

Wentworthville Public School

QUALITY TEACHING TO MAXIMISE STUDENT LEARNING

Term 1 Week 6 2020 Newsletter



From the Principal – Denise Lockrey

Wonderful Happenings at Wenty!

Swimming Carnival last week

It was terrific to see so many students attending the swimming carnival in 2020. We have been building the profile of the swimming carnival over the last few years and are thrilled that a team has yet again been able to represent the school at the Zone level.



We wish them all the very best as they attend Blacktown Aquatic Centre!

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70 - 100 Fullagar Rd
WENTWORTHVILLE NSW 2145 Australia

Phone: 02 9631 8529

Fax: 02 9896 3079



Website: www.wentwthvil-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Email: wentwthvil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Student Portal: <http://portal.det.nsw.edu.au>

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I was very proud to receive feedback from Merrylands Pool at how organised the carnival was and particularly the encouragement for participation – including the music interludes, dry carnival activities / novelties for those not comfortable yet in swimming in the big pool. They also commented on our very organised individual health care plan / medical kits which is a credit to both senior executive and the admin team organisation.



Thanks to all the teachers and parents who were able to attend on the day and make it such a positive school event and particular thanks to Ms O'Sullivan and Mrs Mohanaraj who organised the event that ensured a smooth and safe operation.



WELL DONE

Building update!



The building demolition and preparation for the first phase of the project continues. We also had the installation of the new upgraded electrical mains box near the staff carpark this week. Can I remind families it is critical that when there are variations to road operations (particularly around Fullagar Road currently) that you follow traffic management directions and keep **SAFETY at the forefront of your thinking**. We have observed some unsafe behaviours by both students and families these last couple of weeks.

CONSTRUCTION
ZONE

Mathematical Fun



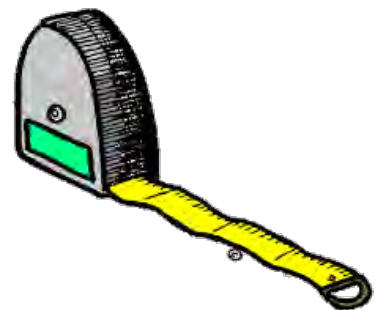
2H has been learning how mathematics helps us understand the world. We used tallying to keep the score in our team challenges.

2H experimented to discover the importance of uniform units and baselines for comparing length.



We surveyed the class to find out the most popular pet, favourite colour and most common number of siblings.

As you can see from the photos, we have had some fun learning and using maths.



4G NEWS



4G along with all Stage 2 students had the opportunity to get up close to the ICC Women's T20 World Cup during a trophy tour driven by Nissan.

Students were very excited to see the trophy and hear stories about inspiring women from communities across Australia.

It was fascinating to see how invested students were in this sports event and showcase their support for women and girls.



2A

2A have been looking closely at the origin of words and how we use them.

We have explored a number of ways to describe our past, present and future, discussed the etymology of words with 2H and begun to expand our vocabulary in descriptive writing.





EVERYONE BELONGS

At Wentworthville Public School we will be celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 20th March 2020. On this day we celebrate Australia's cultural diversity. Harmony Day is a great way for students to learn about Australia's rich cultural diversity. It is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

To celebrate this sense of belonging we will have a 'Harmony Day Assembly' at the school (under the COLA) at 12:15pm on Friday 20th March 2020. Students are invited to wear either an outfit from their culture or the colour orange. Students could carry a flag or a cultural item or a drawing they have made. Families are welcome to attend the 'Harmony Day Assembly' It will be an opportunity for us to appreciate our diversity and our sense of belonging.

Harmony Day Committee



Wentworthville Fire Station Visit 100 Years

Last Monday 24th February 2020 some students, Ms Hall and Ms Di Chio attended the Centenary celebrations at the local Wentworthville Fire Station. Various members of the Wentworthville community attended as well as Commissioner Paul Baxter who is the Commissioner of Fire and Rescue NSW.

The students sang a wonderful rendition of the National Anthem and performed an entertaining Bollywood dance.





2019/2020 PSSA REPORT

Congratulations to our two 2019 PSSA premiership winning teams:

- ◆ Newcombe Ball Black Junior Team, coached by Ms Chamoun (LHS)
- ◆ Netball Senior Team, coached by Mr Wong-See (RHS)

The dedicated training sessions and the ability of players to follow innovative game plans, mixed with selfless commitment to each team lead to these amazing achievements. Many other PSSA teams registered strong results in 2019 and all teams continued to serve our school with style and sportsmanship, founded on the basis of teamwork.



We are wishing all 2020 PSSA teams the very best for the year ahead. Let's continue to represent our school with distinction, train hard, take the advice of our dedicated coaches and continue building our skills while upholding our team-centred ethos. Our success is measured just as strongly against these benchmarks as it is with results!

2020 SUMMER PSSA TEAMS

Team	Coach
Cricket Black	Mr Wong-See
Cricket White	Ms Bamunuarachchige
T-Ball	Ms Smith
AFL	Mr Gilson
Newcombe Ball Black	Ms Chamoun
Newcombe Ball White	Ms O'Sullivan



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PSSA ZONE SPORT REPORT

2019

Congratulations to Krish Mehta (LHS) for his selection in the 2019 Sydney West Cricket Team and Ali Elmasri (RHS) for his selection in the 2019 Seven Hills/Wentworthville PSSA Zone Touch Football team.



Krish and Ali after being presented with their 2019 PSSA Zone medals

2020

Congratulations to the four WPS students that recently trialed for positions in 2020 Zone/Representative teams.

1. Lakshmi Rajadurai – Sydney West Girls Cricket.
2. Neel Patel – Sydney West Boys Cricket.

Neel was successful in making the second stage of the Sydney West Boys Cricket trials to be held in September.

3. Ali Elmasri – Seven Hills/Wentworthville PSSA Rugby League.

Ali was selected in the zone team to play at the Sydney West Opens Rugby League Championships on 31 March.

4. Michael Iyinbor Oladipo - Seven Hills/Wentworthville PSSA Football and Touch Football.



*Mr Williams
PSSA/Zone Coordinator*



Just a reminder to register for the Sentral Parent Portal so you can receive updates about events at our school. Every family has a special code to register. If you have misplaced your code please see the office or Ms Di Chio so we can facilitate this information to be forwarded to you.

Kindergarten families have been emailed a letter with their family codes and instructions on how to set up their account. A hard copy letter will come out soon as well.

The Sentral Parent Portal aims to provide parents with access to communication features about daily notices and newsfeeds about school events, send and receive absence notifications and access to our term calendar of school events. Over the year other features will also be added to the portal and families will be notified of updates via the daily notices on the newsfeed. When your child is absent you will automatically be sent a notification to provide a response for the absence. Absences can be explained via the Parent Portal app or desktop site.

I am confident that you will see the benefits of your registration immediately and be part of our journey in providing this facility to you. As we progress this initiative, I am confident that the Parent Portal will become more and more significant in your day to day management of your child's enrolment at our school.

Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Ms Di Chio for assistance. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience with our Sentral Parent Portal, and any feedback will be gratefully received with a view to adding further functionality and improvement.





STEP UP TO CLEAN UP

Teachers and Students participated in Clean up Australia Day during week 6, 2nd - 6th March 2020.

Students cleaned up our school grounds and classrooms. Students participated in class discussions and learning activities that promote understanding and appropriate strategies to keep Australia clean.

More information about Clean up Australia Day can be found at <http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/>

What can you do to Step Up and Clean Up?

News from the Library.



World Book Day 5th March 2020.

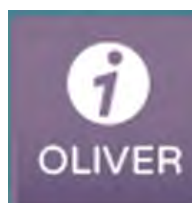
We will be celebrating World Book Day by reading great stories. Ms Hall will deliver a book to each class to read in their classroom.

Each class will be asked to write a sentence about the World Book Day theme 'Celebrating Stories'. These sentences will be displayed in the library window.

Library Borrowing-

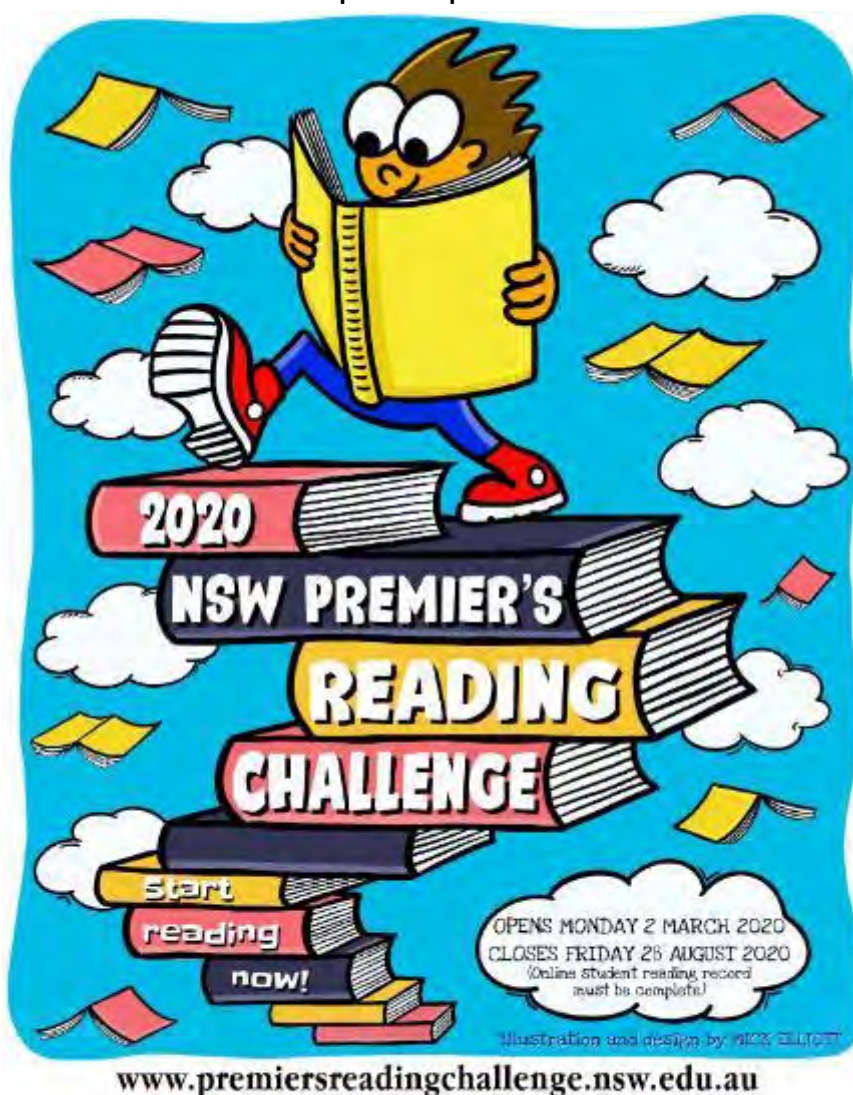
Students require a library bag to borrow books. Library bags can be purchased from the uniform shop or you can purchase your own library bag. (Plastic bags are not acceptable).

Students can access the Oliver Library website from their student portal (kidspage). They can search for books and reserve their favourite books from this site. Lots of great websites and information is regularly updated on the library website.



Premiers Reading Challenge (PRC) 2020

Our goal is to have every student at Wentworthville Public School participate.



The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9, in government, independent, Catholic and home schools.

Students in K-2 classes will log read books as part of their weekly library lessons and in their classrooms. Students in years 3-6 will be responsible for completing their own book logs. (Assistance will be provided in library lessons where needed.)

Rules

1. The Challenge opens on 2 March 2020. You must complete your online Student Reading Record by 28 August 2020 (11:59 pm) to complete the Challenge.

2. You must read a certain number of books to complete the Challenge:

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9

3. Books you read after the Challenge closes can count towards the next year's Challenge.

4a. K-2 Challenge: you can read the books on your own, read them with someone, or someone can read them to you.

4b. 3-4, 5-6 and 7-9 Challenges: you must read the books on your own, but someone can help you choose them.

5. In an approved series on the PRC booklist, you can read any three books as PRC books. You can read up to five other books from the same series as Personal Choice books.

6a. K-2 Challenge: you can read books or have them read to you in your home language.

6b. 3-4, 5-6 and 7-9 Challenges: you must read all PRC books in English. You may read Personal Choice books in your home language.

7a. K-2 students only - If you can read simple chapter books on your own, you can attempt the 3-4 Challenge. You need to get your Student Reading Record changed to Challenge level 3-4. See your PRC coordinator for help with this.

7b. 3-4, 5-6 and 7-9 students only: students with special needs who would experience difficulty completing the challenge at their grade-appropriate level can take part in the 3-9 Challenge. Students on the 3-9 Challenge level will complete the challenge by reading 20 books from any challenge level (including K-2) with whatever levels of support are appropriate to their needs. PRC coordinators should submit requests for changes to the 3-9 challenge by 31 July.

8. 3-4, 5-6, 7-9 students only - If your teacher thinks you need extra help, you can listen to unabridged audio versions of the books as long as you read along.

9. If you complete your online Student Reading Record by 28 August 2020, and it is validated by your school by 11 September (11:59 pm), you will be eligible for a PRC certificate in Term 4.

10. The certificates you can receive for completing the Challenge are:

Year of completing PRC	Award received
First year	Challenge completion certificate
Second year	Challenge completion certificate
Third year	Challenge completion certificate
Fourth year	Gold certificate
Fifth year	Challenge completion certificate
Sixth year	Challenge completion certificate
Seventh year	Platinum certificate
Eight year	Challenge completion certificate
Ninth year	Challenge completion certificate
Tenth year	Challenge completion certificate
Every year from Year 3 to Year 9 (inclusive). Therefore, only Year 9 students are eligible.	Medal

11. You can only receive one certificate each year.

12. Gold and Platinum certificates will be sent to your school in Term 4 with students' names printed. Your school is responsible for downloading and printing your Challenge Completion Certificate from the PRC website.

13. Your school needs to make sure your parent or carer knows that by entering the Challenge, you may receive a PRC certificate with your name and school printed. The Premier's Reading Challenge no longer lists student names on an Honour Roll, however there may be opportunities for students to be recognised through media publications or through the school's own newsletters and communications. No student names and/or details will be published publicly without prior consent from parents/ carers.

For more information visit the Premier's Reading Challenge website

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>



If you have any questions, please ask.

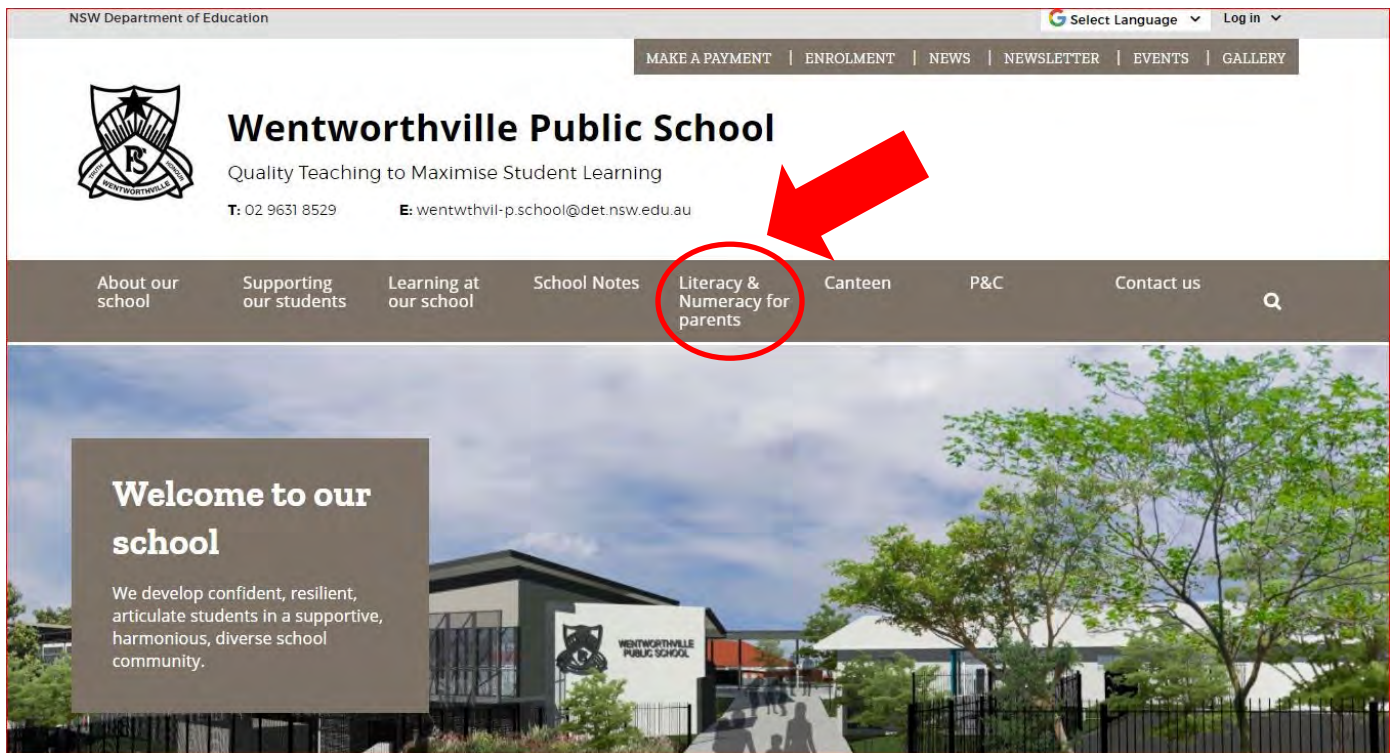
Ms Hall

Teacher/ Librarian.

melinda.hall@det.nsw.edu.au


School Website News

If you are looking for some information about Literacy and Numeracy, Wentworthville Public School has some excellent parent videos on our [website](#). Simply click on the link [as displayed below](#) and you will find videos on Phonics, Magic 100 Words, Reading at home, Introduction to reading strategies, Introduction to Numeracy, Introduction to Handwriting and Improving fine motor skills.



NSW Department of Education Select Language Log in

MAKE A PAYMENT | ENROLMENT | NEWS | NEWSLETTER | EVENTS | GALLERY



Wentworthville Public School

Quality Teaching to Maximise Student Learning

T: 02 9631 8529 E: wentwthvil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

- About our school
- Supporting our students
- Learning at our school
- School Notes
- Literacy & Numeracy for parents
- Canteen
- P&C
- Contact us
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Welcome to our school

We develop confident, resilient, articulate students in a supportive, harmonious, diverse school community.





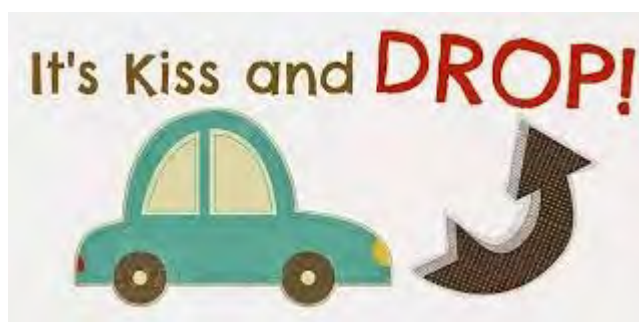
Just a reminder that there is a designated Kiss and Drop zone on Monash Street. Only families who have registered for a Kiss and Drop number may utilise the service and park in the designated space. Whilst the Kiss and Drop service is operating in the afternoon please cross safely across Monash street and not between cars parked in the Kiss and Drop zone. The safety of you and your child is paramount. If you would like to register for a number for the Kiss and Drop zone then follow the instructions below.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Event code: **5hjp4**

Complete your details as prompted

Your child will receive a laminated number within a few days of your registration. The laminated number will be placed on the front dashboard of your car as you are in the waiting bay of the Kiss and Drop zone. All Kindergarten students will receive a laminated number in the next few weeks therefore Kindergarten families don't need to register.



Playgroup

Playgroup has made a great start to the year with lots of great activities.

Come and join Playgroup each Wednesday at 9.30am in the Community Room.



PLAYGROUP

WENTWORTHVILLE
PUBLIC SCHOOL

STARTING
5TH FEBRUARY 2020
AND EVERY FOLLOWING
EVERY WEDNESDAY
OF THE SCHOOL TERM
IN THE COMMUNITY
ROOM

TIME: 9.30AM TILL
11.30 AM

TIMETABLE

- 9.30 am Playgroup start.
- 10:00 am Free Play
- 10:30 am Pack up & set up for craft
- 10:45 am Craft / Speakers
- 11:00 am Morning tea
- 11:15 am Song and story time
- 11:30 am Playgroup concludes

THERE WILL BE GUEST SPEAKERS ATTENDING THROUGH OUT THE TERM like Speech Pathologist, Early childhood Nurses

CONTACT
EMMA OR KARISHMA
ON
9631 6575

Karabi
Community & Development Services Inc.

LIKE US ON
facebook

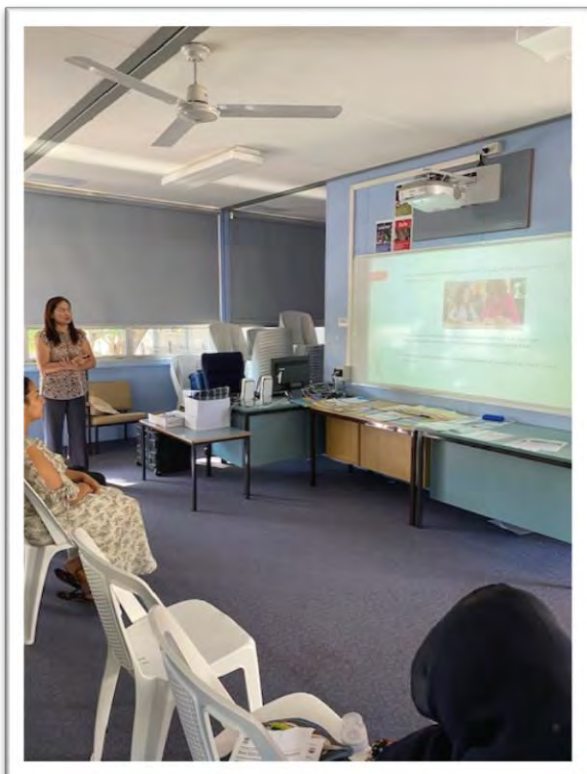
The flyer features several colorful illustrations: a group of children playing with blocks, a stack of colorful blocks (red, yellow, green, blue), a craft kit with scissors and paper, and a group of children reading a book.

Parent Workshops

It has been great to see so many parents joining the parent workshops with Helen our Community Liaison Officer.

Come and join us in the Community room each Tuesday at 9am for a series of parent workshops. The workshop schedule for Term 1 is listed below

Dates	Venue	Time	Topic
Tuesday 18 Feb 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Homework and School A to Z
Tuesday 25 Feb 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Settling In Program – Best Start Kindergarten Assessment
Tuesday 3 Mar 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
Tuesday 10 Mar 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Settling In Program – Compulsory School Attendance
Tuesday 17 Mar 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Helping Your Child with Length and Area
Tuesday 24 Mar 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Settling In Program – Anti Bullying
Tuesday 31 Mar 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	Helping Your Child Become a Good Speller
Tuesday 7 Apr 2020	Community Room	9.00 am - 10.00 am	End of Term Celebration and Planning for Term 2



Selective High School Placement Test



Dear Parent,

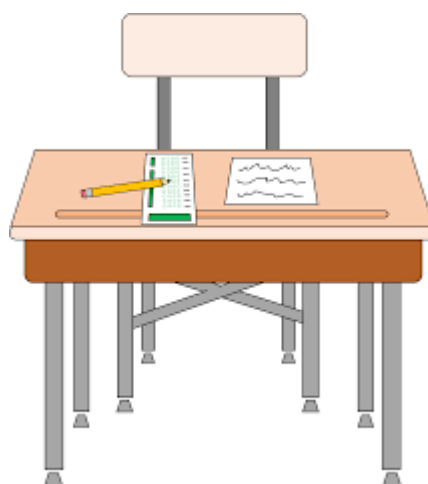
The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 12 March 2020 from 9.00am to 1.30pm.

Unless parents have made special arrangements with the High Performing Students Team to attend an individually allocated test centre candidates from this school have been sent to:

Greystanes High School
Beresford Rd
GREYSTANES NSW 2145

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7> to find:

- Test centre allocations by public school.
- A map of test centre addresses under the heading 'The test'.
- The bulletin, test information for parents and students. The bulletin contains very important information about the test and should be read carefully.



Selective High School Placement Test 2020 for entry to Year 7 in 2021

Test information for parents and students

Who must sit the Selective High School Placement Test?

Students seeking placement in Year 7 at a selective high school must take the Selective High School Placement Test unless they have a satisfactory explanation, e.g. illness. (See page 4.)

When will the test be held?

The test will be held on **Thursday 12 March 2020 at 9.00am** at the allocated test centre.

How long does the test take?

The following is a sample timetable for the test. Apart from the start time and duration of the tests this timetable is approximate and will vary according to the size of the test centre and its facilities.

Parents must drop students off at the test centre by **9.00am** and return promptly at **1.30pm** to pick them up. There is no supervision for students before 8:30am. If the test finishes early, students will be supervised. Please do not be late to collect your child after the test. If the test is delayed, please wait quietly and take care to avoid disruption to the school or students doing the test.

In a small number of cases parents will be advised in writing if they are required to stay on the school grounds for student welfare reasons. **Generally, parents are NOT permitted to enter the test centre and they must leave the school grounds during the test so the school can maintain its security.** Please do not photograph other students or attempt to take photographs of students inside the test room (even through windows) as it can cause disturbance to the students.

Activity	Approximate start	Approximate finish
Candidates arrive by	9.00am	
Candidates assemble in school groups	9.00am	9.20am
Session 1: Administration	9.20am	10.00am
Reading test (40 minutes)	10.00am	10.40am
Break	10.40am	10.45am
Mathematics test (40 minutes)	10.45am	11.25am
Administration	11.25am	11.35pm
Break	11.35am	11.55am
Session 2: Administration	11.55am	12.10pm
General ability test (40 minutes)	12.10pm	12.50pm
Break	12.50pm	12.55pm
Writing test (20 minutes)	12.55pm	1.15pm
Candidates collected by parents		1.30pm

What happens during the 20 minute break?

In the longer break students will leave the test room and should go to the toilet. They should not run or play vigorous games, but they should eat food they have brought with them. Students should not share food.

How do students get to the test centre?

Parents must arrange transport for the child to and from the test centre and must observe any parking restrictions near the test centre. **Parents must not park on or drive into school premises unless authorised by the High Performing Students Team and the school prior to the test.**

What happens if a student arrives late?

Students who arrive late may be allowed to take the test, but will be required to finish at the same time as other students. Parents can request consideration for illness/misadventure after the test if there are extenuating circumstances.

What should students wear to the test?

Students should wear school uniform, including a jumper and a hat for the break. Before the test the students will be assembled in primary school groups outside the test centre.

What must the students bring to the test?

Students must bring a printed copy of their 'Test authority letter' that shows their application number.	
Students who have been granted disability provisions must bring any specially approved items. If your child has an EpiPen you must provide the <i>Action plan for anaphylaxis</i> and the medication to the presiding officer before the test.	
Students SHOULD bring:	Students should NOT bring:
Glasses, asthma inhaler (and spacer) and tissues if required. Other equipment and medical devices must be approved before the test	Pens, pencil cases, erasers, rulers, note paper or other material such as dictionaries or books
Clear plastic water bottle – with no writing on it except for the brand name (to be stored under the seat to avoid spills)	Equipment such as calculators, computers, mobile phones, computer watches, watches that calculate or beep, or any device that calculates, photographs or communicates
A substantial snack to eat during the break as lunch will be late, especially if the test is delayed.	Snacks containing nuts or nut products.

Pens will be provided for all students sitting the test.

How are the students identified at the test?

At their desks in the test room students will find an answer booklet labelled with their name, date of birth and current school. They should tell a supervisor if the details are wrong. Identifying details are not provided to markers so all papers are marked anonymously. Answer booklets are linked back to the student using a unique booklet barcode.

What tests do the students do?

There are four tests. Three of the tests have multiple-choice questions and students answer in answer booklets which are scanned electronically. These three tests are Reading, Mathematics and General ability, each lasting 40 minutes. The fourth test is a writing test lasting 20 minutes. A stimulus such as an image, a statement or a question is provided and students respond in writing on two pages only.

To gain high marks for their writing students should include interesting and imaginative ideas and communicate their ideas clearly. The markers will give **no marks** if the writing is not about the topic or if the writing is using someone else's ideas or words. The writing test is double marked by trained markers. The markers pay more attention to what is written than to how much is written. The markers need to be able to read the handwriting.

How do students show their answers?

The presiding officer (the person in charge of the test centre) will show students how to record their responses in the answer booklets at the beginning of the first test session and students will practise recording their answers. Students who need further help should raise their hands. This part of an example answer booklet shows the boxes students will shade in to show their answers.

The answers are grouped according to the page number in the question booklet, e.g. question 1 to 5 are on page R3 of the question booklet in this example.

TEST 1 READING														
Page R3				Page R11				Page R17						
1	A	B	C	D	16	A	B	C	D	31	A	B	C	D
2	A	B	C	D	17	A	B	C	D	Page R19				
3	A	B	C	D	18	A	B	C	D	32	A	B	C	D
4	A	B	C	D	Page R13				33	A	B	C	D	
5	A	B	C	D	19	A	B	C	D	34	A	B	C	D
Page R5				20	A	B	C	D	35	A	B	C	D	
6	A	B	C	D	21	A	B	C	D	Page R21				

This helps students to make sure they are answering each question on the correct line of the answer booklet. Sample answer booklet pages can be viewed on the Team's website under 'The test'.

Students must show their answers in the answer booklet and not the question booklet unless authorised in advance by the Team as a disability provision. If students need to work anything out they may write in the question booklet but they must show answers in the answer booklet. See below for instructions for changing an answer.

How do the students know how much time they have in each test?

The presiding officer will show students the test clock that times the test. If students cannot see the test centre clock clearly, they put up their hands and tell the presiding officer or supervisor. Test centre clocks are usually analogue clocks so students need to be able to read the time. No time warnings will be given before the end of each test.

What is expected of the students?

Students must follow the presiding officer's and supervisors' instructions during tests and breaks.

What if students miss all or part of the test or are prevented from doing their best on the day?

Students unable to take the test will not be eligible for placement at a selective high school unless there are exceptional circumstances. If your child misses all or part of the test because of exceptional circumstances, you should submit a request for consideration of illness/misadventure within 14 days of the test. Parents may submit an illness/misadventure request if their children took the test while ill or because of misadventure which prevented them from doing their best. The *Illness/misadventure* form is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test/illness-or-misadventure>. It is generally better to do the test and make an illness/misadventure request than to miss the test, as long as it does not put your child or other students at risk of harm.

If your child is ill on test day you should seek medical attention **on the day of the test**. Ask for a medical certificate covering the test day and also the 'Independent evidence of illness' form.

Test information for students

- There is nothing you should study for the tests. It is most important to think clearly and to use your ability to deal with new problems and situations to choose an answer.
- Pay attention when the presiding officer (the person in charge of the tests) talks to you and tells you where to show the answers for each test.
- Put your hand up if you have any problems understanding the instructions and the presiding officer or supervisor will answer your questions.
- Be careful not to look at the work of others during the test. If suspected of cheating you risk having the test marks not counted.
- Do NOT open the question booklet until the presiding officer tells you to do so.
- At the beginning of the first Session there will be practice questions to make sure that you know how to show your answers. Start and stop work as soon as you are told to.

- Read each test question carefully before you start answering it. Think about what it asks you to do. Use your time wisely. Work steadily. Choose the answer that you think is best. If you find a question too difficult, do not spend a long time on it. Shade in the answer you think is best and come back to that question later if you have time.
- To change an answer, draw an X through the answer you don't want and shade in the box of the new answer. If you want to choose an answer you previously crossed out, circle the answer you now want and draw an X over the latest answer you shaded in.

INSTRUCTIONS:

How to show an answer: A B C D
 Show your answers like this. B is your answer.

How to show a correction: A B C D (B was your first answer but you crossed it out and now A is your answer)

How to show you now want an answer you previously crossed out: A B C D
 B is your final answer. (You decided that A was not correct and B was the correct answer after all so you circled B)

If you then change your mind about the answer you circled put a new X right over the circle and then choose a new answer.

- In the multiple-choice tests every question has equal value. Marks are given for correct answers. Marks are not taken off for wrong answers. Incorrect, double or blank answers score zero. It is better to have a guess rather than leave an answer blank as this helps you make sure you are answering on the correct line. If you wish to remember the questions you want to check later, put a small dot beside those numbers on the answer booklet.
- In the writing test, you must write about the topic or no marks will be given. The writing must be all your own work.
- Keep checking that the number of the question you are working on in the question booklet is the same as the number you are shading on the answer booklet. Check this with the 'Answer check' reminders throughout the tests, for example:

ANSWER CHECK (Reading No. 1)
*Look at your answer booklet — was the last box you filled in for Question 18?
 If it was, keep going. If it wasn't, put your hand up now for help.*

If you find you are answering a question at the wrong place, put your hand up and tell a supervisor. The supervisor will record the question numbers affected so the selection committees can investigate later. Start the next question at the correct place and come back to fix the problem later if you have time, changing one question at a time.

- If you want to work anything out in the multiple-choice tests you can write on the question booklet. For the writing test there is a page for planning in the red section of the question booklet that you can use if you wish. Any notes that you have made in the question booklet or on the writing planning page will not be marked.
- There will be no time warnings during the test. You will need to check the test centre's official clock to find out how much time you have left. Put your hand up if you cannot see it clearly.
- Put your hand up if you have any other problems or any questions at any time. Any problems should be written by a supervisor on the back page of your answer booklet.
- If you have a disability provision organised for the test you may be given just a question booklet and not an answer booklet. You will have your own instructions for showing answers.
- Practise using sample test questions and sample answer sheets at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7/the-test>.

Enquiries: High Performing Students Team. Email: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au. Telephone: 1300 880 367
 Website: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>



As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare.

Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear under utilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

INSIGHTS

Managing separation anxiety at school drop-offs



Going to school for most children is a positive experience however some children can struggle making the transition from their home environment to school. It's naturally distressing to see your child upset at school drop-off but there is a great deal you can do to make school drop-offs easier for you and your child.

Breaking the cycle of separation anxiety at school

A child's clinginess, crying or tantrums at school drop-off can be disturbing for you as a parent. Despite putting on a brave face, you can feel guilty that somehow you're the cause of this behaviour. Unless something traumatic has occurred then leaving your child at school is a normal part of life, something your child will get used to. The following strategies may help eradicate your child's tears and fears when you take them to school:

Tell the story

Prepare your child thoroughly each morning for what will happen when you leave your child at school. Repeat the story each morning before school so they can fully prepare for drop-off.

It takes two

Involve your child's teacher in the drop-off process as they will be the person who must deal with an upset child. In extreme examples, at the start of term or after a long absence, a later starting time may give your child a chance to say goodbye in more relaxed circumstances.

Give me five

Rituals are both personal and reassuring so develop a special goodbye ritual that you consistently use when you leave your child each morning. Your special ritual may be simple such as a special wave or kiss, or fun such as a high five, low five, fist pump bursting into a hand explosion. Then leave quickly without stalling or looking back. Avoid making leaving a bigger deal than it what it is.

Reduce the rush

Is your child a morning star or night owl? Many children are slow starters in the morning, which can mean that they're frequently rushed and arrive at school in highly anxious states. Do all you can to reduce morning stress, which may include earlier bed and waking times; laying out school clothes the previous evening and making minimal demands on their time.

This is the place

Location carries memory so choose carefully the place you say goodbye to your child. If a kiss or hug at the school-gate means a happy child, then you've probably found your goodbye place. Experiment with your goodbye location until you find one that works.

It's your job

If goodbyes continue to cause tears, tantrums or clinginess consider, if possible, saying goodbye to your child at home and allowing another adult – your partner or another parent – to take your child to school.

If separation anxiety continues

If your child's separation anxiety interferes with their concentration and learning, prevents them from making friends, is excessive and goes longer than a month, consider getting professional support. Separation anxiety left unchecked can lead to school refusal and other anxiety disorders later on.

For professional support consult with welfare teacher at your child's school, your local general practitioner or local council for suitable health care professionals in the area.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Jan 27	Jan 28 Staff Development Day ☞	Jan 29 Students Return Years 1 - 6	Jan 30	Jan 31
2	Feb 3 Kindergarten Cohort starts	Feb 4 Got It meeting 10:30am Got It parent Info Session ☞ 2pm	Feb 5 SiSA Year Three and Year One P&C Meeting Zone Swimming Carnival	Feb 6 PSSA Meeting at Toongabbie RSL 3:45pm	Feb 7 PSSA trials Week 1
3	Feb 10 Berry Leaders Camp	Feb 11 Berry Leaders Camp	Feb 12 Berry Leaders Camp SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten	Feb 13	Feb 14 PSSA trials Week 2
4	Feb 17 Environentors Stage One Dem 9	Feb 18 Environentors Stage 1 Dem 9 Parent Info Session and BBQ Scripture Coordinator Meeting in Staffroom 09:30am Got It meeting 10:30am	Feb 19 SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3	Feb 20	Feb 21 PSSA Round 1
5	Feb 24 Wellbeing Week	Feb 25 Wellbeing Week SRE starts	Feb 26 Wellbeing Week SiSA Year 3 and Year 1	Feb 27 Wellbeing Week Swimming Carnival at Merrylands Pool (3-6) Beginning Teacher Network 3:45pm meeting at WPS	Feb 28 Wellbeing Week PSSA Round 2
6	Mar 2 Women in Sports Roadshow 09am	Mar 3 Grip Leadership Conference Got It Program Meeting 10:30am	Mar 4 SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten P&C Meeting SLSO Network Meeting 3:30pm	Mar 5 Zone Swimming Carnival at Blacktown	Mar 6 PSSA Round 3
7	Mar 9 Celebrating International Women's Day (8th March) Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 10 Exec - Three Rivers for Learning 09am	Mar 11 SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3 Teachers Health Visit	Mar 12 HS Selective Placement Test	Mar 13 PSSA Round 4
8	Mar 16 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 17 Got It Program Meeting 10:30am	Mar 18 SiSA Year 3 and Year 1 ILP Support Unit Meetings	Mar 19 ILP Support Unit Meetings School Tour 2:30pm	Mar 20 Harmony Day (TBC) (in lieu 21st) PSSA Round 5
9	Mar 23 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 24	Mar 25 SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten	Mar 26 Year 6 - Wheelchair Roadshow Early Stage One Three Way Goal Setting Meetings 3:15pm	Mar 27 SEAL Program Kindy - Community Room PSSA Round 6

	Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3
10	Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Got It Program Whole Day Training	SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3 P&C Meeting Gina @ SW Softball Trials	Blue Day - Autism Awareness Cross Country Carnival - TBC 09am 3 Way Goal Setting Interviews 3pm - Year 1 Zone PSSA Meeting 3:45pm	SEAL Program Kindy - Community Room PSSA Round 7
11	Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) Wheelchair Basketball - Year 3 (TBC)		Apr 6 Apr 7 Got It Program Student Observation 3 Way Goal Setting Interviews - Stage Two 3:15pm	Apr 8 Apr 9 School Photos	Apr 10