

A NSW Government P-6 Connected Communities school



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22 July 2022

#### **Term 3 School Update and Events**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 3! This term promises to be just as action packed and student centred as the last, with many opportunities for families and community members to engage in the life of the school. Our first opportunity was yesterday at the 3-6 Athletics Carnival. It was truly a great way to start the term. Seeing our students striving do their best, demonstrating sportsmanship and supporting one another – whilst being supported by family members – is exactly the school culture we are striving for. Thank you to all the families and visitors who could make it alone to support our students.

#### Strategic Improvement Plan

As the school has joined the Connected Community Strategy, there was an identified need to refine our Strategic Improvement Plan to incorporate the strategy. Please see the plan below:

Strategic Direction 1	Strategic Direction 2	Strategic Direction 3	
Student Growth and Attainment	Continuous Learning Culture	Connect, Succeed and Thrive	
Initiative 1 Evidence Based, Quality Teaching Practice in Reading & Numeracy	Initiative 1 Professional Learning Community	Initiative 1 Inspired, Empowered Learners	
<ul> <li>Implementation of systematic, synthetic phonics</li> <li>Guided reading &amp; reciprocal reading</li> <li>Learning and Support structures, systems and processes</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Performance and development</li> <li>Stage based Collaborative Inquiry (Spirals)</li> <li>Coaching and mentoring</li> <li>Whole school professional learning schedule</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data driven PBL systems</li> <li>Emotional/resilience program</li> <li>Attendance team</li> <li>Mobilising student leadership and voice</li> </ul>	
Initiative 2 Data to Inform Practice		Initiative 2 A Connected School Community	
<ul> <li>Whole school assessment schedule</li> <li>Data literacy - Faces on the data and data analysis and use (5WDDs)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Targeted PL for all staff (Aspiring Leader program, BTN, AP network etc)</li> <li>School wide evaluative systems</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Formation of Aboriginal Education team</li> <li>Turning Policy into Action</li> <li>Leader Community Engagement</li> <li>Engaging and strengthening partnerships with the community</li> </ul>	

Throughout the semester, I will provide regular updates on the areas of the Strategic Improvement Plan we are working on so you too, develop an understanding of why we are doing what we are, and what we hope to achieve as a school and connected community.

#### Parent Survey Feedback – 3 Way Goal setting (Strategic Direction 3 – A Connected School Community

Thank you to the 150 parents who attended the end of term, 3 Way Goal Setting and Student Report feedback sessions. It was lovely to see so many of our families attend and equally nice to hear how you feel the school and teachers know about your child and how they are supporting them at their point of need. Please see the positive results from the 111 parents who completed the survey.



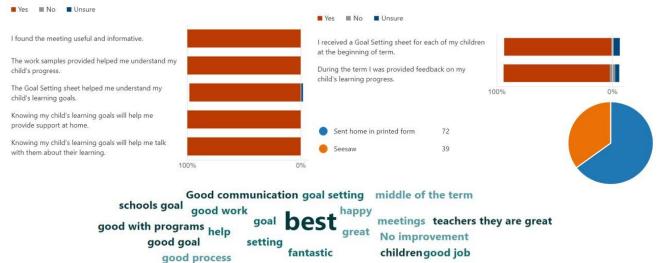
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#### **3 Way Goal Setting Survey Results**



We will be holding another 3 Way Goal Setting this term during Week 8. More information will be sent home closer to the date. In the interim, please continue to engage with your child's Seesaw account to see what they are learning and when they have achieved their learning goals.

# Education Week – Open Day – Wednesday 3 August (Strategic Direction 3 – A Connected School Community)

During Week 3 (Monday 1 August – Friday 5 August), the Education Week Committee has planned many wonderful activities for our students and community to engage in. Please see the rough schedule below:

Tuesday 2 August	Disco hosted by the PBL team	
Wednesday 3 August	Open Day and Education Week Assembly	
Thursday 4 August	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day	
Friday 5 August	STEM challenge	

On the Wednesday, we are excited to invite a maximum of 2 parent/family members or carers to attend the school to help us celebrate the many wonderful achievements of our students. The day will commence at 1030am and conclude at approximately 2pm. The day will provide opportunities to visit the library, participate in activities in your child's classrooms, have a picnic and and enjoy the Education Week assembly. Further details will be provided on Monday 25 July. We look forward to you joining us.

#### Attendance (Strategic Direction 3 – Inspired, Empowered Learners)

As a school, our overall attendance rate is 80%. This means many of our students are absent for 40 days a year, which is approximately 1 Term. This can have many significant negative implications on a child's social and emotional development as well as their academic performance. We do appreciate and understand that many of us have been affected by COVID which has significantly impacted our abilities to get our children to school. To further support you, we will continue to send home RAT kids this term so you can have peace of mind before sending your children to school. We will also provide RAT kits for students who have come down with flu like symptoms throughout the course of the school day. I will update you on our attendance throughout the term.



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#### Home Reading Program (Strategic Direction 1 & 3)

Our Home Reading (40 Nights of Reading) program is commencing again this term. During Term 1 we had 49 students achieve this and last term we had 62. Our target this term is 100! With your help, we will achieve this. Children who reach the target receive a new book, a bookmark, an award and sausage sizzle at the end of the term. Things you can do to help are:

- know your child's library day to ensure they are returning their library books and borrowing new ones
- schedule a 10-minute time slot into your morning or afternoon routine
- have an older sibling read to a younger one
- use the school purchased Wushka app to engage your child in books of their choice
- read with our child to model the love of reading

#### **Staffing News**

At the end of last term, I ran a merit selection process for 2 new teachers. The successful applicants were Ms Lauren Medcalf and Ms Natasha Poullos. They will commence their positions with us in Term 4 this year. In other news, Ms Gemma Dalton was successful in achieving a permanent teaching position at Seven Hills West Public School and will commence her appointment next week. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her. We wish Ms Dalton all the best in her new school. Mrs Woods and Mrs Dodman will be the teachers on M Purple for the remainder of the year.

Date	Event	Date	Events
19 July	3-6 Athletics Carnival	23 August – 2	Life Education Visit
		September	P-6
1– 5 August	Education Week	5 – 9 September	3 Way Goal Setting and PLP
			review meetings
3 August	Open Classrooms and	5– 9 September	Survival Swimming and Water
	activities (1030 – 2pm)		Safety Program – Year 2 and 3
12 August	Activate Inclusion Sports	8 September	Public Speaking finals
	Day – Support Unit		
	students in years 3-6		
16 August	Zone Athletics carnival	16 September	Kindy Excursion (more details to
			follow)
17 August	RL Gala Day	21 September	Badge Assemblies
22 – 26 August	Survival Swimming and		
	Water Safety Program –		
	Support Unit year 2 -6		
22 & 25 August	Preschool Incursion -		
	Zoomobile		

#### Term 3 Major Events and Calendar Reminders

<b>Recuring School</b>	When/Who	Recuring School Events	When
Events			
Sporting in	Kindergarten – odd weeks	Winter PSSA (selected 3-6	Friday's 1130 – 130pm
Schools	Year 1 and 2 – even weeks	students)	
Australia	Year 3 and 4 – even weeks		
	Year 5 and 6 – odd weeks		
	Support Unit – odd weeks		
Assemblies	K-2 Odd weeks starting 5	Chifley College Shalvey	Year 6 fortnightly 2 –
	August	Campus Visits	255pm
	3-6 Even weeks starting 29		
	July		
Library	Please check with you child's		
	teacher		



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#### Facebook and Seesaw (Strategic Direction 3 – A Connected School Community)

Please continue to engage with our school Facebook page to see reminders, changes to routines and view your child and their friends having fun and learning at school. Similarly, please remember to view your child's work samples using the Seesaw app. We will be using the Seesaw app more regularly this term to promote and celebrate the work your children are learning, as well as the learning goals they are achieving.

Lastly, I would again like to thank you for your ongoing support of our school, teachers and of course your children. We look forward to another term of student, staff and community engagement, connection and student learning to further strengthen and embed a sense of belonging for the school community as a whole.

Kind regards,

Mr Garry Sheen Executive Principal

