

Howlong Public School Newsletter

Thursday 30 January 2020



Dates For Your Calendar

Friday 31 January	First day of school for Kindergarten
Mon 3 February	Morning Assembly –presentation of House Captain badges
Tues 4 February	8's and over Swimming Carnival
Fri 7 February	Assembly for presentation of swimming carnival ribbons

Principals Report

Welcome

Welcome back everyone to 2020 school year! We hope everyone has enjoyed some family time and have had a relaxing break over the festive and school holidays. We also welcome our new 2020 Kindergarten students and their parents to Howlong Public School. We are looking forward to a productive partnership with students, parents and community to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential.

Ready, willing and able is our motto for the start of this year. With our growing number of students, this year will certainly be filled with lots of exciting learning opportunities for our students to continue to grow and be lifelong learners!

Get Ready for #FirstDay2020

Help your child to thrive in the new year with the NSW Department of Education back to school tips and resources.

Here is a link to the department's website that parents and carers might find useful in supporting their child. There are many resources for primary and secondary students.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers>

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our school swimming carnival be held next Tuesday on the 4th February. Students who are or turning 8 this year will be able to participate in the carnival. **All notes are due back tomorrow.** Any notes received after tomorrow these students will **not** be placed in swimming heats, but will still attend the carnival with parent permission.

Please have a chat to your child about the carnival and discuss swimming events that they would like to participate and compete in. We welcome all families to the carnival and look forward to seeing everyone cheer on our students.



Proud Member of Crossing Point Learning Community “Creating our Future”

What is the Best Start Kindergarten assessment?

Children come to school with different levels of literacy and numeracy. Some are familiar with books, can recognise some letters, even write their name or count to ten, while others have not yet learned these skills.

Our Kindergarten teachers have always observed their new students and used different methods to find out what each child knows and can do so that they can plan and teach what their students need to learn next.

Our school takes part in Best Start, which has been developed by early learning experts in the Department of Education. Best Start gives our teachers, and those teaching Kindergarten across New South Wales, a common set of high quality assessment tools and professional training.

We believe that Best Start builds on the strengths of teachers to give every child a great start to school.

Your child and the Best Start Kindergarten assessment

It is very important to emphasise that the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is not a test. Its purpose is to help the teacher gather information to guide the teaching of your child.

The teacher will observe each child and use tasks, such as talking about a book that has been read, and record what their students know and can do. The teaching of your child will be based on the information gathered in these ways.

You will be given feedback about what your child's teacher has learned about your child, which you are welcome to discuss if you wish, in keeping with our usual practice.

What is being assessed?

The teacher will look at your child's early reading and writing, their ability to communicate with others, and how they recognise and work with numbers, groups and patterns.

Federation Council Australia Day 2020 Awards.

Congratulations to our School Captains from last year Tyler and Lily for receiving our School Achiever Awards at the Australia Day Ceremony.



School Supplies

Thank you to parents for supplying and organising some school essential items for 2020. We ask that all items including school uniforms be labelled with your child's name. Thank you.



Playground Upgrade

The work on our new playground upgrade has started!

We are very excited and await with anticipation of our new learning space and playground area. Brad Arnold is the local builder who will be working on the project over the next 3 weeks.

Watch this Space!



School Leaders for 2020

Introducing our school captains and prefect for 2020.

Captains Lily McDonald and Harrison Tindall and our Prefects Sienna Napolitano, Diesel Lions and Missy Groenewald.



CANTEEN	ROSTER
31 Jan	Regan Lions
7 Feb	Fiona Ballintine
14 Feb	Ali Franks
21 Feb	Carley Alchin
28 Feb	Jo Merritt
6 March	Claire Taggart
13 March	Chelsea Boulton
20 March	
27 March	
3 April	
9 April	Last day of Term 1

Canteen 2020

Welcome back everyone. Parents if you would like to volunteer please come and see me in the canteen.

We have our lunch bags available for \$8. It would be great if you could purchase one for your child - it makes it easier with money and orders.

Cheers

Kayleen. Canteen Co-ordinator.



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First day for 2020



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