



Calendar

November

Friday 13 November	Kinder Orientation Combined Assembly <i>KH and K/1</i>
Friday 20 November	Year 6 excursion <i>Tamworth Laser Tag</i>
Saturday 21 November	Bunnings BBQ <i>P&C Fundraiser - volunteers welcome</i>
Monday 30 November	School Captain speeches and voting
30 Nov-2 December	Life Education Van visit

December

Friday 4 December	Presentation Day
Thursday 10 December	Year 6 Farewell
Wednesday 16 Dec	Term 4 ends
17/18 December	School Development Day
Friday 25 December	Christmas Day
Monday 28 December	Additional day holiday

2021

January

27/28 January	Staff Development Days
Friday 29 January	Term 1 commences <i>for students in Years 1-6</i>

February

Monday 1 February	Term 1 commences <i>for Kindergarten students</i>
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Coming to visit?

It's great to see restrictions starting to relax and some parents being able to come on site.

However, to comply with COVID regulations it is vital that anyone visiting the school comes through the office to register that they are in the school.

This is an important compliance requirement to ensure that we keep track of who has been in the school and the times they were present.



Always Was Always Will Be

'Always Was, Always Will Be' was the theme for this year's NAIDOC Week and

our school has celebrated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and people with a range of activities occurring throughout the week.

Last Friday, all students enjoyed participating in traditional Aboriginal games through a tabloid sport afternoon. The games were run by primary students who identify as Aboriginal, and they were supported by members of the school's SRC. Students learnt about the traditional games at each station and some of the activities included Woomera, Wana, Gorri and Kai Wed.



On Monday morning, we held our Aboriginal flag raising ceremony and winners were announced for the NAIDOC Week poster colouring-in competition. Mr Jackson and Mrs Kemp had a tough time selecting winners as there were so many entries! You can view a selection of student entries displayed along our school's front fence.

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Digital devices shape our lives

Christopher Jackson, Principal

Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft Corporation, once said “Digital technology has several features that can make it much easier for teachers to pay special attention to all their students” and it’s true as digital devices are an important part of everyday life, shaping the way children and young people learn, communicate, work and play.

Learning environments, at school and at home, should support students to develop technological, social and emotional competencies. This support should maximise the benefits and minimise the risks of digital environments, and prepare students for life beyond school.

This week at the School Council meeting we discussed the school’s digital devices policy and ratified the changes made.

With the recent learning-from-home period we felt it prudent to look at the policy and see if there needs to be any alterations from our experiences last term.

Student use of digital devices in schools is intended to enhance learning, wellbeing and educational attainment. Digital devices and online services can help students develop the skills needed for digital literacy, creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, interpersonal relationships and collaboration.

Digital devices and online services may cause harm if used inappropriately, such as to bully or intimidate others or gain access to and share inappropriate content.

The Department does what it reasonably can to provide safe and secure access to school resources, equipment and infrastructure, including internet connectivity, for students at school.

Digital devices are used in class by our students when necessary for educational purposes. They are also used when reasonable adjustments are made for students’ learning and wellbeing, or where an exemption has been granted for other reasons.

Margaret Atwood

“People use technology only to mean digital technology. Technology is actually everything we make.”

Personal devices such as mobile phones are to be handed in to the office. Students can collect

their devices from the office at the end of each day. The school takes no responsibility for the loss of any electronic equipment.

All approved laptops and iPads brought in for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) classes continue to be the responsibility of the students as outlined in the BYOD Student Agreement.

Presentation Day

From today, schools are permitted to host presentation days with parents in attendance.

While this is very exciting, there are some restrictions that still curtail us from hosting our regular annual Presentation Day.

For seating arrangements, we have to ensure there is enough for distancing of 1.5 metres between non-household members and, given the size of our hall, we cannot open the event up to everyone. Therefore, with much deliberation and consultation with staff and our School Council, I have decided to allow Year 6 parents the opportunity to attend given the fact that many of the families will be leaving Nemingha Public School this year.

The event will be livestreamed on Facebook, which will give everyone the opportunity to be involved. At present we are looking at a limited guest list with only P&C and School Council representatives and Life Members presenting awards.

There will be no speeches delivered on the day, but they will be printed in the Annual Report as they have been in the past.

Live streaming our events on Facebook has been a

wonderful opportunity for families to remain connected with school throughout this difficult year. I look forward to a return to more normal routines in 2021.

What's cooking in the canteen



Reminder

The cut-off time to place an online recess or lunch order via QuickCliq is 9am each canteen day. QuickCliq will not allow you to place an order after this time.

To avoid the morning rush orders can be submitted the night before or even weeks in advance.

Renae Mumford

Canteen and Clothing Pool Manager

Phone 0417 029 377



Last Thursday six students participated in the Australian Speech and Communication Examinations for 2020.



This year, due to COVID-19, it was held using Zoom.

Mrs Jillian Burgess was this year's examiner. Mrs Burgess has extensive experience teaching children speech and drama and is the Head of Debating and Public Speaking at Ravenswood School in Gordon, Sydney.

Mrs Burgess was impressed with the children's oral communication skills and their ability to adjust to

the Zoom scenario so easily. She did finish the session saying that she can't wait to visit again to see those wonderful faces with their parents watching in the background.

"I can see that Speech Communication is alive and well in the Quirindi/Tamworth region," she said.

Edward Blyton completed his Junior 4 grade which included reading a poem from a selection of eight poems he collected throughout the year. His project explained the history of Minecraft, which Mrs Burgess said was very informative.

Caitlin Beale, new to the ASCA experience, was next. Her personal project about the "Trip that never was" retold the Beale's planned family holiday to Fiji that unfortunately didn't happen due to COVID-19.

Pia Flemming presented a wonderful personal project about koalas, complete with gum leaves and toy koalas to cuddle. Mrs Burgess was amazed at her knowledge about the topic when she asked her some questions about protecting our koala habitats.

Hannah Coxhead was very engaging throughout her entire presentation, reading the poem "*Sausage Dog*" in a very expressive way. She also delivered a very funny project about her family's proposed trip away that didn't happen.

Maeve Graham brought along her two guinea pigs for her personal project. She was able to explain very easily what she needs to do each day to care for them and what mischief they get up to.

Her older sister Isabelle entertained everyone in the audience with a tap dance demonstration. Isabelle explained how long she has been tap dancing and explained in detail how her tap shoes work.



Results will be posted this week and all participants will be presented with their certificates and medallions early next year. If your child is interested in being involved next year please see Mr Jackson.



Have Your Say on child-care arrangements

The NSW Government wants to offer families more flexibility with their work commitments and child-care arrangements and to create more opportunities across the whole community. Having Out of School Hours Care available at local schools is a great way to achieve this.

As part of the NSW Government's \$120 million Before and After School Care (BASC) commitment, parents at all NSW schools were recently invited to complete a **Have Your Say** survey.

The survey asked parents to tell us how they are using Out of School Hours Care, how much it costs them, whether they plan to keep using it, and what difficulties they experience in accessing it. The survey results have helped us to better understand the needs of families and what's important to them.

We are now asking all parents to complete a quick follow-up survey by Friday 27 November 2020. You can access the survey at <https://surveys.education.nsw.gov.au/s3/OSHCParentSurvey>. This information will help us to target the rollout of more before Out of School Hours Care services in the right areas.

If your child does not require Out of School Hours care, we ask that you please still complete the first section of this survey as it gives us important information about the level of demand at your school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nemingha Public School or the BASC Program team by phone on 1300 244 145 or email at: BASCReform@det.nsw.edu.au.



The following notes have been sent home this week:

Selected students

Rugby league/league tag gala day.

Years 5 and 6, and Year 6 parents

Year 6 farewell invitations.

Remembrance Day

Yesterday our school gathered in the quadrangle to remember the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.



Our school captains, Mia, Lewis, Joey and Henry, each read out a passage explaining what Remembrance Day is all about and the significance of the red poppy. A wreath of rosemary and roses was laid at the foot of the flag pole and after a minute's silence the flag was raised to the top.



It is important that on Remembrance Day we acknowledge the courage and sacrifice of those who served their country and acknowledge our responsibility to work for the peace they fought hard to achieve.

NAIDOC WEEK ... from Page 1



In library lessons this week, Mrs Jones has been sharing Dreamtime stories and teaching about the importance of story telling and in the playground students have had fun decorating a *gargantuan* serpent by using chalk to add traditional Aboriginal symbols.

Classes have also done many more activities - too many to list! Some of these include:

- ★ KH listening to Mason play his didgeridoo
- ★ Year 1 completing bark painting with 5/6R students
- ★ Year 3 writing Aboriginal themed stories and planting edible Indigenous plants in kitchen/ garden
- ★ Year 3/4 creating Aboriginal flag collages



Year 4/5, 5/6R and 5/6W students students playing NRL Indigenous activities Pulyugee and Buroinjin (a traditional game played with a ball made from kangaroo skin and stuffed with grass)



It's been wonderful to see so many students connecting and celebrating Aboriginal culture.

Vanessa Miller