

Cowra Public School

Newsletter



Term 2 Week 4 2020

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21st May 2020

Principal's Message

Students Return Next Week!

This week we received advice from the NSW Department of Education, that as of next **Monday 25th May**, all students will return to **full-time face-to-face learning**. It is important to note that **all** students are expected back at school on Monday unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence. If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's return to school, please don't hesitate to call the school on 63422400 and ask to speak with me, or our Deputy Principal Mr Murray.

Covid-19 Shout Out!

Over the past few months, our teaching and non-teaching staff have worked tirelessly to ensure continuity of learning for all students. This has included creating explicit work packs for each child, ensuring these were posted or emailed ready for the next week's learning, providing tech support and loaning school devices to families, organising library book packs, supporting families with home learning, phoning and emailing students to 'check in' and upskilling their own skills in using IT. "Zooming" and "Google Classroom" have now become familiar terms in our school and I am immensely proud of the CPS staff who 100% live and breathe our school vision of "EVERY CHILD, EVERY OPPORTUNITY, EVERY DAY"!

There is no way we would have got through the past few months of "At Home" Learning without the amazing support of our families. We know it hasn't been easy, and I'm sure most parents are looking forward to next Monday's return to full-time schooling, as much as the teachers! We have missed our students and can't wait to have everyone back at school! Please find more detailed information for parents about the safe return to school next week further in the newsletter.

Visitors to the School

All non-essential visitors to the school, including parents, volunteers and members of the community, are not permitted. Parents are requested to "Drop and Go" at the school gates in the mornings and wait outside the gates at 3:15pm when collecting their children. **These arrangements will be in place until the end of Term.** Thank you for assisting us to keep our school community safe.

Spotlight on...Dhundhu!

Each week in our Newsletters, we shine the spotlight on a particular class in the school. This week we would like to share some of the amazing work from the Stage 1 students in Miss Van Ballekom's class, Dhundhu!



What's Happening?

Monday May 25

ALL students return to school for full-time face-to-face learning

School Canteen

The school canteen will NOT be operating on Monday, 25 May, Tuesday, 26th & Thursday, 28th May.

Please make sure your child brings lunch & recess next week on the days the canteen is NOT operating.

Laptop Returns

All laptops loaned to families earlier this term need to be returned to school on Monday 25 May. Devices brought to school on Friday will remain at school.

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a water bottle to bring to school each day. Bubblers are not to be used as part of our "safe return to school" procedures.

#thankyouprojectaustralia

This month our school is participating in the "Thank You Project Australia" organised by George, Harry and Gracie Scammell. The idea behind the project is to thank all the amazing workers who have supported our community during the pandemic. On Wednesday our School Leaders passed on some posters with messages of thanks to the staff at the Cowra Medical Centre, acknowledging the work they do to help keep our community safe. What a fabulous initiative!



Have a great week.
Jenny Lewis
Principal

Canteen News!

The Canteen will be open on **Wednesday, 27th May and Friday, 29th May** for lunch orders. The menu is:

Wednesday's menu:

* Spiral Pasta bolognaise	\$5.00
* Honey Chicken w rice	\$5.00
* Cheese Burger	\$5.00
* Pumpkin Soup	\$5.00

Friday's menu:

* Lasagna	\$5.00
* Butter Chicken w rice	\$5.00
* Curry snags w sweet potato	\$5.00
* Chicken noodle soup	\$5.00

Recess over the counter on both days

SCHOOL DROP OFF

To enable us to continue to socially distance, we request ALL families bringing children to school, to drop them off at either the Vaux St bottom gate, Dental Clinic gate or Coles carpark gate and leave.

SCHOOL PICK UP

Parents picking children up are requested to wait at either the Vaux St bottom gate, Dental Clinic gate or Coles carpark gate. The teacher on duty will open the gates at 3.15pm to allow children to exit the school grounds. Parents will not be permitted to wait in the school playground. Thankyou for your support.

PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF THE TRAFFIC IF PICKING UP AT THE BACK GATE.

These measures are in response to COVID-19 Guidelines.

Position Vacant

The Cowra Public School P&C are looking for a Canteen Manager – all details are on the school's Facebook page!



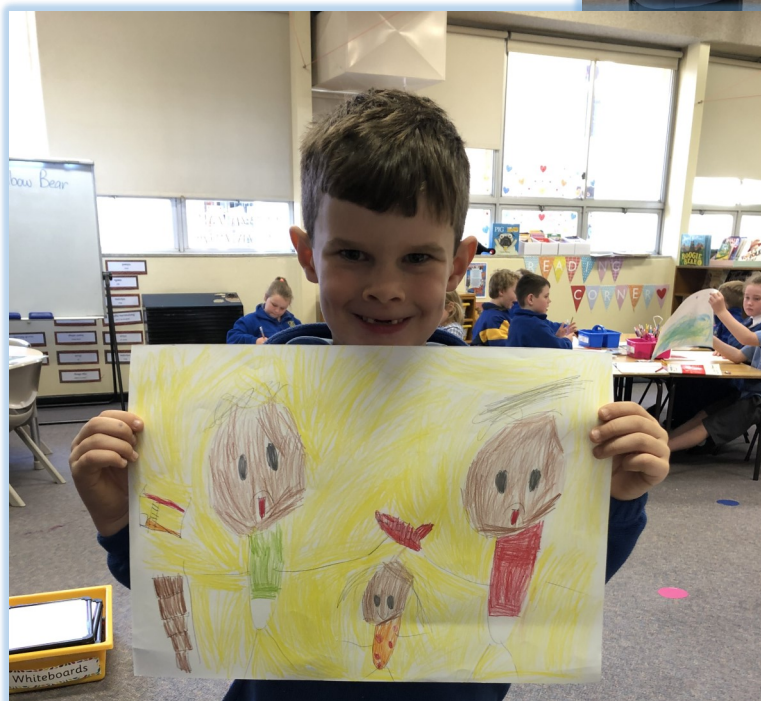
Our Week 4 PBL

Focus is:

Respectful Online

Spotlight on...Dhundhu!

Dhundhu have had a very busy start to Week 4. We have been practising our phonics and reading "The Runaway Hug" by Nick Bland. What a great book! On Monday we each drew our favourite part of the story. Here are some of our artworks.



Thank you to all of the Dhundhu students that joined our Zoom meeting on Tuesday. It was great to see your faces and catch up!

Miss V

Parent Update – Return to School

All schools are returning to full on-campus learning from Monday 25 May. All school activities and operations will be in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.

School students do not need to follow physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- Regularly washing hands
- Avoiding sharing drinks or food
- Coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately

School attendance

All students should be at school unless:

- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- They are currently unwell.

Please note, students who live with a family member in one of the categories identified as being at increased risk by the AHPPC, should attend school unless a medical practitioner advises otherwise in writing. If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school, you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please make sure your contact details are up to date. If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and followed up by the school.

School activities

Teachers will continue to follow the same school curriculum with the exception of some activities that can't go ahead for now.

These include:

- School assemblies (unless for critical information)
- School incursions and excursions including camps
- Inter-school activities (debating, inter-school sport)
- In-school activities requiring parent or other volunteers
- Drink from a water bubbler – bring a water bottle instead

School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Our school will receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Targeted areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap. We have received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment.

School grounds

There should be no visitors to school sites unless they are essential. Please follow the advice already communicated regarding drop off and pick up procedures. Wherever possible, P&C and parent/carer/teacher meetings should be conducted virtually. Canteens and uniform shops can open at the discretion of the principal. Out of school hours care can continue to operate.

Responding to COVID-19 cases

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation was to arise.

NSW Department of Education - Information has been updated as at 19 May 2020, until further notice.



It Takes Two to Talk[®] via Telepractice

Mission Australia's Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) is running the *It Takes Two to Talk[®]* program in 2020. This FREE program is for *parents and carers* of children aged 0-5 years who are late talkers or have a language delay.

It Takes Two to Talk teaches you, in simple steps, how to become your child's most important language teacher and coaches you through strategies to build your child's vocabulary and ability to use words in meaningful contexts. The program consists of eight sessions with a HANEN certified speech pathologist.

**Please note this program will not address speech sounds or stuttering.*

*Registration open to families who reside in Western and Far West NSW whose local NDIS ECEI partner is Mission Australia. **Not open to parents of children who have an NDIS plan.*

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- When:** Weekly from Thursday June 4th until Thursday July 30th 2020
Time: 9:30am till 12:00 noon.
- Where:** Via Microsoft Teams[®]. A link will be provided after registration.
- Contact us:** For further information or to register your interest contact Chris Ferrito
Registrations close Monday 25th May 2020
M: 0490 891 163 | E: ferritoc@missionaustralia.com.au