

Around the Grove - Week 1, Term 4

Dear Parents & Carers,

Important Dates

Wednesday 21 October Book Week Celebrations Friday 23 October Movie Afternoon 3-5pm

Monday 26 October 3Bridges After school care commences on site

Welcome Back to Term 4

The students have had a positive start back to school this week and are very excited about all things Term 4. They all informed us of all of the wonderful experiences they had with you over the two week holiday period.

We will continue to coordinate fun and exciting in-school activities for the students this term in an effort to make up for whole school community experiences and usual excursions that occurred pre COVID. This will see the students engage in Book Week activities next Wednesday 21 October and Movie Afternoon on Friday 23 October.

Our Bluefit sporting program was due to commence today. Unfortunately Bluefit were not able to attend this week so we have coordinated a makeup session, which will hopefully occur on Tuesday 20 October. We will confirm this through Skoolbag.

Out of School Hours Care - 3Bridge

Bridges will be offering onsite After School Care as of Monday 26 October.

Please contact 3Bridges on 1300 327 434 to enrol your child/children. To keep your children safe and secure during care, parents and carers are required to press the second intercom button on the bottom gate on Lansdowne St when collecting their children in the afternoon. 3 Bridges will also provide families with a direct mobile number in the event students and carers are outside and do not hear the intercom.

Movie Night

The staff will be hosting a Movie Night for the students along with the P&C and SRC on Friday 23 October between 3-5pm. Tickets are \$10 each and need to purchased at the office before Wednesday 21 October.

Term 4 COVID-19 guidelines for families

The Department of Education works closely with the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC), NSW Health and other agencies to ensure



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our schools continue to operate in the safest ways possible. There are some changes to activities being permitted in a way that is safe and appropriate in the current environment. Other activities will remain on hold and will be reviewed during Term 4.

Whilst we understand that there could be frustration with limiting access for non-essential adults to schools, we are following the guidelines mandated by the Department of Education for the health and safety of our students, staff and community. Please read the following information closely.

What has changed for Term 4?

- Transition to Year 3 can commence after 12 November.
- Kindergarten Orientation/transition programs can commence from week 3 with strict guidelines.
 We will be launching a Virtual parent package on our usual curriculum and wellbeing presentations. We will update our families throughout the term regarding additional information and onsite visits.
- Music Bus can recommence in Term 4 under the new guidelines.

What Continues in Term 4?

- Morning Drop Offs Please say goodbye and kiss and drop at the gate.
- Afternoon Pick Ups Please meet your children outside the school.

3pm Kindergarten (bottom gate) and Year 2 (top gate)

3.15pm Year 1 (1S top gate, 1L bottom gate)

Please remain 1.5 meters from other adults and leave immediately after picking up your child/ren. Please do not stand in groups in or around the school area.

- P&C Meetings P&C meetings and events continue to be online only.
- School Cleaning Our school will continue to receive additional cleaning. Target areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, light switches and our silver tables/seats. We have also received additional supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels and disinfectant wipes.
- School based events on hold School based activities that involve large gathering of adults remain on hold. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school barbecues, large parent information evenings and large on-site cultural events.
- Parents/carers Parents/carers can only come onsite for essential purposes. Non-essential adults
 visiting schools including parents and carers are still not permitted for Term 4 with some exemptions.

Exemptions to this are:

- Essential parent and carer meetings with teachers and/or school executives to discuss disciplinary
 or welfare matters where a virtual meeting solution is not available
- Parents and carers who attend a school administration building or other defined pick up location
 for the purpose of picking up their child if they are unwell or where they have been asked to
 arrange for a COVID-19 test after their child has displayed flu-like symptoms while at school
- Parents and carers who need to be on-site for lunch club.
- Parent volunteers for scheduled educational support roles for activities that are essential to

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delivery of the curriculum such as but not limited to reading groups, music and kitchen garden areas. Schools need to be mindful that a parent cannot walk into the school and expect to volunteer for an educational support role unscheduled.

- SRE/SEE volunteers
- Construction and maintenance contractors for asset-related activities
- Official visitors and dignitaries
- Allied health partners and providers
- External providers that are providing services that are essential to the delivery of curriculum
- School services staff delivering essential services and support, WHS Advisors and SINSW can attend schools where their services cannot be delivered remotely. Staff must comply with these guidelines, infection control, personal hygiene and physical distancing requirements at all times.

Please note that all adults visiting the school as per the above list will need to comply with the school's COVID-safe and physical distancing guidelines. Adult visitors must also sign an external visitors form each time they visit the school regardless of the frequency and duration of the visit.

All information is available for you at https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families
Thank you for your support and we look forward to a successful and productive Term 4 focused on learning.

Kindergarten and Year 3 Transition Programs

We are looking forward to welcoming our Kindergarten 2021 students on the following dates:

Wednesday 11 November

Wednesday 18 November

Wednesday 25 November

Year 2 parents we will be coordinating your child's transition at their local Year 3 School on the dates mentioned above.

Kylie McKinnon – Principal 16 October