



# Peak Hill Central School Newsletter

**We are a Respectful, Responsible, Safe and Successful School**

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Term 4 Week 5 - Wednesday 11 November 2020

**Give Your Child A Better Than Best Start**



## Kick Start

Your Child's Education at Peak Hill Central School

**Principal**

Mr Peter Neilsen

**Deputy Principal**

Mrs Catherine  
Doyle

**Assistant Principal**

Miss Grace Stewart

**Head Teachers****Secondary Studies**

Mr Joshua Brown  
Miss Lucy Dempsey

**Head Teacher****Western Access****Program**

Mrs Crystal  
Stanford

**Aboriginal****Education Officer**

Mrs Vicki Sharah

**Administration****Manager**

Mrs Tanya Stanford

**P & C Committee****President**

Mrs Kelly Dart

**Secretary/****Treasurer**

Ms Kim Dern

**Annual Presentation Night**

I apologise for the delay in the publication of this edition of the newsletter. The school has been working hard to create a COVID-19 safe Annual Presentation Night.

Presentation Night is booked in for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December commencing at 6pm in the main quadrangle under the COLA.

There will be strict COVID-19 conditions of entry. These will be provided in the invitation that will be sent to parents from Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> November.

Unfortunately, this year's event will be limited to award winners and their family only.

Award winners will be allocated a household or close friendship table where the student and their family will sit for the duration of the event. Award winners are to go up to the stage when they are to be presented their award and return to the family/friendship table. Numbers of guests will be restricted. There will be an RSVP and booking system via the Front Office. Total number of guests per student will be notified via the invitation closer to the event.

Full sanitisation and registration stations will be set up outside the Library gate and Bogan Street gate for guests to register before admission. Unfortunately, anyone with flu like symptoms, are unwell or who have travelled from Victoria or overseas will not be able to attend.

Students and guests will need to remain seated and avoid mingling and maintain a 1.5 meter social distance from other household/friendship groups at all time. Light refreshments will be on tables for your enjoyment.

Although different from previous years it will have a real family friendly picnic atmosphere and a great live way to recognise student achievement for 2020.

**NAIDOC Week**

NAIDOC Week takes place this year from 8th - 15th November. The week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year's theme, '**Always was, always will be**' recognises that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years, and First Nations people were Australia's first engineers, farmers, scientists, diplomats and artists. Please refer to the timetable of events our school has organised for next week. We will be sharing these activities via Facebook, the newsletter and the schools website to enable our community to witness our engagement during these COVID-19 times.

**Year 12 Dinner and Graduation**

I am very much looking forward to celebrating with Year 12 students and their families next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm at the Peak Hill Bowling Club. The students and community should be extremely proud of these students completing 13 years of schooling and achieving their Higher School Certificate.

On Friday 20 November Year 12 and Guests will gather at the Water Hole venue, Taronga Western Plains Zoo to graduate with their class mates from the Western Access Program of Trundle, Yeoval, Tullamore and Tottenham.

**Mr Peter Neilsen**  
**Principal**



What a wonderful first four weeks of Term 4 we have had!

### High Expectations Every Day at PHCS

Congratulations to the incredible students from Kindergarten to Year 12 who are at school on time, ready to learn every day! This consistency and work ethic is an essential skill, which will future proof your child for a successful transition to post school study and the workforce.

### Kindergarten and Year 7 – 2021 Transition classes

This term we are busy organising our students for success as they move into the next stage of their education. Miss Grace Stewart and Miss Georgia Westcott are excitedly running our very successful **KICK START KINDY** Program with the support of Ms Narelle Elias from the Peak Hill Preschool.

Our current Year 6 students have been visiting high school every Monday to experience the routine of the Secondary timetable and the brilliantly equipped learning spaces we have to offer.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions about either of these Transition classes.

### Term 4 - Great News Letters!

This week staff have been busy organising positive **Great News Letters** to send home to students and families celebrating and recognising the success of students from each class in Kindergarten to Year 11. These beautiful laminated certificates are sent three times a term to students who have demonstrated success through effort. Congratulations to the students who have received a certificate this week and we look forward to sending these certificates home again in Week 8.

### HSC Marking

This year Mr John Grubb and Miss Lucy Dempsey have been accepted as Higher School Certificate Examination Markers. While Mr Grubb has been a marker for many years, this will be Miss Dempsey's first year. This **Professional Learning** experience has the most beneficial flow on effect for our teachers' learning and our students. We thank Mr Grubb and Miss Dempsey for the continued support they provide to our Secondary students and their learning.

### The Mr John van der Reyden Gymnasium

Excitement is mounting as the brand-new gym equipment is unpacked and assembled in the new gymnasium. Staff and students are looking forward to the official unveiling of this new learning space. The gym will be named in honour of our much loved and respected Physical Education teacher Mr van der Reyden, who taught multiple generations of Peak Hill families.

### Primary Excursions – Save the Date!

It is with great excitement that we ask you to **SAVE THE DATE** for the following Primary day excursions this term. Notes and more information will roll out over next week for the following class excursions:

- **2/3 – Thursday 5 November** to the Narromine Aviation Museum
- **K/1/2 – Wednesday 11 November** to the Taronga Zoo in Dubbo
- **5/6 – Tuesday 17 November** to the Wellington Caves
- **3/4 – Tuesday 24 November** to the Japanese Gardens, Adventure Park & the Old Dubbo Gaol

### Year 7 – 10 Yearly Examinations

During Week 6 this term, 16 – 20 November, the students in Years 7 to 10 will complete their Yearly Examinations, in the school hall. *A copy of the time table for these examinations is included in this Newsletter.* Students are encouraged to work with their teachers to prepare revision notes and seek assistance in the areas of work they may have found challenging in class.

### Year 11 WAP Study Week

This week our Year 11 students and teachers have been visiting each of the WAP schools to complete lessons for each of their subjects. A big thank you to our staff who have transported our students each day and supported their learning.

### Kindergarten to Year 12 Homework Centre Every Wednesday?

For any student in Kindergarten to Year 12, who would like to have any extra support or assistance with their classwork, homework or assessment tasks, teaching staff are available to work with students on Wednesday afternoons from 3.30pm to 5pm. If you are interested in sending your child/ren please let me know. ALL students are welcome.

**Belrose Rotary Visit**

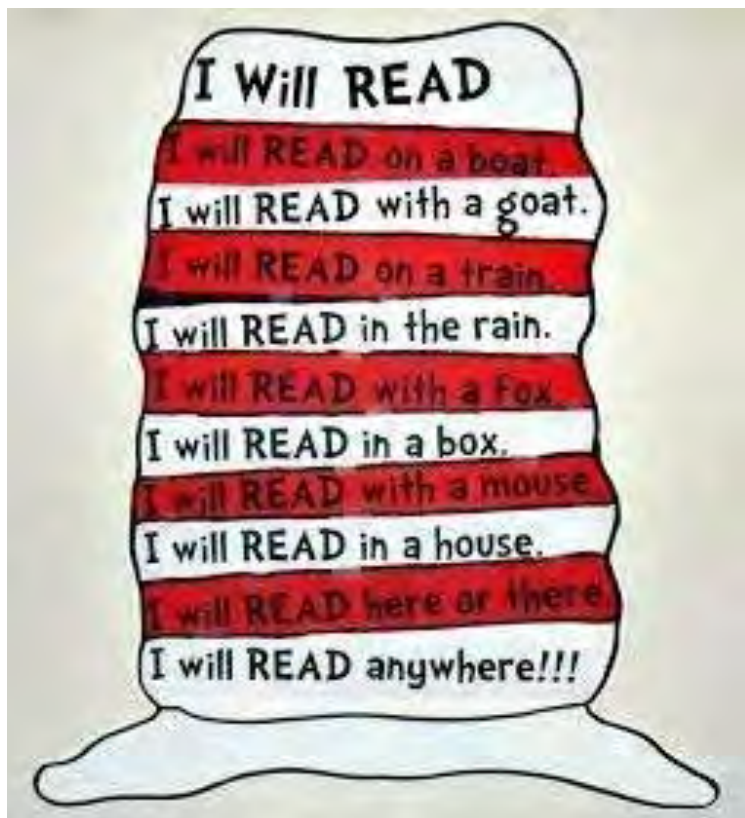
Next Thursday and Friday the 12 and 13 November, we will be welcoming the Belrose Rotarians to Peak Hill to work with our Secondary students. Each year the Rotarians mentor our students' career aspirations by developing their resumes and completing mock job interviews during their visit. This year the Rotarians have sourced "Dress for Success" clothing for each student to wear to a potential job interview.

**Reading @ PHCS**

A special thank you to our Literacy team for their passion and inspiration across our school community to remind us all of the importance of reading to and with our children every day! This simple act, will be one of the most important gifts and childhood memories that you can ever give a child. I look forward to us all sharing the love and joy of reading at Peak Hill Central School and within our families and our wider community. Let's all work together to make a difference!

Thank you everyone for your positive attitudes, hard work and enthusiasm for learning over the past fortnight. Take care and have a wonderful weekend!

**Mrs Catherine Doyle**  
Deputy Principal

**Yearly Examination Timetable**

In Week 6 students will complete their yearly examinations. Students will complete the examinations under exam condition in the school hall. All examinations will be one period in duration. The following rules apply in the examination room:

- Mobile phones must **NOT** be brought into the examination room.
- There is to be no speaking in the examination room, if you have a question please raise your hand and the supervising teacher will attend to you.
- Your eyes must remain on your work only.
- Students must follow all instructions given by the supervising teacher.
- Student may bring a clear water bottle into the examination.

**Stage 4 Examination Timetable**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 2	English	Mathematics	Science	HSIE	PDHPE
Period 4		Visual Art		Technology mandatory	

**Stage 5 Examination Timetable**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Period 2	English	Mathematics	Science	HSIE	PDHPE
Period 4		Timber		Metal Food Technology	

All students are encouraged to speak with their teacher if they are unsure of any concepts presented in the classroom. Students may benefit from utilising the homework centre on a Wednesday afternoon to prepare for their examinations.

All students are encouraged to try their best!

If you have any questions or concerns please contact myself at the school to arrange a meeting.

**Mr Joshua Brown**  
Head Teacher

### Yearly Examinations

A reminder to all students and parents/carers that students in Years 7 - 10 have their Yearly Examinations in Week 6. If any students require any additional support and assistance in revising they are encouraged to attend Homework Centre in the Library from 3:30 - 4:30pm each Wednesday.

### Uniform

Well done to all the students who consistently attend school in full school uniform. Wearing a school uniform has multiple benefits including:

- Creates cohesion
- Reduces the potential for bullying
- Improves study ethic
- Removes peer pressure
- Encourages professionalism
- Reduces distractions
- Increases focus on character

Students and parents/carers are reminded that the school has payment plans available for students who require new school uniforms.

**Miss Lucy Dempsey**  
Head Teacher

**PHCS P&C AGM will be held on Wednesday, 11 November 2020 in the school Library at 3:30pm**

- All executive positions will be declared vacant.
- Following the AGM will be a General Meeting.
- Everyone attending must comply with the COVID-19 procedures by hand sanitising upon arrival, signing in at the front office and keeping a social distance of 1.5m apart.



## Kick Start Kindy

**Kick Start Kindy has begun!**

**Miss Grace Stewart will meet parents and students in the front office at 9.30am.**

Parents must sign the external visitors form and cannot stay longer than 10 minutes due to departments strict guidelines. please make sure students bring:

- completed enrolment form
- bag with a packed recess
- bottle of water
- Hat

### Session Times:

Monday 16 November: 9:30am - 3:00pm

Monday 23 November: 9:30am - 3:00pm

If you haven't already please pick up an information pack from the front office.





**Who's Reading What??**

**What are you reading at the moment?**

'Island of Bali' by Miguel Covarrubias

**Why did you choose to read this book?**

I'm interested in Indonesia as one of Australia's neighbours, a possible holiday destination and I need to keep up with Year 3/4 and their growing knowledge of the region.

**What are you enjoying about this book?**

I am particularly loving the chapters on the Balinese art, including the incredibly detailed shadow puppet theatres, temple sculptures and wood carvings.

**What does reading this book make you think about or feel?**

This informative book is making me super keen to visit this fascinating place with its beautiful history and culture.

**Mrs Lyndal Edge**  
Classroom Teacher

**Who's Reading What??**

**What are you reading at the moment?**

'The Happiest Man on Earth' by Eddie Jakie

**Why did you choose to read this book?**

Recommended by a friend and I love all things pertaining to Jewish History.

**What are you enjoying about this book?**

The text is very simple and concise, but it is profound in its content and insights.

**What does reading this book make you think about or feel?**

It makes me believe that all of life's problems are manageable if we are able to adopt a positive attitude and see through a modified lens. I feel edified and uplifted and drawn to the simple values of life, it's heart warming.

**Mrs Gai Strahorn**  
Student Learning Support Officer



This week I walked around the school to check out some of the great reading and writing activities that are happening from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Primary and Secondary students were engaged in a range of teaching and learning tasks, and were so proud to show off their excellent work.

Our Literacy Team are excited about continuing to strengthen the culture of reading in our school community. Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance.

Learning to read is about listening and understanding as well as working out what's printed on the page. Through hearing stories, children are exposed to a wide range of words. This helps them build their own vocabulary and improve their understanding when they listen.

Our students have access to a wide range of books from the library and their classrooms. If you would like to know more about how you can encourage your child to read, please contact their Classroom Teacher or Year Advisor.

Please see photos on pages 8 and 9.

**Miss Lucy Dempsey**  
Head Teacher



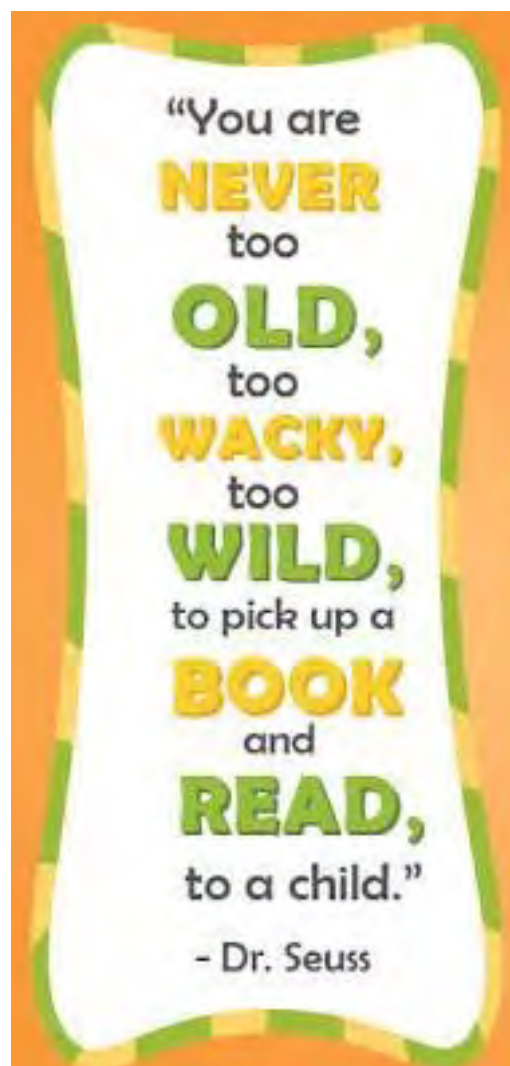
This fortnight students in Year 5/6 have been learning all about encyclopaedias. They have researched countries and a topic of their choice all without using the internet. Let me tell you a few of the students were shocked that people ever used books instead of google for research!

K/1/2 are leading the charge with borrowing and returning books. I would love to see more students from Years 3-6 borrowing books to take home and read to their families.

If your child does not have a library bag please contact me and I will be able to give them one.

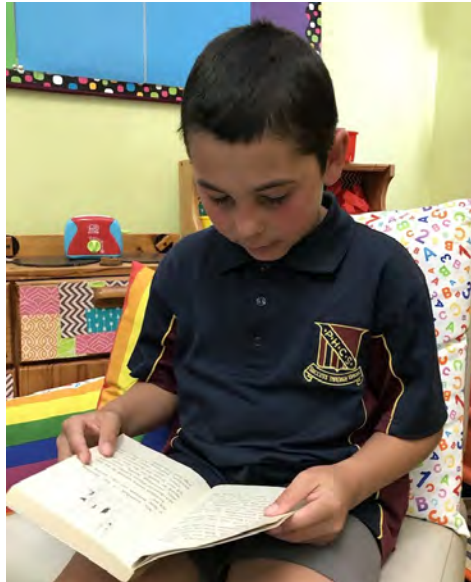
Have a great fortnight!

**Miss Teagan Heraghty**  
Teacher Librarian



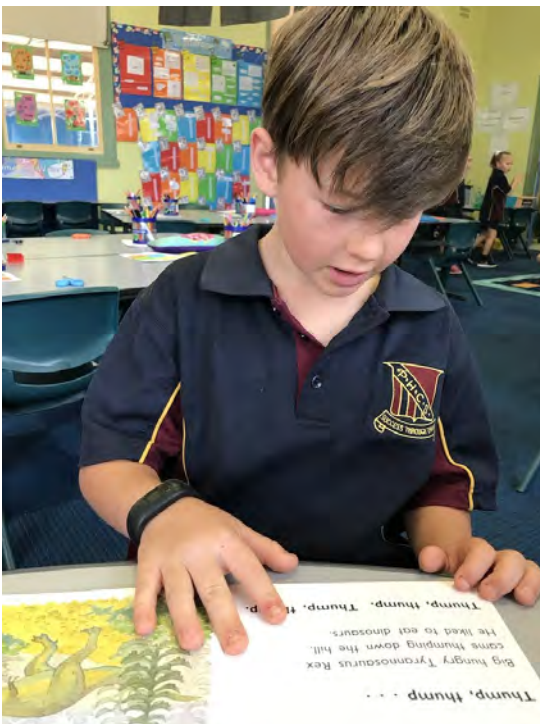
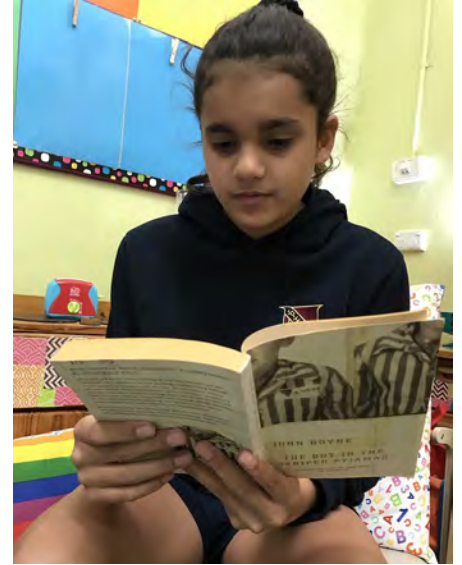
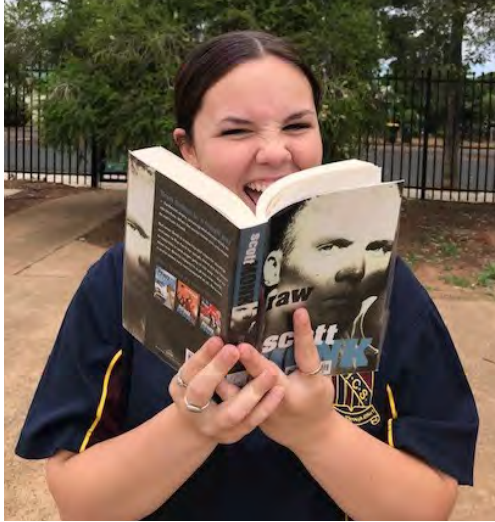


## A Love of Learning at PHCS





## A Love of Learning at PHCS





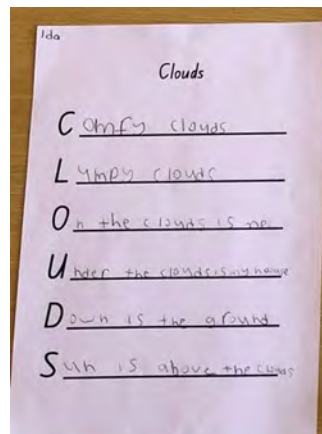
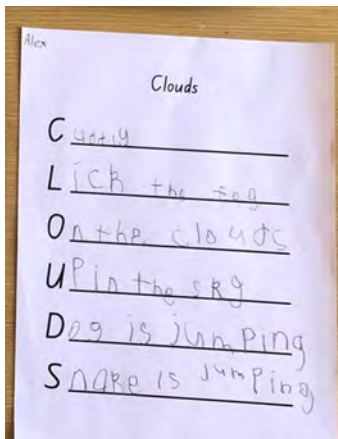
## Look What's Happening in K/1/2

In writing we have been discussing clouds. We read the book *Cloud Conductor* by Kellie Byrnes and then completed writing about clouds.

We created descriptions of the different shapes that we could see and wrote acrostic poems about clouds.

In art we use blue and white paint to create a picture of the clouds and the different shapes that we could see in them.

**Miss Elsie Woodley**  
Classroom Teacher



## Learning in Year 2/3

Week 4 already! Time flies when you're having fun and we are always having the best time in Year 2/3!

We have continued our learning about poetry, and have written fantastic adjective and acrostic poems so far, as we really focus on descriptive language and exciting our reader. We have also begun writing stories about a child who woke up to find their house on top of a dragon's back!

In Mathematics, we have been learning about Chance and Probability. We have been playing lots of games to help us learn about the likelihood of events occurring, and have looked at the concept of luck.

The highlight of the fortnight was definitely our watercolour paintings of Uluru which are simply spectacular. The students demonstrated amazing patience and attention to detail to implement new mixing and brush skills, and it resulted in truly beautiful artworks.

We have welcomed another new face into our class! Liam Mann is a new Year 2 student in our room and I cannot believe how smoothly he has transitioned into Peak Hill Central School. I am so proud of how kind and welcoming his peers have been.

Well done, Year 2/3 you are all superstars!

**Miss Tiarne McLeod**  
Classroom Teacher





## Year 3/4 News

What a fantastic start we have had to Term 4. Our attendance has been outstanding and all our kids have been ready and organised to learn.

This week we have started assessments for our end of year reports. We will be completing the Mathematics Essential Assessment, South Australian Spelling and children will be showing me how fantastic they are at reading for a Running Record.

I have been particularly impressed with our students poetry minds this week. We have been using our alliteration and metaphor skills and have written our own poems about clouds. You can see a few of our creations below.

We attended Life Education-Healthy Harold this week in the new pop up classroom. Year 3/4 learnt about being Cyberwise, which will no doubt help with their new love of online computer games.

### Miss Teagan Heraghty Classroom Teacher

AS HIGH AS THE SKY  
floating gently by  
floating flying free  
floating just above  
AS SILENT AS A FEATHER  
gliding on the breeze  
gliding growing gracefully  
drifting on the trees  
breeding up a storm  
so far up above  
big bold bolting  
speeding through the  
sky  
By Jack-S

As light as a feather.  
Dancing in the sky.  
Flying, foaling, free  
Gently floating high  
As silent as the breeze  
floating in the breeze  
gliding, glowing, gracefully  
gliding through the trees  
crumbling like an angry bull  
up high in the sky  
Banging, booming, bashing  
Way up high  
by Jackson Westcott

Fluffy like a cushion.  
Storm going by.  
fluffy, floating, free.  
gliding in the sky.  
fluffy like a cat.  
floating with the breeze  
falling, floating, flying  
gliding through the trees  
fluffy like snow  
going with the breeze  
crumbling, growing, growing  
It's scrapes on the trees  
By Henry

## This Fortnight in Year 5/6

As part of our Geography unit this term, Year 5/6 students have been studying Australian landmarks.

Last week we discussed the Great Barrier Reef and why it is important. We then looked at the various coral found in the reef and sketched some of our own. Below are some drawings for you.

### Miss Grace Stewart Classroom Teacher





### Activate Outdoor Recreation

Students in the Outdoor Recreation Activate Group are loving learning new orienteering and bushwalking skills.

Over the last few weeks students have been learning about survival skills and exploring the outdoor walking tracks in our local community.

**Miss Lucy Dempsey**  
Head Teacher

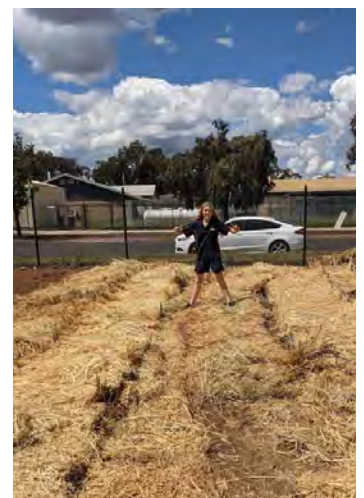


### Activate Agriculture

Its all happening at the school Agriculture Plot with the Activate Agriculture kids tending to the gardens. We have been busy preparing the feathery for the arrival of new chickens and laying out weed suppressing mulch to prevent water lost and help with maintenance.

As we move into warmer weather, we have been focusing on plant propagation and farm animal health.

**Mr Rob Cain**  
Classroom Teacher



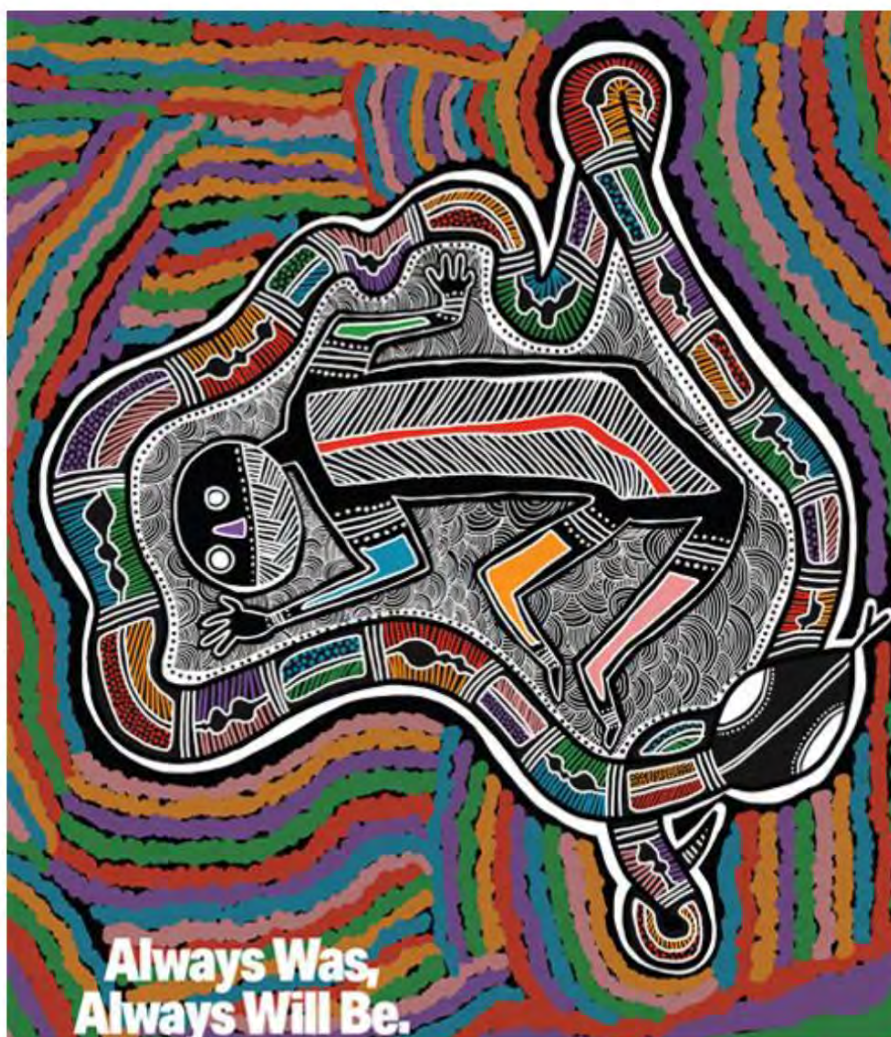




**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**

**8-15 NOV 2020**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>8.55am – NAIDOC Assembly and Flag Raising</b> Welcoming our school community to our week-long celebration of NAIDOC	<b>K – 6 Cultural Artwork Project</b>	<b>K/1/2 Class Excursion</b> to the Taronga Western Plains Zoo	<b>Stage 4 Class excursion</b> to “Little Burning Mountain” and Belrose Rotarian Visit	<b>K – 10 John Moriaty Football</b>
<b>9.15am 3.15pm – Stage 5</b> Aboriginal Studies class excursion to the Trangie Cultural Centre and the Warren Beemunnels Trail	<b>Stage 4 - Nanyaburra Cultural Artwork</b> <b>Stage 5 - Nanyaburra Cultural Artwork</b>			<b>12.45pm – Local Artist “Sauce” Towney</b> Presenting Commemorative Coin to PHCS Principal & School Community
<b>K – 6</b> Indigenous Football and Zoom Workshops	<b>Stage 5 – Pirru Thangkurray Cultural Program</b>			<b>1pm – Cultural Café</b> BBQ and Cupcakes



## School Presentation Night

### PHCS Annual Presentation Night

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in the PHCS main COLA
- This is a COVID-19 safe event for award winners and their family only
- Invitation and RSVP event
- More details to come in your family invitation which will be sent out commencing November 18

## Community Notice

### Have Your Say

We encourage Parents/Carers and Community members to provide us with feedback or suggestions on anything regarding Peak Hill Central School.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Absent Note

Students Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year/Class: \_\_\_\_\_

My child/ren was/were absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ because

Parent/Carer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# School Calendar

## Term 4 Calendar 2020

Term 4	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5	9 Kick Start Kindy 9:30am – 12:30pm Years 9 & 10 Aboriginal Studies Excursion	10	11 K/1/2 Taronga Zoo Excursion	12 Year 12 Celebration Dinner Belrose Rotary Visit	13 Belrose Rotary Visit
Week 6	16 Kick Start Kindy 9:30am – 3pm	17 Year 5/6 Wellington Caves Excursion	18	19	20
	<div> <div>← Year 7-10 Exams</div> <div>← Year 11 WAP VET</div> <div>Workplacement →</div> </div>				
Week 7	23 Kick Start Kindy 9:30am – 3pm	24 Year 3/4 Old Dubbo Gaol, Japanese Gardens & Adventure Park Excursion	25	26 Year 10 White Card Training Trundle	27 Primary Swimming Program Day 1 Kindy – Year 6
Week 8	30	1 December	2 Primary Swimming Program Kindy – Year 6 Marathon Health Visit 10am – 3pm	3	4
Week 9	7 Year 10 WAP Transition & VET induction	8	9	10 Primary Swimming Program Final Day Kindy – Year 6	11
Week 10	14 PHCS Presentation Assembly 6pm	15	16 Student's Last Day of School	17	18



## PEAK HILL CENTRAL SCHOOL YEAR 7 - 10 2020 YEARLY EXAMINATION

TIME	MONDAY 16 November	TUESDAY 17 November	WEDNESDAY 18 November	THURSDAY 19 November	FRIDAY 20 November
10am – 11am	ENGLISH	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE	HSIE	
12.30pm – 1.30pm	7/8 TECHNOLOGY MANDATORY  9/10 FOOD TECHNOLOGY  9/10 METALS	PD/H/PE	7/8 VISUAL ART  9/10 TIMBER		

- All Examinations will be held in the School Hall.
- All students are to come equipped with pens, pencils, ruler, eraser and calculator.
- Full Examination conditions will be observed. All students will have 5 minutes reading time and all Examinations will take 55 minutes to complete.



## Who's Behind the Book?

Can you guess who these secret readers are? If you guess correctly you'll win your very own book to read.

Write your guess under each picture then place it in the box at the front office.

**Mrs Lyndal Edge**  
**Classroom Teacher**

