

Diary Dates:

December

Friday 11

- Farewell Assembly
- Last day of term 4
- **Early dismissal 2:05pm**

January 2021

Thursday 21

- Uniform Shop open 9am-12pm

Friday 22

- Uniform Shop open 9am-12pm

Wednesday 27

- **School resumes**

February 2021

Tuesday 2

- Acquaintance Night – including:
Sausage Sizzle
Meet the Teachers
Sports Nominations
AGM

Wednesday 3

- Year 6/7 Aquatics

SMS Absence Number

0476 857 224

School Values

Bravery Care Challenge Trust

SA Term Dates for 2021

Term 1	27 Jan to 9 Apr
Term 2	27 Apr to 2 Jul
Term 3	19 Jul to 24 Sep
Term 4	11 Oct to 10 Dec



Wishing all of our Paringa Park Community a safe and happy holiday!

See you in 2021!

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that it is the end of another school year, and what a year it has been!! I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding work of all our staff throughout the year, as they have strived to ensure each child can be the best they can be. Of course, this would not be possible without the support of parents and families, who work in partnership with us in varying ways; for this we are very grateful. In particular, the unwavering support of our families in what has been an incredibly challenging year for all of us, has been so appreciated.

Staffing Update

As previously stated, we are commencing the year with 21 mainstream classes, which is one more than we had this year. Whilst we are still waiting on finalising a couple of small fraction-time contract positions, it gives me great pleasure to announce that many of our current contract teachers have been confirmed as returning to our school in 2021. We are thrilled to inform you that Daniel Mills, Robert Pearl, Sarah Fowles, Ainsley Haddow, Charlie Jarman, Jo Scott-Watherston, Bethany Harris, Eleanor Freeth, Bec Martin and Lillie Gepp-Blunden will all have teaching positions at Paringa Park in 2021 which is great news! We also warmly welcome two new permanent teachers to our school, Kirsty Arnold and Sharon Kuchel. The following staffing allocations have therefore been finalised for the 2021 school year.

- 2 x Reception - Lillie Gepp-Blunden (1.0 Terms 1 and 2); Channele Pomeroy is returning 0.6 Terms 3 and 4; Elise Baldwin
- 1 x R/1 - Vicki Hodgson
- 2 x Year 1 - Sharon Kuchel; Ainsley Haddow
- 1 x Year 1/2 - Bethany Harris (0.6) and Tracey Bennett (0.4)
- 2 x Year 2 - Charlie Jarman; Kirsty Arnold
- 3 x Year 3 - Victoria Edwards; Jo Scott-Watherston; Robert Pearl
- 2 x Year 4 - Eleanor Freeth (0.8) and TBC (0.2); Sarah Fowles
- 1 x Year 4/5 - Ebony Wilkey
- 2 x Year 5 - Annette Reid; Ivan Cooper
- 3 x Year 6 - Clint Durbridge; Donna Williams (0.8) and TBC (0.2); Daniel Mills
- 2 x Year 7 - Georgii Staben (0.8) and TBC (0.2); Jon Osborne
- Speech and Language Class - Harinder Kaur

Our Specialist teachers for next year are:

- PE - Michelle Burton (1.0)
- Performing Arts - Steph Hammond (1.0)
- French - Madame Ellison (0.6) and TBC (0.4)
- Science - Kelly Mitchell (1.0) + TBC (0.2)

Additional teaching/leadership staff include:

- Learner Support - Lena Lloyd (0.7)
- Technology Coach - Georgii Staben (0.2)
- Aboriginal Education Teacher - Bec Martin (0.2)

All our permanent SSO staff are returning next year (Erica Staude, Linda Chambers, Susan Lane, Caroline Cobb, Melanie Milne, Annette Stagg, Anne Dingle) and there are still some additional SSO hours we are finalising around learner support. We are still awaiting staffing regarding our Pastoral Care Worker (currently Anita Trainor) and our Aboriginal Community Education Officer (currently Lisa Merritt).

Year 7 Graduation

On Tuesday night we came together, both in person and virtually through live-streaming, to mark a special milestone in the lives of our year 7 children and their families.

Cont...

The Graduation Committee did a fabulous job of organising this celebration, with support from Jon, Georgii and Donna, decking out the gym with fairy lights and posters of each child, a fabulous slide presentation and speech for each child, and a wonderful guest speaker, Jane Davies, whose speech was from the heart and included some pearls of wisdom for the children to take with them. Well done to everyone – and thanks also to Alastair who organised the live streaming which was well received by families.

Our year 7 young people will soon transition to the next stage of their life – secondary schooling. Their overall contribution to our school has been first class and they have been excellent role models, especially this year, for all children across our school. We will certainly miss them and their families – some of whom have been associated with Paringa Park Primary School for up to 22 years! We hope that they all hold PPPS as a special place and be proud to remember it as their school. Each one of these graduates should feel proud of their learning, growth and achievements over their primary schooling years and we wish them all the best for the future as they continue to “Be the best you can be”.

I look forward to our continuing partnership in 2021 and wish you a wonderful Christmas and holiday.

*Warm regards,
Leanne*

Literacy for All

Reading in the holidays

Here are some great suggestions to encourage your children to read at home during the holidays.

Visit your local library

It's free and children love choosing their own books to read. Remember if the book your child chooses to read is too tricky for them to read independently then read it to them or share the reading. Lots of libraries have free storytelling events and competitions so look out for those too.



Signs out and about

When you are out and about in the car, on the bus or out for a walk, see how many signs you can spot. Road signs, street signs, shop signs and timetables... read them together with your child.

Den reading

Build a den or hideout with your child out of dark blankets or sheets. Ask your child to choose some of their books to take into the den to read. Don't forget the torch – it's exciting to read a book by torch light!

Reading to other members of the family

Children love to share reading skills with family members so if you are visiting family then take reading books with you so someone different can say how proud they are hearing your child read. It's a good chance to show off!

Family meal times

Often during holiday time, families can spend longer over meal times or might visit a café or restaurant. Read the menu whilst you are choosing what to eat or read the cereal packet over breakfast. Or if you have friends visiting for a meal then get your child to create name places for each person – make them fun and personal so each person feels special.

Postcards and cards

At special times of the year or celebrations, enjoy opening the post together to read Christmas cards, birthday cards, or letters from family and friends. Ask family and friends to write your child postcards whilst they are away on their holidays. Children love to read a postcard addressed to them. Don't forget to send return post too – whether it's snail mail or via technology.



Holiday scrapbook

During holiday time, collect items of interest and stick them all in a scrapbook or write a simple holiday diary. As you stick these items in, chat about your child's choices and favourite things to do. You will have created a book full of happy memories that your child can read again and again. Your child's teacher would also love to share this book with the class when term begins.

Cooking your favourite dish

Does your child enjoy cooking? Find a recipe, read the list of ingredients together, visit the shops and read the food labels, and then support your child to read the instructions as you make your favourite recipe.

Playing outside

All children love to play outside on large play equipment. When you're in your garden or at the local park don't forget to play some fun games too. As your child comes down the slide or is swinging on a swing ask: What does slide begin with? What is a word beginning with t? Spell your name! Give me a word that rhymes with den!

Tracey Bennett

Senior Leader – Whole School Literacy

Qkr!

Qkr will be closed off at close of business today. This is to enable our end of year processes to be completed. We will open Qkr again on Monday 11 January for pre-orders of uniforms and payments for year 6/7 aquatics.

Excursion & Event Payments Due

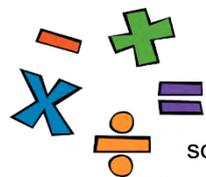
Preferred payment method is via Qkr!

Please contact the front office for other payment options and for any payment queries.

All school payments are due at 3pm on the last day to pay. Late payments will not be accepted.

- **Year 6/7 Aquatics 2021**

\$30 due Friday 29 January 2021. Payment can be made via Qkr from Monday 11 January or at the front office during week 1.



Mathematics

Remember over the holidays, keep your maths brain active and incorporate some maths into your daily activities. Here are some ideas to keep that happening.

- Estimate how much the shopping bill will be after wandering around the supermarket or fruit and veg shop or after eating out at a restaurant.
- Estimate using time, measurement (length, mass, capacity), number, chance
- Play board games, logic games, jigsaw puzzles
- Reading recipes when making your festive treats
- If going online on a device to play games, make sure you spend 15 mins first on a math game, e.g. mathplayground, cool math, nrich
- Card games - check out previous newsletters for links
- Practising reading time, especially if you have an analogue clock in your house, talking about passage of time (what time will it be in 1 and ¼ hours? etc)
- Use your measuring equipment and experiment with length, mass and capacity. Make your own measuring cup and check it with a scaled jug
- Keep practising automatic recall of number facts each day (+, -, x, ÷)
- Keep using the maths links from previous newsletters



Have fun with maths ready for our maths adventure for 2021!

Margy Holland
Senior Leader, Mathematics

Anita's Corner

Dear Families,
I hope that this finds you all well and in good health. What a different year it has been - with lots of positives and challenges too, with the event of COVID-19.

Given this, over the holiday break I hope that you have some time to relax and celebrate all the good things in life with loved ones.

Thank you to all the families who donated to the Paringa Giving Tree. Donations will be distributed to local families in need through Anglicare, your support is appreciated.

Take care and keep well.
Anita Trainor

E-Safety Survey

The Australian Council on Children and the Media (ACCM) supports families, industry and decision makers in building and maintaining an enjoyable media environment that fosters the health, safety and wellbeing of Australian children. They are currently working with Macquarie University on a joint research project to gauge parents' views on the apps that children choose to play. The apps they are particularly interested in are the apps children play for fun (not at school, and not social media apps such as Facebook, TikTok, Twitter, Instagram etc.). They'd love to hear from as many parents as possible via a short survey. It should take about 3 minutes to complete and responses remain anonymous.

<https://childrenandmedia.org.au/news/news-items/2020/take-our-e-safety-survey>



Wellbeing and Engagement

Short Recap

What a year it has been. The year started so positively at Paringa Park like every other, but then we were thrown into chaos and then again later in the year. It is however truly a credit to our students, parents and teachers that our school continued along in such a positive manner and took every challenge in its stride. The recent Wellbeing data that the state government collected on our 4-7 cohort suggests that our students took all the change in their stride and we have some of the highest rates of wellbeing and engagement in the state, eclipsing the state average on many counts. This is something to be very proud of because we are really living our school motto of 'Be the best you can be'. However there are always areas to improve and I look forward to telling you about my ideas next year. Thanks for your support and roll on 2021!



Social Media overload

Incidents of social media issues always spike just before the term breaks and in the first few weeks of the holidays. 10-13 year olds spending lots of time on social media looking at what everyone else is doing and commenting on it can cause children immense anxiety through FOMO (fear of missing out). It can be a quick downward spiral unless parents take a stand at the start of the holidays and stick by it in a united front (essential there are no weak links). Limit device time up a schedule that they play a part in developing and see that they stick to it, even if you have to lock up devices. Boredom may temporarily set in but then they will find things to do.



Also, just make sure you are comfortable with the social media platforms that your children have access to these holidays. Many students at our school have access to platforms and they are 2 and 3 years under the age requirements. These limits are set for a reason and are based on emotional intelligence and a child's ability to deal with the rigours of using the social media app.

Happy Family Holiday Tips

- Set up good routines over the holidays so kids know what to expect
- Avoid over scheduling and packing too much into a day, allow rest times and wind down times
- Make time for me time, partner time, individual child time and all together family time- this is crucial
- Keep up the exercise and keep your kids moving outside
- Remind your kids what the holiday season is all about... GIVING BACK TO OTHERS! Factor in a time when you can all do something nice for someone else.
- Above all set the example of being calm in the face of adversity. A recent study found that children learn how to develop anxiety in situations by watching their parents and following their lead.

Jamie Meredith
Senior Leader
Wellbeing and Engagement



Warriparinga Excursion

On Tuesday 1 December, students from LA1-10, LA4-3 and LA4-4 went on an excursion to Warriparinga. Warriparinga is home to the Living Kaurna Cultural Centre. On the excursion we learnt about Kaurna people and the history of Warriparinga. Fun fact - Kaurna people made clothes from possums fur.

By Rory M and Levi P
LA1-10



Retirement Assembly

We celebrated the retirements of Nanette Virgo and Jane Davies at a special assembly this morning filled with memories, singing and just a few tears! Congratulations Nanette and Jane and best wishes for the next chapter!



**And the winner is....
Sota!**

Congratulations to Sota K for his winning entry in the Christmas Card competition held by Hon Corey Wingard MP, Member for Gibson. Minister Wingard visited us today to present Sota with his certificate and the finished card design. Well done!

