of Education, Farrer advises that the Open Day scheduled for Wednesday 18th March has been postponed. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause your family but the safety of our students and the wider community is of paramount importance. A new Open Day date will be advised in due course.

Wii wiima-li School Holiday Program—Cancelled

Due to the current environment the Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council has decided to cancel the Wii Wiima-Li School Holiday Program for the wellbeing of our community.



P&C News

Tamworth West Public School P&C conducted its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday 9 March. At the AGM all Executive positions were declared vacant and a new Executive was elected, the new committee is:

President	-	Jackie Galvin
Vice President	-	Renae Mumford
Secretary	-	Emma Philp
Treasurer	-	Jodie Sampson

President's Report

I would like to first of all introduce myself. My name is Jacki Galvin and for those not familiar with me, I am the face you see when you come to our preloved uniform room. A huge thank you to all those parents and carers who have so kindly donated uniforms to be sold back to our school. It is very much appreciated and all monies go back to our wonderful school and assist in buying resources.

Again this year we are holding our annual Easter raffle. Tickets will go home with the children in the coming days and are due back at school (along with monies) by **Friday 3 April**. All tickets and monies are to be returned to the front office. If you need extra books these will also be available from the front office.

Donations of Easter Eggs or anything associated with Easter e.g. arts and craft supplies, for our raffle can be left at the front office. We appreciate any donations that can be made. The raffle will be drawn in Week 11.



We are also again having our Bakers Delight Hot Cross Bun Easter Fundraising Drive. Order forms will go home with the children in the coming days. The orders are due back on **Monday 30 March** and the buns will be delivered to our school on **Monday 6 April**.



The Northern Inland Credit Union have very kindly offered our P&C a donation of \$10 for every new account opened in Term 1. Don't miss the opportunity to teach your child to save as well as giving back to our school.

A huge thank you to all of those parents and carers who have offered their time in our call for help with our Canteen. It is lovely to see parents and carers giving back to their school. If you are interested in helping in the canteen please see Sharlee in the canteen or the lovely office staff. Any time donated would be very much appreciated.

Our next P&C Meeting will not be until **Monday 11 May** due to the Easter break. We are a small but dedicated team and would welcome new faces to our next meeting. So come along and find out what is happening at our school and meet some of the parents.

Jackie Galvin
P&C President

STUDENTS' AWARDS WEEK 6

BEST AT WEST: Raisha Sanotra, Drish Goyal, Olivia Gardner, Patricia Evans, Travis Stokes, Victoria Gardner, Conner Murden, Jace Dawson, Charlotte McLachlan

STUDENT OF THE WEEK: Kade Bennett, Kadence Nebauer, Jaycee Mackenzie, Rykar Mulligan, Lilly Morrison, Isabel Unger, Zavier Kasch, Jordan Fulwood, Susannah Cantrill, Kasch Lockrey, Emily Vessey, Zach Beecham, Austin Rodd, Annabelle Dean, Isabella McKnight, Harlow Taylor, Blair Hottes

CLASS AWARDS

KN (Mrs Nuske)

Class Award Savannah Mills
Eleanor Wilson
PBL Award Jaxon Murray
Flynn Bishop

KM (Miss McSwan)

Class Award Aabarna Ramalingam Karthika
Savannah Rekstad
Book Work Award Jacob Luchetti
Mirdhula Yathra Ravikumar
PBL Award Drish Goyal
Noah Kokagei

KC (Miss Cunneen)

Class Award Christopher Evans
Isla Paterson
Book Work Award Kason Pryor
Izaac Williams
PBL Award Brooklyn Unger

1M (Miss Massey)

Class Award Eddie Penfold
Scarlet Stewart
Book Work Award Xavier Day
Hamish Blackman
PBL Award Najayda Welsh

1S (Mrs Spicer)

Class Award Maketana Sayabath
Charlotte Thompson
Book Work Award Lachlan Baker
Airlee Syron
PBL Award Stella Fielding

1/2D (Mrs Dean)

Class Award Claire Claassens
Jacob Young
Book Work Award Darius Gray
PBL Award Isabel Simmonds
Cameron Roberts

2F (Mrs Fletcher)

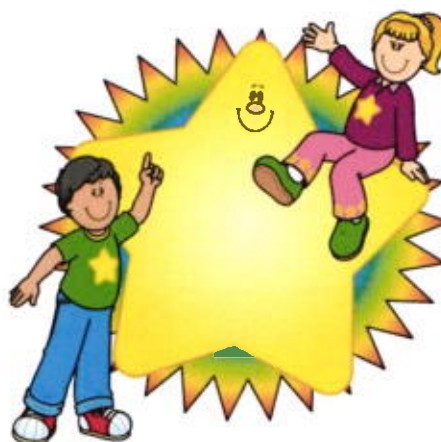
Class Award Lyric Maru
Yenu Adlao
Book Work Award Isabelle Hartley
Jacob Mills
PBL Award Roland Mobberley
Abigail Dick

2R (Mrs Rankmore)

Class Award Flynn Webster
Issac Cochrane
Book Work Award Laylah Nash
Sarah Love
PBL Award Charlie Adams
Saiyuk Shrestha

K2M (Mrs McEnerny)

Book Work Award Charlie Gardner
PBL Award Jacob Abra



STUDENTS' AWARDS WEEK 7

BEST AT WEST: Hayley Mason, Ralph Cristian Derrada, Ryleigh Woolfe, Lochie Samspon, Jacob Howarth, Sebastian Leahy, Ruby Endacott, Lily Staines, Bella Crompton, Larissa Dawe, Rihanna Parry

STUDENT OF THE WEEK: Amelia Colemane, Tara Beecham, Ryleigh Woolfe, Annabelle Morrison, Emily MacAlpine, Jay-Sean Cochrane, Bryson Gross, Dakota Turner, Kharington Seller, Mikaylah French, Jake Day, Shontel Ruttlely-Ellis, Joseph Reading, Jackson Hughes, Annabelle Kaloustian, Mason Mackenzie

CLASS AWARDS

3B (Miss Bagshaw)

Class Award - Cooper Faulkner
Sienna Cotter
Book Work Award Rithik Prithiviraj
Seth Dewar
PBL Award - Miranda Wrigley
Tahitia Chand

3M (Miss May)

Class Award - Ryder Mountain
Harris Avdic
Book Work Award Naite Syron
Charlotte Munro
PBL Award - Ciara Saunders

3/4C (Miss Cross)

Class Award - Annabelle Marr
Caleb Iffland
Book Work Award Abigail Snape
Kaelan Langenbaker
PBL Award - Breannah Davis-Annetts

3/6L (Mrs Lyon)

Book Work Award Riley Doolan

4D (Mrs Deaves)

Class Award - Kelsie Jenner
Nullah Cochrane
Book Work Award Deacon Parry
PBL Award - Lochlan Doolan
Connor Carey

4L (Mrs Lothian)

Class Award - Evie Penfold
Book Work Award Mackenzie Kelly
Emerald Dean
PBL Award - Izac Gillin
Cooper-Lee Shaw

5/6F (Mrs Flick)

Class Award - Freya Cochrane
Zac Galvin
Book Work Award - Harper Farr
Shania Ruttlely
PBL Award - Oliver Beecham
Jaxon Syron

5/6M (Mrs Milton)

Class Award - James Gee
Aiden Gray
Book Work Award Tyson Doust
Jordan MacAlpine
PBL Award - Aimee Hawkins
Ryan Hull

5/6W (Mr Willis)

Class Award - Layne Walford
Jacob Paterson
Book Work Award Eva Flick
Lachlan Snape
PBL Award - Hudson Rutherford
Ryan Donohue





RESPECT

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY



The focus is finding ways that we can ignore the students who disrupt our learning.

Some strategies we can use to

IGNORE THE DISRUPTOR:

- ★ Ask them to be quiet.
- ★ Turn around and don't pay attention to them.
- ★ Move away from the disruptive person.



PBL Raffle



PBL Raffle



PBL Raffle



PBL Raffle



Captain West is very impressed with 2F and their efforts in showing how we can be respectful in the classroom.

Great job, 2F!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS WHO HAVE EARNED 10 RAFFLE TICKETS IN 2020.

RESPECT



- BE KIND •
- BE Clean •

Follow The Rules



Joshua 2

PBL BADGE DRAW

PBL Badge Draw is beginning again soon. Badges can be purchased from the Office for \$1 or backs for 50c. Start wearing them now! Kindergartens will get their badges in the coming weeks.



The Athlete's Foot

GET FITTED BY THE EXPERTS TODAY



In partnership with
**TAMWORTH WEST
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**\$5 DONATED
BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL**

Every time you buy a pair of shoes.



ADELA
Junior \$109⁹⁵
MULTIPLE WIDTHS



APEX
Junior \$114⁹⁵
MULTIPLE WIDTHS



School Rewards

Tamworth

258 Peel Street (22) 6706 8278

**PERFORM
WITH POWER**

TENNIS ACADEMY

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINICS DATES

TAMWORTH CLINIC

14th-17th April
8.30am-11.30am
\$90 or \$25/day

for
beginners to advanced
aged 4-14

**SIGN UP ONLINE NOW!
SPACES ARE LIMITED!**

MITCH POWER
Club Professional Coach
Talent Development Coach



Contact Mitch 0434 211 461 or
mitch.power87@gmail.com
for more info!

www.performwithpowertennis.com.au



kiwi
HOCKEY CLUB



2020 Hockey Season

If you are looking for a fun winter sport played on Saturday's then hockey is for you.
Hockey is played on 3 brand new international grade water based fields which guarantees you will
never miss a game due to being washed out.

If you would like to give Hockey ago then give us a call or email

Call Rebecca Abra 0407 076 460 or Melissa Woods 0419 964 640 or email

kiwihockey1958@hotmail.com

U7 and U9 Boys and Girls combined (Minkey)

U11 Boys teams and U11 Girls teams

U13 Boys teams and U13 Girls teams

U15 Boys team

You can use the Active kids vouchers towards your fees.

Come and Try days at no cost will be held at the Tamworth Hockey Complex on the **21st March** and
28th March registrations can be taken on the day.

Come and give hockey a try you will love it!

Facebook: kiwi hockey club

COVID-19 ADVICE FOR THE NSW COMMUNITY 15 MARCH 2020

SIMPLE STEPS FOR SLOWING THE SPREAD BY SOCIAL DISTANCING

ACT NOW

Slowing the spread of coronavirus in NSW

NSW residents should act NOW to reduce the risk of infection from coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

Social distancing means we reduce the number of close physical and social contacts we have with one another.

When social distancing actions are combined with good personal hygiene measures the spread of a pandemic through the community can be slowed. This helps protect the most vulnerable members of the community and reduces the impact of the pandemic on essential, life-saving health services.

There are many actions individuals, employers and organisations can take now to promote social distancing and help reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection in our community.

The following advice is based on the current stage of the COVID-19 outbreak in NSW. As the situation is evolving rapidly, this advice may need to be updated with additional measures.

Please check the [NSW Health COVID-19 website](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus) at <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus> for updates.

Simple steps for social distancing can make a big difference

NSW residents are urged to take simple steps NOW to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

- Be part of the solution.
- Act NOW on what you can do.
- Keep your distance from others as much as possible but stay connected.
- Work local, study local, shop local, play local.
- Cloud not crowd.

Staying connected as a community

Keep connected as a community by taking some simple steps.

- Stay informed. Use information from reputable sources including the [NSW Health COVID-19 website](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus) and the [NSW Health Facebook page](#).
- Support others in our community. Look out for neighbours and family.
- Keep connected to your family, friends, work colleagues through phone, email and social media.

Take personal action to reduce exposures and stay healthy

The most important action is to practice good hand hygiene.

Take the following steps to reduce your exposure and chances of getting ill with COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitiser with at least 60 per cent alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, throw soiled tissues in the bin and clean your hands with soap and water or sanitiser. If you don't have a tissue, cover your sneeze or cough with your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces each day.
- Stay home if you are sick and don't expose others. If you are unwell with flu-like symptoms, do not go outside your property or home, do not go to work, school or shops unless it is essential.

- Get a flu shot when it becomes available.
- Talk with your doctor and pharmacist about getting an emergency supply of any medications being taken regularly by you or your family.
- Stop shaking hands, hugging or kissing as a greeting.
- Avoid crowds if possible. If not, keep the time short.
- Avoid small gatherings in enclosed spaces, for example family celebrations.
- Attempt to keep a distance of 1.5 metres between yourself and other people where possible.
- Avoid visiting vulnerable people, such as those in aged care facilities or hospitals, infants, or people with compromised immune systems due to illness or medical treatment.
- Visit shops sparingly, buy food online, consider home delivery and take-aways.
- Use debit and credit cards instead of cash and make use of online and self-serve transactions (for example Opal cards on public transport).
- Use public transport in off-peak periods if you can.
- Re-consider overseas and interstate travel plans.
- Wear a surgical mask (single-use face mask) when you are in the sick person's room, if available.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces regularly.
- Dispose of tissues and masks in a sealed plastic bag and put in the usual household waste.
- If your family member becomes very unwell, get medical help by calling your GP, calling healthdirect on 1800 022 222, or visit the emergency department at your local hospital. An ambulance is not needed to transport people to GPs or a hospital unless their condition is serious. Alternative means of transport should be used including private car driven by a family member or an existing close contact (not bus, train, taxi or ride-share such as Uber).
- If symptoms are severe and it is a medical emergency, such as shortness of breath at rest or difficulty breathing, dial 000 and ask for an ambulance.

Actions for all travellers returning to or arriving in Australia

- All overseas travellers must self-isolate for 14 days on return to Australia. This applies to everyone, even if you have no symptoms.

Actions for people caring for a sick family member

If you look after or provide care for a sick family member with flu-like symptoms, remember to:

- Care for the sick person in a single room.
- Keep the door closed and windows open where possible.
- Keep the number of carers to a minimum.
- Always use a hand sanitiser before and after entering the room, or wash hands with soap and water.
- Keep the sick person's crockery and utensils separate to the rest of the household.

Actions for parents and guardians

If you are a parent or guardian, consider the following actions:

- If your child/young person is unwell, do not send them to childcare or school. The child should remain at home until symptoms resolve.
- Promote good hygiene including handwashing with soap
- Consider whether your child/young person's out-of-school activities are essential.
- Prepare for your child/young person to study at home should this become necessary.
- Plan for the possibility of your child/young person not attending childcare or school because of any future closure or because they are unwell. Discuss with your employer if needed.
- If your child/young person's institution is closed, monitor their whereabouts, keep them at home, and prevent them from group meetings with friends/classmates.
- Consider whether your family's holiday plans are essential.

Actions for an organisation, workplace or employer

Organisations and employers who are responsible for a workplace or venue should start to take actions now to reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus. This includes any venue, such as a school, university, office building or any workplace. These actions should include:

- Consider whether activities/events can be postponed, reduced in size/frequency or cancelled.
- Cancel non-essential activities such as business travel, study visits, extra-curricular activities and sporting events.
- Encourage flexible working arrangements including working from home and off-peak travel, and consider whether staff work stations can be more widely spaced.
- Purchase COVID-19 prevention supplies, for example alcohol hand sanitisers.
- Provide and promote hand sanitisers at building entrances.
- Ensure high standards of routine environmental cleaning. Standard cleaning products are fine.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces regularly, including desks and keyboards.
- Open windows, enhance airflow, adjust air conditioning.
- Promote preventive actions amongst your staff - lead by example.
- Encourage personal hygiene, such as use of hand sanitiser or handwashing with soap by all staff.
- Avoid large indoor meetings and lunchrooms and use outdoor venues if possible.
- Plan for increased levels of staff absences.
- Plan for what to do if staff arrive sick at work.
- Employers should refer to SafeWork NSW's [COVID-19: Advice and guidance for NSW workplaces](#).

Actions for childcare centres, kindergartens, schools

There is no current recommendation for childcare centres, kindergartens or schools to close and it's important to try keeping things as normal as possible. However, educational settings, including boarding schools, could be places where there is a higher risk of transmission of COVID-19. These settings should now:

- Take all the actions listed above under Actions for an organisation, workplace or venue.
- Consider whether any activities can be postponed, reduced in size/frequency or replaced.
- Actively encourage sick children/students and staff to stay at home.
- Direct and supervise preventive actions such as good hand washing before and after eating food, either through washing hands with soap and water, or use of hand sanitiser by students according to need.
- Prepare for senior students and staff to study/work from home if required.
- Plan ways to reduce in-person contact for students and staff.
- Enable separation of students and avoid queuing, as much as possible.
- Cancel assemblies and consider staggering student breaks to limit movements and contacts between student/class groups.
- Ensure the highest hygiene practices among food handlers.
- Identify a space that can be used to isolate students and staff who become sick.
- Alert your agency or department about large increases in student and staff absenteeism due to flu-like illnesses.
- Keep students, parents and staff informed of the actions you are taking.
- The [Department of Education](#) and [Catholic Schools NSW](#) have information on COVID-19 for schools and parents.

Actions for TAFE, colleges and universities

There is no current recommendation for these settings to close. However, educational settings such as universities could be places where there is a higher risk of transmission of COVID-19. These settings should now:

- Take all the actions listed above under Actions for an organisation, workplace or venue.
- Consider whether any activities can be postponed, reduced in size/frequency or replaced with online learning.
- Actively encourage sick students and staff to stay at home.
- Encourage personal hygiene, such as use of hand sanitiser or handwashing with soap by all staff and students.
- Prepare for students and staff to study/work from home if required, including online learning.
- Where programs require face to face interaction or physical environments such as laboratories, reduce the size of the classes, encourage regular hand hygiene of participants (hand sanitisers at entry points) and ensure cleaning addresses areas of high touch points for students and staff.
- Plan ways to reduce in-person contact for students and staff.
- Limit movements and contacts between student/class groups.
- Enable separation of students and avoid queuing.
- Identify a space that can be used to isolate students and staff who become sick.
- Keep students and staff informed of the actions you are taking.

Actions for health and community service providers including for vulnerable people

Providers of health and community services should now:

- Take all the actions listed above under Actions for an organisation, workplace or venue.
- Consider whether your service can be limited or reduced to avoid community contact in the best interests of your clients.
- Consider whether your activities can be adjusted to enable separation of clients, avoid queuing and close confines.
- Stop travel of clients, staff and volunteers unless vital for care reasons.
- Consider the needs of older adults, persons with disabilities, and others with access and functional needs in your response.
- Other measures to protect vulnerable populations should be taken, including reduction of visitors to residential and aged care facilities for example.

Actions for transport carriers

There is no recommendation to stop using public transport at this time.

The following actions should be considered by transport providers, including airplanes, trains, trams and buses:

- Take all the actions listed above under Actions for an organisation, workplace or venue.
- Consider whether your transport service can be adjusted to increase separation of travellers and avoid queuing.
- Plan ways to reduce in-person contact for travellers and staff.
- Actively encourage sick passengers and staff to stay at home.
- Open windows and adjust air conditioning to increase airflow.
- Ensure the highest hygiene practices among catering staff.
- Consider using advertising space for public health messages around COVID-19.
- Keep staff informed of the actions you are taking.

Advice for mass gatherings

Mass gatherings have the potential for serious public health consequences if they are not planned and managed carefully. From Monday 16 March 2020, the following recommendations will come into effect in NSW that focus on gatherings of people taking place on an organised basis:

- Non-essential gatherings should be limited to less than 500 people.
- Non-essential meetings of critical workforces such as healthcare workers and emergency service workers should be limited.

Venues with high volumes of movement of people such as shopping centres should take all the measures required at any workplace and should focus on environmental cleaning in particular. Such venues are not required to close at the current time.

The most up to date information is available on the [NSW Health COVID-19 website](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/covid19).

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2020

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online in 2020

Federal, state and territory education ministers agreed that all schools will gradually transition from the current paper-based NAPLAN to NAPLAN Online in order to provide a better and more precise assessment that is more engaging for students.

State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online. The current plan is for all schools to transition to NAPLAN Online by 2021.

One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, in which the test presents questions of higher or lower complexity depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians

are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so.

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs is a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the type of questions and related functionalities available in the NAPLAN Online assessment at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should discuss the use of any adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to do NAPLAN Online tests after Friday 22 May 2020.

NAPLAN Online 2020 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is nine days instead of the three days provided for the paper test. This is to give schools flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN Online assessment window is open from Tuesday 12 May till Friday 22 May 2020.

The online test scheduling requirements are detailed in the table below.

How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test (on day 1 only) Year 5 must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only) Years 7 and 9 must start on day 2 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 2 and 3 only)	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 42 min. Year 7: 42 min. Year 9: 42 min.	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	To ensure online schools are able to complete NAPLAN tests within the nine-day testing window, Years 7 and 9 students can start with reading on day 1; however, writing must start on day 2 as the writing test takes priority over any rescheduled reading tests from day 1 To be completed before the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	This test assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	This test assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability