

Padstow North Public School



"A Quality Education in a Caring Environment"

Principal's Report:

Term 1 Week 4 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you have had an enjoyable break. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families at Padstow North Public School this year. Our students have settled nicely back into learning and the school year is definitely off to a strong start. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Meet the Teacher information sessions last week, thank you for making the time.

COVID Guidelines

We are still under quite a few COVID restrictions due to the holiday clusters. The latest information can be found at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

We hope to ease restrictions as the term progresses. At this stage we ask all parents, carers and visitors to observe the following Department of Education guidelines:

- Upon arrival to the school use the QR code displayed at our office to check-in through Service NSW.
- All visitors, parents and carers must also report to the school office to sign-in, in addition to Service NSW check-in.
- Parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have mild flu-like symptoms.
- NSW health has requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested for COVID and not return to school until a negative result has been received and sent to the school. Additionally, students must be symptom-free prior to returning to school.

We ask that you do not come onto school grounds unless absolutely necessary, reducing unnecessary adults on site. Of a morning we ask that you do not enter school grounds to drop off students, except for kindergarten parents/carers. Of an afternoon parents/carers may come onto the south end of the school to collect students in kinder, year 1 or year 2. These are the same arrangements as in 2020.

School Plan

At the end of last term the school executive and staff worked hard to evaluate our practices and plan for the future, this included writing a new school vision statement. Our 2021 School Vision Statement is –

Our vision at PNPS is to build confident, resilient and self directed individuals. This will be achieved through creating challenging and engaging learning opportunities, setting high expectations and supporting the belief that every child, teacher and leader has the capacity for continued growth. To ensure students are at the centre of all our decision making we work cooperatively with colleagues, parents, communities and organisations to build strong partnerships.

Later in the term I will be inviting you to the school to view and give feedback on our 2021-2024 school plan.

Gold! Gold! Gold!

Congratulations to the following students who have currently qualified for Gold since our last Newsletter

Kindergarten to Year 2

Joseph B

Year 3 to 6

Sophia D

Ivy de V

Jonah M

Jack B

Anthony W

James S

Layla F

Dates to Remember

22 & 23 February

Wheelchair Sports NSW

Roadshow

Stage 2 & 3

15—19 March

Harmony Week

Student Leaders

Our 2021 student school leaders are:
School Captains - Charlize T and Noah A
Vice Captains - Jessica B and Ryan T
Prefects - Rachel B and Daniel X



We wish our student leaders a successful year of leadership. This leadership includes fundraising, public speaking and supporting all students to feel a sense of belonging and connection to our school.

Assemblies

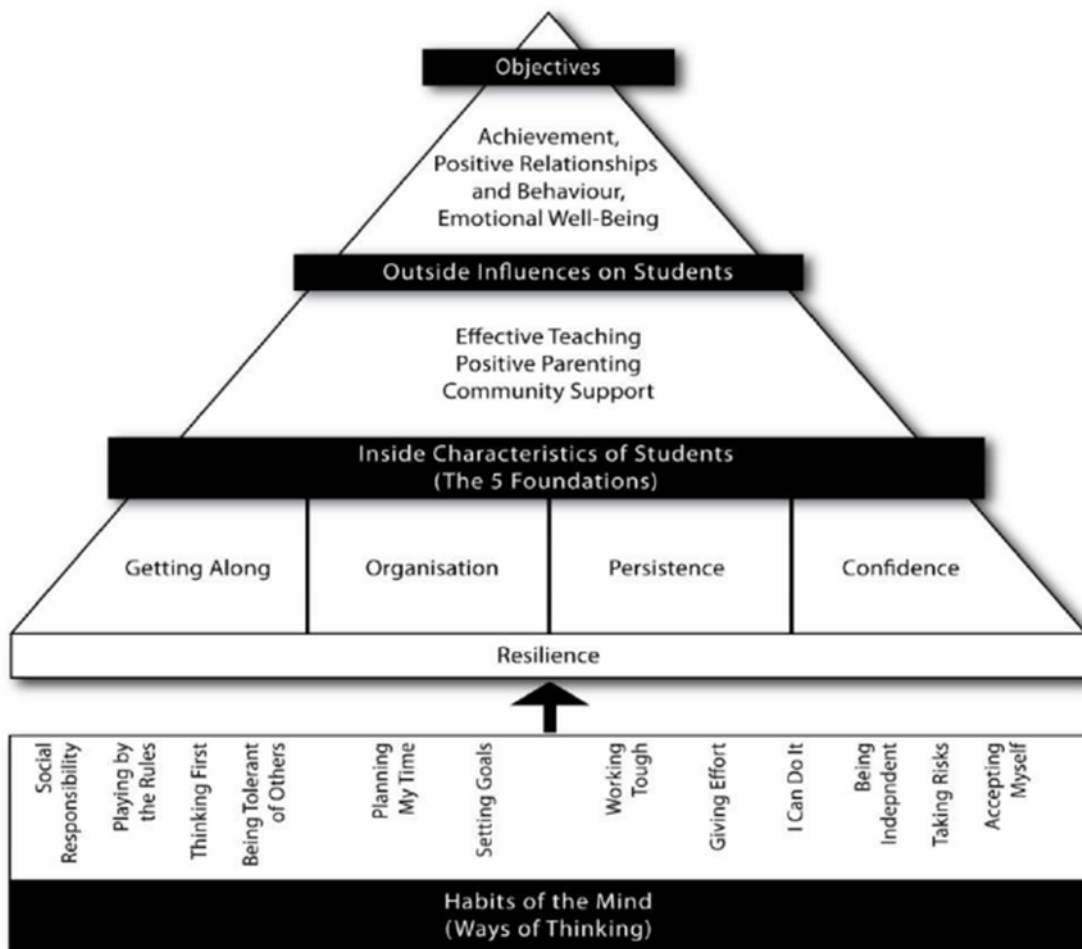
This year we are doing assemblies differently to maximise on student learning time. Our assemblies will now take place in weeks 3, 6 and 9 only. These assemblies are to recognise those students who have outstanding achievements and will be awarded silver and gold certificates. Bronze awards will be given out in classrooms. Our students are fabulous learners and achievers, we look forward to welcoming you back to assemblies when the Department of Education ease COVID restrictions.

You Can Do It (YCDI)

PNPS has introduced the You Can Do It (YCDI) social - emotional learning program across our school K-6. Students will first become aware of the goals of the program - to be successful and happy. The five foundations of success and happiness are then taught specifically. We call these the keys to success and happiness. These keys are:

- ✓ Confidence
- ✓ Persistence
- ✓ Organisation
- ✓ Getting Along
- ✓ Resilience

The image below gives an overview of the course and identifies how the Habits of Mind are taught to support and nourish the five foundations of success and happiness.



This term we are focusing on the confidence, persistence and organisation keys. Later in the year we will be running parent/carer workshops on the YCDI program and embedding these keys in the home as well.

Thank you for taking the time to read the Padstow North Newsletter, we are very excited to report what our students have been doing. For day to day updates and reminders please use the Class Dojo app.

Warmest regards,

Genevieve Dennis
Principal

News from the Kindergarten Classrooms

KK and KW

Kindy K and Kindy W have had such a lovely start to the year! Our Kindy students have settled well into school life, and have been working very hard to learn the new routines of 'Big School'.

We have been enjoying using the online learning platform Sound Waves to introduce and practise letter sounds. The activities we can access using this platform are highly engaging and fun for students! Kindergarten are also using familiar nursery rhymes, such as *Humpty Dumpty*, and *Incy Wincy Spider* to practise their speaking and listening during literacy sessions.

During Mathematics, we have been playing a variety of games using dice, cards, dominoes and number lines, which help develop students' early numeracy skills. Students have even learnt how to access games on the iPad by scanning a QR code!

We are all very excited about the new social and emotional learning program called 'You Can Do It'.

Students have explored the personalities of their new 'classmates' and have discussed what makes them special. These classmates reflect the 5 key concepts of the 'You Can Do It' program such as getting along with others, being persistent, showing confidence, being organised and understanding their emotions.

Kindergarten also participate in developmental play, which helps students to get to know their peers and develop their social interaction skills. Students are excited about the Class Dojo points system and are working hard towards earning twenty points, for which they receive a Bronze Award.

This term we're all excited to learn new things, make new friends and have fun throughout our school day!

Keep up the fantastic effort Kindergarten. Miss Wortz and Miss K are looking forward to the year ahead with each and everyone of you!

Miss Kotsapas and Miss Wortz



News from the Stage 1 Classrooms

1A

1A have had a wonderful start to the year! The students have settled into their new class well. They are enjoying being with new class members and developing great friendships within the classroom.

We are establishing our learning routines with reading groups, spelling rotations using our online learning tool Soundwaves, and Mathematics activities and games happening daily. It is fantastic to see the students showing such positivity and enthusiasm to their learning with each class member willing to have a go and join in!

Our 'You Can Do It' program has also taken off and students have all joined in lessons to understand how confidence, persistence and organisation can be very helpful skills to develop. As the year progresses, we will get to explore how to practice these skills and how to use them in our lives.

Keep up the amazing work 1A! I am looking forward to a great year of learning with you all!

Miss Atkinson



1CM

We have had a great start to the year in 1CM! Thank you, parents and students for coming back settled, excited and ready to learn! We are starting to establish most of our classroom routines with reading group rotations, spelling activities linked to our online learning tool Soundwaves, and Mathematics activities and games happening daily. We are excited to be teaching 1CM. Mrs Cope is teaching Monday to Thursday and Mrs Melville is teaching Fridays. Our Library day is on Tuesdays, we encourage all students to borrow a book so they can bring it to class on Wednesdays for Book Club. Sport day is Friday and weeks 3, 6 and 9 are silver and Gold award assembly. We look forward to having a fantastic year with all the students in 1CM.

Mrs Cope and Mrs Melville



News from the Stage 1 Classrooms

2N

Students in 2N have had a fantastic start to the new year, they have thoroughly enjoyed participating in classroom discussions and tasks. They enthusiastically shared their summer recounts, sport interests and hobbies through group and circle time activities. Students are settling well into classroom routines, reading group rotations and spelling activities.

The 'You Can Do It' program has been a great initiative for students in 2N. Students are acknowledging their success and continuously building each other's confidence with positive and encouraging words. They are taking responsibility for improving their own organisation skills and are being persistent in achieving goals.

It was lovely to meet those of you who attended the meet and greet and I am looking forward to meeting you all in the future weeks.

I am also looking forward to spending a successful and positive year with the students in 2N.

Ms Najjarine



2-3B

What a great start to 2021! I am very excited to be teaching a lovely group of students this year. It has been a pleasure to get to know the students in the first few weeks. We have been making new friends, learning new routines and getting to know our class pet "Drax".

In literacy, we have been working hard on our imaginative writing. We have been focusing on how to 'hook' the reader by using techniques such as speech. Reading has also been an important focus, we are learning what good readers do by using the super six comprehension strategies.

In maths, we have been exploring 3 and 4 digit numbers and all the ways we can represent these numbers. We have been ordering, writing and partitioning numbers whilst revising our strategies for addition and subtraction. We are all very enthusiastic about maths and I'm very excited to see the growth in this area.

We have been looking at our special 'keys' in our "You Can Do It" program. This program teaches the positive attitudes and social skills to develop resilience, confidence, persistence, organisation and getting along.

We are all looking forward to a fantastic year in 2021!!

Mrs Britton



News from the Stage 2 Classrooms

3-4M

We are off to a fabulous start for 2021 in 3-4M; settling into our new routines and getting to know some of the students we were writing letters to at Bankstown South Infants School, has been quite exciting. It has been a pleasure to watch this class identify what persistence, confidence and organisation mean to them. We've worked hard as a team to make sure we set goals related to Padstow North's 'You Can Do It' program! Hearing each of our peers goals and our efforts to make sure we are happy and successful have been wonderful! The students have started to record their goals in their online learning journals! I'm excited to have such an exuberant and chatty bunch of students and hopefully we are all looking forward to a fantastic year!

Miss Carr



3-4G

Students in 3-4G have had a positive start to the year where we have enjoyed forming new friendships. We have been busy understanding our new routines and establishing learning goals that will set us up for success. We have enjoyed participating in fitness games with all of Stage 2, starting maths groups and trying out for PSSA trials. We have also demonstrated our creative sides during our visual art lessons where we have read Pete Cromer's book Australia and created our own versions of the Red Kangaroo. 3-4G are especially looking forward to the many exciting events this year will bring.

Miss Greatrex



News from the Stage 2 Classrooms

3-4C

3-4C have had a wonderful start to 2021. We have so many things to look forward to this year and are excited about learning new things in our beautiful 'bird room' with new friends. Our favourite things that we have done so far in class are our artwork that we did using watercolours and adjectives to describe ourselves. We have liked learning to use SeeSaw on the iPads as a new way to show our learning. We have really enjoyed starting maths groups and doing sport on Mondays with the other Stage 2 students.

Mrs Chegwiddden



3-4S

Thank you to all members of 3-4S who have started the 2021 school year in a settled, respectful manner and with a positive attitude. I am very excited about the year ahead! This term we have already started learning about imaginative texts during literacy, the Super-Six Reading Strategy 'monitoring' during guided reading and Time and Whole Number in Mathematics. Students have been introduced to the strategies for being a successful, happy person as part of the 'You Can Do It' program.

Mrs Spiros



3-6CB

It has been a fantastic start to the year. Everyone in the class has been working hard and trying new things. Everyone in the class has been using the 'Keys to Success' from the 'You Can Do It' program of confidence, persistence and organisation to support their learning. It will be exciting to continue to learn from this program.

All the students in the class have talked about what they enjoy about school this year. There has been a very positive attitude in the classroom. When completing group work to solve a problem in a STEM lesson each member of the group joined in and worked together helping to solve problems and create a tower from straws. The students were asked what they liked about 2021 so far, they talked about their friends, getting better with their reading and writing, science lessons, learning to draw shadows, becoming Hawks vice captains and having great teachers!

Ms Connor and Mrs Brunker



News from the Stage 3 Classrooms

Welcome back to 2021! All of our classes have had a very settled start back, and we are very excited for the many new faces joining our stage this year. There are exciting things installed for us in 2021, and the students are looking forward to it. Teachers have thoroughly enjoyed their start back with their new classes.

4-5H

Welcome to 4-5H with Miss Harrison! I am feeling very lucky to have so many bright smiling faces eager to learn this year. Students have started the year off well forming new friendships and adapting to new routines. They are looking forward to PSSA trials beginning, and the Wheelchair Sports incursion later in the term. Students have done a fantastic job at reflecting on their learning to establish learning goals for the year, and I look forward to seeing their skill set develop over the term.

Miss Harrison



5O

Welcome to 5O with Miss O'Callaghan! I am so excited to have such an incredible bunch of kind, respectful and capable students. Each student has approached the new year with a positive attitude, as they begin to develop new friendships, reflect on their personal learning goals and face new challenges. They are eager to begin PSSA trials this week and continue to express their creativity through visual arts. I am looking forward to watching them grow and blossom throughout the year.

Miss O'Callaghan



News from the Stage 3 Classrooms

6L

It's finally 2021 and we can't believe we're in year 6. We're so happy to finally see all our friends and teachers. Even though it's our last year, we're going to make the most of it. We have many opportunities this year and we're looking forward to doing them. This year is going to be a great one! *By Bailasan, Lyvia, Oscar and Samiya.*

Mrs Lynch



6T

2020 was hard for us all! With a positive attitude we are hoping 2021 will be a year to remember for our final year at PNPS.

For the past three weeks, 6T have been getting to know each other from the things they like to the things that make them happy. Year six have been partnered up with the kindies down south to form strong relationships with our kindergarten buddies.

YOU CAN DO IT!!!!

We have had so much fun learning about the 'You Can Do It' program. The 'You Can Do It' program which ranges from all over the world from kindy to year 6, to help others create success and happiness. Don't we all want happiness and success? By the end of the program, our school will have improved on wellbeing and mental health, therefore leading to happiness and success.

The five keys we've been learning about to create success and happiness consist of:

- Organisation
- Persistence
- Resilience
- Confidence
- Getting along

Mrs Thompson

Library News

Library borrowing and lessons have commenced. We have revised care of our books, borrowing procedures and The Five Finger Test, which is a simple test to help students choose a book that is at their reading level.



Each class has a designated library lesson every week and students are encouraged to bring their book(s) each week to return and borrow. To borrow, students need to remember a library bag. A school library bag offers the best protection for our books.

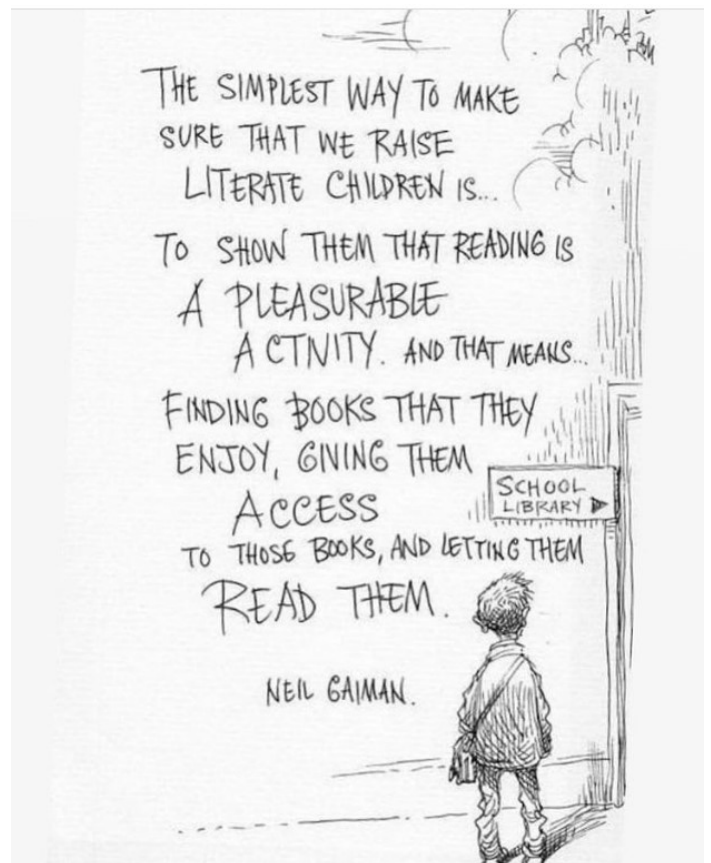
A number of Year 5 students have applied to be Library Monitors for this year. Students will be coming to the library during lunch and recess times to learn the role.

The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge will officially commence from March 1. However, students can start reading now and can keep track of the PRC books they have read. The challenge closes in August so there is plenty of time to start reading. Children can log onto the PRC website using the same username and password they use to access the Kidspace Portal.

If you have any queries about the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge or other matters related to the library please contact me.

Mrs Harris

Teacher Librarian



P&C Update

The P&C warmly welcome new and returning families to the school in 2021.

Meetings

Join us at a P&C meeting, all parents and carers are welcome. Meetings are a great place to hear what is happening around the school, and participate in discussions about fundraising, and donations made to the school. They are held on the second Tuesday each month during the school term, alternating between 9.30am and evening meetings at 6.30pm. Our meetings will be available via Zoom for the time being. The date and time is advertised both on Dojo and also our P&C Facebook page.

Communication

Our P&C Facebook page is PNPS P&C Association. It is a great way to keep in touch and up to date about all activities P&C related.

Canteen

Munch Monitor cards can be used for snack purchases at lunch time. Check the school website for the note to sign and details on how to activate your card.

Sushi Wednesday's will now be fortnightly, on even weeks. Sushi orders need to be placed by 8.45am on Monday through Munch Monitor.

Uniform shop

The uniform shop will be open fortnightly one morning a week, with the help of volunteers. Please keep a look out for announcements for the date and time. However, orders for uniform items can be placed anytime on Munch Monitor, and the items will be delivered to your child's class.

Fundraising

In our recent P&C meeting we set out some plans for upcoming fundraisers. We have a few activities scheduled for Easter celebrations, including a raffle, guessing competition, Hot Cross Bun drive and more. Keep your eye out for notes. We are also hoping to book in a Bunnings BBQ Day in May.

Book Club

The new Book Club Catalogue is out. The catalogues come out twice a term, and once in Term 4. All orders can be made online, and the books are delivered to your child in class to bring home. You can also select a 'gift' option so the order is kept at the office to collect. Our school gets 20% of each order value as a reward which we then use to purchase new books for our school library. This is a great way to improve your personal library of books while also supporting the school.

Volunteers

We often ask for volunteers to assist with fundraising activities throughout the year. Keep your eye out on notes, and our Facebook page for invitations to be a part of these. We recognise that parents are busy, so helping even once a year is hugely appreciated. Canteen volunteers are rostered on once a term, for 3 hours. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, please get in contact.

We are looking forward to another fantastic year of fundraising and supporting the school community. We would love to hear from you, you can get in contact via email:

Padstownorthpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au or via our Facebook page.



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VIP Music acknowledges awareness & compliance with the health advice regarding COVID-19.

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