THORNLEIGH
WEST
PUBLIC
SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

The Warami



Hello and Welcome Family and Friends Thornleigh West Public School

TERM 4, WEEK 8 24 NOVEMBER 2021

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Term Dates 2021 / 2022

Date	Event
25 November	Stage 1 – Assembly Zoom
29 November	School Captain and Prefect election
1 December	Band Captain election
2 December	Sport Captain election ES1 – Assembly Zoom
7 December	Stage 3 – Assembly Zoom
8 December	K-2 Presentation Day Kindergarten- 9.15am Stage 1 – 12.00pm
9 December	Year 3-6 Presentation Day Stage 2 – 9.15am Stage 3 – 12.00pm
13 December	Reports home 9.30am Year 6 Graduation Year 6 Farewell K-2 Class parties
14 December	K-6 Assembly – Zoom Year 3-6 Class parties
16 December	Last Day for students
17 December	Staff Development Day
	2022
28 January	Staff Development Day
31 January	Staff Development Day
1 February	First Day for Years 1 - 6
1 - 3 February	Best Start Testing for Kindergarten
4 February	First Day for Kindergarten

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Remembrance Day

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Every year, on the eleventh of November, we have Remembrance Day. This one special day we think back to the brave people who sacrificed their life for us to live in peace. Everyone from around the world participates in this event.

On Remembrance Day, everyone is silent for 1 minute to respect the people who fought in wars.

Today at school, we were given handmade poppies to wear in our zoom assembly. After our zoom, we placed our poppies in the shape of a heart.

Remembrance Day is an important day.

By Robert 2A





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Every year in November we have Remembrance Day.

On Remembrance Day we acknowledge the people who went to war.

Today we did a one minute silence of Remembrance Day at school.

By Callum 2A

Drama

As a part of our love of the Creative Arts and now under level 3 guidelines, we are able to welcome Ms Karyn Johnson to TWPS. Ms Johnson will have one session with each class in a cohort-based model, throughout week 10. Students can brush up on their drama skills, connect with Ms Johnson about Wakakirri and round out the year with a fun session of much loved drama games.

Students leaving in 2022

If a student will not be returning in 2022 could you please put this information in writing to the school office at your earliest convenience.

Contact details

To ensure we are able to contact all families promptly if there was a positive COVID case at TWPS, could you please notify the office if any contact information has changed.

Shade Sail

I'm not sure who is enjoying the shade sail the most, the students, the cockatoos or our friendly stick insect named 'Bob'!!



With thanks to our P&C for contributing towards this structure that really does provide valuable shade for the summer months and creates another outdoor learning space.

Term 4 Events

Please keep an eye out for information around our end of year events including Year 6 farewell, Year 6 Graduation, Kindergarten Graduation, Presentation Days and end of year class parties.



Tell Them From Me – Parent Survey

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted over Term 3 and early Term 4. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, **your responses are very much appreciated.**

More information about the survey is available at: <u>education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm</u>.

To access the survey for our school go to:

http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/pbx5h

The survey is available in 23 languages and closes this Friday 26 November.

Pay it forward

Through generous contribution offered through the 'pay it forward' option on the class party bags, it seems we now have a surplus of bags for these events.

We would like to extend the offer of the party bag for any students who may have been unable to purchase one to date.

At the P&C meeting last night it was determined that the remaining excess funds through donated cost of bags would be accumulated into vouchers for the school to offer families experiencing financial hardship. If you would like to contact me directly to accept this kind offer, please call through the school office and I will arrange to confidentially provide the vouchers to your family. I will personally contact families if we are in the position to offer a voucher to you.

The P&C continue to support our community and families and we are grateful to all families who were able to give this kind financial support.

Trusting the vouchers assist local families in need and the party bags may assist in including all students who would like one to receive this on party day.

Have a good week,

Granville

Julie Granville

R/Principal

Deputy's Message

Dear Students and families,

It has been an absolute pleasure to be a part of the Year 5 leadership nominations this week. I am so proud of the current Year 5 cohort as they so maturely nominated and voted for the top 16. We have 8 girls and 8 boys who are all an asset to our school and will be wonderful leaders. Next Monday 29 November these 16 students will speak in front of Year 2-5 who will then vote for our prefects and school captains. We will then have 2 school captains and 6 prefects to represent TWPS in 2022, the leadership team will be announced on Presentation Day.

Dance Group 2022 Auditions

Dance auditions for the 2022 dance group are being held over the next couple of weeks. The dance group is led by Miss Lundstrom and all students have the opportunity to audition. Students with no dance experience, or students who want to try something new are encouraged to audition and give it a go.

For those students in the Dance Group this year, there is no guarantee they will be accepted into the 2022 Dance Group. Next year will be a new dance with a different style so auditions for everyone are required.

Every measure is being taken to ensure the auditions are covid safe. The auditions will take place in classes where students will be socially distanced. Sanitiser will be provided before and after the audition.

Each class has a time to learn the dance and practice. At the end of each session, students will perform the dance in front of 2 teachers and be marked using a criteria.

The audition process is critical whereby each student is individually marked against a criteria which is discussed beforehand.

Criteria

- **4-** Adds own style to enhance choreography
- Performs strong, precise movements with ease
- Uses expression
- Clear understanding of timing cues
- 3- clear understanding of choreography
- performs with some strong movements
- Uses some expression
- Clear understanding of timing cues
- 2- looking around to follow choreography
- performs with limited strong movements and not precise
- limited expression
- Following timing cues
- 1- doesn't know choreography
- performing imprecise movements
- no expression
- no understanding of timing cues

Students have the opportunity to practice the dance and Miss Lundstrom provides feedback and advice throughout. Once the students have performed, the panel will give them a score. After the auditions, the scores are tallied and comments are discussed by the panel to decide the final dance group. 20 students will be selected for the 2022 Dance Group. This process ensures fairness and equality to all students.

The process is explicit and systematic ensuring fairness. If your child is not successful they have not met the success criteria.

Kindy Transition

How lucky are we to get to welcome our Kindergarten students on site for two wonderful sessions in our Kindergarten classes. A massive thank you to the Early Stage 1 team who welcomed these students into classrooms full of joy and wonder.

All families starting in 2022 will receive an email shortly with a link about best start assessments.

What is the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment?

Best Start Kindergarten Assessment identifies student's literacy and numeracy skills on entry to Kindergarten. It has been conducted in all NSW public schools since 2010. The assessment is mapped to the <u>National Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions</u>. The assessment is conducted in line with existing school practices and builds upon teaching and learning programs that support students in the transition to school.

Have a wonderful end of the week and a relaxing weekend,

Nicole Dowd Deputy Principal (R)

Uniform Shop News

Kindergarten 2022

Bookings for Kindergarten Uniform Consultations are now open.

If you have a child starting at TWPS in 2022 you are invited to book a 15-20 minute online consultation to go through the uniform guidelines for TWPS and help you in fitting your child for their first day of school next year.

Bookings can be made through Eventbrite:

https://twps-uniform-booking.eventbrite.com.au

Other ways to contact us:

Email: twpsuniformshop@gmail.com

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TWPSUniformShop/

Sport News

The permission note for the school swimming carnival will be sent in the last week of January 2022. The carnival will take place on Monday 14 February 2022 and all entries will need to be sent to the aquatic centre prior to this. All permissions will need to be back at school by Friday 4 February 2022.

We are suggesting that you use the school holidays to ascertain your child's swimming ability and which events they would like to enter. Below is a list of events that will be run on the day.

200m Medley

100m Freestyle

50m Freestyle

Backstroke

Butterfly

Breastroke

Beecroft Zone PSSA

Memorandum to all members.



The following motion that was unanimously carried at the Annual General Meeting on Monday 15 November. Please see below:

Motion to label Friday competition as Beecroft Zone Interschool Sport with the following sports to be convened in 2022.

- Summer Stage 3 Softball & League Tag.
- Summer Stage 2 Tee-Ball & League Tag.
- Winter Stage 3 Small Sided Soccer & Netball.
- Winter Stage 2 Small Sided Soccer & Netball.

The abolishment of graded and mixed competitions. A separate competition for girls and a separate competition for boys will be convened for each available sport with each given an equal amount of playing time.

Friday competitions are not affiliated with NSW PSSA. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in correspondence with NSW PSSA based upon Friday sporting competitions between schools. In order to clarify this misunderstanding, the NSW PSSA has asked individual zones to rename their weekly competitions. Therefore, our Friday sport will now be referred to as Beecroft Zone Interschool Sport not PSSA Sport. Any correspondence regarding the Friday competitions should be directed directly to the school/s involved rather than NSW PSSA.

Stage 2 competitions have been primarily introduced over the past 3 years to expose more students to opportunity and develop a pathway of improved skill acquisition. Unfortunately, the Auskick program had become increasingly difficult to staff due to the complex nature of the game. Support from AFL NSW has also reduced. The decision was made to align all sports between stages 2 and 3 and as a result, Auskick will no longer be available.

Graded competitions have great time constraints placed upon them. Travel time between venues have also added another time pressure. A an association, we must ensure that equal playing time will be afforded to all of our students. The introduction of a girls and boys competition for all sports will ensure equal playing time for all involved. We look forward to a girls football competition and a boys netball competition. The ever-growing rise in girls playing football has helped prompt this change. Our inaugural Netball Gala Day saw large numbers of boys take to the courts and demonstrate outstanding athleticism and determination.

The Beecroft Zone PSSA looks forward to these exciting new changes and warmly invites all member schools to take up these opportunities in 2022.

P& C News

What a year! This week the TWPS P&C held the final General Meeting for 2021. We are now only two Meetings away from the AGM, where all P&C Executive Committee and other positions will be declared vacant. As such, we look to succession planning for 2022 and beyond! As always, we would love to see new volunteers stepping up to fill committee and other volunteer positions. If you are interested in taking on a role, please don't hesitate to contact one of the current Executive Committee for further details.

End of Year Class Party Packs

The extremely popular End of Year Class Party Packs are now available to order via Flexischools. Orders close on Friday 26 November, 2021 at 9:00am sharp, so order early to avoid disappointment. For your diary, K-2 Party Day is Monday 13 December, 2021 and 3-6 Party Day is Tuesday 14 December, 2021. This year there are three delicious Party Pack options to choose from as well as a brand new Pay It Forward Option where any family that wishes to do so may purchase an additional Party Pack anonymously for another family. The school will then allocate this "paid forward" Party Pack to a child who would not ordinarily have been able to participate in this event. We look forward to all the students being able to enjoy some extra special, yummy snacks with friends to celebrate the end of the school year.

Election Day BBQ

The TWPS P&C Band Subcommittee are excited to be firing up the BBQs to bring the TWPS and wider community a well-deserved democracy sausage on Council Election Day, Saturday 4 December, 2021. As always, lots of volunteers are needed to take up the tongs to cook and serve hundreds of sausage sandwiches, all volunteers must be doubly vaccinated against Covid-19. If you have some time to spare on Election Day you can sign up here -

https://signup.com/go/nmakWnw

or contact Event Coordinator, Chris Lupton, at twpsband2011@gmail.com.



Election Day Cake Stall

The TWPS P&C will also be running a Cake Stall on Election Day. Further details and packaging materials will be sent home with the eldest student in each family later this week. If you are available to assist on the Cake Stall, all volunteers must be doubly vaccinated against Covid-19, please contact us at twpspandc@gmail.com. We look forward to selling lots of your home-baked sweet treats on Saturday 4 December, 2021.

Volunteering at TWPS

We are always excited to have new members involved in the P&C. We have several events planned over the year ahead, Covid-19 restrictions permitting. So, if you can spare some time, whether it's five minutes or five days, your help would be appreciated. Our membership fee is only \$1 and can be paid via Flexischools at any time. If you would like more information regarding the P&C or how you can become involved, please do not hesitate to contact us at twpspandc@gmail.com.

Meera Seemampillai TWPS P&C President twpspandc@gmail.com

Band News

The TWPS Band Committee urgently needs new committee members for 2022

At the end of this year we will be losing a number of our dedicated committee members due to their children finishing band. There are a number of **important roles** that will be vacant and need to be filled for next year. The committee meets twice a term on the 2nd and 7th week of each term and is important for the coordinating and running of our wonderful band programs.

Convenor: manage the Band Subcommittee, liaise with P&C Association Executive on all matters pertaining to Band, present a report at P&C Meetings, liaise with the school in the organisation and scheduling of Band activities, and communicate with parents.

Assistant Convenor: assist the Convenor with day-to-day responsibilities and stand in for the Convenor when required.

Treasurer: responsible for funds, budgets, payments, insurance, assets, and cash flow.

Assistant Treasurer: raise invoices, reconcile payments, and manage Creative Kids.

Secretary: take minutes at meetings, formulate action item lists, prepare agendas, manage correspondence.

Tutor Coordinator: liaise between tutors, band committee and school, organise tutor documentation, and allocate rooms and available teaching days.

Band Camp Coordinator: organise and coordinate annual Band Camp.

If you would like further information on joining the committee or on one of the specific role please email twpsband2011@gmail.com

Saturday 4 December - Election day BBQ Fundraiser

The band has been given the opportunity to run the BBQ as a fundraiser for the Election Day on Saturday 4 December 2021. We urgently need parents to sign up to help on the day at the BBQ. An email was sent out last week with the signup details.

Sunday 19 December 2021

Senior Band have been invited to play at Headon Park Carols night. The school has been given the go ahead from the education department. More information will come regarding rehearsals and the event.

2022 Training Band Important Dates for Year 2 Families

All current year 2 students are able to join the TWPS training band in 2022 if they wish. Next **Thursday 25 November**, they will learn about the band and the instruments available with their teachers and our band conductors Mr David Bell and Mr Andrew Hamblin. Normally, the students are able to try out the instruments and the band tutors are able to identify suitable instruments for each child. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to do this in 2021. If your child would like to join band, they will be asked to select 3 instruments they would like/be happy to play. Mr Bell will then allocate instruments to ensure a balanced band whilst trying to accommodate student's preferences. A band with 20 trumpets and 1 bass guitar obviously does not work!

2022 Training Band Parents Information Evening - via Zoom

Thursday 25 November at 7.30pm Please join us to hear more about the band programs and for any questions you may have regarding your child joining TWPS band.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://au01web.zoom.us/j/67301859075?
pwd=RkUwbFqxZzAxMUFuMHh0NkRnZVB2Zz09

Meeting ID: 673 0185 9075

Passcode: 971481

A google form will be sent out after their try-out day where you can indicate your child's instrument preferences if they would like to join the band.

Lastly, we will need a couple of parents to volunteer as "training band coordinators" for 2022. The role is not onerous, mainly requiring the set-up of a "Sign-up" roster for parent supervision at rehearsals, monitoring email communications for training band and assisting the conductors at off-site performances.

If you have any questions, please email the Band Committee at twpsband2011@gmail.com

From the Community

Christmas Message from the CCD

CCD has prepared a Christmas message for Catholic families, please click on the link below: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/ccd/ccd-christmas-message/catholic-sre-christmas-message-2021

With kindest regards for your ongoing support of SRE,

Louise Spencer Catechist Coordinator Hornsby Cathedral Parish

