

# Spring Terrace Newsletter

Spring Terrace Public School

A Community of Confident Learners

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Term 3

Week 1

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2020

## What's on at STPS

21/07/2020- Students Return

03/08/2020- 07/08/2020- Education Week

## Message from the Principal

### Welcome back

Welcome to a new and hopefully less interrupted term. We very much hope that our school will be open for all students the whole term, but rest assured that, despite what the term might bring, we will be doing everything that we can to ensure continuity of learning for all students. Our focus for this term, as always, is student success in Literacy and Numeracy with a strong commitment to student well-being.

### COVID Update

The strategies that we had in place at the end of Term 2 will remain the same for the beginning of Term 3. This includes all staff and students regularly washing and sanitizing their hands, not using the bubblers, our cleaner, Robyn, coming in during the recess break to wipe over regularly touched surfaces and social distancing where practical. Parents are allowed on school grounds but only when necessary and must sign in at the office.

Please continue to ensure that students are kept home if they are sick, particularly if they have any cold or flu like symptoms.

### Car Park

I was informed by the council late last week that they don't want to change or move the "Bus Zone" sign that was put in front of the school due to student safety concerns. I have spoken to the Manager of Engineering Services yesterday to voice my concerns about the lack of parking for parents in the afternoon and that this will potentially cause more problems. I will continue to follow this up and will keep you all informed.

### PAXIS Behaviour Management Program

On the last three days of Term 2, Miss Toovey, Miss Hutchison and I took part in training for the PAXIS Behaviour Management Program. We are excited about implementing this into our classrooms and sharing what we learnt with parents as soon as COVID restrictions allow. In the meantime, we will continue to share information regarding this via the newsletter.

### 2021 Enrolments

This term we will, as much as possible, finalise our enrolments for 2021. If you have children starting Kindergarten in 2021 please contact Mrs Chapman or myself to get the process underway. If you know of anybody who might be interested in their child starting Kindergarten in 2021, please invite them to contact the school to discuss this.

### Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

Interviews will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Week 3. These can be in person, over the phone or via video (Zoom etc). Teachers would like to have the opportunity to speak to every parent about their child's progress so far and their goals for the remainder of the year. A form to book times will be available next week.

### School-Home Communication & Newsletter Changes

Last term we made a few changes to the look of the newsletter and would like to know what our readers think. This evening I will post a short survey about school communication on the Spring Terrace P&C Facebook page that we would like all parents to complete.

### Education Week

Education week is coming up in Week 3 and we are keen to celebrate. Open classrooms and assemblies don't quite fit the COVID restrictions, so we will be looking for interesting ways that we can celebrate our successes with our community.

*Mr Peter Scott*

Principal

## News from the Classrooms

### K/1 Classroom

K/1 students are going to be starting a new writing unit, 'Where the Wild Things Are'. In this unit, students will be looking at imagination and how to use their imagination to assist in their creative writing. There will be no homework for this week.



### 1/2 Classroom



In the Year 1/2 Classroom, students are beginning to focus on their new writing unit, 'Australian Animals'. In this unit, students will be learning factual information about Australian Animals, this will include what type of animal, what do they eat, where do they live, what do they look like. There will be no homework for this week. Home readers will be sent home today.

### 3-6 Classroom

In the Primary class this week we will be writing newspaper reports about our holiday activities and learning about writing reports that will be delivered orally. In Mathematics, we will be finishing off some work on measurement and beginning work on multiplication. This Term we will aim to set new personal best in times tables for those students who don't already know them. There will be no homework for this week.



## Overview PAX Good Behaviour Game

### What is PAX Good Behaviour Game?

The PAX Good Behaviour Game (PAX GBG) is a proven behavioural and instructional strategies used daily by teachers and students to build self-regulation in children, strengthen peer networks, reduce impulsivity, and teach prosocial decision-making in children.

### What does "PAX" mean?

PAX is Latin for peace. PAX is what we want more of in our classrooms, community, and home. PAX= Peace, Productivity, Health, and Happiness.

### What does PAX GBG teach students?

PAX GBG teaches students to flip on their internal focus for learning. It teaches students how to work toward valued goals, and how to cooperate with each other to reach those goals. Students will learn how to self-regulate during both learning and fun, and delay gratification for a bigger goal.

### Why is PAX GBG important?

PAX GBG has been found to be an effective way to reduce multiple mental health symptoms across a range of disorders including ADHD, depression, and anxiety. When used with younger students it has shown to extend benefits beyond the classroom and offer life-long protective effects for students' mental health.

### Why implement PAX GBG at STPS?

PAX GBG develops students to be fully attentive and engaged in learning. Schools who are using PAX GBG report:

- Increased time for teaching and learning
- Increased attention to and completion of academic tasks
- Engaged learners
- Improved learning outcomes, including reading scores
- Reduction in off-task and disruptive behaviours

### How does PAX GBG work?

PAX GBG is presented as a game. Like all games there are rules or guidelines and rewards for doing well. But it is a game where everyone can succeed in their own way. It teaches children to have voluntary control over the attention circuits in the brain and increases the ability to self-regulate. Additionally, PAX GBG reduces students' reactions to accidental reinforcement for negative behaviour from peers and adults.

PAX GBG is not a curriculum, nor a system of "consequences" for bad behaviour. Instead it helps children learn to work together for mutual benefits.

### How will PAX GBG be implemented and presented to students at STPS?

Over the next 5-6 weeks, students will be learning the 10 fundamental steps to participate in the PAX GBG. Each week we are going to focus on and present two fundamental steps. Once all steps are completed and students have a solid understanding on how to play the game, we will begin playing PAX GBG.

## PAX Good Behaviour Game - FOCUS

This week's PAX GBG focus:

1. **PAX Vision-** We will be helping students to create a "how to" map to create more peace, productivity, health and happiness. Students will learn how to predict, self-monitor, and reflect on their PAX each day. Students will learn about things that get in the way of PAX- unwanted behaviours called "Spleems".

2. **PAX Leader-** Students will learn how to learn what a PAX Leader is and who is a PAX Leader. Students will use the PAX Vision each day to increase PAX and decrease spleems. Students will reflect on what PAX leaders would do daily, referring to their posted PAX vision and adding to it when needed.

### STPS News

#### Spring Into School Term 2 Payments

If you have made arrangements to pay your fees, a copy will be attached to the newsletter for your reference. The office will be open from 8:45am - 3.35pm. If at any time the office is unattended and you wish to make a payment, please enclose your payment in an envelope (which are available in the office next to the sticky tape dispenser), then seal securely and label. The envelope can be given to a staff member or deposited in the silver box.

#### Commonwealth Dollar mite Banking

If you have school banking for your child, please send it in this week and it will be processed on Thursday.

#### School Mailbox

The school mailbox can be used as a resource for dropping off mail, correspondence, notes etc.to the school during any COVID-19 restrictions. If utilising this, please make sure the contents are securely placed in an envelope, labelled and phone the school to advise.

### P&C News

Welcome back to Term 3, hope everyone had an enjoyable break!

Reminder about the pie drive, if you didn't return your order and money today, Wednesday morning will be the very latest that we will be able to accept these. Thank you to family and friends for supporting our Pie Drive. The pies will be ready for collection Thursday 30th July, we will call you once they are ready.

Term 3 has a couple of ideas in the making and we look forward to sharing these with you in the coming weeks. The next P and C meeting will be tentatively booked for 3rd August at 2pm. This will be confirmed ASAP.

Have a great week!

Bec Robinson  
P&C President

### Community News

#### Orange Regional Conservatorium

New Building: We are very pleased to announce that the Development Application for the new Conservatorium and Planetarium Building have been submitted! Plus, with a \$5 million contribution from Orange City Council we are now almost fully funded and council are in discussions with NSW Government for the remaining amount.

We would like to thank Orange City Council and Councillor Russell Turner for their continued dedication in making this project a reality. Also, a big thank you to Mayor Reg Kidd for his continued support.

Acacia Quartet: ORC Ensemble in Residence *Acacia Quartet* have been here this week using the auditorium to record a new album, which will feature Alice Chance's *A Sundried String Quartet* along with works by Mozart and Dvorak. The ORC are very lucky to have Lisa Stewart (violin) and Stefan Duwe (viola) on staff and it is always a pleasure to welcome fellow Acacia members Myee Clohessy (violin) and Anna Martin-Scrase (cello) back to Orange. We wish them luck with the recording and can't wait to hear it!