



Macquarie Fields Public School Newsletter

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Principal's Report

2020 Term 4 - Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back!

Welcome back to another great term of learning. I hope that all our Macquarie Fields families had a relaxing and happy holiday. We look forward to the busy term ahead, filled with lots of exciting learning experiences and opportunities!

Macquarie Fields Public School is a wonderful school and we are committed to delivering excellence to the students and families we serve. On Tuesday 10 November, Macquarie Fields Public School will be participating in External Validation. In preparation for this meeting we are putting together a body of annotated and analysed evidence that demonstrates the great work we are doing every day in the areas of learning, teaching and leading. The External Validation Report outlines the findings from the school's self-assessment survey using the Department's School Excellence Framework. The report shows our achievements and evidence. We are looking forward to the discussion with the External Validation Panel. We hope that the panel considers the school's evidence relevant and that its findings will provide assurance to the school that we are progressing and that we align with the standards articulated in the School Excellence Framework. We feel confident that this is the case and we are very proud of the work we do here at Macquarie Fields Public School. I will update you again, following our external validation meeting.

COVID-19 update

We continue to receive updates regarding COVID-19 guidelines. At the end of last term and during the school holidays, the Term 4 guidelines for schools were released. Please note that non-essential adults are still not permitted on school sites. Therefore, parents and carers will continue to drop their child/ren at the gate in the morning and arrive just before dismissal time in the afternoon. There has been some easing of restrictions around school events and routines. Whilst still being bound by government guidelines, we are thrilled to advise that Kindergarten Orientation for Kindergarten 2021 students can go ahead in a modified format and so can the Year 6 Farewell.

Change to dismissal time for Kindergarten from Monday 19 October

To gain back valuable learning time, **Kindergarten will now be dismissed with Stage 1 at 2:45pm**. Parents and carers should enter the school no earlier than 2:40pm and ensure that adults are maintaining physical distance. This will commence next Monday 19 October. 3-6 siblings of K-2 children will be dismissed at 2:45pm. Thank you for your continued support.

Kindergarten Orientation

This year we will provide a modified transition program so that our new enrolments and their families are afforded the chance to become familiar with our school whilst complying with health guidelines. **Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for sessions on Tuesday 27 October, Tuesday 3 November and Tuesday 10 November**. Full information regarding Kindergarten orientation is being communicated via a specially created Kindergarten 2021 group on Seesaw. Invitations with this information is also being mailed to each enrolled family. If you have not yet enrolled your child, please do so as soon as possible. If you are aware of a family friend or neighbour who is new to the area or who does not currently have children at our school, and has a child eligible for enrolment in Kindergarten next year (turning five by 31 July 2021), please ask them to telephone the school to give their details.

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Principal's Report Continued

Year 6 Farewell

The Year 6 Farewell is booked for Thursday 10 December and will be held at Macquarie Links Golf Club. More information is coming soon.

School Therapy Dog

The school has engaged the services of a Therapy Dog; his name is Peanut. Please see below for more information. We are very excited for this new initiative to commence next Thursday afternoon.

Ms Vicki Craze
Principal



Macquarie Fields Public School

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16 October 2020

School Therapy Dog

Our school has recently engaged the services of Therapuppy. Peanut is a first generation Cavoodle who turned one last February and has his School Dog Accreditation Certificate.

School dogs have been proven to help students reach their potential by providing a way to calm and ground them.

Peanut will begin to come to our school from Thursday 23 October and will be attending the school every Thursday afternoon this term. Peanut will always be on a lead.

As part of our preparation, it is crucial to establish if we have any students who are afraid of or allergic to dogs. If your child is scared of or allergic to dogs, could you please send an email to the school macfields-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au as soon as possible, and by next Wednesday 22 October, to let us know. We will then contact you to discuss the arrangements of how your child may be included in sessions with Peanut, if appropriate.

I look forward to enrolling this new student at our school!

Kind regards

Vicki Craze
Principal



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