



St Clair Public School

Newsletter



Issue: 1 Friday 29th January 2021

Upcoming Events & Activities

Term 1

Jan 29 – Students in Years 1 to 6 Begin	Feb 26 – Zone Swimming Carnival
Feb 1 & 2 – Kindergarten Orientation Days	March 1 – Sibling Photos
Feb 3 – Kindergarten Start	March 5 – WSU Visiting Stage 3 Students (TBC)
Feb 8 – Gymnastics Program Begins	March 8 & 9 – Book Fair
Feb 9 – P & C Meeting 7pm	March 11 – Selective High School Placement Test
Feb 17 – Twilight Swimming Carnival (3.30pm to 5.30pm)	March 15 – P & C Meeting
Feb 24 – School Photos (Classes and Groups)	April 1 – Last Day of Term 1
Feb 25 – Student Leaders Induction (TBC)	April 2 – Good Friday

The Principal's Message...

Welcome back to all our students, families and staff. I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. A special welcome to St Clair PS to all our new students and families. We especially look forward to meeting our youngest and newest cohort of students – Kindergarten! We have left a very interesting and challenging 2020 behind and look forward to all the positives that 2021 may bring!

COVID-19 Update / Reminders

Despite the positive start to the new year in terms of how NSW and indeed the whole country has maintained low infection rates, there are still a number of procedures in place in line with the Department of Education COVID guidelines. For us as a school, the following organisation has been put in place:

➤ Drop off and Pick Up

- Parents and carers of students in **Years 1 & 2** can bring their children into the school for the **first few days only**. However, parents and carers are not permitted to stay and mingle. If you are bringing them in, we ask you 'kiss and drop' at the front office steps and then leave the school grounds.
- When students come to school from 8.30am, they are to go above the white line as usual. When the bell goes at 9am, they will line up in their new class lines.
- All students will be dismissed from class at 3.00pm this year. Parents and carers are welcome to meet their child on the bottom hard court (being mindful of social distancing expectations) or organise to meet them outside the gates. Please make sure your child knows what their pick up organisation is.
- High school siblings are not permitted to enter the school unless they are with a parent. If they are responsible for picking up a younger sibling, they must wait outside the school gates.

➤ Visitors to the School

- For contact tracing purposes, all visitors to the school are required to sign in using a QR code. If you do not have access to the technology for this, you will be required to fill in and sign a visitor form each time you enter the office. We ask that where possible you contact the office via phone, rather than to come in.

➤ Assemblies

- We are continuing with running our assemblies on alternate Friday afternoons for our K – 2 and 3 – 6 groups. These are not open for parents and carers to attend. These assemblies are quite short with a focus on students receiving weekly trade up and merit awards.

➤ Other

- Hygiene and Enhanced Cleaning – our students will continue to be encouraged to wash their hands and use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day. Enhanced cleaning services are continuing to be provided by the Department of Education.
- Our school bubblers are open for students to use.
- Birthday Cakes – we know how much students love celebrating their birthdays by sharing a cake with their classmates. Due to COVID however, we ask that if students wish to do this, they bring in individually packaged items bought commercially. An example of this are the trays of individual cupcakes or muffins you can purchase at Woolworths or Coles.

Staffing News

We welcome Mrs Leisa Halicek and Mrs Rebecca Prants to St Clair PS. Mrs Halicek is teaching Class 6 and is also an Assistant Principal, supervising Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4). Mrs Prants is the Class 1 teacher and she also has an Assistant Principal role, supervising Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6).

We farewell Mrs Papasinos who received an appointment at another school over the holiday break. This was quite sudden and I know she will be very missed by our entire school community. We wish her all the best on this new chapter in her career.

We also welcome Mrs Cathy McColgan and Mrs Amanda Weibye who will be working as a part of our leaning support team. Mrs McColgan will be here on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and Mrs Weibye will be with us on Tuesdays.

Welcome also to Derya Oner. Derya is our new School Counsellor and she will be onsite each Tuesday and Thursday. We are fortunate to still have Mr Le who will continue to support us every second Friday as our School Psychologist.

Raising an Issue at School

If you are concerned about an issue relating to your child at school, the first point of contact is your child's class teacher. If there are further concerns, please contact the relevant Assistant Principal for the grade your child is in. Our Assistant Principals are:

- Mrs Rebecca Prants – supervising Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)
- Mrs Leisa Halicek – supervising Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)
- Mrs Karen Farlow – supervising K - 2
- Miss Fiona Stellino – supervising our Support Unit (Classes 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11)

If your issue is still unresolved then please refer the matter to either myself or Mrs Goodwin (Deputy Principal).

For all other matters unresolved, you can contact the Public Schools NSW Nirimba Office on 9208 7611 and seek the assistance of the Director Educational Leadership, Eastern Creek Network.

2021 Student Leadership

On Thursday 25th February, our 2021 student leaders will be inducted into their leadership positions and receive their badges. This includes our captains and prefects, class SRC members, library monitors and sport house leaders. More information about how this will be organised will be sent home to the students involved, once it has been finalised.

Parking

As the school year kicks off, a reminder to all that the school car park is for staff only. Please do not use it as a drop off and pick up point for your children. The car park is not a big area and it can be quite dangerous for students. Thank you for continuing to support us with this important safety aspect.

Attendance

I cannot stress enough how important regular and punctual attendance at school is. Please ensure your children come to school, and on time, every day. There is a correlation between irregular attendance and academic progress and social development and the impact can have lasting effects on students. The start of the school year is always a great time to set into place routines and plans around going to school. Of course, if children are not well, they should stay home until they are well enough to return to school. Please do not send children to school knowing they are unwell as this may cause other students and staff to also become unwell. If children have any flu like symptoms, they must have a COVID test and cannot return to school until a negative result is presented. This also applies to staff.

School Photos

School photos (class, groups & individual) will be taken on Wednesday 24th February with sibling photos on the following Monday 1st March. Information about school photos and a photo ordering envelope will go home early next week. Online orders can be made by going to www.advancedlife.com.au and entering the code **BND CZE HMQ**. There are a number of options available. Ordering online is the preferred method.

P & C Meeting

The first P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th February at 7pm in the staffroom. The P & C committee would love to see you there! There will be a number of fundraising activities coming up throughout the year so keep a lookout.

Wishing all our students, families and staff all the best for a great start to the 2021 school year.

Warm Regards,

Dale Bruce

Principal

St Clair Public School Staff 2021

Classes 2020

Class	Grades	Teacher	Learning Support Officer
1	5/6	Rebecca Prants – Assistant Principal Stage 3	
3	5/6	Sarita Menezes	
4	4/5	Linda Gilbert (M/T/W) Danni Peachey (Th/F)	
5	3/4	Kathy Minard	
6	3/4	Leisa Halicek – Assistant Principal Stage 2	
7	1/2	Sarwat Khan	Melinda Bear
8	3/4	Luke Heywood	Deb Te
9	K/1	Allison Austin	Lisa Bonning
10	5/6	Fiona Stellino – Assistant Principal Support Unit	Liz Dunlop
11	4/5/6	Laarnie Lozada	Marie Brouwer
12	2	Brittany Murphy	
13	1/2	Peter Rose	
15	1	Maddy Gradidge	
16	K	Jo Dawes	
18	K	Jane Sebelic	

Other Staff

Staff Member	Role
Dale Bruce	Principal
Elizabeth Goodwin	Instructional Leader / Deputy Principal
Silvia Azzopardi	Assistant Principal Learning & Support – Eastern Creek Network
Derya Oner	School Counsellor (Tues / Thu)
Stephan Le	School Psychologist (Fri – Even Weeks)
Ruth Bernstein	Learning & Support Teacher
Karen Farlow	Library / Assistant Principal K - 2
Danni Peachey	Aboriginal Education Program (Wed)
Samantha Robinson	RFF (Tues / Wed / Thu)
Kim Spicer	RFF / Learning & Support Teacher (Mon / Tues / Wed)
Winnie Tuibenau	RFF (Wed)
Antje Millott	RFF (Thu)
Lauren Johnson	RFF (Tues / Wed / Thu)
Cathy McColgan	Learning & Support Teacher (Tues / Wed / Thu)
Rachel Curtis	Learning & Support Teacher (Mon / Tues / Wed / Thu)
Amanda Weibye	Learning & Support Teacher (Tues)
Mandy Vorhauer	School Learning Support Officer
Chris Japp	School Learning Support Officer
Madison Anderson	School Learning Support Officer
Nadine Pearce	School Learning Support Officer

Office / SASS Staff

Lisa Brooks	School Administrative Manager / Business Manager
Sue Healey	School Administrative Officer / SAM
Therese Joseph	School Administrative Officer (Tues / Fri)
Mark Rutledge	General Assistant (Mon / Wed / Fri)
Cazendra Rice	SAKG Specialist

Itinerant Support Teachers (Hearing)

Who
Jackie Aczel (Assistant Principal)
Judith Voss
Kelly Duncan
Emma Vaillant
Jerome Vaillant
Jodie Woodruff