

Charlestown South PS

Newsletter

Monday 26 October 2020



Education

Upcoming events

Tuesday 27 October - P and C Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday 28 October - Book Week Parade and Book Fair

No Raining On Our Parade!

This Wednesday we may require character costumes as well as swimming costumes as we run our annual Book Week Parade. The theme across all schools this year is Curious Creatures, Wild Minds. Curious certainly captures 2020 as each week we weren't quite sure what was around the next corner apart from the sign 'postponed' when it came to school events. Well, this event is forging ahead regardless but unfortunately, we aren't able to have the huge crowd of parents, carers, grandparents, relatives and friends as our kids from kinder to Year 6 dress up for this fun occasion. But hold your phone! **We are planning to Live Stream the event via our Facebook page on Wednesday morning commencing at around 9.15am.** Keep an eye on the Skoolbag App and Facebook for exact details closer to the event. The weather may create a few challenges but at CSPS we never let a little obstacle get in our way!

Covid Coping Kinder are Coming!

Although we are unable to run our 'normal' **Kindergarten Orientation** due to imposed restrictions, we are inviting the 2021 'newbies' into the fold for a few hours each on **Wednesday November 18**. New kinders will get to meet their Year 6 buddies as well as their teacher for the new year ahead. What an exciting day as we greet our 37 new 'little people' who will no doubt play a role one day as leaders of CSPS as the third decade of the millennium unfolds.

Writey Oh!

Who was the crazy person who suggested I be the judge of our Writing Competition!!? I lost hours of sleep deciding so I called in back up and Plan B and wife Susan read them. Well that was a mistake! She wanted everyone to get a prize despite having only 8 books to give out! My dilemma had grown rather than clarity coming. Plan C was then activated in a clandestine move that secretly pulled in a few infants teachers and Learning and Support Teachers. The outcome we can't decide! Ahhhhhh! Plan D a small team, including those above mentioned, rated each story in each grade which assisted my final decision. However, all will be rewarded for their efforts as we put together the '2020 CSPS Story Writing Booklet' which will be made available for sale very soon. The authors of the top 2 rated stories in each grade –: Year 3 – Shae B & Parthib H; Year 4 – Lachlan M & Neve B; Year 5 – Niamh M & Ariana C; Year 6 – Aiden W & Beau B. Congratulations to all who submitted stories and went the extra mile and voluntarily participated.

Students are reminded to bring a drink bottle to school each day -
the school bubblers remain closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Thank you.



A Run For Fun

Seeing as all hope has been exhausted in terms of running our annual Athletics Carnival, over the coming Fridays we will be focusing on some athletics events. During this time we will mainly focus on fun and skill coaching but we will be recording highest and longest jumps and throws in various events and measuring out an exact 100m track just so primary students can possibly beat the CSPS record. Given that we managed to sneak our Swimming and Cross Country Carnivals in earlier in the year, we'd still like to have a Sporting House name for 2020 recorded on the perpetual shield by running just a few of our usual events during Friday sports time. However, this Friday we are looking more likely to run the backstroke event on our backfield as opposed to the high jump!

P&C in Your PJs?

Join us via Zoom for our Week 3 Term 4 **P&C meeting this Tuesday evening at 7pm**. Pop Junior Masterchef on for the kids so they can learn what to cook for Wednesday evening for you, and then join us! The link to the meeting is:

<https://au01web.zoom.us/j/69780128449?pwd=L2ZEOFV1Q1QxdTQ5S1F4MU9PUWFLZz09>

Meeting ID: 697 8012 8449

Passcode: 301256

Camping In-tense!

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 streamed off the bus last Thursday afternoon full of stories and reports of conquering high ropes, flying foxes, high swings, archery and more! We may not have stayed overnight as was planned pre-covid, but we did manage to fit two days of adventure into one action packed six hours! Thank you to our amazing group of primary staff for making this a possibility and sacrificing their own pride and fears in joining our kids in swinging through the air!

2021 – Our Year Ahead Update

Despite growing to an unexpected 11 classes at the start of this year due to a huge intake of 45 kinders, it looks highly likely that we will maintain our 11 classes for next year when we run the numbers through the department formula given we have also had some enrolments mid-year in other grades. In regard to staff, the required 12 months have passed since we exceeded the 241 students needed to gain a third Assistant Principal position. This position will be via a Central Appointment and not via a Merit Selection interview process as these staffing options alternate 1 for 1 and our last AP position was via the Merit selection option. However, the Department Staffing Unit has granted permission for CSPS to place this position on hold for a 12 month period as departmental area demographic formulas project our numbers to fall, despite our thinking and hoping otherwise. The result being for an interim 12 month period we will fill this position internally for 2021 and the should numbers remain above 241 students, the Staffing Unit will appoint an Assistant Principal to our vacant position from eligible candidates on a state wide list for 2022. We will inform our community later in the term of who will fill this 12 month interim position after the due process has been completed.

CSPS Successful Traffickers

After two weeks of enjoying the extension of our main staff carpark, we are delighted at the result at afternoon pick up time. Parents have easily been able to find a park on Patricia Ave and the whole process is done and dusted come 3.10pm! The traffic congestion has all but disappeared along with the danger to pedestrians and drivers who now can relax and not have to deal with the traffic mayhem created by the lack of parking. Our neighbours are also loving it!

Mr J's Free Parenting Tip

Be parents that persistently promote participation! One of the things that I love most about CSPS is that our kids will have a red hot crack at just about anything! The culture is that they will jump in and participate in activities that are outside of their comfort zone or ones that they may not be highly skilled at or even those times such as sports carnivals where they know they are unlikely to receive a ribbon or award. Unfortunately, as we age we tend to lose that delightful lack of inhibition that is most often resident within us when we were 5 years old. Most kinders will have a go at anything you put before them and they will tell you they are 'really good at it'! However, we soon seem to develop the 'what will others think' mentality which can result in reduced participation even in things we really enjoy doing. As parents, we can prolong the 'have a go' mindset by encouraging our children to participate in whatever healthy and personal growth opportunity that presents itself whilst being mindful of not placing too many unrealistic expectations that may cause the opposite to what we are aiming for. I love that nearly every single one of our senior students this week will still find a costume to dress up in for Book Parade. I love that all of our students will turn up for every sports carnival and nearly every single one of our them will participate in just about every single event and to boot, they will cheer each other on regardless of the performance level. You can guarantee that in every Cross Country Carnival, you will find a small group of kids who will without request, race off and run the last half kilometre with those at the rear of the field. I love that the kids at the rear of the field won't give up but just want to finish what they started despite the placing. As parents, we need to continue to promote participation. You can guarantee that 99.9% of people who succeed in life have been 'participators' and if we set that example as mums and dads, our kids will most likely follow.

Principal's Award
Term 4 Week 1
Daniel K



Principal's Award
Term 4 Week 2
Grace L



Important Changes to Staff Development days for 2021

The Department of Education has changed the Staff Development day dates for 2021. At the start of Term 1 both Wednesday 27 January 2021 and Thursday 28 January 2021 are Staff Development days. **Students commence school on Friday 29 January 2021.**

As a result of this extra day in Term One there will now only be one Staff Development day in Term 4 2021 on Friday 17 December. **This means the final day for students is Thursday 16 December 2021.**

Scrunchies for sale

Thanks to the wonderful work of school mum Courtney, we have scrunchies for sale!

They are \$1 each - cash only - and are available from Mrs Hansen in the Office.

Proceeds will go to the Year 6 End of Year Fundraising efforts.

Courtney kindly volunteered her time to sew these and has done an amazing job of recycling school tunics. We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to her for her kind efforts!



Diary Dates

October

Tue 27 P and C Meeting via Zoom 7.00pm.

Wed 28 Book Week Celebrations and Book Fair - more details to follow.

November

Tue 24 P and C Meeting 7.00pm

December

Tue 1 Year 6 Whitebridge High School Transition Day - more details to follow

Mon 7 Year 6 Farewell - more details to follow.

Thu 10 Presentation Day - more details to follow.

Wed 16 Last day of school for students.

**** Please note these end of year events may be subject to change due to future COVID-19 restrictions and Department of Education guidelines.****

January 2021

Wed 27 Staff Development Day - no students

Thu 28 Staff Development Day - no students - **new date**

Fri 29 Students return for Term 1 - Years 1-6 - **new date**

Thu 28 - Mon 1 Kindergarten completing Best Start Assessment

February

Wed 3 Kindergarten students commence

This month we are supporting Stewart House. Each year 1800 public school children in need come to Stewart House from many parts of NSW and the ACT. During their stay, children are provided with optometry, dental and medical support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and to promote a healthier lifestyle. Children in the care of Stewart House attend a specific purpose school onsite for 8 of their 12 day stay. The NSW Department of Education provides infrastructure and staffing support for this school. All other costs associated with the children's' stay are met from charitable donations. Stewart House needs your support to ensure they can continue to provide these important services to children. Stewart House Envelopes have been sent home with students today. Please donate \$2 or more and you'll go into the draw to win a \$4000 gift voucher (due to the COVID-19 situation, a travel voucher will not be available this year). Stewart House is a wonderful organisation who have helped many of our CSPS students.



Please return the envelopes to the office by

Tuesday 10 November 2020.

Thank you for your support.