

# The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 4 – Week 3

Friday 30 October 2020

## LEADERSHIP REPORT

Dear Families

It has been another busy start to a new term of school. For our Year 6 students, this term will be the final days of primary school before they head off to high school in the new year. This is quite a milestone which is always celebrated with tears of joy and happiness and also a little sadness as we all realise just how quickly time has flown and that soon it will be time for goodbyes as well.

Our Year 6 students this year are a unique and special group and I want them and our families to pause and think about the fact that they have had a year like no other cohort before them. They will be able to look back on this time in their lives in the knowledge that no other prior Year 6 group has had an experience quite like theirs. Our teachers have been carefully adjusting programs all year to meet the necessary COVID restrictions and keep everyone safe, however, I want you to also know that these adjustments and changes are made in many creative ways, shapes and forms and with the same purpose in mind: to provide experiences which make learning fun, special and memorable.

Our staff have had to change and adapt, replan and reorganise throughout the year, and quite often cancel events that are a staple part of the school's calendar in order to keep our community safe in the face of this pandemic. At each point in time when change has been underfoot staff have always kept the needs of our students at the centre of all we do. Every student is truly known, valued and cared for in our learning community. I want our teachers to know that they are all also known, truly valued and cared for in our school community. Today, Friday 30 October is recognised around the globe as World Teachers Day. A heartfelt thank you and a thumbs up from a student or parent is sometimes all that is needed to make a teacher's day.

## OUR LIBRARY

Week 2 saw Literature and our Library front and centre. Our students were able to shine dressed up as their favourite character with the annual Book Parade in full swing on Wednesday, a special Author visit on Tuesday and the week long Book Fair. There are also so many classroom doorways now 'dressed up' so that children can step through each morning and dream with their eyes

open. Our Library space is slowly changing under the expert leadership of Ms Willoughby supported by Mrs West. Thank you to both these teachers and thank you to Miss Chaffey for live streaming the Book Parade.

More photos of the parade and the wonderfully decorated doors later in this newsletter and on our website.

What the parents saw...



What the children saw...



**EXCURSIONS IN TERM 4**

With the easing of restrictions, teachers have been busy reorganising excursions this term. Our students are very excited. We have Stage 2 off on a walking excursion next week as part of their STEAM unit on erosion and weathering...any guesses where they might be going? Bar Beach of course!

Year 6 will be attending an end of year camp in Gosford in place of their Canberra trip. Our Year 6 team, Mr Liles, Miss Booth and Mr Radnidge went into overdrive in the last few weeks of last term to ensure that if Canberra was closed off to NSW and the excursion sadly cancelled, another experience was in place for our wonderful Year 6 students. They are all heading off to camp next Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 1 and Year 2 will also be heading to the Shark and Ray Centre in the coming weeks and I know they are very excited as well. All excursions and Term 4 events are in our calendar.

**KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION**

Kindergarten 2021 Orientation began this week and we had many very happy new Kindy kids say goodbye to their mums and dads and head off with their Year 5 buddies – not a tear in sight! We are very impressed with this new incoming cohort and can't wait to get to know them next year. Our next orientation day will be Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup>. Our P&C will also be holding a get together in Rowlands Park to welcome our new families.

**ENVIRONMENTAL WARRIORS**

The teaching team comprising of Ms Smith, Mrs Ladkin, Mrs Brown, Miss Booth and Mrs Emmington met on Thursday 29/10/20 to plan experiences and put systems in place for Term 4 for our team of Environmental Warriors who have been working hard throughout Terms 2 and 3 to educate the rest of the student body about sustainable environmental practices for our school. The students have come up with many proposals regarding how we can reduce, recycle and reuse and how these ideas can be put into practice. All ideas are scrutinised by students with help from teachers for sustainability. Please look for the latest flyer in this newsletter regarding the return of our **WASTE FREE WEDNESDAYS**.

**REMINDER****Parent Consultation Term 4: School Planning for 2021- 2024**

We would like to invite parents to join us in consultation on the new school improvement plan. This consultation will occur through small (COVID safe) focus groups from 23rd November onwards. If you would like to participate, please email me at: [thejunctio.p-school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thejunctio.p-school@det.nsw.edu.au).

Mrs Connie Emmington  
Relieving Principal

**CALENDAR - TERM 4 – 2020**

Week 4	Event
Monday, Nov 2	4L & 3/4B STEAM Walking Excursion 12pm
Tuesday, Nov 3	4S & 4/5A STEAM Walking Excursion 12pm
Wednesday, Nov 4	3LC & 2/3A (Year 3) STEAM Walking Excursion 9am
Wednesday, Nov 4	Kinder 2021 Orientation Visit 9.15am to 10.45am
Wednesday, Nov 4	Year 6 Gosford Outdoor Education Centre – Assemble at Old Hall 8.30am
Thursday, Nov 5	Year 6 Gosford Outdoor Education Centre
Friday, Nov 6	Year 6 Gosford Outdoor Education Centre – Return to school 3pm
Week 5	Event
Wednesday, Nov 11	Remembrance Day
Wednesday, Nov 11	NAIDOC celebrations
Week 7	Event
Monday-Friday	Parent Focus Groups – 2021 to 2024 School Planning
Wednesday, Nov 25	Year 1 Excursion – Shark & Ray Centre
Week 8	Event
Friday, Dec 4	Year 2 Excursion – Shark & Ray Centre
Week 9	Event
Thursday, Dec 10	Presentation Day – Whole School (to be live streamed) more details to come
Week 10	Event
Tuesday, Dec 15	Year 6 Clap Out – 2.30pm
Tuesday, Dec 15	Year 6 Farewell Dinner – (More information home soon)
Wednesday, Dec 16	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS

Thursday, Dec 17 Staff Development Day

Friday, Dec 18 Staff Development Day

## CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2021

### Week 1

Wednesday, Jan 27 STAFF ONLY – Staff Development Day

Thursday, Jan 28 STAFF ONLY – Staff Development Day

Friday, Jan 29 YEAR 1 – 6 STUDENTS RETURN

### Week 2

Monday, Feb 1 Year 4 (2020) Great Aussie Bush Camp

Tuesday, Feb 2 Year 4 (2020) GABC

Wednesday, Feb 3 Year 4 (2020) GABC

Monday to Friday Year 2 (2020) Swimming lessons

### Week 4

Tuesday, Feb 16 School Swimming Carnival – Years 3-6

### Week 5

Wednesday, Feb 24 Zone Swimming Carnival

## SCHOOL SECURITY PHONE NUMBER: 1300 880021

Please save this phone number on your phones! Please report any incidents you may see or if you see anyone on our school grounds after hours.

Thank you for keeping our school safe!

## STAGE 1 EXCURSION – SHARK AND RAY CENTRE AND DOLPHIN WATCH CRUISE

To complement our English and Science programs from earlier in the year, an excursion has been organised for Stage 1 students to visit the Irukandji Shark and Ray Centre, Anna Bay and enjoy a dolphin watch cruise at Nelson Bay. At the Shark and Ray Centre students will have the opportunity to learn about and interact directly with small sharks and rays in the shallow pool area. Students will also enjoy a cruise around Port Stephens in search of the local bottlenose dolphins who reside in the Bay.

Classes 1B, 1J, 1S and 1G will visit on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 and classes 1/2L, 2C, 2Mc and Year 2 students from 2/3A will visit on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2020. Permission notes have been sent home this week.

## SWIMMING PROGRAM

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the decision was made to cancel the Stage 1 swimming program scheduled for the first two weeks of Term 4 this year. In light of a current easing of restrictions we have been able to book in for a '5 day' program for our current Year 2 students (Year 3 - 2021) at the beginning of next year. Arnold's Swim centre have provided us with a Covid Safe Plan which ensures our students will not be sharing facilities with the community at any time during the program and that intensive cleaning of the change rooms will take place before and after each group. The swimming program will operate from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. This is the perfect opportunity for students to have some intensive instruction just prior to our School Swimming Carnival in Week 4. Year 1 and 2 students (2021) remain scheduled to attend their regular 9 day program in the first two weeks of Term 4, 2021.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### Book Week – Curious Creatures, Wild Minds

#### Author Visit – Sami Bayly

Last Monday and Tuesday all classes attended a workshop with the talented author and illustrator, Sami Bayly, who created the *Illustrated Encyclopedia of Ugly Animals* that took out an honours award in this year's Children's Book Council of Australia awards.

Our students learnt about creating a non-fiction book and how to draw some of those ugly and dangerous animals.

Thank you to the wonderful ladies in the office for their help behind the scenes!





**BOOK FAIR**

Thank you to the parents and students who purchased books and stationery through the Book Fair. A percentage of the proceeds from these sales come back to the library to be used to purchase new non-fiction books. The library team will keep you updated on the new books as they arrive in the library.

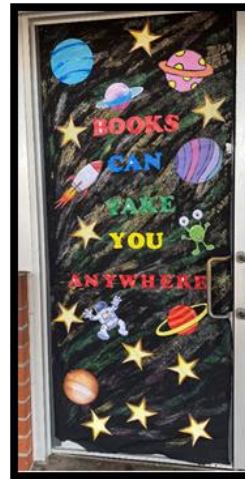
A special thanks to Jody Cooper and Rachel West, who gave up their mornings and lunchtimes to help with the Book Fair.

**BOOK PARADE**

Last Wednesday, staff and students were able to celebrate their favourite authors and book characters. It was great to see an amazing range of costumes, with most students choosing to dress up on the day. Thank you to the family members who helped with the wonderful creations.

A huge thank you to Miss Chaffey who organised the live stream of the book parade, so our families could be a part of the day. There are some fabulous photos at the back of this newsletter.

**Some of our amazing portals into literature**



**Year 6 parading...**



**Our staff photo...**



## SEEKING ETHICS TEACHERS AT TJPS FOR 2021

### *Could you be an ethics teacher at TJPS?*

We are losing a couple of ethics teachers for next year and are in need of some new, enthusiastic volunteers in order to continue to provide ethics classes for all the families who have requested it for their children.

Ethics teachers receive full training by Primary Ethics, the not-for-profit organisation approved to design curriculum and training for the ethics program. Training consists of a two-day workshop and short online modules. All lesson materials are provided.

Suitable volunteers have an interest in children's education and development of critical thinking skills and must be available at Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons for up to an hour each week.

In ethics classes, children learn how to think logically, disagree respectfully and support their arguments with evidence, rather than act according to blind habit or peer pressure.

Children discuss topic such as:

- imagining how others feel
- how do we treat living things?
- what is laziness?
- how do we disagree in a respectful way?
- fairness

If you are looking for an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our school and at the same time learn some interesting new skills and engage in the school community, please visit [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au) and/or contact TJPS Ethics Co-Ordinator Kristen Saunders at: [tjpsethics@gmail.com](mailto:tjpsethics@gmail.com)

## UNIFORM SHOP

At this stage there is an enormous amount of second hand uniforms here at the shop. For this reason we have no space for any more second hand clothing items. Don't forget you can email the Uniform Shop if you require second hand bomber jackets, shorts, tunics.

Email: [tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com](mailto:tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com)

There are no second hand items in the new 'everyday uniform'.

## ENVIRONMENTAL WARRIORS: HEAR YE! HEAR YE! WASTE FREE WEDNESDAYS ARE BACK



### WHAT IS A WASTE FREE LUNCH?

A waste-free lunch contains no throwaway packaging. Food and drinks are packed in reusable containers within a reusable lunch bag or box. All containers are resealable so that leftover food and drink can be consumed (or composted) later.

### Tools of the trade:

- Reusable lunch bag or container
- Reusable drink bottle

### Simple!!!!!!

Jump on board and help the Environmental Warriors at our school cut the waste.

**Wednesday** is the big target day for all students!  
Why not every day?





# New Furniture

This term, Year 6 classes have been lucky enough to receive new furniture. This includes: standing desks, whiteboard desks, new wobbly chairs, rocker ottomans, lap desks and new cushions.

All Year 6 students are enjoying the luxury of new furniture. It has made the room more flexible and spacious. The students can now stand up and learn, sit down on the floor with the lap desks or use the comfortable seating to sit at a desk of their choice. Although we have new furniture, we have kept some of the original furniture including the old chairs and tables if the students prefer these options instead. As Year 6 students, we are all very thankful to the teachers, staff and P&C for putting together this gift for us all.





