



Striving for Personal Excellence

Week 6 Term 1 1 March 2022

From the Principal ...

Welcome to Week 6. The rain has definitely been relentless. However, I'm sure we are all thinking about people affected by the flooding in NSW and Queensland. Let's hope people in those areas are able to stay as safe as possible and we see an end to the rain for a little while.

We have continued to notice the number of late arrivals to school each day. Please remember that our school starts at 8.50am. Students are expected to be here at the commencement of school each day. When students are late they miss out on vital information and messages, as well as the start of learning tasks and activities. Our gates are open from 8.30am each morning. Please ensure your child arrives on time ready for their day of learning.

This Thursday (3 March 2022) students will bring home the last set of Rapid Antigen Test supplied by the Department of Education. You can use this final bundle of Rapid Antigen Tests should your child be symptomatic or if there are cases in their class. Beyond that, Rapid Antigen Tests and PCR tests are now widely available and accessible in the community for symptomatic testing.

We will be sending out information later this week regarding the easing of school restrictions and what this will look like across our school. We will generally be following the organisation we had in place throughout 2020 and 2021. The Senior Executive team are working on this at the moment. As always, our number one priority is everyone's safety in what we have planned based on advice from the Department.

It has once again come to our attention that there have been issues with parking around our school. I have had discussions with the Local Council regarding the frustration created for our neighbours. I am asking our community to be considerate of the families who live around our school. When parking, dropping children off in the morning or doing the afternoon pick up, please ensure you are parking safely and not across people's driveways. Council have indicated that if this continues they will be sending out council rangers to issue fines. To avoid the loss of points and money, ensure you know the rules about parking around school sites, be considerate and most importantly put our students' safety first.

We are all aware that students attending school each day is vital for great learning outcomes. Occasionally, families chose to take time out during the school term for family holidays. Whilst we know that at times this can be unavoidable, it does in fact interrupt student learning, and there is no way to gain that time back in terms of teacher instruction and involvement in classroom activities and tasks. Parents should be aware that if they do take time off during the term for a family holiday they must complete an Application for Extended Leave - Travel through the front office, this needs to be approved by the school principal. Application forms must be submitted 2 weeks prior to leave being taken. If the appropriate paperwork is not completed, students will be marked as an unexplained absence.

Congratulations to our team of swimmers who attended the Zone Swimming Carnival today. A huge thank you to Miss Vukovich, Miss Skoric and Miss McMahon who attended with our students. It is wonderful to have students proudly representing our school.

Jason Corcoran Principal

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Deputy Principal's Message ...

It seems crazy that at the conclusion of this week we will be half way through Term 1. It has been wonderful to see how well our youngest students have commenced their school journey. A big thank you to all of our community, especially our new parents and carers for making the start of the school year a smooth one. There are still some challenges with Covid-19, but GPK has demonstrated by working together we are very effective in dealing with them. We are looking forward to the easing of some restrictions over the coming weeks.

Congratulations to our students who attended the Zone swimming carnival on Tuesday 1st March. We are certain that you represented yourself and our school well. We are all very proud of you and look forward to hearing about your efforts in the water.

A huge thank you to our community for supporting the Stage 3 fundraiser which was held last week on Tuesday 22.2.22. Stage 3 raised over \$800 for this event because of the generosity of our school community.





This week, our Stage 3 students participated in the launch of our revised SRL program. The revised program will encourage our senior students to work towards a set amount of stars in order to participate in the special extra-curricular activities that are offered to them, such as Aquatopia and Movie Day. Please take the time to ask your child about the new SRL program as we are sure that they are keen to start earning stars. Thank you to Mr Lorello and his team who spend many hours producing a new program to encourage our Stage 3 students to be positive with their learning and behaviour.





Arriving on time is really important for our students as vital information is given to them first thing in the morning and their learning starts every morning from 8:50am. Also, the morning routine for all students is an imperative consolidation of what is being taught. Fortunately, the majority of our students are on time every day. We are still noticing a small number of students who are arriving late each day, especially some of our Kindergarten students. It is crucial that children establish good routines and habits in preparation for the rest of their lives. Punctuality is a life skill that they need to develop whilst they are young. Every minute counts.....

Rucation & Communities Public Schools NSW EVERY MINUTE COUNTS				
	When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is
	10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of school
	20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
	½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
	1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learning
Your Child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day Don't BE LATE!				

Remember, school starts at 8:50am every day!

Have a great week.

Heidi Hosking Deputy Principal



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