



BELLEVUE HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal's Report

Returning to School

From May 11, the NSW Premier directed that all students should attend school one day per week and learn from home on the other days. As you are aware, at Bellevue Hill Public School we have scheduled our return to school on a grade basis.

This week, some challenges were experienced with the larger grades as trying to keep the children distanced was almost impossible. However, the advice from the Dept of Education (DoE) regarding relaxing the distancing rules before the children returned assisted us immensely.

Attendance

All attendance data regarding the number of students attending each day is monitored by the DoE. We averaged between 200 - 300 students per day this week which is above the average percentage for local schools. The reason that students are returning include:

- Students whose parents are essential workers;
- Families who have extenuating circumstances or special needs;
- Students on rostered days; and
- Students who are siblings of those on rostered days.

However, NB some students are returning because parents are responding to student requests to return to school because they are missing friends. This is not appreciated at this time.

Whilst no student would ever be turned away from BHPS, the staggered return to school is deliberately planned by the Government & DoE and each school **to protect your children**. NB We are still in an unknown pandemic.

There is one more week of returning to school one day per week to see how it can be managed. There is still the unknown of a second wave of this virus. A timetable of two days per week is daunting but has been considered.

Please see the below attendance schedule for next week, Week 4.

Monday 18 May	Tuesday 19 May	Wednesday 20 May	Thursday 21 May
Kindergarten	Year 6	Year 2	Year 5
Year 4	Year 1	5/6K	Year 3

Arrival and Dismissal

The medical advice suggests adults form the biggest threat as transmitters of the virus. For this reason we have been advised by the DoE to limit adult presence on the school site or being near other students.

Arrival

8.45 am—9.00am students supervised in playground

9.00 am bell is rung and students move to class

9.15 am school begins

Thank you to all parents who have respected the drop, kiss and go at the gate each morning. The students have all shown great independence, especially Kindy, who have happily taken their bags and gone off to class or play.

Dismissal

The next biggest challenge for us to try to manage at a distance has been the dismissal of students.

2:45pm—Kindy students without siblings

3:00pm—Students whose scheduled day it is to attend

3.15 pm—all other students

Please note that if the teachers are advised siblings can be sent down at the same time. Parents can enter the school to collect students. We have trialed different exit gates to see what is the most effective. Please follow the directions given by staff knowing that we are trying to do the best for your children. Most parents have respected that advice and I sincerely thank the majority of Bellevue Hill parents for their consideration of others and the inconvenience that this has sometimes caused.

Sue Bennett
Principal

A Message from our SRC Presidents Eshana & Aaron

Hello parents, carers and students,

We hope you are all keeping safe and healthy. We are sure that students are eager to return to school and settle back into learning, and of course socialise with friends. We continue to do this gradually with all grades returning one day this week. Hopefully it will progress to returning back to normal soon. The SRC in Term 1 had been developing great ideas, which got put aside as changes happened within schools.

The SRC provides all students with a voice. Suggestions, ideas and requests for changes to the school can be made by the SRC. So we hope to work extremely hard over the remainder of the school year.

Usually students who are voted to represent their peers in the SRC serve 2 terms. As a result of students missing many weeks of school, there will not be another SRC election in classes because of the disruptions.

As BHPS SRC Presidents, we hope to see you in Week 4 on your allocated days so we can get back to face to face learning.



Take care,
Eshana and Aaron

Health Safety in School

Enhanced Cleaning

Additional funding for the cleaning of schools and other public assets has been allocated by the NSW Government and the DoE has is implementing a targeted hygienic cleaning process in schools on a daily basis. Target areas include desks and other hard surfaces, door handles, lockers, light switches and handrails in stairwells and movement areas.

Essential Supplies

Schools also received packages of essential items such as hand sanitisers, hand wash, toilet paper, thermometers etc from the DoE to supplement what we already have.

All classrooms have access to a wet area with sink and taps etc for washing of hands which students use regularly.

Cough Etiquette

Students are reminded of cough and sneeze etiquette daily and practise this religiously.

Unwell Students

Any students who present as unwell with cold or flu like symptoms will be isolated from the classroom immediately and parents contacted to collect the child. Parents are asked to keep any child at home with any sort of respiratory symptoms.

External Providers

All external providers of services for students who normally visit the school on an itinerant timetable eg Scripture teachers, speech and occupational therapists, music tutors etc are still prohibited by the DoE from visiting the school until restrictions are lifted completely.

School Buses

We have been advised that all State Transit School Special Buses have already resumed operating. Please read the attached information sent by the state transit authority if your children catch the school specials.

Lunch Orders

Available for purchase through the Flexischools app. Botany Bites are providing lunch orders Mondays through to Thursdays. Please double check you have selected the right date for your child's lunch order and received a confirmation email for each order placed from Flexischools to ensure that your order has gone through.

Susanne Gervay visits Year 4 via Zoom

Local author, Susanne Gervay, of 'I Am Jack' fame visited the Year 4 students on Thursday via Zoom! We have been studying this novel in our Literacy unit during Terms 1 & 2. We were very lucky to have Susanne read Chapter 9 to us all. She explained the themes covered in the book, such as bullying, friendship and resilience. She also explained that the novel is based on a true story about her own family.

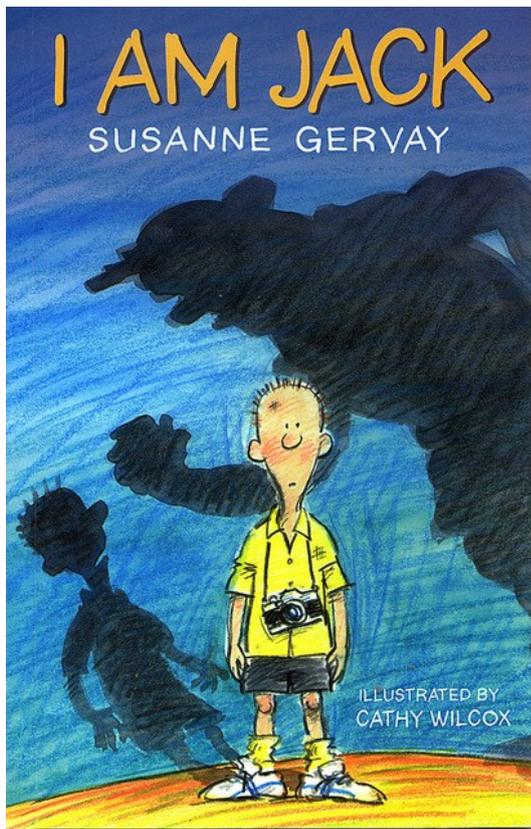
"It was fun listening to the actual author reading to us and very interesting how the story is based on her true life"

- Daniel

"It was a really cool experience to get the actual author to read to us" - Annika

"It was really exciting have Susanne read us her own book because she read it with expression and understood the characters" - Dani

"I think Susanne was exciting and she looks like the character Nanna in the book. I like the way she writes, it's easy to read" - Matthew



LIBRARY NEWS

Don't forget that orders for our virtual Scholastic Book Club close on **Monday 18 May**. After this date, you may still order from the book catalogue, but you will need to get your order delivered to your home with an additional postage charge.

Copy and paste this address to go straight to the catalogue:
[scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/](https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/)

The books usually take about 10 days to arrive at school. Once they arrive, we will distribute them at school on the days that your year group is at school. If your children are continuing to self-isolate, we can arrange for your order to be collected from the office (or perhaps you could opt for home delivery).

Here are some of my favourites from this catalogue:

Picture Books:

Mum for Sale (page 2)

Chicken Divas (page 2): this is the 2020 book for national story time

Malala's Magic Pencil (page 9)

Tilly (page 11)

The Wonderful Wisdom of Ants (page 11)

The Book Chook (page 11)

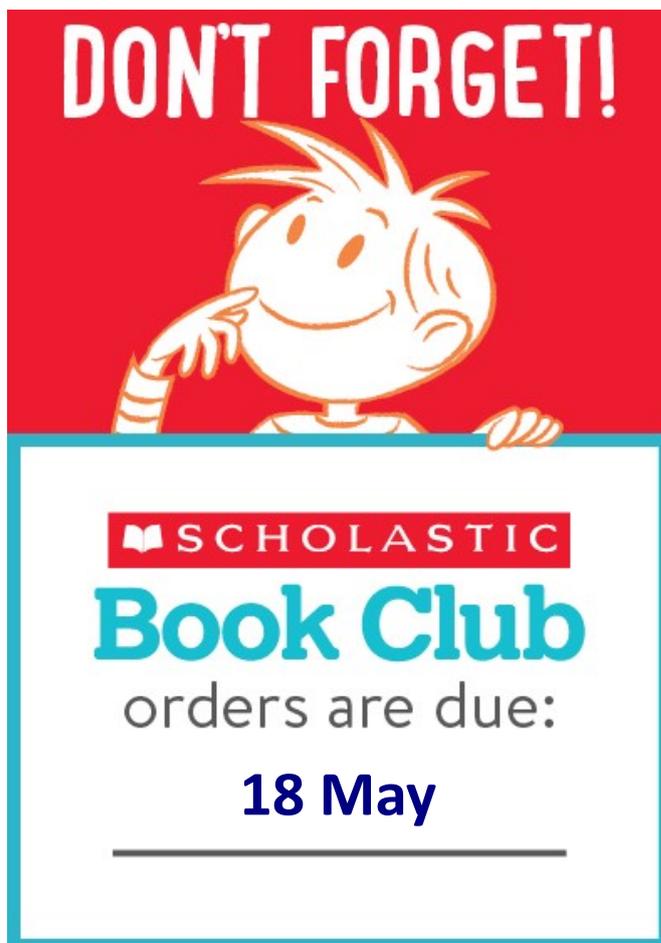
Junior Chapter books:

Olivia's Secret Scribbles - Dragon Catchers (page 1)

Bad Guys (page 1)

Tiny Timmy (page 17)

Hot Dog #8 (page 31)



Years 3-4:

Slime - the latest David Walliams title (page 1)

Wolf Girl 2 - book 2 in an Anh Do adventure series (page 23)

Ninja Kid - a funny Anh Do series (page 4)

Real Pigeons Peck Punches - a funny series (page 15)

Years 5-6:

The Glimme - a Children's Book Council shortlisted book for 2020 (page 21)

The Babysitters Club (original non-graphic version) (page 24)

The Hunt for Ned Kelly (page 26)

Kensy & Max - an adventure series (page 23)

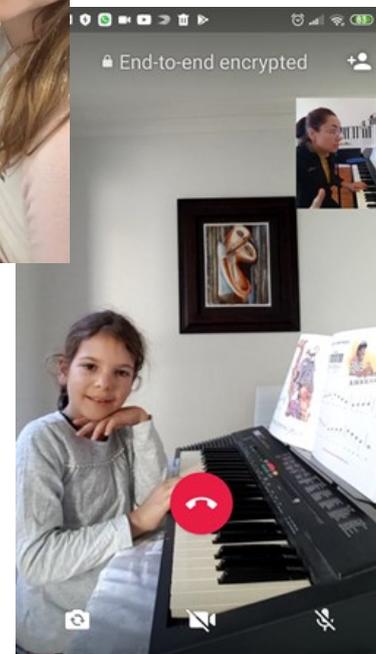
Skulduggery Pleasant (page 29)

News from the Remote - Piano Lessons

It is already the third week in a row when students of all years show outstanding practices at home!

Henry (Year 3) learns at least one new music piece that involves both hands playing together. Oliver (Year 5) plays music of a variety of composers and styles demonstrating excellent memory work. Jessica (Year 3) performs known and unknown pieces with lots of musical details. Ariella (Year 2) plays with no mistakes or hesitations. Taj is about to make a recording of his repertoire to submit to the AMEB for examination. Katie (Year 2) makes her beautiful white piano sound very cheerful so any listener would ask her to play again and again and again! Daniel (Year 4) demonstrates how he developed an amazing hand shape with lovely curved fingers.

Dr Petrova – Piano Teacher



School Levies—2020

Invoices have now been emailed out to families.

Yr K - \$468.00

Yr 1 - \$473.50

Yr 2 - \$464.00

Yr 3 - \$447.50

Yr 4 - \$447.50

Yr 5 - \$447.50

Yr 6 - \$447.50

Text Books

If you have not already purchased your child's text books please contact the office to finalise this asap.

Yr K - \$32.50

Yr 1 - \$44.15

Yr 2 - \$44.15

Yr 3 - \$44.15

Yr 4 - \$46.85

Yr 5 - \$46.85

Yr 6 - \$17.25

WE WANT YOU.... TO BE A CLASS PARENT FOR 2020

This is a fun and interactive role - you're essentially the bridge between the class teacher, parents, school and P&C. This is a great way to get to know your child's class, your teacher and be involved in and give back to the BHPS school community. AND it doesn't take much time at all.

Apply to be a Class Parent

All you need to do is go to:

<http://bit.ly/bhps-classparent>

and fill out your details

Or alternatively email your details to:

lisapeles@yahoo.com

and include your child's year and teacher's name.

Please NOTE: Class Parents are allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

