



Booloroo Centre District School

... Strive to Excel

Integrity · Responsibility · Resilience · Respect

Newsletter Term 2 Week 1

DATES FOR THE DIARY THURSDAY 29TH APRIL 2021

[Choir—Year 5/6](#)

Friday 30th April

[Uni SA visit](#)

Monday 3rd May

[MNSEC Cross Country](#)

Tuesday 4th May

[Sapsasa Cross Country trials](#)

Tuesday 4th May

[SAPOL Online Safety
Presentation Years 7-12](#)

Wednesday 5th May

[Sapsasa Football/Netball
training](#)

Wednesday 5th May

[SAPOL Online Presentation
Years 7-12](#)

Wednesday 5th May

[Year 8/9 football carnival-
Jamestown](#)

Thursday 6th May

[Year 10 excursion to Pt
Augusta](#)

Thursday 6th May

[Murrayville High Concert
Band visit](#)

Thursday 6th May

[NAPLAN](#)

Tuesday 11th–21st May

[Choir—Year 5/6](#)

Friday 14th May

[MNSEC Formal](#)

Friday 14th May

Principal News

Welcome back everyone.

We had a run of very pleasant autumn weather over the break. I hope you all made the most of it. Students and staff that I have spoken to have all been very positive about their break.

School attendance

We finished term 1 with an appraisal of our attendance data. Things we noted, and which DO require attention are:

- Our average attendance rate started at 93% (Wk 1) and gradually diminished to 89% (Wk 11); NB The Department attendance target is 95%.
- There was an over use of the family/social reasons given for non-attendance;
- Friday's attendance is by far our lowest.

All of these 3 concerns will be at the centre of some strategic planning for improving our attendance.

Attendance strategies must be purposeful and directed by the 6 core functions of attendance improvement:

- **Promote** the importance of education from the earliest years of life and throughout the schooling years as a school community priority of the highest value;
- **Assess** patterns of non-attendance and circumstances to inform the development of appropriate targeted, intensive and coordinated interventions;
- Actively **engage** and include all children, young people and their families in education and interventions which support attendance;
- Provide **support** to address the barriers to attendance, learning and wellbeing and ensuring inclusive support for children and young people so they can be physically present and engaged in education;
- **Monitor** attendance to ensure that risks are identified, supports are in place, and progress is reviewed;
- **Evaluate** the need for further or ongoing interventions, referrals for external support and mandatory notifications.

We are mandated to apply the Department for Education's attendance policy. Education is compulsory for all children aged 6 to 17, and every stakeholder has a role to play in ensuring students are attending school.

The impact of non-attendance means

- Students fall behind academically and socially;
- Students and families become disengaged;
- Welfare and well-being of students generally becomes compromised.

Department staff have a duty of care which requires them to take reasonable steps to prevent foreseeable harm to students. While the DfE attendance target for ALL state schools is 95%, we understand the challenges of attending necessary appointments during the week. A trip to the dentist for example, from our semi-remote setting, will need greater travel time than our city-based equivalent. We actively encourage those of you who have a choice in the matter to make appointments and social engagements for the vacation period.



Government
of South Australia
Department for Education

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Principal News

If there are barriers that are impacting on attendance, learning and wellbeing, please make contact with the leadership team: Peter Blackburn, Leanne Opperman, Kathy Kupke, Jenni Caldwell or Chloe Clarke (Student support and well-being). We are here to help, not judge and condemn.

Welcome to our new students

Students who commenced their schooling at BCDS at the end of Term 1, or have just commenced this term are:

- Paige, Taylah, Lucas and Isabelle Williams
- Liam Cooper

We are delighted you have made BCDS your local school of choice, and wish you every success settling in, making friends and achieving every success with your learning.

School Web-site

Our old web-site is ready to be retired, and our brand new web-site is under development. The sneak preview I have received is very encouraging. The EduWeb Solutions team will be on-site May 10th to take photos and videos of students and staff as part of our school web-site upgrade. Please encourage students to be wearing their school uniform especially for this day. I will discuss and plan this with staff at an upcoming staff meeting.

Marryatville HS Concert Band

We are very much looking forward to a visit and a free concert from the MHSCB next Thursday 6th May, 11.45am in the gym. It will also be a great opportunity for our senior students to host and socialise with our visitors over a BBQ lunch kindly provided by Mrs Bury and the SRC.

A visit from the Minister for Education

The Hon John Gardner will be visiting in the first week of June. He is wanting to acknowledge the marvellous achievement of one of our former students, Justin Clarke, who won a Rhodes Scholarship. We will get to see the presentation of the Prince Albert Cup. More news and invitations to guests to follow.

NAPLAN Online

We are gearing up for this term's NAPLAN testing for Yr 3, 5, 7 & 9 students. The last NAPLAN test these students did was in 2019. NAPLAN results provide a school with performance data that indicates if students are meeting their goals from one test to the next, how the school performance is tracking, and informs short and long-term goals such as the Site Improvement Plan. It is in everybody's interest to be able to collect such useful data. The school will actively support the involvement of as many students as possible in these tests.

However, there are grounds for parents/carers to withdraw their child or exempt their child from participating in the NAPLAN Tests.

The principal may approve a student exemption for a student who has:

- A non-English speaking background and has arrived in Australia from overseas and has been in school for less than a year before the NAPLAN test period, or
- A significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit capacity to participate in the tests.

Within the Disability Discrimination Act (1992) legislation, the definition of disability is broad and includes physical, intellectual, psychiatric, sensory, neurological and learning disabilities.

In special circumstances, a parent/caregiver may withdraw his/her child from the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy. This can be for philosophical or religious reasons.

If you feel that your child meets the criteria for exemption or withdrawal from the NAPLAN Tests (2021) then you need to request a **Record of student exemption** –OR- **Record of student withdrawal** (by parent/caregiver) **form** which needs to be completed and signed **before** the Test dates for one or more of the following tests:

Writing; Reading; Conventions of Language; Numeracy. These forms can be collected from or sent home from the school's front office. **The forms must be processed no later than Friday 7-May.**

Peter Blackburn | Principal

The School Piano is in desperate need of some love and attention.
Does anyone know who we may ask/approach as a piano tuner?
Please contact the front office if you may be able to help us out.
Thank you in advance from the music students of BCDS.

Kindy News

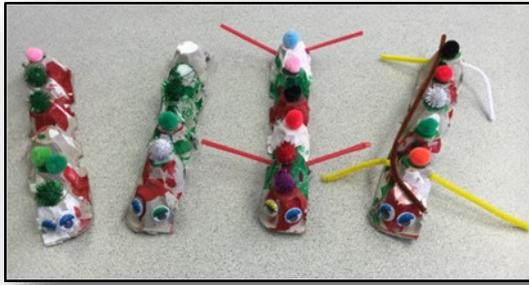
Dear Families,

Welcome back to Term 2. We hope you had a nice break, and are all ready for a new term!

Over the holiday period, Rural Care began an investigation looking into the lifecycle of caterpillars, after initially finding some caterpillar eggs in the yard. The group watched and waited (patiently) for the eggs to hatch. After that, the group began to notice hairy caterpillars emerging from everywhere.

This term, the Kindy is starting a unit of work around place and space, focussing particularly on mapping and researching the places we belong to. One of the first things we did was launch Google Earth and look up where we live. It was very interesting to see the vast change in the landscape and environment where we live, compared to other places in the state. We look forward to seeing where this investigation takes us!

From the staff at Booleroo Kindy and Rural Care.



School News

Cyber Safety presentation from SAPOL

On Wednesday 28th of April Constable Ashlee Bowman came from Port Pirie to inform the R-6 students about cyber-bullying.

During the 5-6 session, Ashlee talked about how to stay safe from cyber-bullying and some serious side-effects of it.

Ashlee also taught the students about safe, online apps like YouTube Kids and Kids Messenger. She also explained about how there are people out there trying to hack and scam anybody by their personal information.

After, Ashlee talked about how you should make sure that there's someone you trust in your life, if not, you can always turn to Kids Helpline (1800 55 1800).

by **Bernie Sun Dudley** and **Zaiden van der Werf**



BCDS FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Mothers Day Gift Stall

Open at lunchtime
Wednesday May 5th & Thursday May 6th
Collect Friday May 7th Week 2

Students are invited to purchase a Mothers Day gift for someone special from our pop up stall.

Gifts range in price from \$2 to \$10 with complimentary gift wrapping!

A BIG THANKYOU TO THE BOOLEROO LIONS CLUB!

Who supported Mrs Chloe Clarke to attend a LionsQuest teacher workshop last term.

LionsQuest is a social emotional learning program that has been developed to be taught from Reception to Year 8. The aim is to support the development of happy, healthy and resilient young people who are caring and engaged members of their families, schools and communities.

The LionsQuest program will be taught in the Year 7/8 Pathways lessons this term. With the aim is to implement the LionsQuest across all year levels from Reception to year 8 this year.

It is such a great program and we look forward to embedding a consistent whole school approach to SEL (social and emotional learning). The program has a strong evidence base and is mapped to the Australian Curriculum. It has been running for 35 years with the support of the Lions Club.

We would like to sincerely thank the Booleroo Lions Club in supporting our school to be part of the LionsQuest.



A Program of Lions
Clubs International
Foundation

Community News

BRIAN'S CART

Nursery/Home grown plants, Stephens street, Booleroo Centre

Seedlings, flowers, vegies, fruit trees, garden items

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am—10:30am.

Let us know what you want and we will get it for you