



We welcome our  
fabulous  
Kindergarten  
students for  
2019 😊

## Welcome Kindergarten...

This year we welcome 50 new Kindergarten students and their families. Our school community is very supportive and understanding, so please do not hesitate to ask questions if you need to know something. We look forward to you and your family becoming part of our school community this year and for many years to come...

## The 2019 school year ...

The year has started off with strength and positivity with all students already engaged in authentic teaching and learning programs. Our Kindergarten students are already happy, settled little learners that are excited to join the Botany family.

The Department of Education uses a census date to determine the number of students at the school and this determines the number of classes and staff allocated. On this date we had 296 students enrolled at Botany Public School entitling us to form 12 classes

Our teaching staff are very excited about their classes and have been busily collaborating and preparing high quality teaching and learning programs that are directly related to the strategic directions of the school plan.

The beginning of Term 1 is always a busy time in a school where teachers and students are establishing roles, routines and responsibilities to ensure the smooth set up and maintenance of the school year. It is also an important time where teachers are developing the learning and behaviour expectations of the class and school. It is an exciting time of the year with the students, staff and parent community, working together to ensure a wonderful year of learning at Botany.

## Finances

There are always ongoing expenses for students and invoices will come out shortly. Please attend to these promptly to assist the office staff. Throughout the year we also send home notes for upcoming events and excursions. Please return these notes promptly. Students who have not paid or have not returned permission slips will miss out on opportunities as cut off dates will be strictly adhered to. Thank you for your assistance and understanding.

## Botany Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival will take place on Thursday 14 February at Botany Swimming Pool for ALL students in Year 3 to Year 6. Children in Year 2 who are turning 8 in 2019 and are very competent swimmers involved in squad training are also invited to attend. A detailed permission note was sent home and must be fully completed and signed by the same person. We look forward to an exciting day at our carnival and parents are invited as spectators and can cheer from the stands.

## Welcome Evening ...Thursday 21 February

Please join us on for our Welcome Evening on Thursday 21 February 2019.

6.30pm **Parents** can meet their child's new teacher in the classroom.

7.00pm **Parents can** Join us for our special P&C evening in the Library... We look forward to meeting new parents and chatting with friends from last year, whilst enjoying some refreshments together. This is a parent only event.

Have a great week... *Kate Holmes* Principal

## Diary Dates

### February 2019

#### Monday 11

School Banking

#### Tuesday 12

6.45pm - P&C Meeting

#### Thursday 14

*Botany PS Swimming Carnival*

To be held at Botany Pool from 9.00am-2pm for students in Years 3 - 6 and selected Year 2 students

#### Thursday 21

*Botany PS Welcome Evening...*

- 6.30pm **Class Information Session**
- 7.00pm **Meet the Parents...**

Join us for our special P&C evening in the Library... We look forward to meeting new parents and chatting with friends from last year, whilst enjoying some refreshments together.

**This is a parent only event.**

### March 2019

#### Friday 1

**Clean UP Australia Day**

#### Thursday 7

School Photos (Revised date)

#### Monday 11 – Thursday 14

*Home Learning Conferences...*

Students, Parents and Teachers meet to discuss student learning goals.

#### Thursday 21

9.00am - Student Leadership Assembly with Matt Thistlethwaite MP attending to present awards

*Harmony Day and National Day against Bullying*

### 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**

#### Friday 12

1.30pm Easter Hat Parade

#### Friday 12 April

**Last day of Term 1**

## AGM and P&C Meeting

*Welcome back everyone.*

*On behalf of the P&C, we would like to welcome all the new families that have joined us at Botany PS for the 2019 year.*

*The P&C annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 February at 6.45pm in the school library.*

*All executive positions will be declared vacant and nominations will be accepted for all positions.*

*Our first P&C meeting for the year will follow the AGM starting at 7.00pm. All parents are invited to attend.*

*P&C meetings are held on the Tuesday of Week 3 and Week 8 of each school term at 7.00pm in the School Library.*

*The P&C team*

## Botany Public School Welcome Evening ... Thursday 21 February

### • 6.30pm Parent Information Evening...

Parents can meet their child's new teacher in the classroom.

### • 7.00pm Meet the Parents...

Join us for our special P&C evening in the Library... We look forward to meeting new parents and chatting with friends from last year, whilst enjoying some refreshments together.

**This is a parent only event.**



## Primary Sport

NSW Public Schools have an explicit Sport Program for all students. At Botany PS we have Sport on Friday and ALL students are involved in either the School Sport Program or PSSA.

- School Sport is highly structured and organised and many of the 3 – 6 teaching staff remain at school to teach sport to these students. Focus areas for sport groups are the sports being played during that season. Skills are consolidated and rules are taught explicitly to students as they participate in a school competition.
- PSSA stands for the 'Primary School Sports Association', which gives selected students, in years 3 to 6, the opportunity to participate in competitive games between schools. A panel of teachers organise a number of trials to determine the teams considering skills, sportspersonship and ability.
- Summer PSSA will begin early this term. A detailed note will be sent home to students in Year 3 - 6 involved in this enrichment program, explaining the costs of PSSA and pledging a commitment to exemplary behaviour as well as payment for this activity.

Value of week 3  
Respect

Value of week 4  
Caring

## **Botany Public School - Daily School Routine**

- 8.30am** Students may arrive from this time  
Teachers' supervise school grounds
- 9.00am** Morning Bell  
**Session One** begins (including 10 minute fruit break)
- 11.00am** Recess
- 11.30am** **Session Two** begins
- 1.15pm** Lunch with teacher supervising
- 1.30pm** Play
- 2.00pm** **Session Three** begins
- 3.00pm** End of school day

## **Morning Arrival and Afternoon Dismissal times**

Supervision in our playground begins at 8.30am each morning. We do ask parents to bring their children to school after this time so they are supervised in the back playground. **They are not to play or stay in the courtyard as there is no supervision.**

Our school has *Out of School Hours* centre for families if they need to leave their child at school before this time.

When the morning bell rings parents are asked to sit on the silver seats around the outside of the courtyard so that students and teachers can listen carefully to morning assembly.

In the afternoon, the students in K-2 are collected from outside the classrooms or courtyard. If they are in Years 3-6, please organise a meeting place with your child.

If you are going to be late to school please ring the school to advise us.

## **Student Attendance - Reminder**

It is expected that if your child is late to school that you, as a parent or carer, walk into the office to sign your child in to school. Children should be at school, on time every day to enable optimal learning to occur. The morning session is an uninterrupted learning time.

Children who are late are interrupting their learning and that of their peers because they miss key instructional information which then has to be repeated for the latecomers. Please help everyone by getting to school on time and showing respect for everyone's learning.

Thank you to those of you who provide an explanation as to why your child is away. Attendance is monitored by both the teachers and the Home school Liaison Officer. Children should be at school unless they are sick or there is another valid reason for the absence. For optimal learning to occur, students need to be at school, on time, every day with a healthy lunch and all their equipment.

## Botany Swimming Carnival

Our annual swimming carnival will take place on Thursday 14 February at Botany Swimming Pool for ALL students in Year 3 to Year 6.

Children in Year 2 who are turning 8 in 2019 and are very competent swimmers involved in squad training are also invited to attend.

A detailed permission note will be sent home and must be fully completed throughout and signed by the same person.

In the swimming ability section, please complete only **ONE** option either:

**A:** my child is capable of swimming 50m

**B:** my child is not a competent swimming and will participate in non-competitive events

We look forward to an exciting day at our carnival ...



### **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.

### **Office News**

**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.

### **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.**

## Our Student Leaders for 2019

Congratulations to our outstanding School Captains and Prefects who were elected as our school leaders at the end of last year. We welcome the following students to the school leadership team:

### PREFECTS

Tilly (Captain)

Stirling (Captain)

Millie (Vice-Captain)

Malih (Vice-Captain)

Laila (Vice-Captain)

Nikola (Vice-Captain)



We also warmly welcome our new House Captains to the school leadership team. They will undertake their first official role as House Captains at the Botany Swimming Carnival next week. We welcome these students as House Captains to the school leadership team:

### HOUSE CAPTAINS

#### Acacia

Murtaza (C)

Toni (C)

Alex (VC)

Jade (VC)

#### Boronia

Elliot (C)

Abigail (C)

Truman (VC)

Meika (VC)

#### Waratah

Winston (C)

Penny (C)

Zachary (VC)

Jamie (VC)





# CIRCLE MUSIC



At Botany Public School specialised **guitar, ukulele, drumming** and **vocal** teachers provide the opportunity for students to develop additional music skills.

The program caters for the varying abilities of all students, from beginners to advanced, by providing engaging lessons in a small group environment.

Lessons are conducted once a week with opportunities for students to perform at various school events throughout the year.

The cost of tuition is \$150 per term, payable directly to the Circle Music Company.

## **Contact:**

Matt Dorahy *Academy and Studio Coordinator*

Circle Music

Level 1, 1371 Botany Rd Botany,  
New South Wales, Australia 2019

**m:** 0400 086 503

**p:** (02) 9316 4573

**e:** [matt@circlemusic.com.au](mailto:matt@circlemusic.com.au)

## **School Stationery Requirements for 2019**

### **Years 1 - 6**

To assist your child in being fully prepared to begin work each day they will require the items listed below. Many of these items your child may already have. There is no need to purchase new equipment unless it is broken, lost or in poor condition. All items must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

#### **Year 1 – 6 Student Requirements to be brought to school**

- art shirt to protect clothing
- 2 x boxes of tissues
- hand sanitizer
- roll of paper towel
- Library bag
- 4 x whiteboard markers
- coloured textas
- 5 x Bostic Glue sticks
- A4 Homework Book NOT SPIRAL BOUND (covered please) approx. 96 pages

Class teachers will send home work books to cover in clear contact in the first few weeks of school.

Please have clear good quality contact on hand at home to cover these books when needed.

#### **Year 1-2 Stationery Requirements supplied by school**

Parents of students in Year 1 and 2 will be invoiced for the following stationery items. The items will be purchased by the school and distributed to class teachers. This ensures that students are able to access resources equitably in all classrooms.

Pencil cases will not be required.

- coloured pencils
- lead pencils
- glue
- sharpener
- scissors
- eraser
- ruler
- whiteboard markers

#### **Year 3-6 Requirements to be brought to school**

Students in Stage 2 and 3 will need the following stationery items. All students also require a small pencil case.

- 4 x HB lead pencils
- eraser (Staedtler is best)
- pair of scissors
- 4 x 2B lead pencils
- coloured pencils
- 2 highlighters
- 4 x large wind-up glue stick (not liquid glue)
- pencil sharpener (that will contain sharpenings and that fits in a pencil case)
- 2 x red biros

No liquid paper or correction tape and no permanent markers

Year 5 and 6 students will also need the following items in addition to the above list

- 2 x black biros, 2 x blue biros, 2 x red biros
- 1 x pen drive for saving work from the computer
- Artline black felt tip

Thank you for playing such an important role in your child's education.

# Book Club LOOP

**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform.

It's easy to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order  
using your credit card. If your school is not yet in the **LOOP**,  
speak with your school's Book Club Organiser.

Head to **scholastic.com.au/LOOP**

or



Follow these **easy** steps!

- 1 Simply grab your child's Book Club catalogue and either **SIGN-IN** or **REGISTER** your account.
- 2 Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for), then select your **SCHOOL** and your **CHILD'S CLASS**.  
*Note: You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school.*
- 3 Click on **ORDER** and enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue.
- 4 All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date.

*That's it!* There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school.

**SCHOLASTIC**



## Book Club is easy.....

- Your child will receive a Book Club Brochure from their class teacher.
  - At home you and your child can choose books you wish to buy
    - You order and pay online
- The books will be delivered to your child in their class – please note the closing date and books will not arrive until at least 1 week after this date.
- Book club is run by the P&C any questions about Book Club please email [Rebecca.andrews@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Rebecca.andrews@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Orders for this issue need to be completed online by**

**Friday 22<sup>rd</sup> February**

Please remember we only accept LOOP online orders, no cash