

...Learning...Safety...Respect...

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL**

Welcome to Week 7, Term 2. After 2 weeks of having all students back at school full time, there has been lots of work happening in classrooms and it is so lovely to hear the sound of learning happening again. All the students and staff have enjoyed catching up with everyone again.

On Wednesday I got to join the Aboriginal Dance Group session. I was impressed with the students who were working with Natasha through the zoom link and learning the dance in such a short amount of time. It will be a special event to see them perform for the students later on this term. The aim of the dance group is to support our Year 3-6 Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander students to develop leadership skills through dance and once the group has learnt a few dances, open up this opportunity to our non- Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander students to be part of the dance group later on in the year.

Today there is an attachment 'guide for parents and carers: A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning'. This information was sent to schools and has been updated from yesterday. Please read this document to be aware of changes to school activities from the coming week. If at any time you have questions about how the school is managing the current situation, please contact the school and someone will gladly help you.

Due to current circumstances, we will be sharing special events with our community through Facebook posts and Facebook live stream events, given that parents still are not permitted to attend school events at this time.

Thank you to all our parents who have been very supportive of our procedures for sick students. With the current weather we are seeing more children absent from school to rest and recover from cold and flu symptoms, making sure their symptoms have gone, before returning to school. This helps to maintain the health and safety of all our students and staff. It is important that you let the school know the reason that your child is absent from school by calling the office, emailing or replying to the daily absent notification SMS.

Until further notice we will continue to have students being collected in the afternoon at their house gate areas. This has seen a reduction in the number of parents gathering at that main entrances to the school. Please ensure that you are socially distancing at all times when waiting to collect your child to follow social distancing guidelines that are in place to protect our school community. The teachers will wait at the gates with children for about 5-10 minutes after the bell goes for those parents/carers who need their child to wait until after the area has cleared to collect their child having been advised for their child or themselves to avoid groups of adults. Once restrictions are lifted further we will reconsider our procedures for the collection of students from school. We appreciate your understanding with this.

Kind Regards

Mrs Sturman  
Relieving Principal

PBL Focus

Universal of Learning, Safety  
& Respect

## OUR CULTURE GROUPS RESTARTED on MABO DAY 3/6/20

On Wednesday 3rd June, our Aboriginal Culture Groups recommenced via ZOOM in our school library. The timing was perfect, being National Mabo Day, which is a significant day in Australian history. Our students participated in sessions and discussed this historical landmark day to discover the story of Eddie Mabo.

Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo was a Torres Strait Islander who believed Australian laws on land ownership were wrong and fought to change them. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples occupied and had a strong connection to 'country' - Australia Land for 40,000 to 60,000 years before the British arrived in 1788. When the British arrived, they declared that Australia was *terra nullius* (empty land – or land that belongs to nobody). As a result, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' occupation of and unique connection with the land were not recognised, and the British took the land without agreement or payment.

The Mer Islanders decided they would be the ones to challenge the legal principle of *terra nullius* in the High Court and that Eddie Mabo would be the one to lead that action. The *Mabo* case ran for 10 years. On 3 June 1992, the High Court of Australia decided that *terra nullius* should not have been applied to Australia. This decision recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have rights to the land – rights that existed before the British arrived and can still exist today. The *Mabo* decision was a turning point for the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights, because it acknowledged their unique connection with the land.



## ABORIGINAL DANCE GROUP

This year at KKPS, we are very proud to commence our Aboriginal Dance Group. This group will be run with guidance from our teaching staff and Aunty Judy, with authentic Aboriginal Dance routines being taught by Natasha Rogers. We are very lucky to have Natasha join our Aboriginal Culture program delivered at our school. This dance group will run every Wednesday afternoon in our school assembly hall from 3:30-4:15pm. This group is looking forward to giving their first performance later this term.



## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY - TIME FOR NATURE

Last Friday a number of our students and Ms Heap participated in a Gardening Project to celebrate and acknowledge World Environment Day. Our school were fortunate to receive a donation of seedlings and compost from Cessnock City Council and Cessnock Men's shed. Students cleared and prepared the area for these seedlings to be planted and are now caring and nurturing these seedlings along. This was the perfect opportunity for all students and staff to take time out of their day to give a focus to our environment not only here at school but also in the wider community.



## STAGE 1 NEWS

What an unbelievable start we have had to Term Two. Our students, along with parents and carers, have been asked to rise to so many challenges over the past couple of months, and have shown an amazing strength of character and resilience. From all of the Stage One team, we would like to say well done and thank you for all of your efforts.

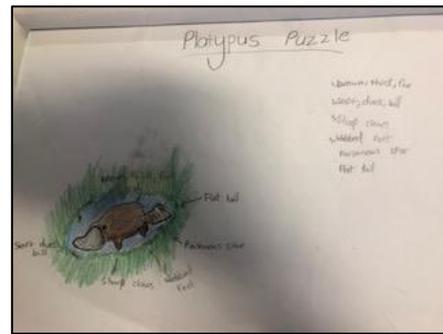
The remainder of this term will see students consolidating and extending the Literacy and Numeracy skills which were a major focus of the online/home learning. We are also exploring the world of "Living Things" in our science unit, while continuing our history unit of "The Past in the Present". Our hope is that both of these units will encourage interesting conversations at home, as students continue to take their learning beyond the classroom.

Home reading remains a crucial part of your child's education and we encourage them to continue using their home reading log. Students still have access to the PM Readers Online which is a valuable resource for students to select 'good fit' books. Our aim is to develop a love of reading in our students and we are committed to recognising those who are working hard at home as well as at school.

As teachers we have felt the impact of Covid-19 both professionally and personally. None more so than Miss O'Brien who has had to postpone her wedding this year (Yes it's still happening. And yes, she is still "Miss O'Brien"). We are all very much looking forward to a productive few weeks in classes, as we continue to move towards a return to normalcy at school. Thanks again for your continued support.

Mrs Hensler, Ms Brady, Miss Heap, Mr Morrison, Miss Newman, Miss O'Brien, Mrs Petherbridge and Mrs Southwell .

## STAGE 1 PICTURES



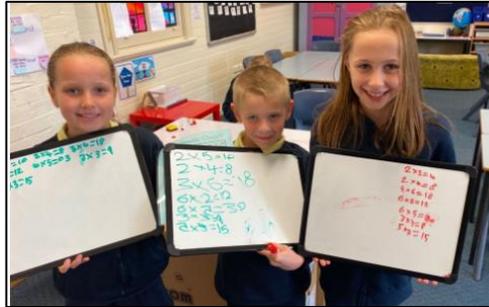
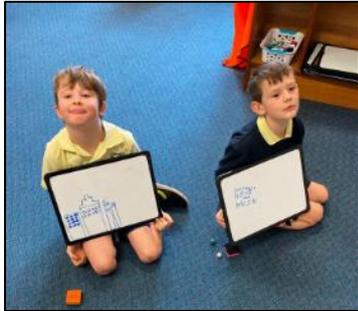
## STAGE 2 NEWS

In Science, Stage 2 have been learning that objects move as a result of a push or pull force. They are understanding that forces can be exerted by one object on another through direct contact or from a distance. Here is 4B learning about friction. They made cars out of Lego and tested how they moved on different surfaces.



## STAGE 2 NEWS

In 3/4N, students have been learning about multiplication and different ways they can show multiplication. They played a game by rolling two dice and making the arrays to work out the product (the answer)!



## SUPPORT UNIT NEWS

It's been a very busy term in our KKPS Support Unit. We have been faced with some big challenges and have shown a great deal of resilience by pushing through with smiles on our faces. We'd like to extend the warmest thanks to our families who showed their incredible commitment to learning through their efforts in home learning over the lockdown period. A big thank you to our amazing staff, who have worked extra hard to support our students and their families. Most of all a HUGE thankyou to our wonderful students who have taken the challenges of COVID-19 restrictions in their stride and have continued learning and having fun wherever possible.

We said our goodbyes to Miss Moore at the end of last term and she has certainly been missed this term. We wish her all the best in her new role, her new school is very lucky to have acquired such an excellent teacher. Replacing Miss Moore as Relieving Assistant Principal in the Support Unit is Ms Tarver. Ms Tarver has lots of experience in Special Education and is very excited to join our students on their individual learning journeys at KKPS.

We are looking forward to seeing what the rest of Term 2 brings, whatever it may be. We do know that with our fantastic students and supportive community, it could be nothing but awesome!

## CANTEEN NEWS

We urgently need volunteers to work in our school canteen. If you are interested in working alongside Michelle, please contact the school.

## KINDERGARTEN 2021



If you have a preschool age child at home ready for Kindergarten next year and reside in our Kurri Kurri Public School zone please call 4937 1235. Also, if you know of someone who may as well, please pass this information onto them. Once we have the details of the child we can start the enrolment process. Enrolment forms will be mailed out at the start of Term 3. We usually have our 'Little Learner's' program starting soon - which is a free playgroup in readiness for Kindergarten held in our school hall each Thursday, unfortunately due to COVID-19 this cannot take place at this point in time. However, there will be more information to follow on an alternate arrangement for this. Please call our school if you have an enquiries or concerns.

### AWARDS

These awards will be presented at the Whole School Assembly on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS		
Jacob M – 1H	Lewis M – 2G	Cooper A – 3/4N
Ariannah B – 1H	Ava N – 3C	Mia P – 3/4M
Addison P – 2H	Oden S – 3/4N	Kaity C – 6W
Nixon P – 1P		

### SCHOOL PHOTO DAY



We would like to inform all our families that our school photos will be taken on Tuesday 22nd September. Envelopes and prices will be handed out to families closer to this date.



# This guide is for parents and carers

A guide to NSW school students returning to face-to-face learning

Information has been updated as at 11 June 2020, until further notice.

# In line with health advice, schools are operating full time, and many additional activities are now able to recommence

All schools have returned to full-time on-campus learning. With updated health advice and changes to state and national restrictions, schools are able to recommence the majority of school-based activities from either 15 June 2020 or the start of Term 3 (20 July 2020). Some activities are continuing to be considered.

The following principles underpin these guidelines:

- schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines
- existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures put in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff
- all activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.

School students do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines, but should follow good hygiene practices like:

- 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.



## School attendance

All students should be at school unless:

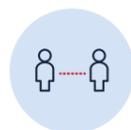
- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.



## School activities/ school site usage

The majority of school-based activities can recommence, as long as the following measures are observed:

- all visitors and external to school providers must adhere to relevant hygiene, distancing and safety protocols
- principals may continue to restrict, limit or prohibit activities if they are seen as contrary to the current health advice
- external providers and visitors are required to demonstrate compliance with health and safety requirements including adhering to strict guidelines and completing relevant forms
- non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events – this **includes parents/carers** unless specifically approved by the principal.



## Physical distancing

Physical distancing of children in schools is not required under the Australian HPPC guidelines. Research has shown limited transmission risk associated with school children in the school environment.

All adults must maintain physical distance from each other (1.5m) including teachers and support staff, and parents.

Schools should ensure school pick up and drop off arrangements enable parents to physically distance from one another and from staff.



## School cleaning and hygiene supplies

Your school will continue to receive additional cleaning in line with the AHPPC guidelines and advice from NSW Health. Target areas include high-touch areas and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairways and movement areas. There will also be additional cleaning of toilets and bubblers and topping up of supplies like soap.

Your school has received supplies of soap, hand sanitiser, toilet paper, paper towels, disinfectant wipes and personal protective equipment. The school is able to order more as needed.



## School activities return and timeline

Activities/site usage that can already take place:

- Use the school library
- Engage in non-contact sporting activities
- Canteens and uniform shops can open at principal's discretion
- Year 11 and 12 students only may attend classes/activities relating to subjects only available on other campuses is allowed

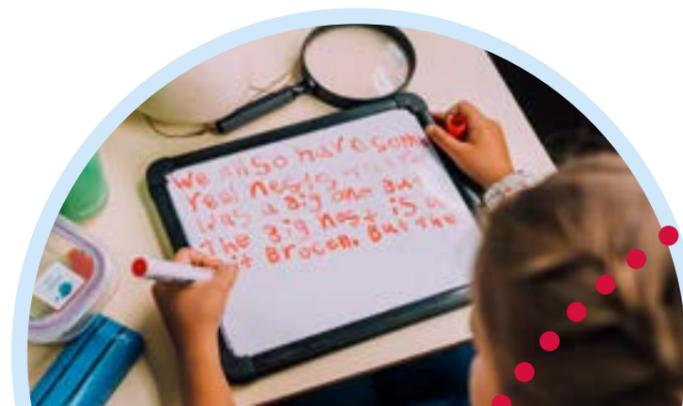
- VET work placement for Year 12 students is able to proceed from 1 June 2020. School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- Trade Training Centres can operate on school sites.

Activities/site usage that can take place from Monday 15 June 2020

- School assemblies (limited to 15 minutes and no external visitors)
- Choirs and performing arts at school, with safety protocols in place
- Students may attend other schools for essential curriculum related reasons or placements (e.g. auditions or placement tests)
- Hydrotherapy pools can be used
- Incursions/external providers can provide activities that support delivery of curriculum (e.g. music tutors, sport skills development programs, science demonstrations, drama tutors, Healthy Harold).
- Community use activities used by students such as dance classes, and student sport skills development, outside of school hours with limited adult attendance)
- Day field trips to outdoor locations with no physical distancing requirements can take place
- Face to face TAFE attendance (see TAFE website for further information)
- School photos
- Department of Community and Justice services and programs.

Activities/site usage that can take place from beginning of Term 3

- All school sport and activities including competitions aligned with current health advice (including those activities run by external organisations)



- Inter-school student events and competitions (choirs, sport, debating, public speaking, performing arts, Selective Sports High School trials etc)
- SRE/SEE lessons
- Work experience for students
- VET work placements can proceed subject to the availability of placement and appropriate risk assessments. For any that can't proceed, please see [the NESA website](#)
- School based apprenticeships and traineeships can recommence once the relevant workplaces are back in operation
- P&C meetings – with a strong preference for on-line where possible
- Parent/teacher meetings – where these need to take place – strong preference for on-line where possible unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion
- Community use activities involving general adult attendance (such as community markets).

### Activities under consideration from Term 3

The following events will be reconsidered in Term 3. For now these events must remain on hold.

- School camps
- Excursions (other than field trips explained above)
- Parent attendance at assemblies and other school events (e.g. graduation ceremonies or student speech events)
- Parent volunteers – e.g. parent reading helpers (note: canteen and uniform shop volunteers are permitted)
- Interstate excursions
- School based activities that involve large gathering of adults are not permitted at this time. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large on-site cultural events. These large gatherings and the following activities will continue to be reviewed and assessed based on AHPPC and NSW Health advice and may be permitted at a later date.

### Activities that are cancelled, delayed or not permitted

Certain large arts and sports events are cancelled or delayed because they require feeder activities and have long-lead time organisational arrangements. Please speak to your schools if you would like to know more.

International excursions are cancelled until further notice.

### Reporting and assessment

You will receive your child's semester 1 report before the end of August (Week 6, Term 3).

This will be a simplified version of the report you normally receive. Schools are encouraged to discuss your child's progress with you before the written report is issued.

### Responding to COVID-19 cases

There is a clear plan in place for schools to respond to any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are working closely with NSW Health and will communicate with parents if a situation arises. Find out more at the [response protocols page](#).

### Transport

For travel advice to and from school refer to the NSW [public transport service](#).





## Say hello

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