

Important Dates

- * Monday 8/5
Year 2 Rumbalara
Excursion
- * Tuesday 9/5
Year 1 Rumbalara
Excursion
- * Thursday 11/5
Mother's Day Stall
- * Tuesday 16/5
Kindergarten 2024
Parent Information
Session & Tour 9:30am
P&C Meeting 7:00pm
- * Friday 19/5
Brisbane Water Cross
Country
- * Tuesday 23/5
CCDF Rehearsal
- * Wednesday 24/5
PSSA Touch Gala Day
- * Monday 29/5
NRMA Science & Road
Safety Day
- * Tuesday 30/5
Public Speaking Final
- * Thursday 1/6
Superstar Assembly



We acknowledge Darkinjung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our school is built and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2! We have already hit the ground running with the start of our Sports in Schools Australia sporting programs, the Anzac assembly, our Stage 2 excursions, our PSSA cricket team match and our Cross Country Carnival today!

I would like to congratulate our Leadership team who did a wonderful job running our Anzac ceremony and to thank Pauline for her bugle playing – it certainly added a touching moment to the ceremony. Thank you to all the staff who have coordinated these events – Mr Dawkins and Mrs Atkinson for the Anzac ceremony, Mrs Furey for coordinating the Stage 2 excursions, Mr Talty for his coaching of the cricket team and Mr Dawkins for the Cross Country Carnival organisation.

Staffing News

Congratulations to Mrs Sparks who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl named Summer on Monday. We wish them every happiness.

As outlined in our Week 10 newsletter last term, we welcome Mrs Rachel Beswick who is providing intervention 3 days a week, Mrs Jess Andrews who will be on 5/6D on Tuesdays and we also welcome Mrs Michelle Williams who has now joined us 5 days per week and will be working in the support unit as an SLSO.

Revamped School Behaviour Expectations

As you will be aware, we are currently in the process of rolling out a new program to support our renewed focus on our School Expectations. Whilst our School Expectations (rules) are remaining the same as they always have been, we have revamped our School Expectations posters and will be implementing school-wide weekly lessons in order to explicitly teach our School Expectations to students and allow them time to discuss and explore how these expectations look in various settings around our school.

Our School Expectations are: Be Proud, Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful.
You can see our new posters later in the newsletter.

Many thanks to our participating students and families that allowed us to photograph and video their children for this project.

Each expectation is made up of 5 skills, which can be seen in the bubbles above each picture example. Every week this term, (moving to every fortnight next term), students will participate in lessons that will focus on a specific skill for the week.

For Week 2, our focus is: **Be Safe - Keep hands and feet to yourself**

Further to this, 'School Rules' awards will be handed out at assemblies to two selected students in each class per fortnight that have shown particular diligence with the focus expectation for that fortnight or week. Teachers across our school will be using the School Expectations and skills and the vocabulary associated with them regularly in daily interactions with students, so students will become very familiar with our expectations if they aren't already. We cannot wait to present our lessons to our students. They are designed to not only be engaging, but also thought-provoking, and hopefully will serve to provide ignition for insightful classroom discussions about being proud, safe, respectful and responsible citizens.

Many thanks to our School Expectations Team: Mrs Frost, Miss Carr, Mrs Temple, Ms Whiteman and Miss Goldie for their time and effort on this amazing program!

Sports in Schools Australia Program and Teacher Professional Learning

From this term for the remainder of the year, we are providing an exciting sporting opportunity for our students. We have engaged the company Sports in Schools Australia to run fun, innovate sporting programs for students each fortnight (weekly for Kindergarten). This term students will engage in gymnastics, fundamental movement skills and social skills. All sessions will commence with mindfulness. Sessions are run by trained coaches and teachers and use equipment we do not have access to, such as the gymnastics program! This program is being funded by the school.

During the time that students are engaged in these sporting activities, teaching staff will be meeting in stage/grade teams to undertake intensive professional learning about the new curriculum and other school priorities and engaging in data discussions. We are so excited about these opportunities that are great for the staff as well as the students!



School Improvements

Over the holidays we have had an upgrade to our school sound system and bell system. Our external sound system can now be projected down on to the oval and we hope those who joined us today for Cross Country, found this beneficial.

We have also had an upgrade to our internal sound system including a bell upgrade. Our old loud deafening bell has been replaced and we now have soft music playing. In time, we hope to add some songs. Further to this, the new system also covers our evacuation system with new lockdown and evacuation tones which can be heard directly into all classrooms ensuring safety for all in the event of an emergency.

Have a wonderful fortnight!

Lyndal Coleman
Principal

Did you know?

A mole can dig over 250 feet of tunnel in a single night.

BIG MOVER AWARD - Chelsea H. (6T)

Chelsea is a proud member of Niagara Park Public School. Over the years, she has continually impressed her teachers and peers with the manner in which she has gone about achieving important milestones in her development, both academically and socially and the way in which she has faced any challenges with a positive attitude.

Chelsea's nature can be best described as kind, compassionate, caring, determined and tenacious. She is a student who is always respectful towards others and the manner in which she deals with any adversity that comes her way is admirable. Chelsea has developed a wonderful sense of who she is as a person. She promotes justice for others and has a strong appreciation for the world around her.

Chelsea has worked extremely hard at developing her self-confidence as a learner. The pride she exhibits when achieving her goals is not only inspiring for her peers, but for her teachers as well.

Chelsea's love of reading is evident and she relishes the opportunity to immerse herself into the books that she reads. She thinks deeply about themes and issues raised and has become a regular and comfortable contributor to class discussions, where she freely shares her thoughts and feelings.

Chelsea brings a really special warmth and calmness into the classroom which helps to create a learning environment where everyone feels safe, supported and included. Her ability to connect with the younger students is evident in the relationship she has built with her Kindergarten buddy.

This award recognises the immense effort Chelsea has put in to become the successful learner she is today and we are confident that she will continue to make big moves into the future.

Congratulations, Chelsea.

Vicki Young
Deputy Principal

**PREMIERS SPELLING BEE**

Over the next few weeks in class, students in Years 3-6 will be participating in the preliminary rounds of the Premiers Spelling Bee.

All students will complete a written spelling test. The top 5 students will then participate in an 'In

Class Verbal Spell Off'. The top 2 will progress to the School Finals to represent their class. All words for preliminary rounds and Finals will be selected from the official list. Link and password will be posted via Sentral.

Katrina Hextall
Premiers Spelling Bee Coordinator

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday 19th May, 2023 is National Walk Safely to School day. The objectives of this day are to:



- Encourage parents/carers to walk to school with primary school aged children
- Promote the health benefits of walking and create regular walking habits
- Help children develop vital road crossing skills and ensure children up to the age of 10 years hold an adult's hand when crossing the road
- Reduce car dependency and traffic congestion
- Reduce the level of air pollution created by motor vehicles
- Promote the use of public transport

Teachers will be re-visiting road safety education with students in classrooms throughout the week. As primary role models, parents/carers are reminded to use the school crossings, avoid accessing the staff carpark and use the pathways in the community carparks when entering or leaving the school grounds.

CRICKET 2023

On Tuesday 27th April, 2023 our PSSA cricket team took part in two cricket matches against Point Clare Public School and Gosford Public School.

Their first match was against Point Clare Public School. We lost the toss and were sent into bat. William and Zahli displayed solid batting technique to help Niagara Park post a competitive total of 45. Point Clare had some very confident batters, however Niagara Park fought hard until the end. A wicket from Brodie as well as an amazing stumping from Zahli slowed the runs down. Unfortunately, Point Clare reached the required runs with 2 overs left in what was a very close game.



Niagara Park Public School played Gosford Public School in their second match. We again batted first and posted another competitive total of 32 from our reduced overs innings. The team shared the bowling around and gave everyone a turn which showed great sportsmanship and camaraderie. It came down to the last few overs again, however Gosford Public got the runs in the last over.

Niagara Park showed excellent sportsmanship towards everyone on the day. They all had an amazing day giving it their best and having a go!

Thank you to all of our parents for coming to help on the day and a special thanks to Helen Talty for scoring.

Alex Talty
Cricket Coordinator

YEARS 3 & 4 EXCURSION TO RUMBALARA

This week, Year 3 and Year 4 students went on an excursion with Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre. Year 3 visited Bateau Bay, while Year 4 spent the day at Kincumber Mountain. Both grades had a fantastic day of outdoor learning.

Year 3 students studied the effects of erosion at the beach and built their own stable sand dunes. They explored the rock pools for shells and creatures and discovered the different ways that animals and plants have adapted to survive certain conditions. Year 4 learnt about how erosion effects the bushland as they walked through the reserve, studying caves and different types of sediments. We learnt so much about how our environment works as an ecosystem and how we, as users of the environment, can keep it healthy and safe.

Congratulations to both Year 3 and Year 4 for their fantastic behaviour and engagement with the activities.

A big thank you to Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre for deepening our knowledge about the environment and planning an exciting day of learning. Thank you to the Stage 2 teachers for organising and supervision the excursion.

Emily Furey
Stage 2 Assistant Principal



SCHOOL EXPECTATION FOCUS

T2 - WEEK 2
BE SAFE



Keep your hands
and feet to yourself.



SCHOOL EXPECTATION FOCUS

T2 - WEEK 3
BE PROUD



Think and
speak positively.



We need a hand around traffic

It takes many years for your child to develop an understanding of danger and how to keep safe. While children are often keen to do things for themselves, **an adult must always be responsible for them in the road environment.**

Your child may be able to recite safety slogans and tell you the rules about how to keep safe but won't always be able to apply them.

We think we can do things by ourselves but often we can't

Sometimes we can be easily distracted

Once we are moving, we find it hard to stop

We sometimes behave unpredictably

We might learn things by rote but this doesn't mean we know what to do

We are small and drivers may not be able to see us

We can't always work out where a sound is coming from and what this means

We often focus on just one thing at a time

We don't really understand ideas such as 'speed', 'distance' and 'safety'

August 2018 ©Transport for NSW Stock code RTA/15/09/8154



For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools, visit the parent section on safetytown.com.au

Key road safety messages

At school, your child will learn about road safety as part of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education.

Help them practice the road safety messages they will learn at school by sharing them whenever you are out and about.

Early childhood	Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 (Kindergarten – Year 2)	Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)	Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)
Pedestrian safety			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always hold a grown-up's hand• When a grown-up's hand is not available, hold a pram, bag or clothes• Always cross the road with a grown-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold a grown-up's hand when you cross the road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Stop! Look! Listen! Think!</i> every time you cross the road	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold a grown-up's hand when you're on the footpath• Hold a grown-up's hand when you're in a car park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a safe place to cross the road	
Passenger safety			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always buckle up safely• Always stay buckled up – awake or asleep• Always get in and out of the 'Safety Door'	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Click, clack, front and back• Always buckle up safely• Get in and out of the car on the footpath side• Wait till the bus has gone and then use a safe place to cross the road		
Safety on wheels			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always wear your helmet when riding your bike or wheeled toy• Always ask a grown-up where it is safe for you to play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ride your bike away from the road	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ride your bike away from busy roads	

Kindergarten 2024 Parent Information Session



**9:30 - 10:30
TUESDAY
16TH MAY**

**Meet at the school hall to learn about
starting Kindergarten at Niagara Park PS.**

Topics include:

**Enrolment, K Start, School Readiness,
School Life, School Tour**