

APRIL

9th Last Day Term 1
28th First Day Term 2

**PLEASE REFER TO THE
SCHOOL WEBSITE OR
SKOOLBAG FOR RELEVANT
NOTES & FURTHER
INFORMATION**

THANKYOU MRS HARDGE

While Mrs Hardge, our relieving Principal, has thanked the staff & parents of BPS for their efforts during this difficult time we would like to express our great appreciation of her wonderful leadership. New to the position, she has excelled despite the enormous challenges of late. Leading by example with professionalism & efficiency she inspires us. We are grateful for her collaborative approach, her sense of humour & positivity.

YOU'RE AMAZING



STAYSAFE AND STAY POSITIVE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents / Carers

Congratulations! What a great job you are doing with your children at home. While I am sure it is not all smooth sailing, the overwhelming feedback we are receiving is that parallel learning at home is mostly progressing well and productive days are being had. No-one expects you to be experts at what you are being asked to do at the moment. Having a go and encouraging your children to do their best is absolutely enough.

It is lovely to see the fabulous work children are completing at home. I encourage you to keep this coming, as it really brightens up our days.

While it is inevitable that some day to day school practices have been put on hold, we are attempting to continue to recognise great student work as much as possible. As such, Principal Awards for the assembly we would have had on Monday are being sent home in the post. The Wonder Wall has also been updated this week with more quality student work samples. (Please see the lists on the next page for award winners, and photos of the Wonder Wall). Congratulations to these students. It is exciting that we have been able to award students for work completed at various locations – some work done here at school and some from home!

Teachers are very keen to maintain contact with their students and are attempting to make contact with students each week. Phone calls home have taken some students by surprise, but it is lovely to hear their voices.

As we continue to develop this new way of teaching, we ask for your patience and understanding. Following is a message from Mr Yeong, our Technology Coordinator with more information regarding this.

A great big THANK YOU to Webers Nursery who, even in the midst of these everchanging times, kindly donated plants for our garden. We are very grateful for their ongoing support of our school.

Thank you also to the committed, professional staff at this school who have taken on the current circumstances with positivity and enthusiasm.

Finally, stay safe and enjoy this time with your family. As this is the last newsletter for the term, please make sure you switch off from school over the holiday period. No advice has been received regarding the beginning of Term 2 as yet. I will keep the school community informed of any developments via the SkoolBag app and the P&C Facebook page.

Take care.
Kristin Hardge,
Relieving Principal



PRINCIPAL AWARDS

K-E Jerome B

K-H April J

K-R Joshua C & Lachie H

1-2B Charlie T

1-2H Amelia W & Henry L

1-2K Liam A

1-2S Ava S

3-4B Elliott G & Seb W

3-4C Daliah K & Harry H

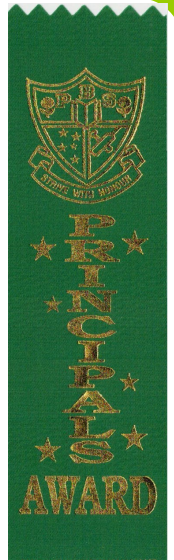
3-4M Liam K & Mackenzie G

3-4Y Lola B & Joe W

5-6D Ruby D & Luke Mc

5-6L Isaac R & Noah A-C

5-6T Angie C & Jasper B



WONDER WALL WORKERS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER ARE:



K-E Nate M-P

K-R Jaxon G & Mason H

K-H Sylvie W & Patrick C

3-4B Elvie H & Seb W

3-4M Oliver E & Sophia S

3-4C Eli R & Tainyth H-B

3-4Y Thomas H, Henry P & Max M (joint project) & Sebastian H

1-2K Lilly L

1-2H Isabel C & Charlotte H-B

1-2S Jojo A & Astrid N

1-2B Annie Q & Ruby R

5-6L Katy L, Isaac R & Lola G

5-6T Sophia S, Liam M & Rosie L-M

5-6D Sage R-W, Ruby D & Ginger F



PARALLEL LEARNING UPDATE

As we begin the second week of our parallel learning journey at BPS, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the great work of our teachers and parents/carers to ensure continuity of learning for our students. This approach to learning from home is new to all of us, students, teachers and parents/carers alike. While schools remain open, we (the teachers) are striving to deliver equivalent learning to our students, whether they are at home or at school. We have reviewed our teaching programs for Term 1 and modified the learning activities, so it can be completed with parents or teachers. You may have noticed that we haven't bombarded you with suggestions on the myriad of online learning websites nor a list of applications to download. This is a considered approach for multiple reasons:

We needed to check if all of our students have access to devices and the internet.

We have leveraged existing technology and skills that are already in the school to support delivery of our teaching and learning programs.

We would like to give you time to balance your own commitments with teaching your child(ren) while learning how to access the various platforms and applications we have implemented.

Like you, we need time to understand and learn the capabilities of existing and new technologies that are available on the market which can be used for teaching and learning.

We need to ensure that any technology we adopt is equitable, easy to use and aligns with Department guidelines.

The following table provides a summary of the different technology that we are currently using to support parallel learning:

Technology solution	How we are using it?
BPS school website	Access the school website for a weekly schedule of learning for your child(ren) and newsletters. Links to commonly used online learning solutions, e.g. Nessy, Mathletics Access user guides for accessing and completing new tasks in online learning solutions.
SkoolBag	Communicating news, messages and events to the whole school.
ClassDojo	Communicating messages to a class. Exploring functionality to submit student work for students from Kindergarten to Year 4.
Student Portal	A secure portal for public school students to access learning solutions provided by the NSW Department of Education. Access to this portal requires a username and password. At BPS, students are introduced to the portal in Year 3.
Google Classroom	Typically accessed via the NSW Department of Education's student portal. Delivery of specific learning tasks for students in Years 3-6. Submission of completed work for students in Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)

If technology is not working for whatever reason or it gets a bit too much, find a good book and read. I hope this phrase resonates with you as much as it did for me when I first saw it, “Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are”

Technology Coordinator



A collage of nine photographs showing children in various costumes and activities. Top row: a girl in a red floral qipao, a boy in a cactus t-shirt and hat, a boy in a red 'ACTIVE SPORT' t-shirt and goggles, two girls in red clothing, and a boy in a red t-shirt and plaid shorts. Middle row: a girl in a pink cardigan. Bottom row: a large group of children in a circle on a lawn, a boy in an orange shirt and cap, and a woman with long orange hair.

P&C News

Just a quick message for us to say we hope everyone is doing ok at home!

If you can, visit our Facebook page to keep connected. We'd love you to share any resources, activities or websites you've found for you and/or the kids!

Here is one of the fun activities we've discovered on the home learning journey so far!

Google 3D animals!

The kids will love having lions, tigers, sharks and more moving about the house- so fun!

Here's some instructions on how to do it...



How to get animals to come up

- Start with a standard Google search for your favourite animal on your smartphone or tablet.
- Scroll down until you find a new white box that says "Meet a life-sized [animal] up close." with an animation of said animal under the wikipedia info.
- Click on the little "view in 3D" icon to the left of the animal within the box.
- At this point your screen will change like a pop-out window.
- You'll need to wiggle your phone about a bit until the animal appears. ■



Not sure how to talk about Coronavirus with your kids?

Just in case you missed it, below are some links to (older) kid-friendly information about the virus. Let us know if you come across any other good ones!

[Http://cdn.mos.cms.futurecdn.net/zqic5uqqbywwaioqgtx7n/live-science-ultimate-kids-guide-to-coronavirus-covid-19.pdf](http://cdn.mos.cms.futurecdn.net/zqic5uqqbywwaioqgtx7n/live-science-ultimate-kids-guide-to-coronavirus-covid-19.pdf)

https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus?fbclid=IwAR32c5fuhfljvftotryd9dbi5rfq7nediblpnd0h5s_zao4i75hf0sughe

The P&C is the parents, carers and community members who actively support the school in many ways. **P&C news and events** are shared via the Skoolbag app, our **Facebook page (@BlackheathPandC)**, on the noticeboard near the canteen, and in the newsletter. **Get in touch** through our Facebook page or email us at blackheathpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au Order lunch from our wonderful **Wholesome Kids Café**, open every day. Lunch order forms are available at the canteen, on our Facebook page and on the Skoolbag app. Visit the **Uniform Shop** on Monday mornings from 8.30 to 9.30am near the canteen. Come along to our **Free Breakfast Club** from 8.30-8.55am daily @ The Wholesome Kids Café. The next **P&C meeting** is TBC.