

# Coutts Crossing Public School

# Newsletter



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Week 5 – 17th August 2020

Dear parents and caregivers,

Today, we have received updated DoE COVID guidelines in relation to school operations, students and staff. To help mitigate the risks posed by COVID-19 to our school communities, a number of new measures have been taken in consultation with NSW Health. Please read the newsletter carefully to ensure you are aware of the changes which will be in place for the remainder of Term 3, particularly in relation to students who are unwell.

*Michelle Dalglish*

## Kindergarten Transition

We are currently organising alternative kindergarten transition plans which will align with current COVID restrictions. If you have a child ready to start kindergarten next year, please advise the school to ensure your details are included on our contact list. Likewise, if you know someone with a preschool aged child, please encourage them to contact the school as soon as possible so they can also be included in the new kindergarten transition plans.

## CSI

South Grafton High School has been running the Clarence Science Initiative (CSI Program) since 2007. The CSI Program has helped over 500 primary students from across the Clarence Valley to develop their love of science and technology. After careful consideration and consultation with stakeholders, SGHS has informed schools that the CSI Program will not be continuing after 2020. CSI lessons will continue as normal for the remainder of this year.

This Week	Coming Up
Science Week Paper Plane Challenge Thur - Waste Free Warriors Fri - Clubs Canteen open Wed & Fri	Week 7 31/8 - Royal Far West visit  Tues 8 Sept - SGHS Principal and Year Advisor visit with Year 6

## Updated COVID guidelines

Some changes directly impacting our school are listed below. For more comprehensive information regarding the latest updated guidelines please visit the DoE website. If you would like to discuss these guidelines, please contact the school.

### Safety & Hygiene:

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms, or develop symptoms throughout the day, to be sent home.

In addition to ongoing vigilance in ensuring staff and students do not attend school or work if they are unwell, from 17th August students who are absent or sent home due to flu-like symptoms should be tested for COVID-19.

Staff and students must not return to school or work until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free. Schools must sight the negative test result prior to allowing students and staff to return to school.

Visit [www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics) for information on symptoms and testing.

### School operations and related activities:

- School activities are limited to class groups whenever possible.
- Schools must not travel outside their local community/zone for inter-school activities.
- School choir is not permitted.
- School dance activities will require a risk management plan and a COVID-19 safety plan. Dance group will remain on hold until further notice.
- P&C meetings must be on-line only.
- School camps and excursions remain on hold.

## Science Week

This week we celebrate Mr Woolridge's favourite week of the year - National Science Week, Australia's annual celebration of science and technology. The 2020 schools theme is Deep Blue: Innovations for the future of our oceans.

Throughout the week students will be exploring a range of science activities in class and we will include some fun science quizzes on our school Facebook page. As current COVID restrictions prevent us from coming together as a whole school for our annual Paper Plane Challenge, this year students will be participating in the challenge in class groups during the week.



## Classroom news - K/1

Last week K/1 were very fortunate to have 2/3/4 visit our class. 2/3/4 had been very busy preparing some quality time with our students. 2/3/4 read a picture book to a K/1 child and had prepared three questions to ask K/1 based on the text. Thank you so much 2/3/4. K/1 were very impressed with your reading and loved sharing time with you and cannot wait to do it again.



## Royal Far West visit

A small team of 2-3 clinicians from Royal Far West (RFW), including Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Speech Therapists, will be visiting our community/school from Monday 31st August – Friday 4th September, providing a range of support activities as part of their Bushfire Recovery Program.

This includes the offer of:

- A small group program for students (Stormbirds) which helps with experiences of 'change & loss' – places in the group may be limited; however the learnings will be used to benefit all children. We are currently recommending students for the group, so please look out for the Consent Form & Brochure if your child has been recommended.
- Support & information to parents/carers will be offered complying with current COVID-19 guidelines – details to be confirmed. Information will focus on a range of topics such as discussing 'change & loss' (the Stormbirds program), supporting children following trauma, and parenting support. Please contact the school to express interest in participating or if you have any preference/suggestions for areas to focus on.
- Support to School staff who play an important role in helping students and the broader school community with recovery.

The Clinicians from RFW will be following all the COVID-19 policies, procedures and advice from Health and Education during their visit. We are looking forward to having the RFW team join us.



## Clubs

Last Friday was the first week of our Clubs program. Photos this week include our cooking and Clips groups.



## Food safety concerns

Staff have noticed some students are bringing canned goods for recess or lunch. Although some of these items are a healthy choice, we do ask parents and carers to send canned goods in re-usable plastic containers, rather than cans. The lids of cans have an extremely sharp, exposed edge which presents a risk to students. Thank you for your support in keeping our students safe at school.

**Canteen volunteers** - Please let the school know if you are unable to attend your day, with as much notice as possible, so a replacement can be arranged. Thank you!

## Canteen Roster

Wednesday	Friday
19/8 Ashleigh & Jenny	21/8 Sue & Georgina
26/8 Megan & Jenny	28/8 Ryanda & Kirsty
2/9 Shelley & Fran	4/9 Sue & Georgina
9/9 Ashleigh & Krystal	11/9 Ryanda & Kirsty
16/9 Karen & Jenny	18/9 Sue & Georgina
23/9 Megan & Sonia	25/9 Ryanda & Kirsty