



Dates to Remember

7 Dec
Presentation day

8 Dec
Year 6 Graduation

Year 6 Farewell

16 Dec
Last Day of Term

Notes You Should Have

Stage 3 2023
Canberra Excursion

Principal's Report

As this will be the last newsletter for 2022, I would like to say a huge thank you to our community. Together we have faced the challenges throughout the year to which there have been many including successfully managing a global pandemic. The school has continued to flourish with the continuation of quality education and a broad range of extra-curricular activities on offer. Narara Public School really is a special place!

Firstly, thank you to the staff of NPS. The way staff have dealt with the complexities of the last few years has been truly inspirational. Teachers, support staff and administration staff all willingly go above and beyond each day to ensure the success and wellbeing of every student. I wish them a well-deserved happy holiday break.

Thank you to all parents and carers. Your support and participation in education is greatly appreciated and is a major contributing factor to the successes of the school. A big thank you to those parents and carers who have volunteered throughout the year in various capacities including canteen and uniform shop. I would also like to thank the P&C as they have worked tirelessly to support the goals of the school. Valuable funds have been raised throughout the year to ensure quality teaching and learning resources have been purchased to support teaching and learning which has a direct impact on students.

Finally, I would like to thank the students at Narara Public School for their positive and happy approach to life and learning. The way they have handled the complexities of the last few years has also been inspiring. The large majority continually uphold the school's core values of being Safe, Respectful Learners.

I trust you will have a happy holiday and enjoy spending quality time with your family. We look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

School Security / Holiday Period

If you hear or see anything of concern during the holiday period, please contact school security on 1300 880 021. OSH will be operating throughout the holiday period on weekdays.

At this point in time, we have not received confirmation that NPS will be participating in the department's 'Share Our Space' initiative, so at this stage our school grounds will not be open to the general public. If this changes, updates will be provided via Class Dojo and Facebook.



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School Development Days Term 4 2022 & Term 1 2023

Schools are required to update their community of the School Development Days for the end of year and for the beginning of the 2023 school year. This information is as follows:

- Students last day for this year will be Friday 16 December. Staff will finish on Tuesday 20 December.
- 2023 School Development Days are scheduled for Friday 27 January and Monday 30 January.
- Year 1 to Year 6 will start school in 2023 on Tuesday 31 January.
- Kindergarten will start on Monday 6th February.

Step Up Day

On Tuesday 13 December students will have the opportunity to visit their 2023 class with their 2023 teacher (where possible). The process for class placements has been a patient and highly thoughtful task. We have taken into account many factors and as a result will not be accepting any more requests past this point.

Stage It / Band Fest

Congratulations to those students who performed at Band Fest and Lisarow High School's 'Stage It' over the weekend. From all accounts they performed beautifully. Special mention to the concert band that achieved a silver award at Band Fest. Well done everyone!



Student Academic Reports

On Monday 12 December all students in K-6 will receive their Semester 2 report. Teachers spend many hours preparing your child's report and work hard to ensure that it is a true and accurate reflection of your child's progress in their learning over the semester. Please take the time to discuss the report with your child to reflect on their achievements and where there may need to be a greater focus for improvements to occur. I encourage all parents to read the front cover of your child's report as this gives an overview of the effort and achievement scale that is used in the report.

Student attendance, both partial and whole day, are included. The attendance cut-off date for this semester was Friday 2 December. The reason for this is reports need to be printed off and signed by teachers and myself.

If you have any questions in relation to your child's report, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher.

Presentation Day

Our Presentation Day is scheduled for this Wednesday (7 December). We look forward to celebrating this special event with our community. Congratulations in advance to award recipients and thank you to the amazing NPS staff for organising this special event. Presentation Day times are as follows:

- K-2 (Infants) 9:00am
- 3-6 (Primary) 11:15am

Year 6 Graduation Assembly & Farewell

The Year 6 Graduation Assembly & Farewell will be held on Thursday 8 December. Times are as follows:

- Year 6 Graduation Assembly 9:00am
- Year 6 Farewell 5:15pm – 8:30pm

Further information is supplied in this newsletter.

Kinder Transition

In Week 7 we welcomed our 2023 Kinders to big school! Although there were a few tears to begin (mainly from proud parents) all children settled in nicely and seemed to have a great time. There is a huge amount of planning that goes into organising Kinder Transition and it is very much a team effort.

Thank you to Mrs Gibbons and Miss Coleman who coordinated this event. Also, thanks to Mrs Wells, Mrs Bond, Miss Wrench, Mrs Tyrrell and Leigh who supported our newest students at our school. Thank you also to our amazing P&C, including Hashila, who ran the uniform shop. What a team!



K-2 Planning Days

Today Kindergarten teachers will be participating in a full day of professional learning on the new K-2 English and Mathematics curriculum. On this day they will familiarise themselves with the new curriculum focusing on the outcomes, resources, units of work and assessment and reporting for 2023. On Monday 12 December Stage 1 teachers will undertake the same professional learning. Thank you to Mrs Brogan for organising and leading these days.

Quality Workers

Students	Class	Work Sample
Buddy C	3/4L	Mathematics
Concert Band	Various classes	Combined performance with Normanhurst West PS

Grant McFarland
Principal



Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition Results

In Term 3 our Stage 3 students completed the Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition. The results from our students were fantastic and included 1 High Distinction, 11 Distinctions and 41 Credits. Congratulations to the following students:

Distinction

Year 6	Year 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Charles M- Maisie C- Michael L- Allyson R- Sophie C- Sukhman D- Jack B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Naomi R- Grace E- Alex W- Oliver P- Zac M- Zack D

Merit

Year 6	Year 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Greg Q- Izelle R- Liam B- Michael F- Varun S- Lily W- Wil D- Aleks A- Leah M- Mariangel P- Taj E- Callum W	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Thomas A- Flex W- Lilah G- Gabby P- Harvey P- Hayley W- William V- Arie M- Alana W- Sienna H- Sophi H- Fernanda C- Ivy M- Aylah G- Owen K

Mr Weiss
Stage 3 Assistant Principal

External Provider Information for 2023

All External Providers offering support to students during school time will need to update service schedules and ensure mandatory requirements are adhered to, in line with the Department of Education's guidelines.

We will be meeting with External Providers to update information in Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 1, 2023. Due to these meetings, no therapy will take place until Week 4 of Term 1. Please note that therapy cannot commence until a meeting between the External Provider and Narara Public School has taken place. More information regarding this will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Mrs Cotterill
Assistant Principal Learning Support

Curriculum Reform

Students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will begin learning from a new English and Mathematics syllabus next year. One key change in the English syllabus is the way that teachers will support beginning readers.

The following information has been adapted from the NSW Department of Education's curriculum support materials.

What is Phonic Knowledge?

Phonics is the understanding that there is a predictable relationship between phonemes (the sounds of spoken language) and graphemes (the letters that represent them in written language). At Narara Public School, we have explicitly taught phonics for a number of years, using the MSLE pedagogy.

Decodable Texts

Decodable texts are specifically written for beginning readers as they are developing their blending and segmenting skills and their knowledge of phonics (the alphabetic code). The primary purpose of decodable texts is to provide students with the opportunity to practise what has been taught during explicit phonics instruction.

Decodable texts support students as they practise blending the letter-sounds they have been taught through words, in continuous meaningful text. In the context of effective reading instruction in the early years, decodable readers play an important role in supporting students to learn the alphabetic code.

This means that your K-2 child will not be sent home with a predictable text that older siblings may have previously used (repetitive text which encourages children to look at the picture, use their knowledge of high frequency words and other strategies to guess the text). Instead, they will be encouraged to practise decoding words, sentences and/ or passages that are decodable.

Mrs Brogan

Assistant Principal Curriculum Instruction

Dear Parents

We are excited to be teaching your little learner with our engaging literacy program this year. This letter is to tell you more about our decodable books, which support children as they develop as young readers.

What are decodable books?

There are generally two types of levelled books given to beginner readers – decodable (books which require children to read words by sounding out, using the letters and sounds that they have been taught) and predictable (repetitive text which encourages children to look at the picture, use their knowledge of high frequency words and other strategies to guess the text). Our books are decodable books. They are carefully written to match the Little Learners Love Literacy® sequence. Children experience success from the start by sounding out and blending the words in the books using the sounds and letters they've learnt so far.

Little Learners Love Literacy® Stages

The Little Learners program is carefully sequenced in seven stages to teach children the 44 sounds of the English language and the principles of the alphabetic code (that each speech sound can be represented by different groups of letters, such as the sound /i/ as in **l**, **sky**, **pie**, **ice**, **cycle**, and that a letter (or group of letters) can represent different sounds, such as the letter 'y' in **y**es, **g**ym, **f**unny, **s**ky). There are five Pip and Tim books for every stage in the Little Learners Love Literacy® program, to provide opportunities for your child to apply the letter-sound correspondences taught at each stage in the classroom.

Little Learners Love Literacy® Seven Stages



Why do we use Little Learners decodable books?

The Little Learners decodable books (Pip and Tim series and The Wiz Kids series) contain funny stories and quirky illustrations to grab children's attention. Children love to follow the familiar characters on new adventures through the stages of the Little Learners program. The Little Learners decodable books are delightful stories that children can read using their phonics knowledge: the letters and sounds that they have been explicitly taught using the Little Learners Love Literacy® sequence, plus a few **Heart words**.



What are heart words?

Heart words are introduced at each stage of our sequence. **Heart words** are words that children need to 'learn by heart', as they cannot decode them yet.

Heart words such as 'the' and 'said' are needed to create a sentence and a story. Many heart words will become decodable later in the program when children have learnt more of the alphabetic code.

Each book includes a 'How to enjoy this book' section, where you can find Heart words, speed sounds, a vocabulary check, as well as some comprehension questions and ideas for discussion.



Top tips for reading at home

- Before your child starts reading each book, go to the back two pages. Encourage your child to point at the graphemes (letters) and say the sounds, then ask them to read the Heart words.
- Encourage your child to sound out to read unknown words when they get stuck.
- Make sure your child tracks their finger underneath the words as they read them
- Remember that this is the beginning of your child's learning to read journey and, just as when they were learning to walk, your child will need support to build confidence.

If you would like to find out more about the program, you can visit the website littlelearnersloveliteracy.com.au or visit our YouTube channel. You can also ask your child's teacher for more information.

Kind regards



Little Learners Love Literacy®



Teaching ALL children to read, write and spell with confidence.



NSW Department of Education

Narara Public School

INNOVATION, ENGAGEMENT, SUCCESS

28 November 2022

Year 6 Graduation 2022

Dear Year 6 Families and Carers,

You are invited to attend the Year 6 Graduation Ceremony which will run for approximately one hour.

When: Thursday 8th December.

Where: NPS hall.

Time: Start at 9am.

We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating our Year 6 students.

Stage 3 Teachers



Year 6 Farewell Program
Thursday 8th December 2022

Dear Parents,

We ask that students be dropped off at school in the bus bay in Newling Street at **5:15pm**. Teachers will meet the students and take them to the courtyard. At **7:45pm** Year 6 parents are welcome to arrive at the hall/cola and have a dance with their child, before distribution of cakes and taking them home. All parents please be on time to pick up your child at **8:30pm** from the hall.

5:15pm - Students arrive at school and are taken to the courtyard for photos.

5:30pm- Students assemble in the courtyard to be organised into their table groups.

5:40pm -Students walk to the hall to be seated for dinner

5:45pm-6:45pm- Dinner

6:45pm-8:10pm- Dancing

***7:45pm**- Year 6 parents welcome to arrive and dance

8.10pm-8.30pm - Serving of cakes

8.30pm - All parents to collect children from the hall.



Rewards Day

RECOGNISING OUR OUTSTANDING BEHAVIOUR

Dress in
mufti

Spend your well
deserved Sammy
Tokens

STUDENT CHOICE OF ACTIVITY



THURSDAY 15TH
DECEMBER

PAYMENTS DUE

- School Voluntary Contribution 1st Child \$40, 2nd Child \$25, each other child \$15
- Stage 3 Camp 2023 (Years 5 & 6) Deposit Due 9th December \$100:00.

Please remember, when paying for an excursion, send in the permission notes to the office. This is as important as paying for the cost.

Car Parking

The Car park is for STAFF ONLY. This is for the safety of our students and school community.



Library News

Borrowing has now finished for the year. Students will need to return their library books by the end of this week. Notices will be sent home over the next few weeks to ensure children return all outstanding loans. If a book has been damaged, lost or you believe it has been returned to the library can you please send in a message written on the overdue notice. All payments for lost or damaged books can be given to the office. Thank you

Karen McMahan & Yvette May

COMMUNITY NEWS

OSH CLUB at NARARA.

Come along and meet our staff.

We pride ourselves on providing your child/ren with fun, play based learning experiences before and after school as well as during the school holidays. Whether your child attends OSH daily or only occasionally, each visit is an exciting and engaging adventure.

We also fuel their curious minds and growing bodies, helping to shape your child's understanding of health and wellness positively.

On our menu we have (Gluten free), and Vegan options.

We have qualified staff so as a parent you can be confident that your child/ren are always safe.

For bookings.

Oshclub.com.au just click and reg

Narara Public School Christmas Drive

Help us to help families in need this Christmas.

We are collecting:






- Non-perishable food items
- Cleaning products
- Hygiene products
- Small toys
- Stationary
- Anything else you think would be beneficial to a family in need

Thank you for your support with this. We will have collection boxes in the office for you to place your donations in.









Go4Fun is a FREE 10-week healthy wellbeing program for children aged 7 to 13 to enjoy along with their families. Please contact 1800 780 900 to see if you meet our criteria.

-  Quality time with whole family
-  Group activities and games
-  Professional tailored advice about nutrition, mental health and healthy behaviours
-  Make new friends, increase self esteem
-  Rewards and prizes for the kids

Run by trained health and community professionals, it's a fun way for kids to build self-esteem and learn about eating well, staying active and living a healthy life.

Term 1 2023 programs will take place at:

-  Wyong Olympic Pool, Mondays 4:00–6:00pm, starting 30th January (Aboriginal Program for everyone run by Bungree)
-  Mingaletta, Umina Beach, Tuesdays 4:00–6:00pm, starting 31st January (Aboriginal Program for everyone run by Bungree)
-  The Entrance Ocean Baths, Wednesdays 4–6pm, starting 1st February
-  Lake Haven Recreation Centre, Thursdays 4–6pm, starting 2nd February

To register, visit go4fun.com.au or call 1800 780 900.