

Term 3, Weeks 1 & 2

**PLEASE NOTE THESE
EVENTS & DATES ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE
DUE TO COVID
RESTRICTIONS**

TERM 3

JULY

30th Stg2 Primary
Prom Rehearsal

AUGUST

2nd to 6th Autism
Awareness Wk
5th Public Speaking S2
11th B/ball Gala Day
12th Debating
Workshop S3
19th BPS Athletics
Carnival
20th Primary Proms
Performance
23rd Cricket Gala Day
23rd to 27th Book Week
25th Newcombe Ball
Gala Day
26th Debating Gala Day
S3

SEPTEMBER

2nd Musical Dress
Rehearsal
3rd PSSA Zone
Athletics
6th Musical Matinee
7th Musical Evening
9th Musical Evening
13th,14th & 15th
Stg 3 Canberra Exc
15th Stg2 Planetarium
16th KHS Big Day In

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents / Carers and Friends

The commencement of Term 3 has not been an easy one for our community.

Our wonderful Mrs Harris lost her son during the holidays and we are collectively mourning the loss of such a beautiful soul.

Our school holiday period was spent in lockdown with plans and gatherings thrown into disarray. And the weather too, has thrown up its own set of interesting dynamics for us to deal with.

There is no doubt the COVID-19 virus is having an impact on each and every one of us across all facets of our lives, both in our personal/family and work environments. In the school setting we have been asked by the Department of Education to keep our staffing numbers to an absolute minimum to ensure the health and safety of our school communities. By following the NSW Public Health orders, reducing mobility and minimising movement of people, hopefully we will see a return to some form of normality.

We understand that learning from home can be challenging and we appreciate those parents and caregivers who are able to keep their children at home. It is challenging for our staff too who are juggling supporting their class remotely, teaching on site at times and in many cases looking after their own children learning from home as well. I whole heartedly thank all of our staff for the remarkable job they are doing at the moment. The selflessness of our team and their continued commitment during such tricky times is clearly evident.

I reiterate the latest advice from the Department of Education: **Parents and carers in Greater Sydney MUST keep children – across primary and secondary school – at home unless they need to be at school.** We respectfully ask that you participate in learning from home with your children wherever possible.

Although these are tough times, there are always some positives on the school front. Students and teachers are continuing to develop their technological skills and extend their learning. Students in Stages 2 and 3 are now logging onto the Google Classroom to complete their learning and are benefiting from interactions with their peers and teachers. Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 are enjoying the school's new investment in the e-PM reading scheme to support reading at home. We've also had some classes participate in trial ZOOM classes and are excited to be rolling this out across the school over the coming weeks. We will also be continuing with our reward systems, so make sure you check your letterbox regularly.

I must also give a big shout out to our GA David and cleaners Bronnie and Nicole who are ensuring our safety on site during this time. They are going above and beyond and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

I thank you for your support. The Blackheath community has rallied many times in the last 18 months or so to overcome significant, impactful events and I am sure we will again support each other to mitigate risks and stay healthy. Take care. Kristin Hardge Principal

STAGE 2 BATHURST EXCURSION

Stage 2 students arrived at school early on the 24th June for an exciting excursion to Bathurst. As a part of our excursion, we were lucky to experience a guided tour of the exhibitions on display at the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery, such as the pottery work of Chester Nealie. While we were at the gallery, we also had the opportunity to participate in an art class. Oil pastels were the perfect material to let our creative brains, inspired by the art around us, run wild. We saw lots of incredible minerals and enormous fossils at the Bathurst Fossil and Mineral Museum. As a reward for our good behaviour, we ended the day with a thrilling lap of Mount Panorama.

"I loved the bright colours of the minerals." – Jack C.

"I liked seeing the sights of Bathurst." – Owen R.



MERIT AWARDS

K-E Aurelia B, Carlijah T & Alex R

K-1H Sam F, Ivy W & Nour H

K-R Harvey D & Isla C

1-2G Nate M-P, Clara H

1-2K Alisa C, Jerome B & Liam C

1-2NM Matari H-L, Charlie T, Charley H & Lachlan D

1-2S Jack I, Dusty S-R & Michael M



LIBRARY NEWS

The Premier's Reading Challenge closes this term, on **Friday 20th August** (Friday Week 6).

While we are spending more time at home, take the chance to read! Read books on the PRC lists, and add them to your Student Reading Records. Remember, you access the PRC site from your student portal.

Watch this video if you need a reminder of adding books to your record: <https://prcsupport.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/24000023273-new-student-experience>



NSW Department of Education

2021 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Start reading now!

www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

Key dates for students in K-10:
Challenge opens Monday March 1
Challenge closes for student entries Friday August 20
Artwork by Dr Bronwyn Bancroft



Our Wonder Wall

Congratulations to all BPS students whose artworks were chosen for our Wonder Wall.

KINDERGARTEN

Kingsley O & Ivy Windsor

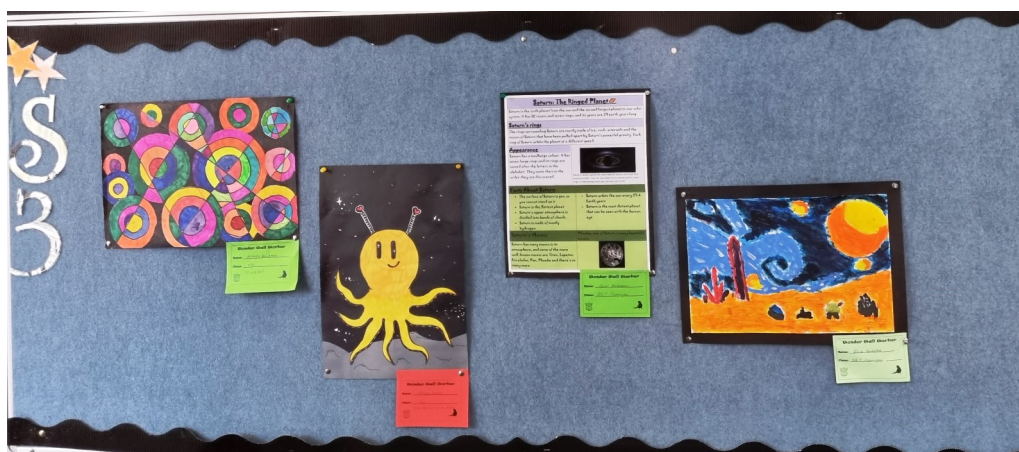


STAGE 1

Lucas G, Clara H, Joey W & Otto F

STAGE 2

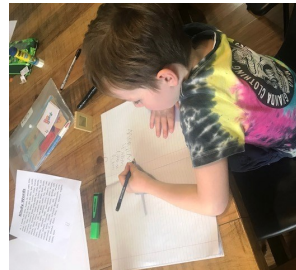
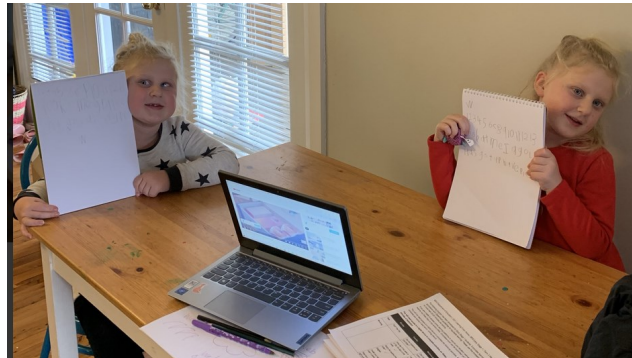
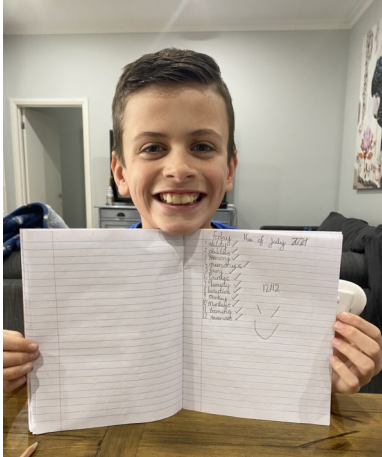
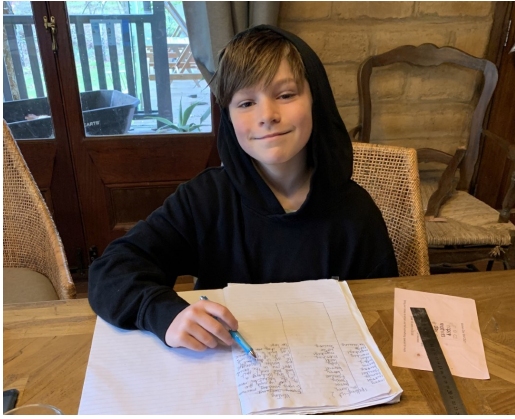
Jamie N, Frankie C, Olive W, Lucy W, Arabella S, Pieta D & Izac F



STAGE 3

Michaela R, Hazel McN, Elvie H & Georgia C

HOME LEARNING



Got It!



Hello parents and carers of kindy to year 6!

Over the coming weeks you will see a series of tip sheets from the *Got It!* team on how you can help develop the necessary skills for healthy social development in your child. The focus is on helping our children develop good skills for managing:

Behaviour
Feelings
Relationships
Social skills
Resiliency
Happiness



Different approaches may work for different children and at different times. We hope you find ones in here that are a good fit for you and your family.

For more information on the Got It! program, you can watch a helpful video by searching the following link <https://youtu.be/dphTbRyX5Kk>

Got It! team contact details:

Ph: 4725 9800

Email: NBMLHD-Got-It@health.nsw.gov.au



PEACE POLE

In the recent school holidays, a 'Peace Pole' was installed in the back playground. Peace Poles are planted with the Universal Peace Message "May Peace Prevail on Earth". They symbolise our common wish for a World at Peace. The Peace message is written in four languages on each side of the Peace Pole. The languages chosen at our school are English, Dharug, Gundungurra and Braille. We thank the Blackheath Rotary Club for inviting us to be a part of this Centenary project for Rotary Australia.

DO YOU NEED A SMALL LOAN?

On a low income?

Get a No Interest Loan from

BLACKHEATH AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE



BANC
nils

NILS
No Interest Loans Scheme
Good Shepherd Microfinance

No Interest Loans (NILS) provide individuals and families on low incomes with access to safe, fair and affordable credit. Loans are available for goods and services such as fridges, washing machines, computers, gaming consoles, training costs, mobile phones, car repairs and medical/vet procedures for up to \$1,500. (\$2000 for DV) Repayments are set at an affordable amount over 12 to 18 months. Appointments available in person and over the phone.

CALL JADE ON 4787 7770 FOR INFO



Election workers wanted

**Apply to work at your
local council election**

Local council elections take place on 4 September 2021. We are looking for people to work at these elections.

Working at the election is a good way to earn some money, learn new skills and help your community have their say.

To find out more visit
elections.nsw.gov.au



Useful Resources

Milestone matter – (NSW Health)

Information for parents online

(i) Tracking tool:

Milestones Matter NSW Health

health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/MCFhealth/Pages/milestones-matter.aspx

(ii) Monitoring tool:

Learn the signs. Act early. NSW

health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/MCFhealth/Pages/learn-the-signs.aspx

Reimagine

Guide to early childhood intervention, best practice, transition to school and more

re-imagine.com.au/families/

Blue Mountains Guide to Services & Activities For Families - BMCC

Includes information about Early Childhood Centres, Child and Family services, Supported Playgroups

Raising Children network

The Australian Parenting website with parenting videos, article and apps

raisingchildren.net.au

Love Talk Sing Read Play

Contains information for every family to help their child/ren learn and develop.

itsrp.resourcingparents.nsw.gov.au

Deadly Tots

Love, Yarn, Sing, Play information for indigenous families

deadlytots.com.au

Contacts

Child & Family Health

for regular child health & development checks with your Blue Book or if you have any concerns about your child's development.

Ph: 1800 222 608

Lifstart Early Childhood Early Intervention

supports children birth - 6 years who have developmental concerns, developmental delay or disability, and their families and carers

Ph: 1800 953 390

Best Start – Connect Child & Family Service

Can provide a bridge to link families with the mainstream and specialist services they need to support children with a developmental delay or disability, walking alongside families as they find the right path.

PH: 4758 9966 or 4739 2606



Children's Milestones Matter

Working together to support your child

As children grow they pass through specific physical, cognitive, social and emotional, and communication developmental milestones.

Parents /Carers want to ensure that their kids progress appropriately. Of course all children are different!

It's useful to know when to expect certain skills to develop and to seek support for any concerns early.

So it's important to have an understanding of these milestones as a reference point.

Early intervention helps children improve their abilities and learn new skills.

Any potential concerns or delays picked up before your child starts school can have a big impact on their progress at school.

Have a look inside to see the support available to ensure your child reaches their potential.

Produced by 2021



Keeping on track with your child's development

At Birth

All parents of children born in NSW receive a free copy of *My Personal Health Record* (the Blue Book).

The Blue Book has valuable information about a child's health and development.

It's where you can record your child's health, development, illnesses, injuries & other milestones.

You can track your child's development using *Learn the Signs. Act Early.*

Did you know?

There has been an increase over the years in children starting school requiring further assessment.

This has potential impact on their learning as they start school.



Child Health & Development Checks Child & Family Health

Maintain routine health checks **before your child starts school** to track your child development and pick up any potential problems early.

Your GP can provide a health check.

Community Health will also check for risks.

Child & Family Health provide detailed screening and access to Allied Health Services including:

Speech; Occupational Therapy; Physiotherapy; Hearing; Ophthalmologist; Counselling for both behavioural issues for child and family issues. Waiting periods different for each service.

Early Childhood Education Services

If your child attends an Early Childhood Education Centre the Educators can help provide feedback on your child and what they observe about their development.

They may recommend follow up on some issues and can potentially help you with referrals.

They can also provide additional information that may be useful for assessments.



NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention Lifstart

The main contact point for the NDIS and can help you to understand, and access the most appropriate supports for your child.

Support is tailored to the child's individual needs and circumstances. This may include:

- information
- connection to the most appropriate supports in your area, such as Community Health, educational setting and playgroup
- provide some short-term early intervention where it has been identified as the most appropriate support
- help request NDIS access if the child requires longer-term early childhood intervention supports.

Families are supported to help their child develop the skills they need to take part in daily activities and achieve the best possible outcomes throughout their life.

Best Start - Connect Child & Family

Are you feeling concerned about your child's development & unsure what to do next?

If you are confused or need support, **Best Start** can help you navigate the path towards getting the support you need.