

DRUMMOYNE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Tuesday 21st May 2024

Principal's Report: P&C Meeting May 2024

Teaching and Learning

- **New PBL Rewards System**

This term, we launched a new whole-school rewards system to promote our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) values of respect, responsibility and resilience. Students are now able to earn PBL tokens (plastic coins) for behaviour reflective of our school values. These tokens will go towards earning an end-of-term reward (muffin day) for their House and will be collected and counted weekly by our Year 6 House Captains. Our House Captains will also update a running point score on the noticeboard at the front of the school (Rawson Avenue). To promote this initiative, you may have also noticed some new PBL signage around the school.

- **Data-informed Practice**

As I have previously outlined to the P&C, as part of the school's Strategic Improvement Plan, we are working to maximise student outcomes in literacy and numeracy through improving collaboration between teachers and by continuing to improve and refine our data collection practices. By implementing whole-school processes for collecting and analysing student performance data, teachers are better able to meet the diverse needs of all the students in their class. This approach also allows us to identify strengths and areas for improvement on a stage and whole-school level, ensuring that every child receives the support they need to achieve success. These data-driven insights will also foster more consistent teacher judgment across classes and more meaningful and evidence-informed student reports.

- **Semester 1 Reports**

On this note, following the distribution of student reports in Week 9 of this term, we will be looking to gather some data in regards to our current practices when reporting to parents through a parent survey at the beginning of Term 3. This information will help to inform planned changes to our report format for Semester 2.

- **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

We made some changes to the format of our parent/teacher interviews in Term 1 which were well received by teachers and parents alike. This term, we will be offering parents the opportunity to come in for a second parent/teacher interview in Week 10 following the distribution of Semester 1 reports in Week 9. The interviews will follow the same format as the Term 1 sessions and will give parents the opportunity to discuss their child/ren's report/s with their class teacher/s.

- **Aboriginal Education: Welcome to Country & the Aboriginal Culture & Heritage Professional Learning**

As a school community, we are committed to improving our understanding of Aboriginal histories and culture. Earlier this term Hayley Brown-McNeill (Aboriginal Education Strategic Officer) led staff in an evening professional learning session on cross-curriculum priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures. This session was organised in order to continue to improve teacher capacity to deliver meaningful, contextually specific learning when focusing on Aboriginal perspectives.

As I have reported previously, last term, Karen Armstrong (DoE Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer) led a workshop with student leaders to draft a personalised Acknowledgement of Country for Drummoyne Public School. Karen shared her deep knowledge of Country and culture with our students, taking them on a journey which led to collaboration of ideas across year groups, emphasising the importance of connection to Country. Since then, we have run a workshop with school staff to gather their input and make small changes based on teacher feedback and I would like to extend the same opportunity to the P&C tonight.

Warimi, Wellambami,

*The community of Drummoyne Public School show courtesy to and honour the Traditional custodians,
the Wangal clans of the Eora nation.*

*We RESPECT and learn from Elders of the past as they have cared for Country for thousands of years,
holding their traditions and memories on the land that we gather on today.*

*We are RESPONSIBLE for our learning and for building spiritual connections to land, sky, animals and
waterways.*

We show RESILIENCE in the way we try our best as we build the skills to be life-long learners.

We are connecting to Country.

*We wear our blue uniforms with pride as it connects us to BADU surrounding our school in the bay
and river.*

We enjoy the shade that DARAMU provides us under the glow of GUWING.

The red vibrance of the WARADA ignites our spirit as we work and play.

Dijurigurra

Extra-Curricular Activities

- **Reconciliation Week**

We have some very exciting activities planned for our students during Reconciliation Week (27th May - 3rd June). Parents and carers have been invited to a special whole-school assembly on Tuesday 28/5 where will be officially presented our new Acknowledgement of Country to our school community. Later in the week, we will also be welcoming Aunty Theresa to the school to run some Reconciliation Week activities with our students based on this year's theme, ' "Now More Than Ever" '.

- **Cross Country Carnival**

I was happy to be able to make it down to Brett Park with our Yr 2-6 students last week to cheer on our runners. I was very impressed with our students' behaviour, athletic effort and enthusiastic support of their peers. Our Zone representatives will be attending the Zone Carnival on Wednesday 29th May at Campbell Park in Abbotsford.

- **Representative Sport**

Over the last few weeks, we have also been sending Stage 3 students to trial for zone and regional teams across a number of sports such as touch football, AFL and soccer. Today, we also had two teams of students attend a netball gala day. At the event, three of our Stage 3 boys were offered the opportunity to trial for the boys representative netball team.

- **After-School Activities**

One of the selection criteria that I had to address when applying for the Principal role at Drummoyne was, "demonstrated understanding of the central role that a strong public school plays at the heart of an engaged and involved community." From the very beginning of my time at Drummoyne PS, I have been keen to promote parent and wider-community engagement in all aspects of school life as I am very aware that a public school not only serves as an educational institution but should also be a cornerstone for community development and cohesion. I would like to see the school as a hub where students, parents, educators, and community members converge contributing to the overall well-being and vitality of the community it serves. With that in mind, the school has begun to organise a new range of enriching after-school activities to complement the extra-curricular activities already on offer for our students. So far, we have been able to add a K-2 coding program and an art program with tennis coaching to start next week and soccer clinics to start in Term 3.

Thank yous

It was great to see our parent volunteers out in force for our Mother's Day Stall to help our students and families celebrate Mothers Day. Thank you to the P&C for organising this celebration of our Drummoyne mums. A special shout out to Ting Wang who put up her hand up at our last P&C meeting to coordinate this event. Without parents like Ting volunteering, we would not be able to provide these sorts of enriching, community-building events and activities for our students. Thank you, Ting,

Regards,

John Nguyen

Principal