



Week 9 & 10 Term 1 2019



Thank you to the wonderful students and teachers at Botany Public School for our Harmony Day display in the foyer...

Cross Country

Our Cross Country Carnival will be held at school on **Wednesday 27 March**. Children in Year 2 who are 8 or turning 8 this year, along with all students in Years 3-6, will run in the Cross Country between 9.30 and 11.30am. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will participate in an informal Cross Country Carnival 'Fun Run' at school from midday. The Zone Cross Country carnival will be held on Friday 17 May.

Election Day Thank you

Thank you to the fabulous community members who volunteered their time to work on our school BBQ and Cake Stall during the election on Saturday. They have raised an impressive \$1500 approx for the BBQ and \$663 for the cake stall. The whole school community appreciate your commitment and support!

Learning Conferences

Thank you to the students, parents and teachers for meeting to discuss student Learning Goals for the year. Many families booked their interview timeslots online which makes this process run very smoothly. Please ensure that you remember to book your timeslot before the cut off time in Semester 2. The exchange of information between home and school helps us all to focus on student learning.

NAPLAN Online assessment

This year our school will be participating in the Naplan online assessments. All students in Year 3 and 5 are expected to participate in the annual assessment which will be completed using our new laptops.

Students with a disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support that they normally receive in the classroom. A formal exemption may also be granted for a student with a disability that limits their capacity to participate.

Students will participate in the assessment on 14, 15 and 16 May. An individual student report regarding Naplan will be issued by the school later in the year.

Tell Them From Me

In the next few weeks, our school will be taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The student surveys are for students in Years 4, 5 and 6. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please contact the school office via email. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

High Standards of Uniform

Thank you to all our families for their ongoing support to ensure that our students are always dressed in full school uniform. The wearing of school uniform imparts a sense of pride, creates a unified community and improves school spirit.

Have a great week...

Kate Holmes - Principal

Diary Dates

March 2019

Monday 25

School Banking

Wednesday 27

Cross Country Carnival at school

Please note change of date due to Bob Mccarthy Cup being held on Thursday 28

Thursday 28

Rugby Tournament - Bob Mccarthy Cup for selected students

Friday 29

8.30am-9.15am - Clothing Pool Sale

April 2019

Thursday 4

Easter Egg Mufti Day – Students wear plain clothes in return for an Easter egg to be donated to our P&C Easter Raffle.

Thursday 11

Anzac Day Service

Monday 8 – Friday 12

Wellbeing Week



No homework ... No meetings and whole school focus on Wellbeing for our school community.

Friday 12

1.30pm Easter Hat Parade



Friday 12 April

Last day of Term 1

Happy Holidays

Monday 29

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 30

Students return

May 2019

Friday 10

8.00am Mother's Day BBQ Breakfast

Tuesday 14 – Thursday 16 May

NAPLAN for Year 3 and 5 students

Working Bee

The P&C will also be holding a Working Bee on Saturday 6 April, starting at 1pm.
See you there ☺



Election Day Thank you

Thank you to these fabulous community members for volunteering your time. The whole school community appreciate your commitment and support!

BBQ Volunteers

John Ledingham, Zain Rahmat, Simon Payne, Jillian Robbie, Quyen Sainsbury, Noni Roy, Sari Wotawa, Christopher Wilson, Glenn Mackenzie, Shannon Rawnsley, Andrew Billing.

Cake Stall Volunteers

Katie Phillips, Mike Kelly, Petra Potter, Lisa Cassells, Tania Ropiha, Belynda Bradstreet, Tanya Mann.

Please see the back of this newsletter for more P&C news.
The P&C team ☺

PSSA Years 3-6 Summer Sport

Students participating in PSSA Sport depart school at approximately 9.30am Friday. Please make sure students wear full uniform including a school hat and bring a drink bottle.

Week	Sport	Venue
Round 6 29/3/2019	Softball/ T ball	Booralee Park
	League Tag	Heffron Park
Round 7 5/4/2019	Softball/ T ball	Booralee Park
	League Tag	Heffron Park

Week 7 2019 Award Winners

*Achievement
Award*



KM	Foti	Selena
KP	Kobe	Holly
KR	Lola	Alfie
1/2D	Zack C	Will P
1/2L	Oliver D	Aidan L
1/2R	Jacob B	Reece
1/2S	Sebastian	Anderson
3/4B	Chloe G	Cleo
3/4S	Cody	Tisha
4/5D	Orlando	Millaine
5/6G	Zachary	Sione
5/6I	Jaydon M	Millie

Week 8 2019 Award Winners

*Achievement
Award*



KM	Dylan P	Cassie
KP	Dylan K	Mabel Y
KR	Chloe A	Michael X
1/2D	Mia V	Dean
1/2L	Selina	Aiken
1/2R	Reece	Ignacio
1/2S	Emily S	Zachary V
3/4B	Lily A	Taliyah
3/4S	Tara	Tallis
4/5D	Michael H	Emerson
5/6G	Nikola	Harry M
5/6I	Penny	Isabel

Value of week 9
Freedom

Value of week 10
Pride

Office News

I thank all families that have finalised the payment of school levies and made voluntary contributions to the school. For those families who have not yet made these payments, it would be appreciated if all school fees could be finalised by the end of term.

Sending money to school

There is a money letterbox outside the office in the school foyer and all payments and notes can be placed here before school. Payment envelopes are available to allow office staff to quickly record details for our students.

A reminder: A permission note must be completed for every student in the family for all activities.

Please note the office does not carry change, can you please provide the correct money with your orders.

Caps can be purchased from the office at \$12.50.

Absences Notes

Absence notes should be given to each child's teacher on the day they return to school. Explanations should be clearly outlined so the reason for the absence can be accurately recorded.

If you are intending to take leave for more than three days, and you know in advance, it is important that this be discussed with the school as an application for leave may be required. If your child is absent for longer than three days it is important that you contact the school to let them know the reason for the absence.

Arrival and Departure Procedures

Student ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE times will be recorded from the ADMINISTRATION OFFICE if they arrive after the 9am bell or if leaving school earlier than 3pm. Please note the importance of prompt arrival to school each and every day. Prime learning time is in the morning, occasionally students are late for any manner of reasons and that is unavoidable. Once the bell has gone, students are required to attend the office for a late note.

Regular records of lateness and early leaving are deemed unexplained and unacceptable. These cases are monitored by regional staff - Home School Liaison Officer.

Likewise, school finishes at 3pm. All students are to be picked up at that time. No student is to wait outside the gate unsupervised waiting for a parent or carer to pick them up. Before and After School Care is available on our school site.

Thank you to every parent and carer – your support of our school is very much appreciated.

Newsletter

As the newsletter is available "online", you are encouraged to use this facility if you have internet access at work or at home. You may either view or download the newsletter from the website or have the newsletter emailed to you each fortnight. To receive the newsletter by email you will need to go to the school's website and click on "Newsletters". On this page you can subscribe to receive the newsletter "online".

You can now also get the school newsletter via your SMARTPHONE. This app is for parents, carers, students and teachers. The School ENews app is now available in the App Store ready for download! Visit: <http://ios.schoolenews.com.au> The School ENews app allows parents, students and teachers to easily stay up to date on school information. By downloading this app you will have access to our newsletter and notices in your pocket! Download the app and then search for our school inside the app.

Uniform Pool

The next clothing pool will be held on Friday 29 March from 8.30am-9.15am, in the canteen area.

Parent Online Payment System (POP)

A button to access this online payment system titled '\$ Make a Payment' will be visible on the utility bar on the front page of our school's website at <http://www.botany-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

By selecting this link, parents and carers will be taken to a secure Westpac QuickWeb payment page, from which they can make online payments.

Please note: As a Westpac-hosted solution cardholder and account details will be held securely, helping to protect the school and its customers from fraudulent transactions as well as assisting in meeting the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCIDSS) compliance requirements.

Please note, once your payment is made online, we still require signed permission notes for all excursions and sports for each child participating in the activity to be sent to the office. Please also ensure you enter your child's name and not your own.

Easter Celebrations

Thursday 4 April – Easter Mufti Day

Students can wear mufti clothes in return for donating an Easter egg that will be used as part of a raffle that will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade...

Friday 12 April – Easter Hat Parade

1.30pm Parents and friends are welcome to be part of the audience as the students take part in the parade.

Our P&C Easter Raffle

The P & C will be holding a raffle at the Easter Hat Parade with lots of fabulous prizes to win!

Tickets will be sent home by the P&C in the coming weeks.

Please sell as many tickets as you can. Extra books can be collected from the office.

Don't forget to return your raffle tickets before the day.

Please ensure you place money and tickets in separate envelopes to school related expenses.

The P&C will need volunteers to help prepare the prizes and raffle tickets on the morning of the parade.

Good luck!



Harmony Day



Thank you to Mr Matt Thistlethwaite for attending our Harmony Day assembly.

Mr Thistlethwaite was very impressed with how well behaved our children are.

I am very proud of our school and our students. Well done!

Botany Public School Change of Dates Term 4 2019 - Staff Development Days

At the end of the each school year, there are two Staff Development Days designated after students have begun their Christmas school holidays.

This year, the students finish on Wednesday 18 December 2019. Staff would then normally attend meetings on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December.

After discussing this situation with staff and seeking clarification from the Department of Education, our school will be completing these two days of Professional Learning during the school year, allowing staff to finish teaching on Wednesday 18 December.

As part of this process, staff will attend Twilight Professional Learning on a number of days after school. On Wednesday 3 April, 8 May, 12 June and 14 August staff will undertake Professional Learning around our Strategic School Plan and Milestones, Child Protection, CPR and Anaphylaxis training.

I am proud of the staff at Botany Public School, who continue to demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning.



Thank you to our P&C for your ongoing support of our school.

At the last meeting for 2018 our amazing P&C donated **\$10 000** to our school.

This money has been used for a deposit for an upgrade to our playground equipment.

We will be having the bark chips replaced by colourful soft fall which will stay in place even when we have heavy down pours of rain.

We look forward to this new upgrade beginning soon.

Thank you again to our P&C!



Sydney East Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the five students who represented our school at the Sydney East Region Swimming Carnival on Tuesday, week 8. Madelyn, Mabel, Aidan, Olivia and Bronte competed against students from 179 schools in our region, from Concord to Bundeena and all the schools between. All students smashed their times from the zone carnival earlier in the year, with a few Personal Bests! We are extremely proud of all of your efforts.

Aidan Robbie- 8th 8 years boys 50m freestyle 43.97

Bronte Boorer- 17th 8 years girls 50m freestyle 49.87

Madelyn James- 19th 10 years girls freestyle 39.77, 17th junior girls 50m backstroke 48.26

Olivia Potter- 15th junior girls 50m butterfly 51.57



Junior girls- 18th 4x50m freestyle relay 3:03.59

ESPSSA Zone Trials

Congratulations to Jade Deura who has made the Eastern Suburbs and Sydney Coastal girls married soccer team. She will be playing at the Sydney East region carnival on Wednesday week 10. We wish Jade and her team all the best as they take on the other zones!



NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy

BOTANY SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

2019

Excursions are a valuable experience, providing the opportunity to expand and enhance children's knowledge, explore different environments and engage in meaningful ways with school curriculum requirements. Excursions provide an opportunity for students to further develop their social skills, independence and relationships. Excursions reflect the children's developmental stage and interests.

Who: Early Stage 1 - Kindergarten
Where: Calmsley Hill Farm
Date: 10/9/2019
Cost: \$45
Payment Date: 2/9/2019
Clothing: Full School Uniform



Who: Stage 1 - Year 1 & Year 2
Where: Symbio Wildlife Park
Date: 13/6/2019
Cost: \$45
Payment Date: 3/6/2019
Clothing: Full School uniform



Who: Stage 2 - Year 3 & Year 4
Where: Berry Sports & Recreation camp
Date: 16/9/2019 – 18/9/2019
Cost: \$340
Payment Date: Deposit due 3/6/2019
Full payment due 26/8/2019
Clothing: Casual Clothes



Who: Stage 3 - Year 5 & Year 6
Where: Great Aussie Bush Camp
Date: 11/11/2019 – 13/11/2019
Cost: \$330
Payment Date: Deposit due 1/6/2019
Full payment due 18/10/2019
Clothing: Casual Clothes



What is new with the P&C?

Looking to Volunteer?

Great we already have quite a few days to choose from!

- Monday morning banking- this is every Monday so any help is appreciated! Please contact Shannon Rawnsley in person or by email: info@shannonelisephotography.com.au
- 2nd Hand Uniform Stall 29/3. Volunteers needed on **28/3, @2:30pm** for sorting. Also, **29/3, @8:30-9:15am** for the sale itself. Please contact Donna Harrison @ 04 11 062 821
- Working Bee 6th of April @ 1pm. Contact Jo or Chris.

Contact the P&C by emailing botanypublicpandc@gmail.com

OR

On Facebook at
Botany Public School
P&C

2ND HAND UNIFORM STALL:

The P&C will be having our next uniform sale on Friday 29th March from 8:30-9:15am. This year Jackets will be \$5 and all other items will be \$2. Cash only. Feel free to donate any items to the office before the day. See Donna Harrison to volunteer

Working Bee:

We are reaching out to ANYONE that would like to participate in this terms working bee. It will take place on Saturday April 6th starting at 1pm. Bring your gardening gloves if you own some, or there will be some spares available as well! Any amount of time is appreciated! Please contact Jo or Chris with any questions.

Mum's Wellness Dinner

Please join us for the first dinner of 2019!

New Mum's especially welcome. Fun and friendly atmosphere. Come for dinner or just stop in for a drink!

Date: Thursday 11 April

Time: 7pm

Venue: Tennyson Hotel- 952 Botany Rd., Mascot

Rsvp: Facebook page 'BPS Mum's Wellness Dinner' or email:

ingridarndt@optusnet.com.au