



Excelsior Public School Newsletter

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Newsletter – Week 10 Term 3 (24th September 2020)

Important Dates

Term 3	
Date	Event
23.9.20- 24.9.20	Year 3 Check In Assessment
25.9.20	Last Day of Term 3
12.10.20	First Day of Term 4
22.10.20	SRC PJ Day
9.11.20	Year 6 Fun Fair
18.11.20	OC Test
26.11.20	Year 6 Farewell TBC
8.12.20	Year 6 Farewell TBC
16.12.20	Last day of Term 4

From the Principal

Dear Parents

We are now in the final week of Term 3. This, along with the rest of 2020, has been a challenging time for us all as we continue to navigate the world with COVID-19. I would like to thank all of our school community (students, teachers and parents) for their support, resilience and hard work this term. I certainly felt that “we are all in this together.”

I apologise for this newsletter coming to you a day late. Yesterday I received the Term 4 Guidelines, which have impacted on information that I needed to give to you and on events we are in the process of organising.

I will send out the communication from the Department of Education later today, through the Skoolbag App. But here is a brief outline of changes for Term 4:

- ❖ Interschool activities where there is a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place
- ❖ Singing and chanting with strict restrictions
- ❖ Playing wind instruments with strict restrictions
- ❖ School formals, dances and graduations with a COVID-19 Safety Plan
- ❖ Excursions and day camps with strict restrictions
- ❖ Kindergarten orientation with strict restrictions
- ❖ Year 7 transition to high school after 12 November

As you can imagine there are lengthy and strict protocols involved with any activity that is resuming. I will be working through these in the holiday period in an effort to be able to provide you with exactly how events and programs will run at Excelsior in Term 4.

Year 6 Farewell

Obviously, any event that takes place outside the school grounds also needs to comply with that venue's COVID-19 Safety Plan. This includes the Year 6 Farewell. We are confident that we will be able to hold a successful Year 6 Farewell and are working with Castle Hill RSL and the new COVID-19 restrictions to enable us to plan this event. You will notice we have two TBC Year 6 Farewell Dates in the calendar. Our original date of 8.12.20 is booked in our regular (small) function room. With the current RSL restrictions we would be unable to use this space. We have tentatively booked 26.11.20 for the large auditorium at Castle Hill RSL.

Castle Hill RSL have been extremely helpful in planning for the Year 6 Farewell and are prepared to allow us to use the much larger auditorium at no extra cost should that be necessary.

Stage 3 Camps

Unfortunately, earlier this week we needed to make the difficult decision to cancel both the Year 6 excursion to Canberra and the Year 5 camp. At the time neither were compliant in terms of the very strict COVID-19 restrictions. We will be working with the Stage 3 students to offer COVID-19 safe activities in place of these two events.

Executive Director's Recognition Award

I am very pleased to announce Mrs Mistry has this week been presented with the very prestigious "Executive Director's Recognition Award" for The Hills District.

Mrs Mistry was awarded this for her continuous dedication to Public Education, especially in the areas of technology and EALD. As you can imagine her skills in the area of technology were invaluable this year as we navigated the challenges of home learning.

This award is usually presented at an award ceremony. This year we had a Zoom ceremony, but our director Jo Marshall was on hand to present Mrs Mistry with her award.



I hope that all of our families enjoy the upcoming school holidays. I look forward to seeing you all when school resumes for Term 4 on Monday 12th October.

Kind Regards,
Mrs Sandra McKay
Principal

Important Information

Term 4

A reminder that there is no Staff Development Day at the beginning of Term 4.

School resumes for all staff and students on Monday 12th October.

School Planning

Thank you to the parents who have responded to our school planning survey. So far, we have received 162 responses from parents. We have over 400 families at our school and we would love to get responses from at least 50% of our families. On average this survey is taking 3 minutes to complete. If you haven't yet responded, please click the link below to have your say:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XQTKYDN>

The survey will close on Friday 2nd October.

Virtual Assembly

This week a K-2 virtual assembly will be available to view via our website or through the link below:

<https://excelsior-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/eps-virtual-assemblies.html>

Recent Events

World Gratitude Day – 21st September

On Monday, the staff and students of Excelsior celebrated World Gratitude Day. Students took part in a range of activities throughout the day in acknowledgement of all the wonderful things we are fortunate to have in our lives. Of course, it is important to have an 'attitude of gratitude'

remember that it's more productive to teach our kids to be resilient and refocus them on the positives they may be overlooking.



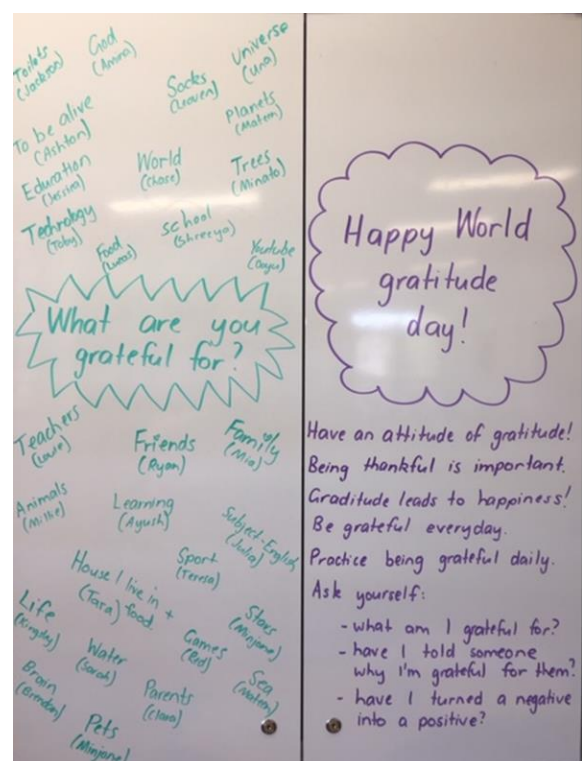
6 SW

I am grateful for...

- An education
- Having such good friends
- Being in a good school
- Having a loving family
- Having water and food
- Having supporting teachers
- Having a home
- a caring brother

- My dog Richie
- Living in a good country
- good friends
- My phone
- being able to go to doctors
- sports
- My little brother
- A life
- Good Health

3J





From KN:

Pavel: I am grateful because my dad plays with me.

Liam: I am grateful because Emmanuel and Jordan play with me.

Emmanuel: I am grateful for my friends and family.

Carlos: I am grateful for my mum because she lets me do some dinner.

Jordan: I am grateful for my dad because he gives me a video game.

Levi: I am grateful for my dog because he always plays with me.

Violet: I am grateful for Penelope and Mrs Nolland because they help me learn and Penelope is my friend.

Myra: I am grateful for my dad because he always plays Dobble with me.

Penelope: I am grateful for my dog because he doesn't bite me.

Rilynn: I am grateful for my sister and my dad because they look after me.

Jennifer: I am grateful for my brother because he makes my breakfast.

Charles: I am grateful for my dad because he gave me an apple watch.

Xavier: I am grateful for my rainbow lorikeet because it is rainbow and really fluffy.

Hannah: I am grateful for my dad because he saved my cat.

Sophie: I am grateful for Hannah because she is my friend.

Jayden: I am grateful for my mum because my mum makes me food.

Adriana: I am grateful for my teacher and Jhanvi because I do a lot of things with them.

Jhanvi: I am grateful for everything I have because everything I have keeps me safe.

Ella: I am grateful for Sophie because she plays with me

Zoe: I am grateful for writing and learning how to write.

Nevin: I am grateful for my dad because he gives me money.

Thomas: I am grateful for coming to Excelsior Public to learn how to write.

KN and KB sharing what

they are grateful for



The wonderful Stage 3 students who gave up their lunchtimes to make posters for Gratitude Day – thank you!



Around the Grades

Year 2 – Science

In Term 3 Science, Year 2 has focused on the identification of light, sound and heat energy, and how they are sensed and produced. Year 2 students have further developed their understanding of forces and energy and how these can be used for specific purposes in products. They have participated in a variety of hands on activities which have helped the students to further develop their understanding and knowledge about sound and light and how they influence our lives in significant ways.



Star Students

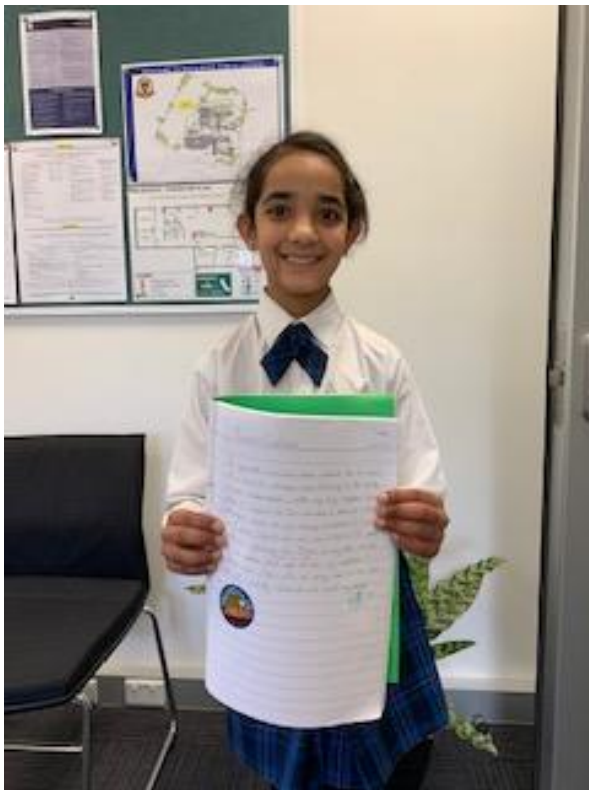
Ciela 4H, Bella 4L and Kimia 4B

These students have been representing texts using multi media. Their results were very impressive.



Tara – 3J

3J have been learning about how to use personification to enhance their writing. Tara from 3J used this beautifully in her writing



Kourosh 6W

Year 6 have been learning about myths. Kourosh wrote his own, very well thought out, myth.



Awards

K -2 Merit Awards

KB	Abhaya V Victoria O Noah T Braxton B
KM	Simran K Zoe J Ben L Kaeden S
KN	Nevin D Jenifer X Carlos E Penelope P
KW	Jayden H Daniel W Zoe H Angelique C
1B	Henry S Emma X Vihaan R Yana C
1D/G	Kayal K Ryan M Nikita H Arhum A
1K	Marcus C Yaseen N Raphael S Maeve R
1S	Scarlett Q James D Joshua X Thomas M
2A	Angela M Florence L Vikraant G Eric Z
2B	Ethan C Nolan M Dominic J Mia T
2L	Lachlan E Jontae K Sylvia X Carmel Z
2R	Violet S Hannah G Sebastian S Julian T

3-6 Merit Awards

3D	Aryash P Hayden K Sakina M Tom S
3J	Mateen S Minjone S Sarah Y Kingsley T
3S	Maya W Amelie N Cav M Billy B
4B	Thomas M Joshua C Pehansa W Nicholas B
4H	Maya C Nidhyana G Holly N Alvin C
4L	Emily M Vineyard Z Vascus T Kaylee E
5E	Zelene T Danijela G Ali F Daisy M
5G	Audrey S Marcos G Isabella C Keegan F
5/6A	Erika S Jayden C Reja Z Rani S
6S	Emma H Sri B Abigail M Lara C
6W	Gemma Y Jesse H Isabel M Mia H

Spirit of Excelsior Awards

Alvin C – **4H** Madeline G – **1S**

P & C News

The P&C committee continues to meet monthly over zoom meetings and continues to work for the students of the school. We have our AGM meeting coming up in November, if you have anything that you think needs to be raised please email us at excelsiorpandc@gmail.com and don't forget that you can email us at any time on that email if there is anything that you would like to bring up at the meetings or if you have any concerns that the P&C needs to address.

Over the school holidays the newcombe ball courts and cricket pitches will be upgraded. This is thanks to a grant from the office of Alex Hawke that our vice president Sarah Quinn was able to obtain. Part of the conditions of receiving the grant is that the P&C would match the same amount as the grant which was \$10,000 and we have been able to do this. Thank you to Sarah for all her hard work on securing this grant.

I hope you all have a relaxing and safe holiday period and take care

Shannyn Geeve
P & C President



GIRRAWEEEN
HIGH SCHOOL

Year 7 2022 Information Link to Year 5 Students and their Parents

Girraween High School is an academically selective coeducational high school with a focus on providing a balanced and positive education experience for our students who aspire to achieve exceptional HSC results. The school has experienced and dedicated staff, providing students with safe, engaging classes.

Entry is via the Selective High School Placement Test that is run by the Department of Education's High Performing Students Unit. The test will be conducted on Thursday 11 March 2021. Online applications open 6th October 2020 and close 9 November 2020. For more information please refer to our website.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we are unable to have an information evening at school. In early Term 4 2020, we will post on the below link <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnXxEpAPUWVOHRMg5PUp-c-DYAcZwF0F2> which will contain information about our school. In addition to our HSC results outlined below, GHS has an extensive range of cocurricular programs on offer. Examples of cocurricular programs can be found on our website at: https://girraween-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/g/girraween-h/rules-and-policies/Girraween_High_CoCurriculur_Book.pdf

2019 HSC Achievements

Girraween ranked 21st in the state overall with 9 students achieving an ATAR of 99 and over.

15 students of the cohort achieved an ATAR score over 98. The highest ATAR was 99.65 (Maximum ATAR 99.95). There were 19 "all rounder" students who achieved 90% or better in 10 units of study. 100% students received university offers.

State rankings included:

8th for Software and Design

15th for Chemistry

17th for PDHPE

313 distinguished achievers; students who achieved 90% or better in a subject

100% of all students achieved in the top two bands for History Ext, English Ext 1, Visual Arts, Software and Design, Society and Culture, Music 1 and 2. Almost 90% of students achieved in the top two bands for Legal Studies, Maths Extension 1 and 2, Business Studies and Modern History, Chemistry and Japanese.

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WHEN & WHERE
WED 7TH - FRI 9TH
OCTOBER
 BALCOMBE HEIGHTS ESTATE
 92 Seven Hills Road
 Baulkham Hills
 Turner Buildings 4 & 5

October Youth & Family Workshops

JOIN US FOR OUR FUN SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS, INCLUDING:

- ★ OPEN CRAFT
- ★ CANVAS PAINTING
- ★ ELECTRONIC MUSIC CREATION
- ★ YOUTH WORK READY SKILLS
- ★ DREAM BOARDS FOR PARENT & CHILD
- ★ REVERSE GARBAGE CRAFTS
- ★ AFRICAN DRUMMING

More information about workshop days, times & costs can be found at www.hca.org.au | [HillsCommunityAid](#)

Limited places available & bookings are essential:
Call 9639 7918 to register & pay for the workshops

CASTLE HILL SOFTBALL CLUB



**Registrations
now open!**

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with teams for
girls, boys, men
and women
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Gazelles

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