

# DRUMMOYNE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Tuesday 18th June 2024

## Principal's Report: P&C Meeting June 2024

### Teaching and Learning

#### - Changes to Staffing & Programs in Semester 2

As a result of a small reduction in our school budget, we have had to reconsider initiatives where executive staff have been spending additional time off class and where flexible funding has been used to fund temporary teachers. The changes are intended to address teacher shortages, ensuring all schools have access to the teachers they need. Please be aware of the following changes to staff structures and programs which will take effect in Term 3 (changes in **bold**).

### Early Stage 1

**KW** Gaby Walsh (Mon - Wed) & **Ms Leigh Russ (Thu & Fri)**

### Stage 1

**1/2P** Poppy Adams (Mon - Thurs) & **Tamara Mapstone (Fri)**

**1/2K** Yeji Kim (Tues - Fri) & **Belinda Richmond (Mon)**

**1/2M** Koula Mavrakis (Mon / Tue / Thu / Fri) & **Chris Skontos (Wed)**

### Stage 2

**3/4S** Suzy Sole (Mon - Thurs) & **Michelle O'Dowd (Fri)**

Transition planning is already in place to support our students transition to these job-share arrangements. The teachers transitioning onto class are all experienced, permanent members of staff who are well-known to the school community. Further detail regarding these arrangements will be communicated to relevant classes in the coming weeks.

### Executive Teaching Time

Our school will be implementing the following changes to meet the minimum requirements from the Executive Teaching Time Review interim report. Our executive staff will all have a minimum teaching load of three-days p/wk for Assistant Principals and one-day p/wk for Deputy Principals.

#### **Ms Leigh Russ**

KW: Thu & Fri

Learning and Support Teacher (two-days p/wk)

#### **Michelle O'Dowd**

3/4S: Friday

EAL/D Teacher (two-days p/wk)

#### **Dianne Colb (DP)**

Learning and Support Teacher (one-day p/wk)

## Community Languages Program (Greek & Italian)

Currently, our students engage in either Greek or Italian classes one-hour per/week with each class being split for this time. This organisation will continue for Year 5/6 next semester. For K-4, the following changes will be made from Term 3:

- **All students will access both Greek and Italian lessons in Semester 2 in whole-class groups.**
- **In Term 3, K & Year 3/4 will take part in Italian lessons one-hour p/wk & Year 1/2 will take part in Greek lessons one-hour p/wk.**
- **Classes will swap languages in Term 4.**
- **Background speakers (Greek / Italian) will receive an extra hour of lessons every week in grade or stage groups.**
- **Year 5/6 will follow this organisation from 2025.**

## Curriculum Reform Release Time

Our school will be providing teachers with 5 hours of curriculum release time each term to enable teachers to focus on curriculum reform and help them to effectively implement new syllabuses.

**Teachers will be given one-hour off class on a fortnightly basis.** During this time, students will be taught by Mr James Anthony (K-2) and Mr Ewan Sutton (3-6).

## School Administration and Support Staff

**Kirsty Carter**, one of our current full-time school administration officers, will become **part-time at Drummoyne PS from Term 4 (three-days p/wk).**

Our priority when planning these changes has been to ensure continuous support for all our students and their learning. As always, we are committed to helping your children adapt to these changes in a positive and resilient way.

### - Semester 1 Reports & Parent/Teacher Interviews

Student reports will be sent out to parents on Friday of Week 9 of this term. Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held in the following week with online bookings for these interviews open from this Friday, 21/6 to Friday 28/6.

### - NAPLAN

Printed NAPLAN 2024 individual student reports (ISR) and additional student reports (ASR) will be dispatched to schools at the start of Term 3 for schools to distribute to parents/carers. The school notify parents on the day that these are sent home with students.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### - Reconciliation Week

Reconciliation Week was a profound and enriching week for our students as we celebrated Aboriginal culture and our country's Indigenous history. Our commemorations culminated with a memorable incursion with Aunty Theresa, a Wangal woman whose visit provided our students with a deep understanding of Aboriginal culture and history through storytelling, traditional songs, and

interactive activities. At Drummoyne PS we are committed to continuing the journey of reconciliation within our school community and plans are in place to partner with Aunty Theresa to create an Indigenous Bush Tucker garden - watch this space!

#### - **Zone & Regional Cross Country**

I was pleased to be able to sneak out of school to cheer on our athletes at the Inner West PSSA Zone Cross Country Carnival. Watching our students run with determination and enthusiasm was very inspiring and the spirit of camaraderie, as fellow students cheered on their teammates, was fantastic to see. Seven of our students progressed through to the Regional Carnival where Isaac in Year 6 came in 5th and made the state team. His sister, Maeve, in Year 5, came in 7th and is a reserve for the team.

#### - **Dental Checks**

We have had an overwhelming response to the free dental checks with over 150 students signed up. To cater for these students, the dental van will return on Thursday and possibly another visit on a date TBC.

#### - **Education Week Celebrations (5th August - 9th August)**

We have many exciting activities planned for Education Week,

- Monday: Whole-school assembly with band performances followed by open classrooms.
- Tuesday - Thursday: Indigenous Mural Painting with Scott Rathmann
- Thursday: Whole-school art trail and Mural 'unveiling' (with P&C BBQ???)

#### **Uniform Guidelines**

I brought the P&C's feedback regarding uniform standards at last month's meeting to the exec. and we agreed that it would be good to provide clearer guidelines to the community. With that in mind, we've drafted the document linked below which I would like to share with the P&C for feedback and support/approval. [📄 School Uniform Guidelines DPS 2024.docx.pdf](#)

#### **Thank yous**

I have been excited to see organisation for our Spring Fete begin to gather steam. A big thank you to everyone involved for their efforts so far. I am looking forward to doing what I can to support your efforts and seeing everything come together.

Regards,

**John Nguyen**

Principal