

■ 2020 ■ Term 2 ■ Weeks 6 and 7

■ Principal: Meg Reynolds



Illabo Public School

Newsletter



Loving school
Engaging students at IPS!

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Learn for Life

Illabo Public School

1 Layton Street

Illabo NSW 2590



Education
Public Schools

A PROUD MEMBER OF THE

NGUMBA-DAL
LEARNING COMMUNITY



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Calendar

Term 2 Week 8

Monday 15 June School Photo Day, 9:30am and Miss Molloy's birthday!

Term 2 Week 10

Early Week 10 Reports home

Friday 3 July Last day of term and Reward Day

Term 3 Week 1

Monday 20 July Staff Development Day

Tuesday 21 July Students return for Term 3

Feature Photo



George enjoying life!



Kindergarten Transition Program

We understand that a child's first year of school is an important one for both the child and their families. Our Kindergarten Transition Program is an ideal opportunity for your child to explore our wonderful school and begin their 'lifelong learning'. **If you know of anyone who is thinking of starting a Kindergarten student in 2021, could you please ask them to contact the school as soon as possible?** We'd love to hear from any interested families so we can add them to a distribution list for upcoming transition dates.

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A message from Meg

Over the last couple of weeks I have really enjoyed watching our students explore every corner of our beautiful playground and invent creative games. They have had so much fun running, hiding, building and playing together.

We have been advised by the DoE Deputy Secretary that as a result of the updated health advice and relaxed restrictions, schools are able to recommence the majority of school-based activities from either 15 June 2020 or the start of Term 3 (20 July 2020). A more detailed outline is attached to this newsletter. Although school students do not need to follow adult physical distancing guidelines, they should follow good hygiene practices like:

- regularly washing hands
- avoiding sharing drinks or food
- making sure they cough and sneeze into their elbow, or a tissue which should be discarded immediately

It is important not to become complacent. **All activities on our school site will occur in line with existing infection control procedures and the additional health, safety and distancing requirements outlined in the AHPPC Guidelines or in NSW Health advice.** Non-essential visitors are still not allowed on site or at events – this includes parents/carers. Thank you for adhering to these guidelines. If you would like to speak to a staff member, please email or phone the school.

School Photos

Next **Monday, 15 June** at **9:30am**, The School Photographer will be visiting our school. Photo envelopes are due back Monday. **Please send back outstanding envelopes even if you are not ordering photos.**

Students are to wear full winter uniform with no different coloured ribbons or headbands. If girls want to wear their green tunic and yellow polo top, that would be great. Black shoes are part of our school uniform and are preferable, if able.

Online payments are preferred and can be made at www.theschoolphotographer.com.au using your online order code on your envelope. Alternatively if you are unable to do an online payment, cash can be added to the attached envelope when returning to school.

If requiring a **sibling photo**, please contact the school for a separate envelope. Online payments for sibling orders close by 8:30am on the day.

Reporting and Assessing

Simplified Semester One reports are due to go home in Week 10. If you feel you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's report, teachers will be available for optional phone interviews during this week.

Have a great weekend!

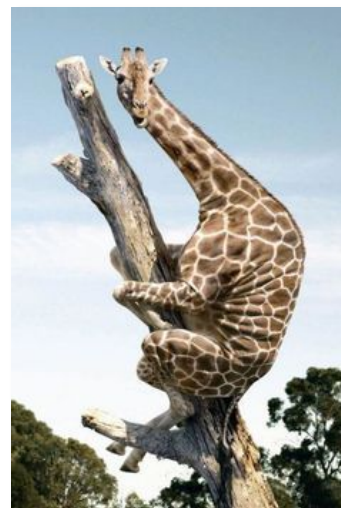
Meg



From the Classrooms

The Kookaburras and Kangaroos have been learning how to write a sizzling start to improve their writing. Here are two examples:

"Annabelle Ritchie here, reporting from outside the giraffe enclosure at the mystical zoo. We still do not know what has happened! Some people believe that something has scared the giraffe up the tree; others think that it is practising its gymnastic skills. It seems that the giraffe is stuck. Right now I can hear the whirling siren of the fire truck."



A game of catch...gone wrong

by Angus Baldry

Crack!

"Help Gerald," screamed Gary as his hooves began to tremble.

"Have you got the apple? Is it safe?" replied Gerald.

"The apple's gone Gerald, let it go already," Gary yelled.

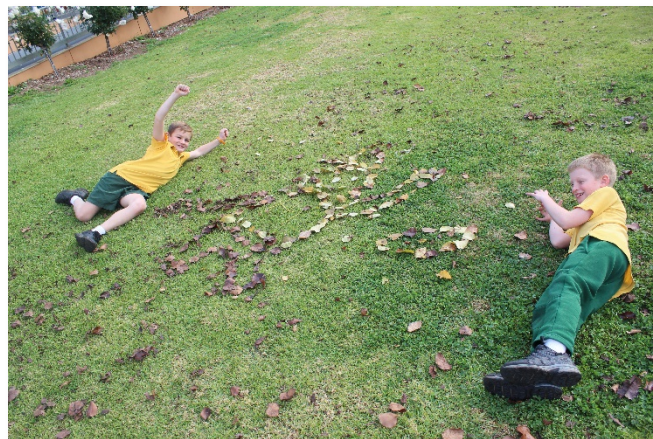
"I'm coming" he answered over his shoulder whilst walking away.

"What are you doing you idiot? Come back!" screeched Gary.

"I'm coming to save you." replied Gerald sarcastically, as the smell of fuel and the sound of the old chainsaw revving up reached him.

Whole School Art

Yesterday, the students had a fun art session with Mr Steward, using *earth* art. This is art that is made within the landscape, sculpting the land itself into earthworks or making structures, using natural materials such as rocks or twigs.





Cubby Fun



Community News



Active Kids Program



The Active Kids program provides families with vouchers to help cover costs towards membership and registration fees for sport and recreation.

Cootamundra Country Club IS an approved Active Kids provider, we are able to accept Active Kids vouchers.

From 1 July 2019, two \$100 Active Kids vouchers are available for each school-enrolled child annually, giving families even more reasons to sign up for sport and recreation activities.

At The Country Club for your \$100 Voucher you receive:-

12 months Membership for either Golf, Bowls or Croquet

Plus an embroidered Hat and merchandise to assist you getting started.

We are happy to discuss options for you and your family, please contact the Club.

94 Hurley Street Cootamundra

Phone 02 6942 1330

Email cc-club@bigpond.net.au



Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning website*

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities