

**Important Dates**

**Monday 16/12**

\* Year 1 End of Year Activity - New Date

**Tuesday 17/12**

\* Year 5 Fun Day Excursion  
\* Year 6 "Big Day In" Incursion

**Wednesday 18/12**

\* Term 4 Ends

**Thursday 23/1**

\* Clothing Pool Open 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

**Monday 27/1**

\* Public Holiday

**Tuesday 28/1**

\* Staff Return for Term 1  
**No students at school**

**Wednesday 29/1**

\* Students Years 1-6 return for Term 1

**Monday 3/2**

\* Kindergarten Commence

**Year 6 Farewell**



**Great Work!**

Well done to Oscar 2C and Isobel 3/4H for reading 100 nights and congratulations to Ellyana and Giancarlo 3/4M, Laken KH, Silas, 1/2H and Saphine 2/3T for reading 200 nights. A special congratulations to Asher and Morgan 1S and Penny 2J for reading an amazing 300 nights.

**Year 6 Farewell**

The Year 6 Farewell was held on Thursday at the Ourimbah RSL. The evening commenced with a presentation in the school hall and a very entertaining song from our Year 6 students. The students enjoyed dinner and dancing at the RSL and loved the glow in the dark theme. Thank you to Mrs Rutherford, Miss Tout, Mr Hartshorn, Miss Searle, Mrs Atkinson and Mr Dawkins and our parents for their organisation of the Year 6 Farewell and gift to the school - the new Acknowledgement of Country signage in the school hall.

**Presentation Day**

On Wednesday our students were recognised for their academic and sporting achievements.

Congratulations to all students who received awards and also to our 2020 School Captains - Iyla Skelton and Max Orr. Vice Captains - Jacqueline Stonestreet and Grace Heazlett and Prefects - Tazmyn Pellew, Lucy Fletcher, Finlay Johnstone, Trinny Dunger, Claire Dixon and Aurorah Carpenter Butler. I am sure they will lead our school with responsibility and pride.



Thank you to the families of Year 6 students leaving us. We appreciate the support you have provided to our school. Thanks also to Mrs Pattison, Mrs Shepherd and Mrs Figallo for organising our Presentation Day. We have excelled in many areas in 2019 and you can read more about the details of our achievements in the School Report that will be available in April 2020.

## Farewell and Welcome Back

We have some staff who are leaving us this year. Mrs Darch who has been teaching at Niagara Park for 22 years is retiring and we are very sad to see her go. Mrs Darch has been a supportive colleague and a caring teacher who has touched the lives of many children. Her impact in our school has been significant and we wish her well in her retirement and look forward to her visiting us next year.

Farewell also to Miss Jess Tout, who after 6 years at Niagara Park Public School is moving to Queensland. Miss Tout is an excellent classroom teacher who has delivered a range of professional learning at our school to improve our teachers' capacity and outcomes for our students. We wish her all the best with her move to the Sunshine State.

Farewell to Miss Nina Lazic-Kirk who was successful with her application for temporary employment at Pymble Public School and we thank her for her contributions at Niagara Park. We will also be without Ms Katrina Hextall next year who will be taking maternity leave as her new bub is due any day.

We are excited to welcome Mrs Taiya Franklin and Miss Stephanie Goldie back who will be joining our team at Niagara Park Public School next year and Mrs Kelly Beckton and Mrs Nadine Scott will be coming back from maternity leave in Term 2.

## Summer Reading is a Blast

Reading is the key to success in education, but reading is not confined to school - what is learned at school needs to be used at home through reading for pleasure and interest.

Reading with or to a child will help keep their reading skills alive and prevents the loss of these skills. In a similar holiday reading program, results showed that 96% of students who participated, improved or maintained their reading levels over the holidays. These holidays we will be running the Summer Reading is a Blast Holiday Reading Program. You and your child are invited to participate in **Summer Reading is a Blast** for these summer school holidays. There is no cost involved, just commitment to have fun reading through the holidays.

Every participating student in Years K-5 will receive a **Summer Reading is a Blast** reading card in the last week of school to record what they read over the holidays. The card also has tips for shared reading activities. Students are asked to read for 21 days during the summer holidays.

They record their holiday reading on the provided card and return it to school by Friday 7 February 2019. Students who complete the card will receive a book prize.

## Share our space

It is now Department of Education policy to allow general public access to quality spaces during holiday periods. Share Our Space is designed to support the Premier's objective of opening high-quality outdoor space to communities across NSW. Share Our Space allows schools to make their facilities available to the community during school holidays.

- Our school facilities would be open from 8am-5pm, 7 days a week, from 23 December 2019 to 24 January, 2020.
- Parents are expected to provide appropriate supervision for their child or children while on site.
- Signage will be placed at the nominated entrance gate to notify non-permitted activities and emergency contact details.
- Patrolling security guards will open the gates in the morning and close them at night.

## School Security

Please contact School Security on - 1300 482 737 during the holidays in the event of any security issues.

## Thank You

This is our last newsletter for the year and I would like to acknowledge and thank all of the staff at Niagara Park Public School for their efforts in making a difference for your children this year.

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers and community members for the work they have done in the support of students and staff in our school and lastly, thank you to the students of Niagara Park for being the fantastic kids you are, you make each and every day special.

I wish all of our students and their families a Merry Christmas, a safe holiday and a Happy New Year. In particular I would like to wish our Year 6 students all the very best for their transition into High School.

School resumes on **Wednesday 29 January 2020 for students in Years 1 to 6** and on **Monday 3 February 2020 for our students starting Kindergarten**. At the beginning of the 2020 school year, all students will return to their 2019 classes and possibly their 2019 teacher. This arrangement will remain in place until student numbers are confirmed and then the 2020 classes will be established.

The school Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday 23 January for purchase 10:00am to 12 noon and on Tuesday 28 Jan 10:00am to 11:00am to pick up **Flexischools orders only**.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

**Adam Boulus**

**Principal**

## **BIG MOVER AWARD - Eliana B. (5/6S)**

Eliana's optimistic attitude is something that has brightened our classroom each and every day this year. She genuinely loves to learn and always looks on the bright side of every situation. Regardless of how challenging a task may be; Eliana has a 'never give up' attitude which has resulted in pleasing progress in many areas this year.

Eliana can be relied upon to treat all other students exactly the way she would want to be treated, with kindness, understanding and respect. She also enjoys helping her teachers where possible and has proven herself to be reliable and responsible as a Library monitor this year, a role in which she has really thrived in and she has done a wonderful job.

Eliana, we love your positivity, giant smile and zest for life, never change! Congratulations on receiving the final Big Mover award for 2019, you truly are a very worthy recipient!

**Nicole Pattison**

**Deputy Principal (Rel.)**



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