



Excelsior Newsletter

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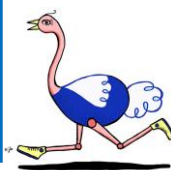
Newsletter – Week 8 Term 4 (5th December 2019)

EXCELSIOR P.S.

High Ideals

High Expectations

High Achievement



Important Dates

December

Dec 6	P&C Carols
Dec 10	Thank You Breakfast
Dec 12	K-2 Christmas Concert
Dec 13	Sports Assembly
Dec 16	Reports sent home
Dec 17	Year 6 Farewell
Dec 18	Fun Day
Dec 18	Last Day of School

January 2020

Jan 28	Staff Development Day
Jan 29	Students in grades 1-6 (2020) return to school
Jan 29-31	Kindergarten Best Start interviews

February

Feb 3	Kindergarten 2020 begin
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From the Principal

It is hard to believe that we are in Week 8 of Term 4, the year has flown by and Christmas will be here before we know it!

Student Numbers for 2020

As you are aware we are well underway with preparations for 2020. Thank you to parents for returning the blue slips indicating your child's enrolment intention for next year.

If you haven't already done this, please let the school know as soon as possible, by returning the blue slip or contacting the office, if your child will not be returning to Excelsior in 2020.

Key Dates for 2020

January 28 – The staff return to school for a professional development day. The office staff also return on this day. No students should be at school this day.

January 29 – Students in grades 1-6 (2020) return to school. Please note that until our final numbers are established, students will return to 2019 class groupings.

January 29-31 – Kindergarten Best Start interviews. Kindergarten students have the opportunity to meet individually with teachers. Parents of kindergarten students will receive the Best Start time in the mail.

February 3 - Kindergarten students begin school. The P&C will be organising "tea and tissues" for the parents of children beginning kindergarten.

Staff Changes for 2020

Each year there is some staff movement. To begin 2020 we will:

Farewell Mrs Semler. Mrs Semler will be leaving Excelsior at the end of the year to take up the position of Deputy Principal at Epping Public School. Mrs Semler has been an outstanding Assistant Principal at Excelsior and will be sadly missed by students, staff and the community. We wish her well as Deputy Principal of Epping PS.

Farewell Mr Peters. Mr Peters has been at Excelsior for part of 2019 replacing Ms Batoua. Mr Peters has taken up a temporary engagement at another school. We wish him well for 2020.

Welcome Miss Burley. Miss Burley has been appointed as a permanent staff member at Excelsior PS. She has been working on a casual basis with us during this term and we look forward to her joining our staff in 2020.

School Spectacular



Mrs Couque and I had the pleasure of attending School Spectacular.

The only word to describe this event is "spectacular!"

Over 5500 public school students take the stage to demonstrate their immense talent in this amazing event.

This year over 370 schools took part, including Excelsior Public School. Thank you to Mrs Cherlin and Mrs Semler for providing our senior choir students with the opportunity to perform in this world-class production.



Student Achievement

Congratulations to Minghui, Caitlyn, Reja, Jesse and Arya who have had their poems judged in the top 5% of entries in the Write4Fun competition.

Ms Chevalier writes:

In Term 3, 5/6L students entered their poems in a competition called 'Write4Fun'. Entries are received from all over Australia from grades Kindergarten to Year 12. Five of our students achieved an 'Excellence Award' with their poems being judged in the top 5% of all entries. Congratulations to these very talented writers – Minghui, Caitlyn, Reja, Jesse and Arya. All the students who entered the competition will have their work published in the 'Inspired 2019' poetry anthology. If you would like to read their poems, go to <https://www.write4fun.net/>, click on the 'Poetry' tab and search for Excelsior Public School

Well done to all 5/6L poets!



Congratulations to Naman, who has been selected in a cricket squad to tour South Africa in 2020.



Trundle Appeal

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the community of Trundle who have been suffering due to the ongoing drought.

Mrs Wormald has delivered these items to the Principal of Trundle Central School.

Mrs Wormald writes:

The Excelsior Public School drought donations drive for the struggling Trundle community was a raging success, with a recent delivery to the children and families of Trundle Central School.

Trundle is a small farming community in central west NSW that is suffering terribly from the current drought crisis. Excelsior began collecting for the people of Trundle at the beginning of term 4, after hearing on the news about their plight.

Our visit included a school tour, a drive around town, stories of hardship and how much our delivery means to Trundle, not just for the goods delivered but for the love and sense of people reaching out and caring.

Making the delivery was heartwarming, completely rewarding and humbling. We were met with open arms from such grateful staff and students from Trundle Central School.

On behalf of Mr Southon, principal of Trundle Central School and the Trundle community, I would like to thank the Excelsior community for their much needed practical donations. Mr

Southon made mention that these donations should see them through for approximately the next three months.



Presentation Day

Today we held our annual Presentation Day assemblies. This assembly gives us a chance to pause and reflect on the achievements of 2019. While some students were given personal recognition in the form of an award, I hope that all students were able to recollect their personal achievements and feel a sense of pride in their accomplishments of 2019.

A special congratulations to our major award recipients:

Junior Band Award – Christine
Concert Band Award – Bach
K-2 ERA Dance Award – Lauren
3-6 ERA Dance Award – Charlotte
Excelsior PS Positive Values Award – Kirsten
Mike Brauer Citizenship Award – Benjamin
The Hills Shire Citizenship Award – Chloe
Lions Club Community Service Award – Bach
The Excelsior Public School Most Improved Award – Will
The Model Farms High School Scholarship Award – Ethan
K-2 Creative Arts Award – Clara
3-6 Creative Arts Award – Yeji
ES1 Public Speaking Award – Nevan
Stage 1 Public Speaking runner up – Minjone
Stage 1 Public Speaking Award - Anushkaa
Stage 2 Public Speaking runner up – Thomas
Stage 2 Public Speaking Award - Nathan
Stage 3 Public Speaking runner up – Elizabeth
Stage 3 Public Speaking Award - Caitlyn

Stage 1 Spelling Bee runner up – Rishi
Stage 1 Spelling Bee Award - Zachery
Stage 2 Spelling Bee runner up – Siddarth
Stage 2 Spelling Bee Award - Isabella
Stage 3 Spelling Bee runner up – Madeline
Stage 3 Spelling Bee Award – Nicole
Excelsior Public School Literacy Award – Elizabeth
Excelsior Public School Mathematics Award – Lorrence

Dux of Excelsior Public School – Nicole

Congratulations to our incoming student leadership team:

School Captains – Hayley and James
Vice Captains – Cocco and Faris
Prefects – Aadi, Gizelle, Jesse, Caitlyn, Claire, Sarah, Georgia and Haysen

Build Update

On Monday 9th December there will be several large trucks delivering furniture for our new building. These deliveries have been scheduled for before 8am and after 10am to avoid high traffic times along Elberta Ave. There may be some disruptions to traffic flow during these delivery times, please try to avoid driving in Elberta Ave during this time.

Kiss and Drop

A reminder for parents who use the kiss and drop zone in the afternoon. **Parents can stop in this zone for a maximum of 2 minutes only.** If your child does not arrive at your car once you have been stopped for 2 minutes, you are required to leave the kiss and drop zone, drive around the block and rejoin the queue.

It is important that cars continually move through the kiss and drop zone. Cars that are parked for an extended period of time are drastically holding up the flow of traffic.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Sandra McKay
Principal

From the Deputy Principal

Wellbeing Program

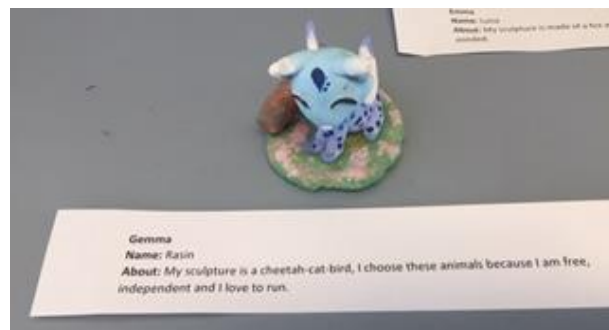
Students in some of our classes have been participating in a wellbeing program focusing on mindfulness. This program aims to promote social, physical, emotional and mental wellbeing.

Students and teachers continue to report positively about this program. Sessions will continue each Wednesday until the end of the year.



Art XT

On Tuesday 3rd December students and parents were invited to attend our XT Art exhibition. It was exciting to see a variety of high quality artwork pieces on display that was produced throughout the Art XT program in Terms 3 and 4. Parents, students and teachers all provided positive feedback about the exhibition and the opportunity for these students to attend the Sculptures by the Sea excursion which inspired some of the work.

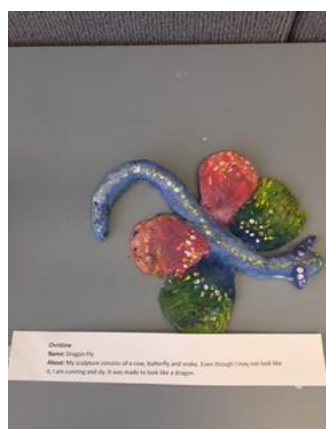


Info Booth

Excelsior has been a part of the 'New Build' project for many years now, from the planning phase to the construction phase. Throughout this period, we have hosted many Info Booths and parent information evenings explaining the design, process and implications for teaching and learning at Excelsior PS. As our New Build is almost complete, we are hosting another Info Booth for parents on Monday Dec 16th from 8:30 am to 9:30 am in the hall. Personnel from School's Infrastructure and Mace, the project managers will be there to address any concerns or questions that you may have. We encourage parents to attend so that you can be prepared for the changes to our learning environments that many of our students from years 2-6 will experience from the beginning of 2020.

P&C Carols

The P&C are hosting our yearly Christmas Carols evening on Friday Dec 6th from 6pm until approximately 9pm in the school hall and COLA. Come along in your Christmas attire and join in the festivities. There will be battery operated tea light candles for sale, a BBQ from 6pm, a Christmas tree raffle, small gifts available for purchase, with carols commencing from 7pm. A reminder that no



alcohol is permitted at this event. We hope to see many students and families there.

Innovative Learning Environments survey for parents of Years 3 and 6.

Thank you to the parents who have already completed this survey. A reminder that we are seeking feedback from parents with children in either Years 3 OR Year 6. We are very eager to hear your opinions about your child's classroom environment this year in order to improve practices next year when many students and teachers will be in a co-teaching classroom environment. It will also inform us about how we can support parents' understanding of these learning environments next year.

Please click on the following link to complete the survey by Friday 6th Dec:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8WRLQJ2>

Kind regards,

Deputy Principal
G.Couqué

PSSA – Friday 6th December – FINALS

Girls TBall vs Northmead PS at Castle Glen Reserve

Girls Junior Touch Football vs Samuel Gilbert PS at Bernie Mullane Reserve

Girls Senior Touch Football vs Kellyville PS at Bernie Mullane Reserve

GREAT NEWS AT EXCELSIOR – Week 8

Student of the Week

3B Sachin R
3G Alvin C
3R Emily M
4E Jennifer D
4L Clymene Z

Student of the Week

4/5B Sri B
5J Mohammad S
5/6L Lara C
6B Nick S
6D Cameron M



**Excelsior
Public School
P&C Association**

Dear Parents,

Last Tuesday night was the **P&C Annual General Meeting** where the new Executive committee for 2020 was voted in, as well as some subcommittee members. We are pleased to announce that the **P&C Executive for 2020** will be:

President – Shannyn Geeve
Vice President – Sarah Quinn
Secretary – Emma Heasman
Treasurer – Brett McMurtrie

I would like to congratulate and thank the current Executives for stepping up and

continuing their roles to next year! I would also like to thank them and the P&C for my lovely parting gifts!! It has been a joy to help the students and Excelsior community over the past many years.

We do, however, still need committee members for the uniform shop, ERA and Student Health and Wellbeing committees. If you or your child use any of those services or you have a few free hours, perhaps consider helping on the committees so we can continue to provide these services.

If you have any questions about the P&C or how to join the committees, please email the Executive committee on excelsiorpandc@gmail.com.

Sharon Evert
President 2019

P&C - Events



This Friday night is Excelsior's Carols by Candlelight

All profits from this night will be donated to the Bush Fire Appeal so please come along and support a worthy cause as well as seeing your children sing.

There will also be a special guest making an appearance on the night.

Please get your raffle tickets in, there are over 40 prizes to give away!

There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks for sale from 6pm -7pm as well as candles, treats and \$5 Christmas gifts so please bring your spare change and lets help out those in need! Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who have ticked yes to helping us on the night - we really appreciate it!

If anyone else can spare time from **4.30pm-6pm** to help us set up the night or to pack away from **7pm-8.30pm** we would love to hear from you on excelsiorpsevents@gmail.com
See you all on Friday!

The Events Team

SCHOOL BANKING

Hello School Bankers

As we are coming to the end of Term 4, next Tuesday (10th Dec.) will be the last banking day for 2019.

If there are any reward slips still to be submitted, please send them in next week and we will do our best to get the prizes to you before the end of term.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday season!

Tenielle - School Banking Coordinator

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Shop opening hours:

Saturday 7th December
8.30-9.30am Nerida and Andrea

Tuesday 10th December
2.30-3.15pm Nerida, Kathryn, Lidija

Tuesday 17th December
2.30-3.15pm Nerida, Kathryn, Lidija

Saturday 25th January 2020
8.30-9.30am Nerida

Tuesday 4th February 2020
2.30-3.15pm Nerida, Kathryn, Lidija

Regards,

Excelsior Uniform Shop

(this is a voluntary P&C service provided to parents and students)

ERA

*** Applications for ERA activities 2020 are now open ***

If your child is interested in doing ART, DANCE or TENNIS next year, please submit the online form(s) available from the school website (under Parents & Citizens Association, ERA).

<https://excelsior-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-citizens--association/era.html>

Submitted forms are automatically forwarded to the ERA team. Applications will be reviewed and places confirmed in January.

Fees remain unchanged next year, at \$12 per lesson for dance and tennis and \$15 per lesson for art.

Any question? Contact us on excelsiorERA@gmail.com

Please see below for some exciting news from Dance.

ERA Dance 2020

Due to repeated requests, we are going to have an open class for Boys only, from year 1-6. This class will be a mixture of Hip Hop and Jazz. They will learn strengthening and technique as they put together a routine for performance to our school community. There may even be an opportunity to perform at the Hills Performing Arts Festival later in the year. This class will replace the current Tuesday time slot of 4.30 to 5.30 pm. This will only run if we get a minimum of 10 enrolments.

We will no longer have a Primary Dance Class on Tuesday between 4.30 – 5.30 pm as this is being replaced by the above Boys Dance Class.

Our Infant Dance Class for Years 1-2 will continue from 3.15 – 4.15 pm on Tuesday and the Primary Dance Class for Years 3-6 on Thursday from 3.15 – 4.15. Both these lessons will have a midterm performance at school as well as a Presentation day performance at the end of the year.

Students identified as having the potential to cope with all that is required for Hills Festival will be invited to participate in a second advanced class held on a Thursday from 4.30 – 5.30 pm. So around 20-25 students will now get the opportunity to further their dancing skills with a more intense dance class that improves technique and performance skills as they work towards Hills Festival auditions. This idea came about for the students that want more commitment and to be challenged more from dance. Similar to dance schools they will be our show team that performs externally. This class will have cost involved and will start Mid-Term 1.

In summary, if you are planning other activities for 2020. Please keep in mind the ERA Dance 2020 schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, 3.15 – 4.15 pm: Infant class for Years 1-2

Tuesday, 4.30 – 5.30 pm: Boys Only class for Years 1-6

Thursday, 3.15 – 4.15 pm: Primary class for Years 3-6

Thursday, 4.30 – 5.30 pm: Advanced Performance Class, by invitation only Start Mid Term 1

Note: Please remember that if your child is moving to Year 3, they need to be enrolled for the Primary Classes.



**Code something awesome
these school holidays.**

**School Holiday Camps Now
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- Competitive rate
- Instrument not required initially

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Quakers Hill | Rouse Hill | Oakhill Drive |
Bella Vista**



School Holiday Gymnastics Clinics

For boys and girls in Kindergarten and above

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- Fun in a safe and structured environment
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- Olympic Standard Equipment
- Foam Filled Landing Pits
- Trampolines
- Affiliated with Gymnastics Australia and NSW



Full Day Sessions (9.00am-3.00pm)

\$50.00 per day

Half Day Sessions (9.00am-12.30pm)

\$40.00 per session

6th – 10th Jan, 13th – 17th Jan

and 20th – 24th Jan

Term 1 2020

Enrolments Now Being Taken

Classes for Boys and Girls 2 years and above

Book now on 9620 8323 or sydacgym@hotmail.com

Unit 7/32 Artisan Rd, Seven Hills

Unit 5/1a Gibbon Rd, Winston Hills

The Ponds High School, Wentworth St, The Ponds

A huge thank you to the following businesses that have made generous donations to our Christmas Raffle!!



Are you interested in playing Netball in 2020?

St Bernadette's Netball Club

For Boys Age 7 to 12, and Girls Age 7 and Up!

Teams Ranging From Under
7's to Senior Open Divisions
Inclusive of All
Abilities and
Experience Levels

Training Held in Castle Hill on
Weekday Afternoons
Part of the Baulkham Hills Shire
Netball Association
(Based at Kellyville Netball
Courts)



Registration
opens in
January!
Find us on
Facebook
for updates
and further
information!