



NEWSLETTER

Week 10 Term 2 2020



Principal: Kris Robson
Deputy Principal: Amanda Gulliver

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www.blackwoodps.sa.edu.au

An IB school valuing, supporting and inspiring a community of lifelong learners

Important Diary Dates

Friday 3 July
Last Day of Term 2
3.20pm dismissal

Monday 20 July
1st Day Term 3
Student Free Day

Tuesday 4 August
Governing Council
Meeting 6-7.30pm

Friday 7 August
Student Free Day

Thursday 20 August
Athletics Day
for 10+ year olds



With the end of Term 2 approaching staff and students are looking forward to a well-deserved break. The past two terms have been challenging for everyone however, it is great to see many things finally getting back to usual.

Whilst we have moved to stage 3 of the government plan there are still things to remember when we are interacting with others. At this stage we welcome parents on the grounds whilst still remembering to abide by current social distancing practices. We ask that parents stay out of buildings until we have further advice.

We are investigating when we will be able to resume school assemblies and what form they will take. Keep an eye out for further information as it comes to hand. School sport has begun again, with training, and competition will begin in Term 3. It's wonderful to see all of our children running around at Soccer, Netball and Basketball training. The children have sure missed this opportunity.

Other school events will be reviewed and start as soon as it is within department guidelines to do so.

As the timing of our reporting has changed you will receive notification from your child's class teacher regarding the opportunity to catch up via a phone meeting. Although this is not as ideal as face to face meetings, teachers felt that it was important to be able to speak individually with parents prior to reports going home in Week 3, Term 3. Please take up this opportunity to check in with teachers about your child's learning. Single subject teachers will call any parents who they feel they need to speak with.

Our front office upgrade is almost complete. It has been wonderful for our front office staff to move back in and begin working in this area. By the beginning of Term 3 the whole of the office upgrade will be completed and we are looking forward to planning an official opening with the governing council.



School Information

Student Absence

If your child will be **absent** from school, please send a txt through the

School Star App

or

**SMS Text to
0427 016 460**

**Banking Day
Wednesday
from Term 3**

Term Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Re-opening Term 3

Monday 8:15 – 9:15
Wednesday 12:45 – 1:30
Friday 8:15 – 9:15
3:00 – 3:45

Daws Road shop open and online orders

Ph: 8350 7933

KickStart Breakfast

**In recess until further
notice**

Lost and Found

Ensure all items are clearly labelled so we can return them to you and check the lost and found cupboard for missing items.

BPS Playgroup

**Re-commencing
early Term 3**

School Tour Days

We offer school tours for new families & new students.

Contact Reception on 8278 5355 for the next tour date and to book.

To join, search for Blackwood PS Scene in Facebook and click on the Join button.



Staff Baby Announcement!

Congratulations to 2 of our staff members on the birth of their daughters. Kate Johnson on the birth of Aubrey and Christy Bailey on the birth of Sophie.

Early Arrival at School

Early arrival at school is again becoming an issue. Please remember that school grounds are open from 8.30am for unsupervised students. If you wish to arrive a little early and stay with your child then please feel free to do so, however please do not drop your child before 8.30am.

Parking

It has been great to see the new system for afternoon pick up in the Kiss and Drop working much more efficiently. Thank you to those parents who have changed when they are arriving and how they are using this area. The traffic is flowing much more smoothly. Please remember that if your children are not in the area, you only have two minutes from when you enter Kiss and Drop before you need to move off. Some parents are doing a great job of this and moving without us needing to ask. Thank you, this makes our job of keeping your children safe so much easier.

When pulling out of Kiss and Drop both in the morning and in the afternoon please drive up to the front as demonstrated in the last school newsletter animation. Often traffic is blocked from moving up to the front of the Kiss and Drop by people trying to exit halfway along. Please see photo below so you are able to see the effect this is having. (Thank you to Sharon who always drives up to exit but helped us take this photo when we requested her to do the wrong thing so we could illustrate the problem.)



Student Free Day

First day of Term 3 - Monday 20th July is a Student Free Day.

OSHC is open between 7.30am-6.00pm and celebrating the first day of Term 3 with a Jumping Castle.

Book on the My Family Lounge app and ensure you click on the Pupil Free Day Roll.

New Pastoral Care Worker - Brenton Woolfe

I would like to introduce myself and say I am really pleased to have joined Blackwood Primary School. I remember coming to this school well over 20 years ago when I worked in a different role and loved the environment.

I will be working here on Mondays and Tuesdays and with a focus on providing support, care and a listening ear to any student, teacher, parent or member of our community up until the end of Term 1 2021. I come from a mental health background and have worked with children and young people for many years of my professional life and see great value in providing this service in the early years of school and building connections and contributing to them having a solid foundation for the future.

I look forward to being a positive member of our community and to meeting many of you in my travels around school.



Attention all parents! (by Dakota from Room 6)

The website Webroot (which is about smarter cybersecurity) says that there are children in the US, aged 8 to 18 years old, that spend 44.5 hours a week on screens. This includes iPads tablets, phones, TV/video games, computers and laptops. These children would spend children spend 2,314 hours a year on screens!

I am trying to reduce the number of hours that students at our school spend on screens, as part of my well-being inquiry. A way I would like to achieve this is for families to spend one hour together every night, for a week, doing activities together that do not involve a screen. Each night at dinner you could discuss as a family what activity you will do the following day.

It would be great families could join me and my family in doing this next week. If you do, I would love to hear about it (please e-mail our school (address it to Dakota from Room 6) at dl.0565.info@schools.sa.edu.au).

Thankyou.



School Banking resumes Term 3



Attention all Dollarmite Bankers!

I hope you haven't lost your bank book, because next term we are back in action and look forward to processing your weekly deposits, so you can be rewarded with learning lifelong skills of saving money, to buy cool stuff! Plus, for every 10 deposits, you can receive a free gift. So, on Wednesday, Week 1, next term, dust off your bank books and let's get back to saving for the future!!
Woof!



Governing Council Report

Well we are back to relative normality here in South Australia, thank you to everyone involved with Blackwood Primary School for making the COVID-19 pandemic period as smooth and painless as possible. Each and every person stood up and did their bit, even if it was to stay at home and sit down, at least we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel, which makes me very proud that we live in Australia as the end seems a very long way off for many other countries.

The GC members have continued to meet via Zoom, which, I am sure like many of us have found, it has proved to be an interesting and rapid learning curve. The GC are kept up to date by the school leadership team with Government policies regarding Job Keeper, and other important items, such as social distancing procedures and what measures we should ideally implement. I would like to thank all parents who have taken the schools request to meet with their children on the front oval or off site, this has helped keep staff, students and parents socially distanced and safe.

On behalf of the GC, I would like to thank the OSHC team. Anyone who has used the service during the last few difficult months would agree, they have done a fantastic job keeping the facility open and running during this extremely challenging time. I would like to say a big thank you from the GC to Kim, Kayla and the OSHC team on behalf of the parents and care givers of Blackwood Primary School for going above and beyond over the last few months.

I am pleased to say that the GC are continually looking into grants and communicating with influential people. The grant application for the covered bike shed project which BPS were successful with last year is moving forward. The school leadership team have received quotations to carry out the work and are working through these in preparation to appoint the successful company to complete the work.

We are pleased to see an additional enhancement to the Wittunga entrance, the leadership team have been working closely with the Botanic Gardens and a gravel path has been added to aid access to the school's back gate. Walking through the Botanic gardens at school pick up, I realise how lucky we are to be able to use these facilities and I have read there are a lot of exciting new developments happening to the gardens in the coming year.

Despite the school being unable to carry out principal tours, the 2021 intake is already looking healthy, Kris Robson is working on a virtual tour of the school to help with potential visitor numbers and physical tours will recommence in the near future.

Please be aware that the leadership team are carrying out several alternative solutions for the Kiss & Drop area. I can confirm that the Kiss & Drop lane will be closed until the bell signifying the end of school has rung, only then will the cones be removed by a member of the leadership team. We are now all aware that there is a 2-minute wait time in the Kiss & Drop, this is being enforced to aid the flow of cars entering the school, if your child does not appear in those allocated two minutes you **will** be asked to move on to do another lap and join the end of the line. This does not mean that you park your car in Seymour Street and totally block the exit for both BPS and BHS. The school have received notification that Mitcham council parking enforcement officers will be patrolling the area and will issue fines to people who are parked or waiting illegally. We have several entrances and exits to the school with plenty of street parking surrounding the facility, I will ensure a map of suggested parking locations is included on the BPS website for reference. School finishes at 3.20pm (Tuesday-Friday), please be mindful that students will not be in the Kiss & Drop exactly as the bell rings so no point arriving before 3.20pm. The school leadership team will remain on duty until 3.40pm (Tuesday-Friday) and children are supervised during this time, therefore, please delay your pick-up by a few minutes and generally speaking the car park and Kiss & Drop are clear from traffic towards 3.35pm. Please do not take your frustration out on the leadership team if they ask you to move on, the rules are very clear for each and every one of us, if it is not quite working, maybe you need to look and amended your own pick-up plan to make it work for you and you children.

Without doubt, 2020 has already been an extremely testing time for everyone. However, we are very blessed to have a dedicated team of leaders, teachers and support staff at Blackwood Primary School who have demonstrated that they can offer the very best education for our children, even in some of the most demanding circumstances.

Please continue to look out for each other and keep everyone at BPS safe.

Craig Seckerson
Blackwood Primary School Governing Council Chair

Room 5 Inquiry – Stop Motion Mania!

Lights. Camera. Action!

Currently room 5 is looking more like a movie set than a classroom due to our current unit of inquiry. Students have been learning about migration as part of *Where We Are In Place And Time*, including push and pull factors.

The class are now enjoying creating a very short movie using Stop Motion – which is an app that takes still photographs which are then linked together to create movement – in order to show a push or pull factor of migration.

Some students have chosen to focus on lack of education or healthcare and natural disasters as reasons people need to relocate, while others are researching past events including nuclear disasters and war.

Hopefully watching the finished films will be just as much fun as the making and creating.



This year's Challenge finishes on Friday 4 September. We are aiming to have 100% participation this year. Please encourage your children to continue with their reading and fill in their PRC form. If you need a new Student Record Form they are available on the PRC website or from the Resource Centre. Once their form is completed and handed into the Resource Centre their name will be added to the PRC mural in the Library (mural designed and painted by Mrs. Brown and Room 8). This year the rules have been relaxed because of COVID-19 and students can add any books to their form (the books do not have to have PRC dots on them).

Room 15 Class Report

Room 15 have been very busy learning about measurement in their Inquiry. We have been exploring

- The vocabulary of measurement
- Measurement as a human made system
- How measurement impacts on our everyday lives

I measured how much water can fit in my drink bottle – Kawin

I measured how tall my plant was. It was shorter than me but now it's taller – Tyler H

I measured my garden. I used footsteps. I wanted to measure my bed but I changed my mind – Barnaby

I measured my bed ladder. I used a tape measure. It is taller than me – Ella

I measured my bed – Hazel

I measured my car with a measuring tape. Then In measured my bed with my drink bottle. It was so fun – Stella

I measured how fast it took me to go to bed. It took me 10 minutes. Then I measured how long it took me to wake up - Maya

In the gully we measured with pencils. I measured a stick. It was 4 pencils long. We worked with our big buddies – Catherine

I measured my tv with textas with mum – Tyler C

I measured how long I am compared to a dinosaur bone. I was 4 feet long. The dinosaur bone was 11 feet long – Shayan

I measured the Gully playground with my buddy. My buddy helped me. I used a ruler I made – David



Lost Property

Our lost property cupboard is bursting at the seams!

During Week 10 a trolley will be placed out the front of the reception office with items of uniform, lunch boxes and drink bottles. Please look through to claim any lost items.

Any unclaimed/unnamed items will be sold as second hand, or given to Vinnies at the end of the term.



Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

BEANIES 4 BRAIN CANCER!



On Friday of Week 8 students came to school wearing a beanie or spectacular hat or a spectacular headband to help fundraise for Brain Cancer research. Our school was very caring on this day. Some students also showed that they were principled as they brought along a donation even though they did not have any headwear on. We received some really big donations from some people at our school.

The final total for how much money was raised is \$1102.80.