



# The Botany Buzz...



Week 3 & 4 - Term 4 2020

## Diary Dates

Wednesday 16 December 2020 – Last day of Term 4

Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 January 2021 – Staff Development Days

Friday 29 January 2021 – First day of Term 1 for Students 1-6

Monday 1 February 2021 – First day for Kindergarten Students

Dear parents and carers

### School Enrolments and Numbers for 2020

The end of 2020 is fast approaching and we have now begun planning for 2021. Please inform the school, as soon as possible, in writing if:

- your child is not returning to Botany Public School in 2021.
- your child is starting Kindergarten 2021, and you have not yet informed the office.

### Kindergarten Transition Days

Our Kindergarten Transition Session will be held on Tuesday 24 November for students who have had their paperwork accepted and are registered at the school.

Parents will bring their child to a scheduled appointment time. Students will participate in learning activities with teaching staff. Parents will follow Covid – 19 restrictions will leave the school grounds retuning for pick up at the scheduled time.

If your child is starting Kindergarten in 2021 and you have not completed paperwork, please do so as soon as possible, so you can be given your scheduled appointment time. Please ring the admin office if you have any questions regarding this.

### Staff Development Days

Last week, all NSW Public schools received notification about changes to Staff Development Days. The following amendments to School Development Days (SDDs) will take effect from the beginning of the 2021 school year. The amendments will impact the number of SDDs occurring in Terms 1 and 4, while SDDs occurring in Terms 2 and 3 will remain the same.

Commencing at the start of 2021, the changes include:

- an increase from one to two SDDs at the commencement of Term 1
- a decrease from two to one SDDs at the end of Term 4.

The School Development Days are scheduled for the following dates:

- 27 and 28 January

Students return 29 January 2021. **Please note the change in dates for students starting school in 2021.**

## **World Teachers Day**

On Friday 30 October 2020 we will celebrate *World Teachers Day*. The teachers at our school are extremely dedicated to teaching, ensuring that students are cared for and are able to access a differentiated curriculum.

The knowledge of our teaching staff continues to grow through professional learning and also through learning from each other. We recognise our teachers as highly educated professionals with a vast skill set and extensive knowledge of curriculums.

We thank all of our teachers for everything they do...

## **Leadership positions for 2021**

Botany Public School conducts a range of student leadership opportunities. The election of school captains and prefects is one such process which builds an understanding of the skills of leadership by undertaking roles in the total curriculum and the many varied roles in school life including those that are ceremonial in nature.

School student leadership roles link strongly with citizenship and our school values. Student leaders assist other students to learn about and exercise the rights and responsibilities of participating in a school community that values social justice.

The development of student leadership skills involves opportunities which encourage students to:

- act in roles of responsibility with integrity and honesty
- foster a sense of vision and purpose
- work with others to determine and achieve collective goals
- take on responsibilities and use decision making skills
- be active, reflective listeners who respond effectively
- earn the respect of others through their actions.

Students in Year 5 who have nominated will present speeches to the student body in coming weeks. Then students and staff will vote for next year's captains and prefects. These positions will be announced at a modified Presentation Day later this year.

## **Library Upgrade**

Our Library refurbishment is nearing completion with new pinboards and furniture being installed. Staff have been busily sorting books onto the new shelving and a stocktake will be completed in coming weeks. Technology cabling is also being reinstalled.

A huge thankyou to both admin and teaching staff for helping with the organisation of the new space. Photos of the finished library can be found later in the newsletter.

## **Public Speaking**

Public speaking is a valuable tool for children to have. A clear and confident speaking voice is an essential life skill that fosters self-esteem and personal confidence.

Abilene B represented Botany Public School in the Bondi and Sutherland Shire Districts 2020 Public Speaking Program. She presented a prepared presentation on Loop Boxes and Micro Transactions and participated in the video linked impromptu speech.

Abilene represented the school with great confidence and ability to adapt to differing circumstances. Congratulations Abilene!

## **School Attendance**

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.

NSW Health has requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the COVID clinics.

Students and staff with flu-like symptoms will need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before being permitted to return to school.

Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test result will not be permitted to return to school for a 10 day period. Additionally, they must be symptom-free for at least 3 days prior to returning to school.

## **Health Guidelines and Hygiene Practices**

All schools will be vigilant when implementing infection control, physical distancing and personal hygiene protocols to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Schools will promote the need to follow good hygiene practices such as:

- regularly washing hands
- avoiding sharing drinks or food
- coughing or sneezing into your elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately
- filling water bottles from bubblers rather than using the bubbler directly.

## **A reminder - Physical Distancing at School Drop Off and Pick Up Times**

The Department of Education continues to advise all NSW schools of updated procedures to manage physical distancing between staff and visitors such as parents on school sites.

Physical distancing means the requirement for people to distance themselves from others. The more space between you and another adult, the harder it is for the virus to spread. We strongly request parents follow these guidelines.

The morning drop off time is working very smoothly with parents bringing children to the front gate on Botany Road. The teachers are enjoying being able to welcome our students to school each morning.

I would like to thank our community for your ongoing support and adherence to the changes to school life that we are all managing this year.

Kind regards

Kate Holmes

Principal

### Week 1 2020 Award Winners

*Achievement  
Award*

*Values  
Award*

KD	Hugo	Lucia
KM	Ryan	Lucy
KP	Constance	Ana
1D	Pascale	Rhett
1S	Ivory	Lachlan
2L	Aleksandar	Eloise
2M	Mia V	Ann
3/4B	Selena B	Daniel J
3/4S	Aiken	Matthew
3/4T	Samson	Jiya
4/5R	Arielle	Daniel B
5/6G	Christina	Jake D
5/6R	Cody	Lewis

### Week 2 2020 Award Winners

*Achievement  
Award*

*Values  
Award*

KD	Alex	Rylan
KM	Violet	Abby
KP	Bailey	Casper J
1D	Michael	Leyla
1S	Clementine	Cloey W
2L	Aurette	Rhoanan
2M	Lois	Markus
3/4B	Ignacio	Rowan
3/4S	Aidan R	Caitlin
3/4T	Ava	Jayden B-R
4/5R	Taliyah	Nicholas
5/6G	Juliet	Nate
5/6R	Manasi	Joshua

## 2022 Selective High School Applications

### Entry to Government Selective High Schools for Year 7 in 2022

An application is required by 6 November 2020 for parents or carers of Year 5 students who wish their children to be considered for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2022.

Parents must apply online at:

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

Online applications will be available from 13 October and closes on 16 November 2020.

Please contact your class teacher or Mrs Holmes if you have any questions.

**Value of week 3  
Respect**

**Value of week 4  
Caring**

# Happy World Teacher's Day

Friday 30 October 2020



Celebrating World Teachers' Day 2020



# Library News

Our library renovations are almost complete. What a dramatic transformation!





## Botany Public School Beehive

There's been a hive of activity here at Botany Public School!  
Last week we harvested 2 jars of honey from our very own beehive.

Thank you to Jo Jansyn for all of your hard work!





## It's Turtletastic at Botany!



*On Friday, first week of Term 4, a turtle came to lay eggs in our playground! It was very exciting for all of us to witness this and some of the students in 3/4S have been writing some stories...*

Past the main courtyard, past the playground, past the soccer pitch, there, hidden behind the Weather Shed, sparkled some new born turtles. Kids walk down and look but don't want to scare the mother.

One day, huge loud flying things came to eat the turtle eggs. The eggs hatched by the things pecking at them.

Now, the two different species race each other to the nearby pond. Luckily, the newborn turtles won the race.

By Mileah



Past the playground, past the soccer field, behind the Weather Shed, was a pond called Engine Pond. In the pond lived one dark green turtle looking to lay eggs somewhere.

The turtle found a nice quiet, sandy spot to lay her eggs. All of a sudden, someone found the turtle and people started to crowd it. The turtle couldn't move in fright. Finally the bell rang, everything was quiet again. Just when she thought she was safe, suddenly a flock of crows came.

She had to think fast to protect her eggs. She quickly crawled over to the eggs and lay on top of them to protect them. They pecked and flapped and eventually they gave up and flew away.

She was done laying her eggs so she returned to the pond calmly. The students came back to look at the turtle but she was gone, back in the pond living her normal life.

By Matthew J

Past the garden, past the basketball court, past the playground, there, hidden behind the Weather Shed laid a little female turtle. The wind blew, the tree leaves rustled, and the Weather Shed creaked. Green grass flowed calmly. A little helpless turtle laying eggs, baby turtles inside.

Suddenly after 3.00pm, crows, the enemy and the hunter of turtles, came out of their shadows to harm the eggs. The next day, the discoverers keep an eye on the turtle eggs. Two students went down to have a peek.

That recess, the teacher goes down and gets the last egg, and puts it in a container with soil in it. She puts it on the ground in the veggie patch. Safe and Sound.

By Selina K

3/4S found a turtle nesting eggs behind the Weather Shed. Even though behind the Weather Shed is out of bounds, we put up construction tape to stop crows from digging up the eggs and stop people from stepping on them.

These turtle deserve to be nicely looked after and undisturbed. They need water to drink, food to eat, and a good home. Helping these turtles makes us happy. Friday really was a turtletastic day!

It seems like the eggs are going to one day crack and spawn new baby turtles!

By Emily E

# Cyber Safe Students

In Term 3, the Wellbeing Week theme was all about students staying safe in the community, with a focus on road and cyber safety. This term, each newsletter will feature some tips and tricks to continue building cyber safety awareness for our students.

Online safety is increasingly important for students to navigate as they get older. Parents and carers are encouraged to regularly have conversations with their children around being safe online. The eSafety commissioner website is a government website where you can access further information, or support your child to navigate the 'kids' section.

## Top 5 online safety tips



- 1** **Think of others' feelings** before you post, like or share content.
- 2** **Ask for permission** before you share a photo or video with someone else in it. Respectful online relationships start with consent.
- 3** **Be an upstander** Speak up if you see someone cyberbullying or sharing nudes in a group chat – let them know that's not okay. Report and delete it.
- 4** **Use privacy and screen time settings** to take control of your digital life and its impact on your mental health.
- 5** **Ask for help** Cyberbullying and sharing intimate images without consent can be distressing, but eSafety can help remove them.

# School Travel for 2021



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## 2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

\*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.



Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

## **New Concession Entitlement Cards**

Transport for NSW will be replacing the below cards with Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCEC) from October 2020:

- Senior Secondary Student Concession Card (16 years and over) – also used by Mature Secondary Students (18 years and over), Distance Education Students and Home School Students
- Proof of Age card (when a student under 16 years of age looks older)
- Boarder Rail Pass.

All previous cards will be valid until they expire. Students who require a Transport Concession Entitlement Card should speak with their school administration staff.

Enquiries regarding school student travel can be submitted to Transport for NSW at:

<https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback>



# BOTANY PUBLIC SCHOOL

Caring Creative Connected

## Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2022, you need to apply online using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available in late September 2020 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

The application website opens at that link on 13 October 2020 and closes on 16 November 2020. You must apply before the closing date.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Team for assistance after 13 October 2020.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

**The tear-off slip below is not an application and the school cannot apply on your behalf.**

Yours sincerely

Kate Holmes  
Principal

Cut along the dotted line and return the completed slip below to this school by Friday 6 November 2020.

**THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.**

This is a notice to your primary school only that you intend to apply.

**TO APPLY YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER AND THEN APPLY THROUGH THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS WEBSITE:**

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

----- Cut here and return the note below to the school -----

## Intention to apply for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2022

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in applying for selective high school entry in 2022 Yes  No

I have internet access and will be applying online.

Signature of parent/carer: \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO A SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL.**

This is a notice to your primary school only that you intend to apply.

**TO APPLY YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER AND THEN APPLY THROUGH THE HIGH PERFORMING STUDENTS WEBSITE:**

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

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# Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

**1** day per fortnight  
M ~~W~~ T F  
M T W T F

=

**4** weeks



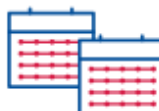
=

Over **1** year missed

**1** day per week  
M ~~W~~ T F  
M T W ~~F~~

=

**8** weeks



=

Over **2.5** years missed

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



# BOTANY TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Welcome to week 3 and 4!! We have certainly continued with the fun here at TeamKids!!

You may have heard we are taking the children around the world! Yes you heard that right... This term TeamKids has set us this challenge as this year has certainly wiped out all our holiday plans. So far, we have visited the famous Iguazu Falls. The children have created this remarkable waterfall and learnt so many interesting facts including how many litres of water it is made up of.

With this challenge underway we are seeking donations. If you have cardboard boxes laying around at home, we will take them!! The children are super pumped and wanting to create their own aircraft. If you or someone in your family works for an airline or knows anyone, we are reaching out to try and find some uniforms. Please spread the word.

Lastly... HALLOWEEN DRESSUP PARTY! FRIDAY 30/10/20 at 3:30PM please send your child's costume in their bag or if they are wanting to leave it with us bring it down in the morning.

## IMPORTANT DATES



 **FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**  
HALLOWEEN DRESS UP PARTY

 **SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER**  
HALLOWEEN

 **FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**  
WORLD KINDNESS DAY

## TEAMKIDS CLUBS ASC WEEK: 3-4



### MONDAY

WEEK3: MINDFULNESS/EPIC GAMES  
WEEK4: EPIC GAMES/ART ATTACK/DANCE

### TUESDAY

WEEK3: EPIC GAMES/DANCE/ART ATTACK  
WEEK4: EPIC GAMES/ART ATTACK

### WEDNESDAY

WEEK3: GARDENING  
WEEK4: DANCE

### THURSDAY

WEEK3: DANCE  
WEEK4: ART ATTACK

### FRIDAY

WEEK3: COOKING  
WEEK4: GARDENING



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