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Term 4 Week 3 2021

Possum Post Waterfall Public School Principal's Report



WELCOME BACK !!! A HUGE THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS to

you all on surviving 16 weeks of Learning from Home!!! We applauded you on how quickly as a community you pivoted to remote learning. The staff at Waterfall PS can't thank you enough. Let's hope we have seen the end of Learning from Home.

Students have returned to face to face learning this week and they have settled back into school routine well.

There was nothing better than hearing the sounds of the students back at school. They are back in the place where they learn best. This will be our last paper copy of Possum Post. Future Possum Post's will be available on Skool Loop.

Save the Date!

Term 4

Week 4:

Friday 29 October

❖ Mufti day – P&C Halloween Disco run during school time in school hours.

Week 5:

Monday 1 November

Kindergarten 2022 online transition Session 1 - 9.30 -10.30am

Week 6:

Tuesday 9 November

Kindergarten 2022 online transition Session 2 - 9.30 -10.30am

Tuesday 9 November

Parent only Kindergarten 2022 online transition information session - 6.00 -7.30pm

Week 7:

Wednesday 17 November

Kindergarten 2022 online transition session 3 – 9.30-10.30am

Thought of the week!



COVID UPDATES:

Learning delivery

To provide a safe learning environment for students, we are following NSW Health orders and DoE guidelines. We are minimising opportunities for transmission which will enable the most effective contact tracing and containment measures in the event of a COVID-19 case. Our students are lucky as they have returned as one cohort The principles of student cohorting are to:

- minimise unnecessary physical interaction between students on school grounds
- ensure that students learn and play only with those in their cohort, wherever possible
- minimise opportunities for transmission and enhance contact tracing
- minimise the potential for widespread infection across the school and wider school community
- enable learning to be delivered effectively via face-to-face and home-based learning
- facilitate opportunities for ongoing collaboration for staff, while delivering face-to-face and home-based learning

Drop-offs and pick-ups

Parents and carers must follow our school's advice regarding student drop-off and pick-up. This includes staying in the car when dropping off and picking up children if it is safe to do so. This does not apply to drop off and pick up from outside of school hours care (OOSHC) as sign-in and -out procedures are required.

Parents and carers should:

- follow the <u>physical distancing advice (External link)</u> for their local area and avoid gathering outside school gates
- remain outside school grounds (some exceptions may exist for SSPs, vulnerable students or students with disability)
- adhere to mask-wearing requirements in accordance with the Public Health Order
- sign in using the Service NSW QR code if entering the school. For more information, refer to Drop-offs and pick-ups.



Check-in protocols when attending a school site

All staff and visitors attending a school site must comply with school protocols and check in using the applicable Service NSW QR code. For more information, refer to <u>QR code sign in process</u>.

Visitors

Non-essential visitors are not permitted on school sites including:

- official visitors and dignitaries
- media and production crews
- visits by local members.
- Parents should remain outside of school grounds and adhere to mask-wearing requirements. Some exceptions may exist for SSPs, vulnerable students or students with disability. In these instances, parents are required to follow the mask-wearing requirements and sign in using the Service NSW QR code when entering the school.

Please note: Allied Health partners and other providers that are unable to deliver critical services remotely are permitted and should continue to operate in a COVID-safe way.

Essential visitors supporting curriculum delivery, and student and staff wellbeing are allowed on school sites.

All essential visitors are required to sign in using the school's Service NSW QR code. For more information, refer to QR code sign in process.

All visitors are required to wear a face mask or covering in accordance with the Public Health Order.

What is permitted during school hours or within schools Schools can continue to operate:

- canteens where appropriate hygiene measures are in place (including canteens operated and/or employed commercial companies, schools or volunteering when under operation by a P&C), as long as:
- they can ensure that they are accessed by one cohort at a time
- physical distancing is in place
- canteen staff follow normal COVID-safe protocols around vaccinations and testing
- early childhood services (OSHC, vacation care, preschools etc.)

School-based activities

- Dance and/or drama are permitted in line with COVID-safe practices within classes in outdoor spaces.
- Sport may continue within existing PDHPE classes, in accordance with physical distancing guidelines.
- Library activities are permitted.
- Uniform stores can only operate if they are online or have pre-ordering arrangements in place, with one dedicated staff member attending outside of school hours to arrange distribution.



- Online orientation and transition programs. We are waiting further information when these can recommence face to face.
- Emergency drills and evacuations where possible should be conducted in a COVID-safe manner. Activities that are not permitted or on hold

Schools must cease the following activities during school hours or within school grounds:

- singing, chanting, group repetition and choirs
- sport (except for sport within existing PDHPE classes, provided this limits student mixing)
- bands and ensembles
- interschool activities and events including interschool sport, gala days, trials, knock outs and carnivals
- SRE/SEE/VSA
- community language schools
- assemblies
- school performances, productions, concerts, speech nights and award presentations
- excursions, camps, field trips and principal-endorsed activities for students
- international excursions
- student visits to aged care facilities
- community events (fetes, grandparents' days etc.)
- playgroups
- P&C activities, including meetings (unless held online only)
- all external providers and specialist programs not directly related to educational outcomes and support, including community use of school facilities (such as markets and all after school activities) unless delivered online only
- school holiday programs (noting that vacation care programs on school sites may continue under current guidelines).

Masks and face coverings

Under <u>Level 3</u>, <u>Level 3 plus</u> and <u>Level 4</u> settings masks are **required** indoors for all staff and students in Year 7 and above. Masks are **strongly recommended** indoors for primary students.

It is also mandatory for all staff and students to carry a mask with them at all times.

Mask wearing requirements do not apply to the following staff and students:

- children in early childhood services, pre-schools and early intervention classes
- a student or staff member with a physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a mask unsuitable including, for example, a skin condition, an intellectual disability, autism or trauma. They must carry evidence of this and produce it to the police on request.

Congratulations to Mr Reid on his retirement:

We wish Greg Reid all the very best for his retirement. Mr Reid has been our GA for many years and has helped maintain our school grounds. He took great pride in the work he did at Waterfall Public School. We wish him all the best on this new phase in his life and we hope all his plans come true. Thank you Mr Reid you will be missed.



Welcome to Mr Glen Pye and Terry Bruce:

We extend a warm welcome to Mr Pye and Mr Bruce to Waterfall Public School. They have commenced as our new General Assistants.

Thank you P&C

A huge thank you to P&C for their generous contribution toward our magnificent totem poles at the front of our school. These totem pole have our school values written on them. We will be explicitly teaching our core values with students over the coming weeks.



Skool Loop:

Skool Loop will be our main source of communication with parents/carers. Please download this app to keep you updated with school events.

Downloading the Skool Loop app - a step by step guide

Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school -

- Open the Skool Loop App you will land on a welcome page.
- Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school
 or follow the country/region prompts.
- Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side.
- Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
- Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
- Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.





TTFM Parent Survey:

Please take the time to complete the TTFM parent survey on Skool Loop. Your feedback is most valuable in moving the school forward.

Gingerbread House Fundraiser:

Don't forget to support our school and jump on Skool Loop to place an order in for a Gingerbread House kit. Orders close Friday 12 November.



New School Polo Shirts:

We have listened to parent feedback on changing the colour of our white polo. Parents feedback being it is hard to maintain and keep clean.

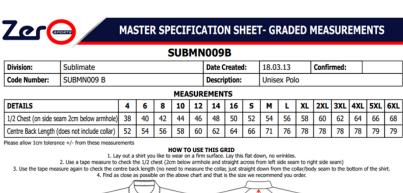
Due to popular demand, the P&C Uniform Shop, in consultation with the school, is phasing out the current white polo shirt as a part of the Waterfall Public School Uniform.

The new design, pictured below, will be available to order this term, the short sleeve polo will cost \$30 and the long sleeve will be \$35.

We will be receiving blank polo shirts in the next week so that parents are able to be sure of sizing when ordering. We will be at the front gate with these samples so you can try them on your child.

Please indicate below your size preference, and the amount of shirts you will be ordering over the *next 12 months* to assist with the first order to ensure we have stock to meet your needs.





A 1/2 Chest (on side seam 2om below armhole)

3 Centre Back Length (does not include collar)

Front

Back

Uniform Assistance – If your family is facing hardship or severe financial difficulties, you may be eligible for assistance to help meets education costs, including uniform. You are encouraged to talk to the Principal or office if this is the case.

Name	Size
No of shirts summer	
No of shirts winter	

Thank you

P&C Uniform Shop

P&C Uniform Shop:

In consultation with our P&C president Sascha and P&C Uniform coordinator Jenny Benn, it has been decided that the uniform shop will return on site. All uniforms will now be purchased online with a link to the P&C uniform shop via our school website. We are hoping to have this system up and running by Week 5 Monday 8 November.

Please check out our website in the coming weeks for further information.

Student Emergency Contact Details:

A note has been sent home today to ensure we have the most up to date contact information for all of our students. Please check all details are correct and return to school ASAP.

During lockdown we have been busy working on our gardens and pathways. I would like to acknowledge and thank all staff for their hard work, endless hours of shovelling, digging, planting, building pathways, walls and improving our school and student learning spaces. We did it all for our students and they love it!!

I couldn't have managed the transformation of our school without the dedication and support of the amazing, brilliant and fabulous staff I work along side each and every day 🧽

We are looking forward for the day when you can return onsite and have a look at our spectacular little school 🥲



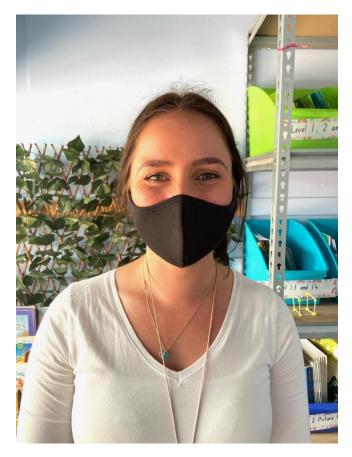






POSSUM PORTRAIT

Meet Miss Ghislain





What have you found hardest teaching the kids?

Planning for all of the stages instead of just 1.

What is your favourite thing to teach?

Physical Education.

Waterfall kids behaviour out of 1-10 be honest?

8/10.

How do you feel about being a teacher?

I LOVE IT!! I have wanted to be a teacher my whole life.

Interviewed by Lee



Friday 29 October 2021

Mufti all day

Disco: 2:00pm - 3:00pm

\$10 Entry Per Child

Includes Mufti, Afternoon Tea, Drink and Lolly bag



