

# MORPETH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Week 6, Term 4

8th November, 2021

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## WEBSITE:

[www.morpeth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.morpeth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Monday 15th November 2021**

Closing date for Book Club Orders

**Monday 13th December 2021**

Presentation Day  
Year 6 Farewell

**Tuesday 14th December 2021**

Party Day

**Thursday 16th December 2021**

Last day of Term 4 for students

**Tuesday 1st February 2022**

First day of Term 1

Year 1 - 6 Students return



Before & After School Care

Camp Australia  
Before and After School Care

Please call Cameron  
(Co-Ordinator)

0417 768 636  
and leave a message

## PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR SCHOOL ITEMS:

Cash - to Office

Credit/Debit Card - at Office or via

Parent Online Payments (POP)

Credit/Debit Card via Morpeth Public  
School Website

## Look What's Trending this week!

**End of Year** It seems incredible that we are talking about end of year activities but, considering we are now in November, it's probably best that we provide a current overview of the state of play.

For perspective, we have just under six weeks of the school year remaining, and it is our intention to include as many of our usual end of year activities as possible. Unfortunately, some of our favourite events, including our Carols evening and our MADD Day extravaganza, will not go ahead because of COVID restrictions.

Being a Level 3 school, we are still restricted in some of our activities. In general, while our school has returned to face to face learning, we are still required to ensure COVID safe practices are in place to minimise "mingling" and to reduce the volume of students and staff congregating together on site. For this reason, our split play times and use of end of day exit arrangements will remain.

As you can imagine, planning events is quite problematic, as restrictions and management is changing regularly. I have listed the current plans for a number of proposed upcoming events.

**Kiss and Drop** Our Kiss and Drop collection at 3pm is becoming quite streamlined; currently we are averaging around 13 minutes to complete the process. Thank you to our families for supporting the procedure and ensuring that family name signs are displayed upon arrival. As mentioned in last week's newsletter, the use of Kiss and Drop significantly reduces the likelihood of users being identified as a close contact in the event of a positive case at school. To families who walk with their child, I ask that you continue to follow social distancing and refrain from "mingling" while waiting for your child at the front of the school.

**Assemblies** Our usual K-2 and whole school assemblies are currently on hold. We will present class based merit and PBL certificates in class, rather than in assemblies in the MPC.

**School Photos** We have made a tentative date for our school photos; Tuesday 23 November, Week 8. Representatives from our service provider, MSP, have been in contact with the school to outline planning for the day. I will provide further information closer to the date.

**Presentation Day** Our presentation day, scheduled for Monday 13 December, will go ahead, probably under a similar arrangement to last year's format. Our assembly will reflect our current cohort management, which will mean that two assemblies will be held; a K-2 and a Year 3-6. Attendance for family members will be by invitation only.

**Kindergarten Orientation** Our Kindergarten Orientation, for students starting with us in 2022, will be held on Tuesday 30 November, Week 9.

**Year 6 Farewell** Our Year 6 farewell is scheduled for Monday 13 December, Week 11. At this stage we are in the process of discussing venue options. We will continue to provide information over the coming weeks.

**Party Day** We are still awaiting a clear directive about some on site activities, including party day. We have been informed that off site excursions that are 'reward or celebration' days, which would include party day visits to the cinema etc, are currently on hold. However, as restrictions continue to ease, we are hopeful that our students may be able to enjoy a well deserved end of year celebration. They certainly deserve it!

**High School Transitions** Students transitioning to Maitland High in 2022 will attend a Teams online transition meeting on Tuesday 23 November, Week 8. It is hoped that an onsite transition will be offered, particularly for students who would normally attend the school's Jumpstart initiative but, at this stage, we are unable to confirm a date.

**Teachers for 2022** We are currently circulating an Expression of Interest regarding the recruitment of staff for next year. We envisage that we will once again offer 10 classes in 2022, with our anticipated enrolments being similar to our 2021 figure of 240. Because we have not finalised our staff, I am not in a position to indicate who your child's teacher will be next year. We will announce our 2022 staff in Week 9, this will provide sufficient time to plan for student transitions.

**Canteen** Our canteen will continue to operate during Term 4, albeit with some minor modifications. Students are able to order lunches, via QuickCliq, but the canteen won't be open for general buying during play breaks.

**P&C AGM** The annual general meeting for our P&C will be held on Monday 22 November at 7pm. The meeting will be held via Zoom and all current and intending members are invited to attend. *Peter Edmonds*



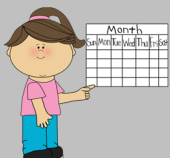
DON'T FORGET WHEN ORDERING YOUR LUNCH ORDERS TO USE '[www.QuickCliq.com.au](http://www.QuickCliq.com.au)'



# P & C NEWS

## P&C Meeting - Morpeth Public School P&C will be holding their AGM Monday 22 November 2021 at 7pm via zoom.

All members of the school community are welcome to join the meeting, however only financial members will be able to vote in the election of the 2021/2022 P&C executive. If you wish to become a financial member in order to vote at the AGM, or to stand for a position on the P&C board, please pay your \$1 membership fee to the Morpeth Public School office



If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom, please:  
email [morpethpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:morpethpspandc@gmail.com)

## UNIFORM SHOP IS NOW ONLINE ONLY

Uniform orders - PLEASE ORDER ON QUICKCLIQ

For any enquiries please contact: **Bec on 0413 771 181 or email [morpethpspandc@gmail.com](mailto:morpethpspandc@gmail.com)**  
**BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR ONLINE PAYMENTS - BSB No - 032 639 Account No - 287 512**

## Canteen News

### Week 6 - Term 4, 2021

Tues:	09.11.2021	<b>Online orders only using QuickCliq</b>
Wed:	10.11.2021	
Thurs:	11.11.2021	<b>The Canteen will not be open for</b>
Fri:	12.11.2021	<b>operation during play breaks</b>



## PBL

This week's focus lesson ...

### Classroom

We will be talking with students about ..

Wait your turn

Use appropriate language

Follow teacher instructions

Safe hands and feet

Walk in the classroom

Be organised for activities

Produce quality work

Learn from your mistakes

Be ready to learn



## School Banking update from Commonwealth Bank

For 90 years, our School Banking program has helped children learn about money, reinforced the importance of regular savings and provided structure for parents to support their children to save.

Though the program continues to have strong support from schools, parents and teachers, recent decisions by some state and territory governments because of a review by the corporate regulator mean we are unable to continue providing programs in schools, and we have had to make a difficult decision to close our School Banking program for all government and non-government schools across the country.

Our School Banking program was established in 1931 at a time when having a bank account was not commonplace, and since then we have helped more than 15 million Australians take their first financial steps. This would not have been possible without the wonderful support we have received from schools like yours, including all the parents and volunteers, and for this we are deeply grateful. Thank you.

Even though this is a sad time, School Banking has taught so many young Australians, past and present, the value of money and we believe this should be celebrated. We have created a place for you to share your stories, fondest memories and lessons learnt through the program. To share your story and access our financial education resources, please visit. Even though the CommBank School Banking program will not be returning to your school after this year, you can continue to make deposits into your child's Youthsaver account through online transfers or at any CommBank branch. If you need further information please phone 132 221 or visit your local CommBank branch.



# Good for Kids good for life

## START THE DAY RIGHT WITH BREAKFAST



We've all heard that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and it's true! Research has shown that children who eat breakfast before school have higher levels of concentration and are less likely to feel lethargic.

Below are some ideas for a nutritious breakfast:

- Wholegrain cereal such as Weetbix, Porridge and Sultana Bran
- untoasted muesli topped with low fat yogurt
- Wholegrain toast topped with avocado, tomato or low fat cheese
- Raisin toast
- Fruit & vegetable smoothies

If you're short on time, some quick ideas to send to school with your child includes: a tub of low fat yoghurt, cereal to munch such as fruity bites, breakfast drinks such as Up & Go or some fruit.



**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

[HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au)  
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>



# School Travel for 2022



## 2022 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

## School Student Transport Scheme site change

On 1 October 2021 the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) information and application portal was moved to [transportnsw.info](https://transportnsw.info). This will assist families to find all their travel information in the one place.

### Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Transport  
for NSW

Further information can be found at [transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel](https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel)

Enquiries can be submitted at [transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback](https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback)



# Road safety

## Hold your child's hand

As pedestrians, children can be easily distracted and are often too small to be seen by drivers. They may be unable to predict or identify dangers and tend to act impulsively.

Talk with your child about safe behaviour on the footpath – it's not a safe place to play as it is near the road and vehicles may be entering or exiting driveways.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand:

- on the footpath
- in the car park
- when crossing the road.

Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

If you can't be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to accompany them.

After school, meet your child at the school gate. At the end of the school day children may be excited, distracted or tired and often not concentrating on their own safety.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the **families** section on [safetytown.com.au](https://www.safetytown.com.au)



### Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
  - you cross the road
  - you're on the footpath
  - you're in a car park
- Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road

### Messages to share with children in Years 3 to 6

- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

# Road safety

## Walking together safely to and from school

Walking to school and back home again is a great way to spend time with your children and encourage safe and healthy behaviours.

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children safer as a pedestrian:

- Talk with your children about being alert in the road environment.
- Plan and practice your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Always hold your child's hand. Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.
- Meet your child near the school gate and don't call them from across the road.
- Explain why the place you have chosen is the safest place to cross.
- Remind your child to **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** every time they cross the road and keep checking until safely across.
- Talk to them about why they should stop, look, listen, think before crossing a driveway, road or carpark.

Young children can learn and practice these safe pedestrian behaviours with you. This will help them to be safer pedestrians when they are old enough to travel alone.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the **families** section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)



### Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

- Hold a grown up's hand when:
  - you cross the road
  - you're on the footpath
  - you're in a car park

### Messages to share with children in Years 3 to 6

- Use a safe place to cross the road
- **Stop! Look! Listen! Think!** every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

#### **STOP!**

one step back from the kerb

#### **LOOK!**

continuously both ways

#### **LISTEN!**

for the sounds of approaching traffic

#### **THINK!**

whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across