



# Newsletter 2020

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Principal: Ann Mills

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Tuesday 4th February 2020

## Welcome Back!

### Dates to Note:

- Wed 5th-7th Feb

Leadership camp Yr6

- Tues Feb 11th

P&C meeting 7:00pm

- Thurs Feb 13th

Assembly 2:30pm

- Friday Feb 21st

Swimming Carnival 9:30-2:00

- Thursday Feb 27th

Assembly 2:30pm

- Friday 28th Feb

Sporting Schools -Basketball

- Friday 4th March

Sporting Schools -Basketball

- Friday 13th March

Sporting Schools -Basketball

- Friday 20th March

Celebrating Harmony Day

Sporting Schools -Basketball

- Mon 23rd March to  
Wed 25th March

Year 5 & 6 Great Aussie Bush  
camp

We welcome our new Kindies– Annabella, Amira, Archie, Elijah, Hunter and Steven (and their families) to Middle Dural PS along with Zac in Yr 4 and his family. These students seem to have already settled in well mixing freely with others making a great start to what will be a very productive year. It is both Kye and Wami's wish that I now share with you the sad news of the passing of Lee Ackling-Coles (Father to Kye in Yr 6). Some of you may have been aware that Lee had been fighting an illness for some time.

**Anaphylaxis:** Just letting all families know that we do have some students at school this year with severe food allergies... **in particular nuts/eggs.** We have spoken to the children about not sharing any food items and being mindful of what they are eating/alternative choices, and with whom they are sitting. I look forward to parent support in this matter.

**Best Start Assessments:** Our 6 Kindy students have participated in Literacy assessments for Best Start and this Wednesday will give us the opportunity to complete aspects of Numeracy. It is wonderful to see students new to the school, and school situations, feeling so at ease during this process as they felt supported by their friendship partners in this setting. Well done Yrs 1 and 2 in supporting our Kindies and well done Kindy for such a fine start to your schooling. The valuable information gleaned from this assessment not only gives us baseline data but allows us insights into individual strengths and areas of greater need or support. Reporting to parents should be forthcoming before week 5 of this term.

**Student Support:** In an attempt to better support our students through Literacy and Numeracy this year, we have formed *Whole school Literacy* and *Whole School Numeracy* groupings across the school. We have formed three groups for each of these sessions. These occur on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays -Literacy for 90 minutes and Numeracy for 60 minutes. Groups are taken by Mrs McLennan, Mrs Clare and myself. Further information around these will be shared at our information session to be confirmed later this term.

**Library, PE:** Please note that this year Library lessons will be held on Tuesdays. PE will be on Monday for Yrs K-2 and on Wednesdays for Yrs 3-6. Sports uniform is to be worn on PE days and on Fridays for Sport.

**Swimming Carnival:** This year we will again be combining with Hillside PS and Annangrove PS in our annual swimming carnival on **Friday 21st February**. As usual this event will be held at Galston Aquatic Centre. Students from K-6 participate in this event. Parents are requested to take their child directly to the pool **by 9.15** and pick them up from the pool **at around 2pm**. Of course parents are always welcome, and indeed encouraged, to stay and cheer their children on!! A special note explaining procedures will come home shortly.

**Assemblies:** Our first assembly will be commencing *Thursday 13th February*. We hope you will be there! The K-6 assemblies will be fortnightly events as noted on our side section. *Parents and family are always welcome.* Assemblies commence at 2:30pm in the 3-6 classroom.

**Canteen:** Please wait to hear from our canteen supervisors who will announce to us all when the canteen is able to operate again. Things are happening. We appreciate your patience and support.

**Sporting Schools Program:** This term we have organized as part of our P.D.H.P.E a four week basketball skills program. Commencing Week 5 Friday 28th February. This program is delivered by qualified and accredited staff from the Hawkesbury & District Basketball Assoc. and is fully funded by the Australian Government Sporting schools grant. A permission note is included in this newsletter.



### Days to note:

Mondays = K-2 PE, Canteen

Tuesday = Library

Wednesdays = Scripture, 3-6 PE

Thursdays = Assembly every 2nd week

Friday = Sports day



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774 Old Northern Rd,  
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NSW 2158

Before and After School is available  
For pricing details ring Silvia Li.

## Small Schools' Combined Swimming Carnival



Galston Aquatic Centre

Friday 21st February

9:15 to 2pm

Please bring lunch and morning  
tea. See note attached

Our P&C will be meeting on

**Tuesday 11th February at 7:00pm**

in the school library.

These meetings are short, fun and best of all .....

**PRODUCTIVE!!!**

We would love you to join us to help keep this school the amazing place it is and to ensure your children gain the benefits that previous years have been able to experience through the many efforts of P&C participation and guidance.

We have found that enormous tasks have fallen on but a few. It's time we all shared the load a little.

Why not come along to be a voice to be heard. Share your thoughts. Maybe offer some assistance in some small way. We would really enjoy your company.



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Always believe in yourself

A bird sitting on a tree is never  
afraid of the branch breaking,

Because its trust is not on the  
branch but on its *own wings*



A small reminder to parents that if you have any concerns at all regarding your child, their work or an issue with another child in the school, we ask that you please **speak to the class teacher** to clarify the situation. Sometimes things are not quite as they seem.

Do remember that in a small school, teachers are extremely busy, covering anything from 2 to 4 duties a day as well as preparation and marking. It may be, therefore, better to make an appointment to ensure satisfaction all round.

*Ann Mills*

*Principal*

*Middle Dural PS*