SCONE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Success For All

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Wednesday 27 April 2022

Term 2 Week 1

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to Term 2! I trust everyone had a restful holiday and managed to not have their holidays impacted by COVID.

Thank you to our leaders, students and staff who supported our representation at both the Dawn Service and Town Service to commemorate ANZAC Day. I was impressed with the turn out by our students and families to take part in this significant community event. Our school ANZAC assembly will be held this Friday 29 April at 10am in the Hall. Parents and Carers are welcome to attend.

As we begin the term we once again have changes to the COVID guidelines. I have included these updates in this newsletter. Please take time to read these and how they may impact our students attending school or participating in school events.

This week the NSW Teacher's Federation has announced a 24 Strike for Wednesday 4 May. We are currently in the process of determining if the school will be operational or under minimal supervision, dependent on staffing. We will update this as soon as we can.

This term is very busy with many excursions, Horse Festival events and NAPLAN. Please keep an eye on Sentral and the newsletter for any communication regarding upcoming events. Check your child's school bag as well for any notes that may come out.

School Photos have been rescheduled to Tuesday 24 May. Students are requested to wear the winter school uniform for this. If you require assistance with any item of the school's uniform our Uniform Shop is now open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 11.30am. You can also contact the school office for assistance.

The Scone Cup half day holiday will be held on Friday 13 May. Please look out for notes regarding the arrangements for this day. They will be sent home this week.

Deborah Fisher Principal





Our Scone Public School P&C Association will meet Tuesday 3 May at 6pm in the school library. All are welcome to attend.

DATES FOR THE CALENDER

April 27: Students Return for Term 2

May 2 - 4: Year 4 Great Aussie **Bush Camp Excursion**

May 3: P&C Meeting 6pm

May 5: Mother's Day Stall

May 8: Horse Festival Parade

May 9 - 12: Year 6 Canberra

Excursion

May 9 - 20: NAPLAN

May 13: Scone Cup half day

holiday

UHPSSA Dates

April 29: Cross Country

Carnival

May 6: Hunter Rugby Union

Trials

May 17: Hunter Girls Soccer

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS Monday – Friday 8.30am - 11.30am



Week 1

27 Apr Racheal J

28 Apr Racheal J

29 Apr Joy M

Heather P

Week 2

2 May Racheal J

3 May Racheal J

4 May Racheal J

5 May Racheal J

6 May Kara M

Makala B

ANZAC DAY 2022

We had a great student representation at this year's local ANZAC services. It was a wonderful way to honour our service men and women.

Our school ANZAC service will held this Friday at 10am.









Horse Festival Parade Details

Sunday 8 May, 2022

Theme: "Back in the Saddle"

This is a wonderful community event, one our school enjoys being part of every year!

In keeping with the theme for this year, SPS will be taking part in the parade. We will be creating a 'Cowboys and Cowgirls' theme, as we parade and celebrate such a wonderful event.

Please come dressed as cowboys and cowgirls.







A note will be going home at a later date outlining the exact time we will be meeting at Scone Public School on Sunday, 8 May.

It is important to wear comfortable shoes as it is a long walk and we quite often are required to dodge the horse doings.

Looking forward to seeing some wonderful costumes!

Miss Catherine Clunies-Ross

Horse Festival Team

COVID UPDATE 27 APRIL 2022

Dear parents and carers

Welcome to the start of a brand-new term, after hopefully enjoying a safe and restoring break. I want to give you an overview of how we are continuing to ensure our school remains COVID-safe through our updated Term 2 settings.

Some of the layered COVID-smart measures you've come to know in recent months will continue this term. These 'baseline measures' are aligned to the NSW Government's general community settings and include:

- rapid antigen testing for symptomatic students and staff
- vaccinations including booster shots (from 3 months after your child's primary COVID-19 dose) are encouraged for all eligible students and their families. Staff and volunteers on school grounds are to follow vaccination guidelines
- ventilation
- good hygiene practices
- enhanced cleaning.

Continuing these baseline measures allow us to prioritise student and staff wellbeing while giving our learners a consistent and productive learning environment this term.

What's new in Term 2?

As we head into the cooler months, our COVID-smart measures have been updated in consultation with NSW Health, to provide additional protection to our school community.

- Change to close contact isolation requirements. On 20 April the NSW Premier announced that from 6pm 22 April 2022, close contacts (including household contacts) could leave home isolation with certain restrictions. The announcement means that from Week 1 of Term 2, students and staff who are identified as close contacts will be able to attend school with the following risk mitigations in place:
 - You must notify the school and/or early childhood education (ECE) service provider (including their outside of school hours care provider) if you are intending to return to school.
 - You/your child should conduct a daily rapid antigen test (RAT) and receive a negative result each morning before attending school for 5 subsequent school days as part of your personal responsibility to minimise the risk of transmission.
 - Staff members and high school students must wear a mask indoors at all times except when eating
 or exercising. Primary school students are recommended to wear a mask indoors at all times
 (except when eating or exercising).
 - No student or staff member identified as a close contact will be permitted to participate in overnight excursions, including school camps.
 - Students and staff in SSPs or support classes or utilise assisted transport who are identified as close contacts must not attend school during this time.
 - Visitors in contact with students including volunteers, allied health partners and staff providing professional learning who are close contacts should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result before attending a school or ECE site. They must also wear a mask indoors at all times (except when eating or exercising) if they are 12 years old or over. If attending a school site and interacting with students for an extended period of time, the visitor should advise the school that they are a close contact.
 - In line with these changes, students with health conditions should speak with their treating medical practitioner or specialist to review their health support plan or COVID-19 action plan and speak with the school around any local considerations.

• Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs). The department will continue to supply RAT kits to students and staff to support symptomatic testing and testing for close contacts returning to school (as mentioned above). Within the first three weeks of term we will provide: 1 multipack of rapid antigen tests per student and staff member OR 2 multipacks of rapid antigen tests in each per student and staff in schools for support classes. Once these department-supplied RATs are exhausted, please continue to access PCR tests and store-purchased RATs which are now readily available in the community or let the school know that you need more and we will try and assist. These RAT kits will be sent home with students, when they become available. A notification will go out on Sentral when they are being sent home.

- Masks. The latest NSW Health advice recommends wearing a mask for people who have recovered from COVID-19 and recently completed their 7-day isolation period for an additional 3 days (from days 8 to 10 after receiving a positive COVID-19 result). Staff in support classes are also required to wear masks to provide additional protection for our students. Additionally, as outlined in the above section on close contacts, mask wearing is mandatory for staff and high school students returning to school as close contacts for 5 days and recommended for primary school students returning to school as close contacts for 5 days. Where students or staff are unable to wear a mask, they should be supported to learn or work remotely.
- Responding to our local situation. We will continue to liaise with NSW Health and the department's
 Health and Safety case management team to ensure our COVID-smart settings keep-up with the latest
 developments. If local conditions require it, this may mean temporarily reintroducing some additional
 COVID-smart settings including:
 - mask wearing for all staff and students in Year 7 and above
 - directing cohorts to learn from home for short periods of time
 - postponing or limiting non-essential activities like excursions, indoor assemblies and visitors to the school.

We will make sure to update you at the earliest opportunity if any of these additional measures are required in Term 2.

- **Ventilation.** The NSW Department of Education is reviewing environmental differences across NSW as part of their winter ventilation planning, ensuring that local climatic
- Reducing the risk of illness this winter. Finally, it's important to note NSW Health's advice to reduce our risk of not only COVID-19, but also other illnesses that may affect our school this winter like the flu. We can all protect our loved ones and our community by:
 - o taking a RAT before visiting vulnerable loved ones or going to large gatherings and events.
 - staying home if unwell
 - keeping up to date with our vaccinations including the flu vaccine, which is available from your local GP, pharmacy or Aboriginal Medical Service now. Flu vaccines are free for all children aged 6 months to under 5 years, or for a small charge for those aged 5 years and older
 - getting tested immediately for COVID-19 if you become symptomatic and isolating until you receive a negative result
 - o practicing good hand hygiene by washing regularly with soap and water

If you have any specific questions you'd like answered, please contact the school office on 65451049.

If the past 2 years has taught us anything, it's that keeping our schools open is important for our young people's mental wellbeing, especially our most vulnerable learners, where schools are the safest place to be. On behalf of our school, I want to thank you again for your ongoing support and flexibility as we adapt to each new development this term.

Deborah Fisher

LIBRARY NEWS

Congratulations to The AR Champs who finished the Term 1 with successful quizzes!



Library Lesson Timetable

Monday: KH, KL, KW

Tuesday: 6S, 6P, 6D, 3T, 3C

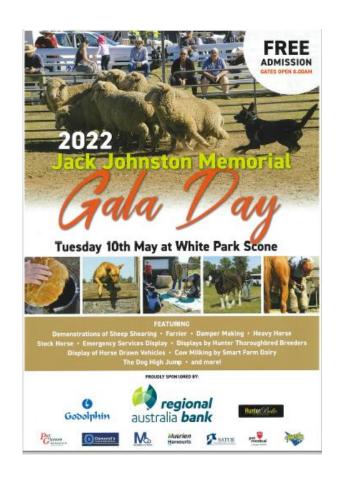
Wednesday: 1G, 1/2W, 1O, 3/4HB, 4R, 4B

Thursday: 2S, 2M, 5M, 5K

Library Bags

To protect the precious resources of our Library it is required that **ALL** students have a library bag. It should be large enough to fit two junior fiction books in or in the case of primary students the 2-6 books that they may be borrowing each week. The P&C have some great waterproof bags with the school crest for sale at the Uniform Shop.

COMMUNITY NEWS







1st Scone Scouts

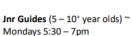
Contact:- Greg Morris greg.morris@nsw.scouts.com.au

Joey Scouts (6 & 7 year olds) and Cub Scouts (8-10 year olds) ~ Mondays 6:30 - 7:30pm

Scouts (11-14 year olds) and Venturer Scouts (15 - 17 year olds) ~ Thursdays 6:45 - 8:30pm

Scone Girl Guides

Contact: Christina Darlington sconeDM@girlguidesnswactnt.org.au









Bookings essential! Call Chris on 0400 331 553 for details and bookings

and Like Scone Hardcourt Tennis Association and Upper Hunter Tennis & Sports on Facebook















