Have you heard?

We had a fabulous start with students quickly settling into routine and teachers excited to be sharing this term of learning with your children. There is much happening this term for both students and teachers.

This term, we welcome Mrs Farqhuar back to school two days a week – it’s lovely to have her back with us! Mrs Schwenke is well on the road to recovery – she had a fall at school last term requiring surgery - her physio has commenced so we are hoping to have her back later this term. We wish her a very speedy recovery.

Miss MacFarlane and her partner welcomed their beautiful baby girl into the world: Indiana. She’s promised her class a visit very soon. The family are doing really well.

Some of our classes have exciting excursions coming up this term – stay tuned for some reports on their adventures!

A Message from the Principal

World Teachers Day

On Friday 25 October we celebrate World Teachers Day. I would like to thank and acknowledge the brilliant work our teachers do in our school. Their investment of passion, time, energy and expertise makes all the difference to the learning of your children. I would sincerely like to thank each and every teacher who, with such commitment, pride and happiness comes to work each day to ignite laughter, learning and creativity.

HAPPY WORLD TEACHERS DAY to the wonderful staff at Casula PS.

2020 Planning

We have commenced the conversation around classes and planning for 2020. At this time of year we look at grade numbers and ask parents and carers to let us know if they are planning on moving or relocating so as we have a clear idea of student enrolment and staffing for the following year.

If you are not intending to return to Casula PS for the 2020 school year, I ask you to complete the form attached and return to school by Monday 4 November.

I also invite you to communicate with me in regards to your child’s class placement. If you feel your child would benefit from being placed with a particular student OR your child learns better by being separated from another student, then you are asked to let me know. The Executive consider these requests when finalising classes. All classes are formed by the grade teachers currently. All considerations are to come to me directly. Please return the attached sheet to the office by Monday 4 November or email me via the school email address on casula-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with the subject line: PLANNING FOR 2020 – Class Placement.
A message from the Principal

Week 2 and Week 3
During Week 2 and 3 I have been afforded the opportunity to attend two conferences. During Week 2 I am attending the International Confederation of Principals Conference in Shanghai China representing the New South Wales Primary Principals Association. Delegates from ten other countries are attending. I am travelling with five other Principals to this event. During Week 3 I will be attending the New South Wales Primary Principals Conference in Sydney. During Week 2 and 3 members of the Executive will be relieving in my absence – Week 2 – Miss Goulder and Week 3 Mr Vanderwey (M,T) and Mrs Foord (W,T,F). I am at all times available. From China, I can be contacted via email – please phone the office and advise one of the staff you would like a message sent to me and during Week 2 likewise – I will respond to you in a timely manner.

P&C Meetings term 4
Next term, the dates for P&C Meetings are:
Term 4 Week 1 Tuesday 15 October 2pm in the Administration Block
Term 4 Week 7 Tuesday 26 November 9.15am in the Administration Block

For your diary © Grandparents Day
Please put this date in your diary: Wednesday 6 November 2019. This is the date for GRANDPARENTS AND FRIENDS to visit us - closer to the date an invitation will be sent out and details will follow. SAVE THE DATE ©.

Our School Environment – Gardens and Grass
You will have noticed how ‘green’ our school grounds are looking and I want to acknowledge our General Assistant Mr Stewart and his assistant Mr Victor who have been doing an amazing amount of work on our grounds to make our vision come to life.

We are teaching our students games to play with their friends on the grassed areas as well as how to respect the gardens and plants we are growing. Many of our students are tending to the gardens - watering and weeding them. In some areas we are growing herbs and fruit so as in time we can harvest.

I seek your support in talking to your children about not walking through gardens as a short cut as the plants at this stage are easily trampled. We aim to provide our students and families with a beautiful environment to play and learn. We can achieve this by working together and respecting our school environment.

Breakfast Club
Breakfast Club will now be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Join us at Central on these days for breakfast ©. Many thanks to Miss Remington White and the staff for co-ordinating this initiative.

Enrolment at Casula Public School as at 22 July 2019 - repeat
There have been some changes to enrolment procedures in all Government Schools commencing day 1 this term. We have been identified as a school that has grown exponentially both within area and out of area enrolments. We currently have a considerable number of students enrolled who are not in area.

All schools in this predicament have been advised that we are not to take out of area enrolments unless families can demonstrate ‘exceptional circumstances’ for enrolment. These applications will go before a panel convened this year by an Assistant Principal and all appeals will be reviewed by the Principal. Before the enrolment can be accepted, Director Educational Leadership for our school Daryl Currie will need to be approached by Principal to be considered.

In the case of siblings, all parents and carers who completed and handed in enrolment forms before the last day of term 2 have been approved for enrolment for 2020. Siblings remain the priority, but applications still apply and must go to the panel for consideration and recommendations also need to be taken by the Principal to the Director. This process is designed to ensure all students attend their local schools and resources are equitably shared.

In regards to siblings of students in the OC class, it is not possible for siblings to enrol at Casula PS as stated in the Leadership High Performance policies around Opportunity Classes. Of course, ‘exceptional circumstances’ can go to the panel for consideration.

This policy has existed for many years however, the Department of Education have now directed schools that the policy is to be strictly adhered to. I have attached a DoE communication for parents and carers.
A message from the Principal

I encourage you to speak to our Administrative Staff or myself about your individual circumstances so I can put forward your case to our Director School Leadership. The number of students schools are able to enrol is determined by the number of permanent classrooms they have on sight and the number of demountable buildings required to house in-area students. Please note our school is at capacity enrolment and therefore siblings and out of area enrolments are considered by the panel.

Exceptional circumstances can be discussed with me by appointment as currently we are over capacity. Families are our priority😊. We currently have 85 students for Kindergarten 2020.

DATES FOR END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS:
Presentation Day—Wednesday 4 December
Sports Presentation Day—Monday 2 December
K-2 End of Year Celebration Day—Wednesday 27 November
3-5 End of Year Celebration Day—Tuesday 26 November
Year 6 End of Year Celebration Day—Thursday 12 December
Year 6 FunDay—Thursday 21 November

CHANGE OF DATE Sports Presentation Day
Please note the Sports Presentation Day has been moved to Monday 2 December due to Year 6 having High School orientation on Tuesday 3 December.

Medical Certificates
Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance. Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified. For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness. If Principals don’t consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

Our school is a ‘nut aware’ school
A reminder to all parents and carers that we are a ‘nut aware’ school and need to be aware of the number of children your child goes to school with that has high level allergies. Many of these allergies being life threatening. We seek your support in being mindful when packing lunches to choose carefully. Many of our students are allergic to nuts, tree nuts, strawberries, egg and kiwi fruit.

If at all possible, please encourage your child to eat these products at home. I am mindful too that some students have a limited range of foods in their diet and this can at times cause concern. At school we have strategies in place to keep all students safe.

It’s great to see your children back here with us – we can anticipate a wonderful term ahead😊 The next newsletter will be in week 4.

Robyn Evans
Thought for the week 😊

TODAY is the day to learn something NEW
Enrolment policy

Information for parents

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is in place to assist schools to meet their obligations under the Education Act 1990 - to ensure that every student has a place at their local school. The policy also communicates to staff and the community a transparent enrolment process.

Why was the enrolment policy revised?
Across the state, many communities are changing. Some are growing at rates never seen before. Some schools that used to be able to accept out-of-area enrolments, no longer have the room to do so.
The revised policy is designed to support schools to manage all enrolment applications, encourage greater consistency in decision-making and make sure the enrolment choices are clear for parents.

What are the changes?
The enrolment cap
The enrolment cap is the number of students that can be enrolled at a school based on the school’s permanent accommodation. The enrolment cap tells us whether the school may or may not have the capacity to accept non-local enrolments. It is not a target or limit on the number of local enrolments a school can take.
Each school with a local intake area will have a cap set by the department from Term 4 2019.

Within the enrolment cap, a number of enrolment places (the buffer) must be kept aside for the likely number of local students who will need to enrol during the year. For this reason, a school will not take non-local students once they reach their buffer, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

100-point residential address check
Parents planning to enrol their child at a school that is near or at its buffer or cap will be asked to complete the 100-point residential address check to confirm they live within the school’s designated intake area. This means parents will need to provide documents to verify the child’s current address.
So that schools only seek information relevant to the child’s enrolment, a list of approved documents for the residential address check is available from the school or the department’s website at https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/enrolment-of-students-in-nsw-government-schools.

Selection criteria for non-local enrolment
Sibling enrolments are now clearly prioritised (where possible) and selection criteria for non-local enrolment will not include student ability, performance or achievement.

education.nsw.gov.au
What has not changed?
Schools will continue to enrol students who live in their local intake area, regardless of the school’s cap status. Enrollment procedures for students accessing particular education settings (for example distance education, specialist support classes for students with disability, intensive English Centre) are not affected by the revised policy.
In schools with available places, there are no changes to enrolment rights of siblings of non-local students. Each enrolment application is considered on its merits, including if siblings currently attend the school. If the school is below capacity, out-of-area applications for siblings of current students will be given enrolment priority.
Schools will continue to provide families with support and advice during the enrolment process, including assessment of exceptional and compelling circumstances particularly for vulnerable students and their families.
Schools will also continue to apply the policy fairly and consistently using transparent and accountable processes when making decisions about enrolment applications. Parents have a right of appeal to determine whether the stated processes have been applied in a procedurally fair manner.

But what do the changes mean for me?

What if my child is already enrolled but we do not live in that school’s intake area?
Your child will remain enrolled at the school as the revised policy does not affect students already enrolled in NSW Government schools.

We were in area when my child was enrolled in the school. The department has since changed the school’s boundary and our residence is now out of area. I have other children and I want them all to go to the same school.
What are my options?
At times it is necessary for the department to make adjustments to a school’s local enrolment intake area. This could mean a family with a child/children already enrolled is then outside the local intake area. When this happens, the family will still be able to enrol siblings together at the school, regardless of whether the school is over the buffer or cap.

I already have a child enrolled as an out-of-area student in a NSW Government school. Can I enrol my other children at that school too?
This will depend on the capacity of the school:
- If the school is not near its buffer, then siblings should be able to be enrolled at the school. In fact, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is nearing its buffer, then the school will form a non-local enrolment panel. The panel considers non-local enrolment applications when the number of non-local applications received exceeds the number of places available below the buffer. Again, in this instance, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is at capacity, it will not accept non-local enrolment applications unless there are exceptional circumstances.

I have already accepted an offer for my child to attend a school in 2020 that is not my local school. What happens now?
The enrolment will proceed. Non-local enrolments accepted before Term 4, 2019 for students starting in 2020 should not be affected.

What is the criteria for enrolment in a school that is not my local school?
Schools that are able to accept non-local enrolment applications establish a non-local enrolment selection panel, if demand exceeds the number of places below the school’s buffer.
Schools are required to make the selection criteria available to the school community.

My circumstances are challenging and I think this school is best for my child. We live outside the school’s intake area. What should I do?
We understand that not everyone’s circumstances are the same, and that there are instances where exceptional and compelling circumstances will need to be considered.
If this is the case, you should talk to the principal of your local school.

Contact
For general enquiries contact: 1300 679 332 or email: DoEinfo@det.nsw.edu.au
For enrolment enquiries, speak to your local school.
16 October 2019
NOT RETURNING

Dear Mrs Evans,

I wish to advise that my son/daughter ____________________________ in class ____________
will not be returning to Casula PS in 2020 due to a change in our family's circumstances.

Parent name ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

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LATE RETURN in 2020

Dear Mrs Evans,

I wish to advise that my son/daughter ____________________________ in class ____________
will be returning to Casula PS in 2020 on (date) ____________ due to ____________________________

Parent name: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

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PLANNING CLASSES FOR 2020 - CONSIDERATION

Dear Mrs Evans,

I request you consider this confidential information I am providing you when planning for classes for 2020.
(Considerations may include: conflict between students, family circumstances and learning needs).

I understand that this is a consideration ONLY and may not be possible. I also understand that I am unable
to request specific teacher/class placement.

Many thanks

Parent name: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

Signature: ____________________________
5W have returned to school feeling refreshed and ready to learn. This week in music we experimented with a variety of instruments and learnt about rhythm.
What's been happening in 1B?

In 1B we have been enjoying ‘buddy writing’. This is where we read a story together, choose a friend and write on whiteboards about the story.

We have also been exploring the concept of mass by weighing things to determine if objects are lighter or heavier than each other.
Dear Parents, Carers and Family Members,
You are cordially invited to attend

Casula Public School’s
Presentation Day

on

Wednesday 4 December 2019

Students will be receiving awards for achievement including academic, citizenship, most improved, debating and public speaking.

Years 3-6 Presentation  9:15—11
K-2 Presentation  11:30 -12:30

Robyn Evans
Principal

Karen Goulder
Assistant Principal
Calling for volunteers – we need your help!

Our students really enjoy participating in the Commonwealth Bank School Banking program and to keep this program running we need your help.

The program requires a volunteer School Banking Co-ordinator to facilitate the banking and distribution of School Banking rewards. This only takes a small amount of your time one day a week and the Commonwealth Bank will provide support in how to run the program. Your help with the program will greatly benefit students as they develop vital saving skills and also help our school with fundraising.

Currently, School Banking day is Tuesday

If you are interested in volunteering for this great program, please fill in the tear off section below and return it to the school office.

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Yes, I would like to help with School Banking!

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ______________________________
Email: ______________________________
Availability: _________________________

School Banking has changed to every Tuesday now, please hand in by 9.00 a.m on the day.
NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy

MENU CHECK

A FREE service available to review your canteen menu against new food and drink criteria.

Come along to this free workshop to:
- Receive updates on the Healthy School Canteen Strategy and expectations for 2019
- Understand the role of the Menu Check Service
- Receive support to complete a Menu Check Application form for your school canteen
- Receive practical, fun, healthy ideas from a local school canteen manager
- Troubleshoot with other canteen staff, principals, and Health Promotion Officers

Workshop details:

Yagoona Public School
Wednesday August 14th 1-3pm

Registration is open to canteen staff, volunteers, principals and teachers from schools within the South Western Sydney Local Health District.


Please bring to the workshop:
- Canteen menu
- Product order details or photos of products (including brand name and product size)
- Photos of canteen and countertop displays, fridges and freezers visible to children

For more information or a copy of the Terms and Conditions, please contact:
Email: SWSLHD-HealthyCanteens@health.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 4621 8706

Submit your application to the Menu Check Service by 3pm September 27th 2019 to win a small prize and go in the draw for a $500 voucher*

*Terms and Conditions Apply