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Term 4 Week 8 - Friday, 26 November 2021

Principal's Message

PRESENTATION DAY

Due to the current COVID 19 health orders and restrictions in place for schools, Presentation Assemblies cannot take place with parents and community members, regardless of their vaccination status. We were hoping that these restrictions may have changed so we could run an event like we did last year. Unfortunately, this has not happened by last Friday and we have had to make the decision for organisational purposes to run the Presentation Day as a student only event. The day will take place at school under the secondary COLA with students and teachers only. The event will be live streamed on Peak Hill Central School's Facebook page from 12 noon to allow families and community to watch the event. Hopefully we will be back to normality in 2022.

STAFF CHANGES

The following staff have chosen to leave our school at the end of this year. I wish to thank them for the contributions they have made over their time at our school. We wish them well for their future and hope they find what they are looking for.

Mr Mitch Thomas is moving to the Hunter Valley region.

Miss Elsie Woodley will be based in Parkes.

Miss Lyndal Mathews has accepted a position at Broke Public School.



Mr Mitchell Thomas

SO FAR OUR NEW STAFF APPOINTED FOR 2022



Miss Elsie Woodley



Miss Lyndal Matthews

Miss Sammi Axam who has been assisting with Mrs Georgia Watt with Kickstart Kindy this term, will be teaching Kindergarten in 2022. She has already made some wonderful connections with our 2022 Kinder Class. This will again be a stand alone Kindergarten class to give our students a better than best start.

Our students will be excited to see Miss Ella Bandur return in 2022. Miss Bandur recently completed her final internship at our school earlier this term. We are delighted that Miss Bandur will join our team as a result of her rural teaching scholarship.

Mrs Lyndal Edge who has worked with us as our special programs teacher and art teacher for the last two years has also been appointed to our school in a permanent capacity. Mrs Edge will continue to be a great asset to our school.

Mrs Emily Westcott will join our team working as an SLSO and mentor joining Brendan Allen to assist our senior students with their Video Conferences and assessment task completion. We are committed to all our senior students completing their HSC and having a pathway to success beyond school.

Mr Peter Neilsen Principal



Miss Sammi Axam



Miss Ella Bandur



Mrs Emily Westcott

Mrs Lyndal Edge

Deputy Principal Report



Principal Mr Peter Neilsen

Deputy Principal Mrs Catherine Doyle

Assistant Principal Miss Tiarne McLeod (Rel)

Secondary

Head Teachers Mr Joshua Brown Miss Lucy Dempsey Ms Brenda Stewart

Head Teacher Western Access Program Mrs Crystal Stanford

Aboriginal Education Officer Mrs Vicki Sharah

Administration Manager Mrs Tanya Stanford

P & C Committee President Ms Kim Dern

Vice President Mrs Kelly Dart

Secretary Ms Kim Dern

Treasurer Miss Renae Keed Mrs Kelly Dart



What a productive, engaging, student focused term we have had over the past seven weeks! Despite the time away from face-to-face teaching last term due to COVID-19, our students have returned in Term 4 ready to take on every challenge and to make the most of the endless learning experiences and opportunities that our staff provide them with every day.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS EVERY DAY AT PHCS

Congratulations to the incredible PHCS students who are at school on time, in uniform and ready to learn, every day! This consistency in attendance, combined with a strong work ethic are essential skills, which will future proof your child for a successful transition to post school study and future employment.



CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY – FUTURE MOVES PROGRAM

Last Monday we had the team from CSU's Future Moves Program come to school to work with students from Years 5 to 10. The program leaders ran an interactive and informative suite of activities designed to:

- $\sqrt{}$ Encourage students to discover their potential
- $\sqrt{}$ Develop positive attitudes towards their future pathways
- $\sqrt{}$ Learn some firsthand information about university opportunities and study

The Future Moves Programs will continue in 2022, when we will take students to visit CSU Campus' and meet and speak with university students. We would like to extend our thanks to the CSU team for their continued commitment to and support of our students.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Since COVID-19 the rate of Youth Mental Health concerns has risen dramatically. To help support students and families the Government have rolled out several Mental Health and Wellbeing Programs, many of which can be accessed on online. We will be sharing links and information to families as they becomes available on our school Facebook site as well as through our school Newsletter. If you have any concerns about your child, or if there is anything we can do to support their health and wellbeing, please do not hesitate to let either your child's teacher or me know.



READING CIRCLES @ PHCS

Did you know that every day at 10am, our school moves into groups across the school to read for 30 minutes? These groups are called, "Reading Circles". A special thank you to our PHCS Literacy team for their passion and inspiration across our school community to remind us of the importance of reading, to and with our children every day! This simple act is one of the most important gifts 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, each and every day. Let's all work together to make a difference and to improve the outcomes for each and every student in our care!

THANK YOU MR JOHN VAN DER REYDEN

The staff would like to extend a very warm and heartfelt thank you to our much beloved former PDHPE Teacher Mr



John van der Reyden. On Tuesday afternoon Mr V very kindly took our staff for an

Deputy Principal Report Continues

extended guided walking and history tour of the Peak Hill Mines. The knowledge, passion and history Mr V shared with staff was incredibly detailed and informative. We sincerely appreciate Mr V's time and his ability to convey knowledge to such a large group. Once a teacher, always a teacher!

We look forward to inviting Mr V back to PHCS in 2022 for the Official opening of the John van der Reyden Gymnasium. More details to be released next year.

BELROSE ROTARY CLUB

A very special thank you to the Belrose Rotary Club, who have worked with our staff and students for over 30 years to support our students and their families. Earlier this term the Club very kindly donated to our student Breakfast Club. Then on Friday last week, two of the Club's members, Chris and Miriam Brownlee drove all the way from Sydney to personally deliver 42 telescopes, new Lego, a timber kitchen set for Kick Start Kindy and financial support for students' food and uniforms. On behalf of our school community we extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to the Belrose Rotarians for their contribution to the wellbeing and success of our students.



WELCOME TO PHCS!

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Mr Brett Pinkstone to our staff. Mr Pinkstone was a former teacher at Parkes High School. He will be working with our staff and students as a casual teacher for the remainder of this year. His knowledge, expertise and experience as an English/HSIE teacher has been very beneficial to supporting both our students and staff. We sincerely thank Mr Pinkstone for the contribution he has made so far this term.

YEAR 6 into YEAR 7 TRANSITION

Thank you, students, teachers and families, for all the positive feedback regarding the success of our Transition Program for our Year 6 students moving into Year 7 in 2022. The move from primary to secondary can often be stressful and difficult for students as they need to get use to a change from sometimes one to many teachers, and a very different timetable and routine structure to primary. Year 6 have had Transition every Monday for seven weeks, as well as extra support from Mrs Danielle Tremain-Cannon who has worked every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday preparing students for the routines and expectations of high school. If students, parents/ carers have any further questions regarding Year 7 in 2022, please do not hesitate to contact the school and speak with me.



STAGE 4 - SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY – ENGINEERING -MATH EXTRAVAGANZA

Last Tuesday we hosted the Principal, Mr Wes Leedham and his staff from the Warrumbungles National Park at PHCS. The students in Year 7 and 8 had the most incredible hands-on experiences with coding and drone flying. The students also learnt about sustainability and they even created their own energy by peddling a stationary push bike so fast that they made a blender work. The students who could power enough energy actually made their very own banana smoothie!

YEAR 10 WHITECARD TRAINING

Thank you to Mrs Stanford for organising the Dubbo Traffic Control to visit PHCS next Thursday 9 December to run a one-day White Card training course for all students aged 15 and over. The White Card is a mandatory requirement to work in the construction industry and for all Year 11 students next year who have chosen to study VET Construction as one of their subjects.

SEMESTER TWO REPORTS

Teachers are busy finalising the end of year reports for students in Kindergarten to Year 10. These will be sent home to parents/carers in the last week of this term. If

Deputy Principal Report Continues

you have any questions regarding your child's progress this term, please call the Front Office and make a time to speak with your child's classroom teacher.

CONGRATULATIONS to our ATTENDANCE LUNCH WINNERS!

Monday, 29 November was our fortnightly Attendance Lunch Draw. Every student from Kindergarten to Year 12 who attended school every day for the past fortnight had their name put into a draw for the chance to win lunch at the Tuckerbox canteen for themselves and a friend. Congratulations to **Ida Gavin** from Primary and **Hunter Judd** from Secondary who were this fortnights lucky winners. A new draw will begin on Monday. Attendance, really does matter @ PHCS!

SECONDARY SPORT

Congratulations to the secondary staff who have energetically shared their enthusiasm for sport and their athletic and competitive nature, in the staff versus students' netball games for the past two weeks. The cheering, running, defending and overall engagement by both staff and students have been seriously next level. Well done to everyone involved for your participation and passion.

I am already looking forward to another brilliant week @ the Peak!

WAP STUDY WEEK

Across Weeks 6 and 7 our Stage 6 student engaged in the Western Access Study week. Completing face to face learning experiences with their course coordinators. I was extremely proud of our student displaying excellent organisational skills in attending school at earlier times so travel arrangements were not compromised. A big thank you to Mrs Stanford who drove the students each day and to all staff who delivered lessons during the week.

ASSESSMENTS

Stage 4 and 5 have completed their assessment period. Students are encouraged to review their assessment results and carefully read over feedback to ensure continued improvement across all areas.

MEANINGFUL LEARNING

Students will be engaging in key learning experiences for the remainder of the year. Student are encouraged to attend regularly, as teachers will be delivering course content that is important to student growth and understanding in key subject areas.

YEAR 10 TO 11 TRANSITION

In Week 9, Year 10 students will be engaging in Microsoft Teams meetings as part of their Western Access Program induction. Students are encouraged to ask any questions they may have during these meetings. Students will also engage with their course coordinators for next year for a short period of time during the week.

Mrs Catherine Doyle Deputy Principal



INTO THE WESTERN ACCESS PROGRAM Week 9 EVERY DAY 10-11AM STUDENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TEAMS LESSONS WHERE THEY WILL:

YEAR 10 TRANSITION

Learn about NESA Requirements Learn about Course Requirements Meet Course Coordinators Be inducted into VET Develop skills in using Teams As always if you have any questions please contact the school and we will attend to them immediately.

Kind regards,

Mr Joshua Brown Head Teacher Secondary Studies

Head Teacher News Continues

STUDENT GROWTH AND ATTAINMENT

Lately I have been reflecting on the things I really liked at school. Two of the things, apart from academic learning were being in a play, and in our dancing classes the teacher letting us create a dance to Nancy Sinatra's, "These Boots are made for Walking", a song recently revived by a few artists. What was special about these times was that the teacher allowed the students to input their ideas and create something meaningful and fun for us.

In ACTIVATE, as the year is drawing to a close the Drama group's motivation has waned a little, however, throwing the activity over to the students has resulted in some very enjoyable and interesting skits. Last week the group developed a short play around James Bond. The students had a lot of fun and showed real team work in developing their play, of course, Mrs Allen's costumes all added to the afternoon and provided inspiration for developing the characters. Here are some of the photos.

Another example of allowing for student input is in the Year 8 Writing class, which I have written about before, the students are finalizing their class paper this week and we hope to have it available next week. I have been so impressed with the group as a whole, and I rewarded them with Chinese for lunch, as they had worked so well as a team. Here are some photos of our lunch. Well done, Year 8!

Next year we will be relaunching our Healthy Booris and look forward to getting up and running again with our wonderful parents/carers, Pam Keed and the Midwives. Watch this space for more information, as we continue with our efforts to contribute to creating Healthy Booris.

We are also looking for retired teachers who might be interested in working as COVID Tutors, to work in small groups with our students, to make up for the learning lost over the past two years due to COVID.

Free books and encyclopedias are available from our school Library. They are out of date and will allow more room for our new collections. If your are interested please call the school on 6869 1304 and leave a message for me. Books will be available next week.



Ms Brenda Stewart Head Teacher









Assistant Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello from Week 8!

We have been as busy as ever, getting in as much quality learning before the term ends and the summer break begins.

We are in the final stages of report writing and editing, and it has been so pleasing to see how every student across K-6 has improved this year. Primary students have truly found success through effort.

The School Swimming and Water Safety Program begins in Week 9. Mrs Georgia Watt and Mrs Kelly Dart will be the swim coaches this year, with classroom teachers and SLSOs supervising and assisting with lessons. If you have any questions or concerns about the program, please contact me at any time.

It has been so beautiful to talk with so many parents and carers over the last few weeks to discuss student learning and behaviour, and to simply check in. I encourage you to contact your child's classroom teacher or myself at any time if you have any queries or simply want to chat. We pride ourselves on our relationships with the community and would love to see this continue to grow.

Miss Tiarne McLeod Assistant Principal

STEM

Last week, Stage 4 participated in a STEM day run by the staff from the Warrumbungles National Park. Students learnt to fly drones using coding programs on an Ipad. They explored the importance of solar energy by using solar panels to turn on light switches and a variety of other objects that require energy to work. Students took turns riding a bike using kinetic energy which blended a smoothie for them to drink.

At the end of the session students worked on their teamwork skills by moving two planks of wood while standing on them. This was an important lesson for students as they built on their communication, leadership and interpersonal skills.

Please see photos on page 10 and 11.

Miss Lucinda Pickering Classroom Teacher

Library News

BORROWING

Could all students and parents/carers please ensure borrowed Library books, devices and equipment are returned to school by 3rd of December.

Thank you in advance.

Mrs Margaret Edwards



LIBRARY REVAMPING COMPETITION

Next year we will be revamping and modernising our school library. We would like students and community members to submit ideas for posters and blinds, to reflect our local community.

The best designs will be judged by a panel made up from school staff, including the principal and local community members. We would love to see some art work from our local Wiradjuri artists on posters to encourage are students, as they complete their education at our Peak Hill Central School.

The competition will close in Week 2, Term 1 2022, so there is plenty of time to think about and plan your ideas and designs.

Please see me for more details.

Ms Brenda Stewart Head Teacher



PBE



PHCS P&C

Peak Hill Central School P&C AGM, followed by General meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st December in the common room at 3.30pm. We encourage everyone to attend. It's a great way to find out what is happening at PHCS in 2022. Covid-19 rules will apply to attend meeting. Sign in on arrival, show your double vaccination certificate, social distancing and sanitise.



Kickstart Kindy Graduation

KICKSTART KINDY GRADUATION

This week we held our very last Kickstart Kindy. The students have come so far this year through our transition program and should be congratulated on their efforts.

We held the graduation ceremony at the Memorial Park and it was so much fun! The students performed songs for their families and wore graduation gowns and hats to celebrate the occasion.

We are looking forward to welcoming our newest students into our school in 2022.

The Kickstart program will continue next year. Keep an eye on our school Facebook page and Newsletter for our plans for 2022.

Have a lovely Christmas and a restful break.

Mrs Georgia Watt Kickstart Kindy Transition Teacher







STEM Day at PHCS

































STEM Day at PHCS



























Kindergarten with Mrs Georgia Watt & Miss Elsie Woodley

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KINDERGARTEN?

In Mathematics we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We have been practicing drawing, making and naming these shapes and talking about their features. We made incredible shapes using paddle pop sticks.

During writing last week we wrote our letters to Santa and then we took a walk to the post office to post them. We enjoyed looking at our art down the street during our walk and we can't wait to see if we get a reply from the North Pole.

REMINDER

A reminder that swimming starts this week. If you haven't already, please return your swimming note.

Miss Elsie Woodley and Mrs Georgia Watt Classroom Teachers

Year 1/2 with Miss Tiarne McLeod

LAST FORTNIGHT IN 1/2

It is so bittersweet that we are nearing the end of 2021. Seeing your children grow and improve this year has been such a delight. While it is exciting for them to be moving onwards and upwards in their schooling, it will be sad to not be having the beautiful learning opportunities together.

We have been busy maximising our learning opportunities in all areas and consolidating our learning from across the year.

We have worked hard to prioritise place value in Mathematics, while also learning about 2D and 3D Shapes, Capacity and Volume.

In Art we created our own puzzles! We also took outlines of real dinosaur species and adapted them to make them our own! We used line, colour and texture to create our own "Stage-one-osaurus".

I am looking forward to a magical final fortnight in Year 1/2 for 2021.

Miss Tiarne McLeod Classroom Teacher









Year 3/4M with Miss Lyndal Matthews

WEEKS 7 & 8 IN 3/4H

What a great couple of weeks in 3/4H.

We have had so much fun playing while learning in Mathematics. We have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and angles. Students completed their own artwork consisting of a chosen item made out of a variety of 2D shapes. For 3D shapes we have started making our own cube, cone, cylinder, prism and pyramid Christmas decorations.

In Writing, we have been focusing on Procedures. Students made their own tangram insects and had to use explicit language to write a procedure on how they made their insect. We have also learnt the procedure for writing letters. Students are starting to use this knowledge to write a letter to Santa.

Miss Teagan Heraghty Classroom Teacher



YEAR 3/4M

This term is just flying by!

We have been so busy with our learning that we have lost track of time!

We have been learning about Procedure Writing in Writing Groups these past two weeks. Each student has written a procedure on how to make something and I can't wait to send these home to show everyone!

In Mathematics, we have been looking at 2D shapes and are starting to explore 3D shapes. We have enjoyed conducting investigations and making 3D models of shapes in groups.

In Geography we have explored Recycling and the effects of this on our environment. Over the next two weeks we are going to be creating a class artwork, using all the bottle tops that have been brought in. We can't wait to share this with you all!

We are getting ready for a busy end to the year. Everyone is very excited for swimming and all the Christmas activities to follow!

Keep up the hard work 3/4M. We are nearly there!!

Miss Lyndal Matthews Classroom Teacher







Year 5/6 with Mrs Bec Jones

WELCOME TO WEEK 9

Swimming begins this week, please bring in your swimming notes.

Last week we were fortunate to have Charles Sturt University visit our school for a Future Moves session. The students learnt about a range of different jobs and courses that they could study, and they had to research the skills that you would need to undertake each job.

Year 6 have been continuing with their Transition to high school and extra preparation lessons for high school. They are now proudly wearing their brand new shirts. Year 5 have been beginning preparations for leadership roles for 2022. The students have been completing questionnaires on what it takes to be a good leader, and they have started to plan their speeches for Primary school Captains.

In Mathematics, we have been learning about Volume and Capacity. The students constructed a range of different shapes with cubes and then they calculated the volume. They also used cubes and water to guess and measure the capacity of various containers.

In Science and Art, the students are continuing to learn about the Solar System and they have created some amazing art works.

In PDHPE, we have been learning about different types of relationships, what makes strong relationships and what can make a relationship end. The students have been working together in groups to learn different ways to communicate with each other. We have also been practising our creative movement in dance and league tag skills.

Have a great fortnight.

Mrs Bec Jones Classroom Teacher



Food Technology & Hospitality with Mrs Georgia Watt

STAGE 5 FOOD TECHNOLOGY

The students have now all successfully completed their cake decorating assessment. Jada and Tyler's cake is pictured below. Both worked hard at perfecting their designs. Stage 5 will be working on Christmas cooking for the remainder of the term. On the menu this week will be Snowballs!

STAGE 6 HOSPITALITY

On Tuesday the 23rd of November 2021, we held our very last Cafe Russell Hospitality Day. Each of the Western Access Schools travelled to Peak Hill. We had a lovely day. On our menu we had guiche and chicken caesar salad. The students received lots of compliments on their food and service.

Well done, Stage 6!

Mrs Georgia Watt Food Technology and Hospitality Teacher









STAGE 5 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

Students in Stage 5 Industrial Technology have been busy working on their Term 4 Projects.

It has been great to see students so engaged in their practical learning.

Mr Luke Watt Industrial Technology Teacher















Visual Art with Mrs Lyndal Edge

Stage 5 Visual Art students have been designing and creating some personalised plates, bowls and mugs.

Great job Stage 5!

Mrs Lyndal Edge **Visual Art Teacher**















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ACTIVATE Outdoor Recreation

ACTIVATE - OUTDOOR RECREATION

Students in the Outdoor Recreation ACTIVATE Group are continuing to develop their skills in responsible fishing and crayfishing. The students are becoming increasingly proficient at catching crayfish on a line.

Next week we are keen to spend a full day out crayfishing and fishing so that students can cook and eat the crayfish. Some of our students have never tried crayfish so it will be very exciting!

Miss Lucy Dempsey ACTIVATE Outdoor Recreation Teacher





Year 8 Technology Mandatory with Mrs Catherine Doyle

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE!

Year 8 Technology Mandatory accepted the Gingerbread house challenge last week.

Students worked in groups of two, to construct and decorate their very own Gingerbread house in 60 minutes.

Students are to be congratulated for their:

- $\sqrt{\text{communication skills}}$
- $\sqrt{\text{excellent time management}}$
- $\sqrt{\text{problem solving}}$
- $\sqrt{\text{resource use}}$
- $\sqrt{\text{finished product}}$

Fabulous work Year 8!

Mrs Catherine Doyle Technology Mandatory Teacher





















If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us on 02 6881 2899.

Website: www.verto.org.au Phone: 1300 4 VERTO

NOVEMBER	Date/s	Date/s Course	
	19/11/2021	White Card	Dubbo
20/11/2021		First Aid or CPR	Dubbo
	20/11/2021	RSA	Dubbo
	20/11/2021	Safe Food Handling & Café Skills	Dubbo
	21/11/2021	RCG	Dubbo
	29/11/2021	First Aid	Dubbo
	29/11/2021	RSA	Nyngan
	30/11/2021	RCG	Nyngan
DECEMBER			
	4/12/2021	Food Safety Supervisor	Dubbo
	4/12/2021	RSA	Dubbo
	7/12/2021	Heights	Dubbo
	9 & 10 Dec	Confined Spaces	Dubbo
	14, 15, 16 and 18 or 19 Dec	Forklift	Dubbo
	19/12/2021	RCG	Dubbo
	17/12/2021	White Card	Dubbo

School Calendar

Term 4 Calendar 2021

Term 4	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 9	29 Final Year 6 Transition Day Year 10 WAP Induction	30 Dreamstrong Excursion	1 December P & C AGM 3:30pm Primary Swimming –	2	3 Year 12 WAP Graduation at Taronga Zoo Dubbo
Week 10	6	7 Year 12 Farewell Dinner	8 Primary Swimming	9 Year 10 White Card Training	10 Attendance Lunch
Week 11	13 Presentation Day	14 Year 6 Graduation Lunch	15	16 Last Day of Term 4 for Students	17 Staff Development Day

The start of Term 1 Calendar 2022

Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 2					February 4 Staff Development Day
Week 3	7 Staff Development Day	8 STUDENTS FIRST DAY OF TERM 1	9	10	11
Week 4	14	15	16	17	18

