

NEWSLETTER

TERM THREE WEEK EIGHT 2020

27 Lumsdaine St, Picton NSW 2571
Ph: (02) 4677 1497
Fax: (02) 4677 2103



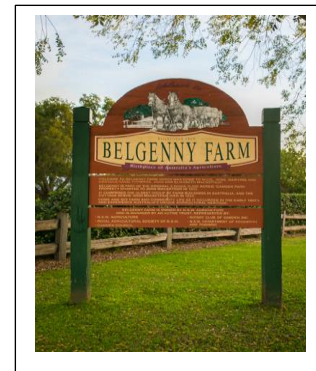
E: Picton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.picton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Principal: Nathan Neilson

School Term Dates 2020

Term 1 Tuesday 29 January - Thursday 9 April (Students return Wednesday 30 January)
Term 2 Monday 27 April - Friday 3 July (Students return Tuesday 28 April)
Term 3 Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September (Students return Tuesday 21 July)
Term 4 Monday 12 October - Friday 18 December (Students finish Wednesday 16 December)

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Wednesday 23rd September - Kindergarten Belgenny Farm Excursion



Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather is starting to warm up and we have been enjoying some lovely days. We are at that time, however, when the temperature is still cool in the morning, requiring jumpers and jackets, which then get taken off throughout the school day as the temperature rises. Please ensure all your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name. While our teachers do their best to remind students to put their belongings straight in their bags, things inevitably get lost throughout the day. When items are labelled they can be quickly returned to their owner, saving parents time and money.

Book Fair Success

As part of Book Week, we held our annual Book Fair. While we experienced some unprecedented challenges, with parents not being able to visit the Book Fair with their children, we were overwhelmed

with how successful this year's event was. This year, our school community spent \$5,800 at the Book Fair, earning our school \$1,700 in reward dollars to spend on books for our library. This is more than we have made in previous years and so we thank you for supporting this event and helping us to keep our library well-stocked with the latest books for our students. Thank you to Mrs Farrell and Mrs Friend for coordinating the Book Fair.

Collaboration Days

Next week, all class teachers will come off class for one day to participate in their Stage Collaboration Day. These days allow our teachers to collaboratively participate in professional learning, reflect on and interrogate student data from Term 3, and develop plans for the following term. These Collaboration Days happen every term and are a valuable planning and professional learning opportunity for our teachers. On each teachers' day off class, one of our RFF/LST teachers, or a casual teacher, will cover classes. We thank you for your support and understanding.

Robotics

Throughout 2020, we have been lucky enough to have access to the Department's stem.T4L robotics kits. Throughout Term One, we had the tablet robotics kit and throughout Terms 2 and 3 we have had the PC robotics kit. The Department loan out these kits to schools to help develop teacher's capacity to embed these innovative teaching and learning tools into their classroom practice. While the time has come for us to return these kits, our teachers have had the opportunity to develop their skills with these tools and we have been able to assess which ones we believe would continue to be of most benefit for our students in the future. As such, we have recently made a purchase of Micro:bits and Blue-Bots for the school to keep. We are looking forward to seeing how these teaching and learning resources will be used to enhance student engagement into the future. My thanks go to Miss Barnes for leading the professional learning and implementation of robotics at the school.

P&C Fundraiser - Walk of Fame

While the P&C have been unable to fundraise throughout 2020 due to Covid restrictions, we are thrilled to be able to partner with the P&C to run our first fundraiser of the year. You may have noticed the pathway entry into the school at the Lumsdaine Street gate is made of pavers with student, teacher, family and community names engraved on them. We are looking at extending the paved section of this path and are giving our current, former and future students and families the chance to have their name etched in the history of our school for many years into the future. Further information will be provided in the coming days regarding how you can place an order for an engraved paver.



Social Media

As technology continues to develop and as children become more confident and knowledgeable with technology platforms, so too does their use of technology and in particular, social media platforms. As a school, we are dealing with an increasing number of social issues between students which has either started at home over social media platforms, or which is being perpetuated because of these platforms. It is concerning to reflect on the amount of time that is being spent at school investigating incidents of inappropriate behavior on these platforms. Time spent dealing with these incidents is time missed from class learning, which is our core business here at school. Most of these platforms have an age limit attached to them which restricts children under this age accessing them. Two such platforms which are causing increasing concern are Tik Tok and Snapchat. The age limit for these particular apps is 13+. No student at our school is aged 13 or over. The main reason that many of these apps have an age restriction is not necessarily because of dangerous content, but because it has been proven that students of a primary school age do not yet have the social maturity to engage with others in forums such as these. Socially, they have not yet developed the awareness of the implications of posts on social media and have not yet developed the required resilience to bounce back from the negativity which exists on social media. I strongly encourage you to consider the platforms your children have access to and the experiences they are having while using these. Investigating incidents which occur on social media is not a positive or productive use of both student and teacher time at school.

SRL Token Winners

Congratulations to the following students, who have been our SRL Token winners for the past fortnight:

Week 7 - Nate and Reegan

Week 6 - Eoin and Henry



Wishing everyone a wonderful fortnight ahead!

Mr Nathan Neilson
Proud Principal



the
School Locker

School hats are now available at the uniform shop.
Opening hours are Tuesdays from 8.45am to 11.00am.



If you are paying any fees by EFTPOS in the office,
payments need to be made by 3pm.

Thank you



The Uniform Shop is still accepting donations of
second hand uniforms. Second hand uniforms will
be available to purchase for \$2 on Tuesdays from
9am to 10am next to the uniform shop.

We are in need of winter uniforms if you have
any please drop them into the box in the
Admin Office please.

Magpie Box



Please ensure all money is placed into the **Magpie
Box** which is on the wall outside the Admin Building.

SCHOOL BANKING FOR 2020



STUDENT BANKING HAS RETURNED

**PLEASE PLACE YOUR CHILD'S BANK BOOK IN THE MAGPIE BOX BY
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS**

Please hand your bank books into the office by
Wednesday as our volunteer Mrs Beverly Roams
processes them on a Wednesday morning.

Beverly Roams