

**BANKS PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**EARLY STAGE 1  
PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET**

**2020**



## Parent Information

Dear Early Stage 1 Parents/Carers,

We welcome you and your child to Kindergarten at Banks PS in 2020 and hope it will be a happy and successful time.

### The 2019 Early Stage 1 classes are:

Bambi K	Mrs R Burns & Mrs M Hornby
Nemo K	Miss K Nethercote
Sulley K	Miss S Struthers

Miss K Nethercote - Assistant Principal and Early Stage 1 Supervisor

### Our Vision:

At Banks Public School we work together to nurture and inspire all our students to be resilient, creative and independent learners who are known and valued. Students are motivated and engaged critical thinkers and problem-solvers with the knowledge, understanding, skills and values for future success in life.

### Support Staff:

During the week your child may also be taught by other staff at the school.

- Mrs Lalor and Miss Nethercote are Instructional Leaders in the areas of Numeracy and Literacy. Mrs Lalor and Mrs Nethercote will be working in classrooms alongside teachers to improve the numeracy and literacy skills of our students.
- Mrs Loupos is the EAL/D (English as an Additional Language/Dialect) teacher. The role of the EAL/D teacher is to provide English lessons to students whose first language is not English. She may teach students in small group situations and assist class teachers who teach Non-English Speaking Background students in their classrooms.
- Mrs Kew is the Teacher Librarian. Students will complete reading and writing tasks designed to develop their reading, vocabulary and writing skills. In addition, students will have time for independent reading and borrowing. All students require a library bag to borrow books from the library.
- Mrs Clifford is the LaST (Learning and Support Teacher) who provides direct specialist assistance for students who require additional learning and support needs. Miss Wynn, Mrs Dunn, Mrs Haamid, Mr Shannon and Mrs Sherry assist Mrs Clifford to deliver specialised programs and support students in their classrooms.
- Mrs D Hodson, Mrs M Hornby, Mr N Bransdon and Mrs N Schumann will deliver

### Contact information

#### Facebook:

Banks PS

#### School Website:

www.banks-  
p.schoolwebsites.com.au/

#### Library website:

www.banksialibraryweebly.com

#### School App:

banksps.schoolzineplus.com/szapp

intervention programs and take relief from face-to-face teaching across our Kindergarten classes.

- Mr N Christensen is the PE teacher. He will work with each class once a week to deliver the PE program.

### **Assemblies:**

Our regular whole-school morning assemblies will continue on Monday and Friday mornings only.

- Monday: National Anthem, weekly messages, Student of the Month Award, School Song
- Friday: Messages, Library raffle, Level Awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond).

Whole-school assemblies are scheduled fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, where one class performs an item. Parents are welcome to attend our whole-school assemblies. Classroom teachers will advise parents when their child will be performing.

### **Daily Routine:**

The playground areas include;

- The K-2 students have a separate hardcourt and grassed playground area from the 3-6 students where they can play if they have their school hat. All students can play in the Passive Area under the COLA and the Library is open for students to use during play time most mornings and at Lunch 2. On Friday, we have 'Free Choice Friday' where all students can choose if they would like to play in the park or on the oval.

### **Canteen:**

- Students can order food for both breaks, but ***hot food is only available to be ordered for Lunch 1.*** Lunch orders need to be at the canteen ***before 9am*** to ensure that they are ready for Lunch 1. ***No hot food can be ordered after 9am.***

### **Procedures:**

At all times please be assured that the teachers have the welfare of your child and the other children at this school at heart and will act accordingly to honour this.

### **Attendance:**

All children are expected to be at school by 8:55 in the morning but not before 8:30am. Attendance is compulsory and any child that is absent must provide a note to explain their absence within two school days following their return to school. Rolls are legal documents and are regularly checked by the Home School Liaison Officer who will follow up on unexplained absences. If your child will be absent for an extended period, please see the office. Children may not leave early without a note from the front office, and children who arrive late need to go to the office with a satisfactory explanation to obtain a late note. Carnivals and excursions are normal school activities and children are required to attend these days.

### **Uniform:**

The wearing of a school uniform promotes a sense of belonging to the class and school. Occasionally, your child may need to wear non-uniform clothing. Please send a short note to the class teacher if this is the case. The Sport uniform should be worn only on Fridays. The new polo shirt will be available from Term 1, Week 3.

### **Interviews:**

A formal interview session with your child's teacher is planned for late Term 1. However, if at any time you are concerned and would like an interview with your child's teacher, please contact the office to arrange and confirm a mutually convenient time. It is also advisable to let them know the nature of your concerns, as additional information may possibly be obtained prior to the interview, and your questions may be more informatively answered. Teachers cannot hold interviews while at lines or when moving to class, as this directs their attention away from their supervision duties.

### **Stationery Requirements:**

Please see the 'Student Equipment List 2020' for all your stationery requirements. This can be found on Facebook or on the school app. Please note that pens and textas are not required until primary years.

### **Behaviour Expectations:**

All teachers in Early Stage 1 have high expectations of the children in their class, and expect that the children will increasingly accept responsibility for their own behaviour.

Students are to follow our three school expectations:

1. **I am Safe**
2. **I am Respectful**
3. **I am a Learner**

Our School Levels System will continue to operate throughout 2020. By following class and school expectations students are able to attain rewards as the year progresses. The children work their way up through Bronze, Silver and Gold towards Diamond Level by attaining Bilby Awards and Banksias for positive behaviour. Diamond Awards will be presented to students who display exemplary work habits and behaviour. Our award system has become a **continuous process**. Once a student has achieved their Diamond Award, they will continue the process and begin working towards achieving their next Bronze, Silver, Gold and Diamond Awards.

Parents are notified should a child's behaviour be of concern and hopefully we can work together to resolve the issue. We encourage the children to be honest and open with their parents, as we are trying to support the children to become responsible for their own actions.

### **Excursion:**

Parents will receive ample notice of upcoming excursions. Our Early Stage 1 excursion will take place in Term 3 this year to Calmsley Hill City Farm. We try to minimise the cost of excursions, but they are a great source of information and enjoyment to the children who

learn better by first-hand experience. We will also have a number of in-school incursions and/or video conferences. Please be aware that, if your child's behaviour is of concern, he/she may not participate in activities, including excursions and carnivals, outside of the school grounds.

### **Homework:**

Homework for Early Stage 1 is designed to encourage a love of learning and for students to practise what has been learnt at school. During Semester 1, homework sheets allow students to consolidate our sounds and are a first step towards independent writing. Each sound needs to be practised every night along with the action. Homework should be brought to school each day for the new sound. Please help your child reinforce this skill and if your child cannot finish the homework for any reason, feel free to leave it and try again later. Some children may only be able to practise the sound and the action while others are capable of completing this as well as the worksheet provided. Other learning tasks will be included later this term.

### **WHAT DO WE TEACH IN EARLY STAGE 1?**

At Banks Public School we attempt to increase the number of students benefiting from staff expertise by pairing teachers with differing strengths on grades and providing open learning opportunities. This setup will look different on each grade, but will involve the interconnecting doors between classrooms being open on occasion to allow for the implementation and observation of quality teaching practices by staff. Students will participate in small group explicit teaching sessions and learn to work efficiently and effectively as part of a small group or independently.

### **English:**

#### **Reading, Speaking and Listening and Writing**

- Daily Modelled, Guided and/or Independent Reading and Writing
- In-depth discussions of quality literature texts to develop vocabulary and comprehension
- Small group explicit teaching of differentiated content
- Spelling
- Jolly Phonics

### **Mathematics:**

#### **Number and Algebra**

- Whole numbers
- Addition and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions and Decimals
- Patterns and Algebra

#### **Measurement and Geometry**

- Length
- Area
- Volume and Capacity
- Mass
- Time

- Three-Dimensional Space
- Two-Dimensional Space
- Position

#### **Statistics and Probability**

- Data
- Chance

#### **HSIE (Human Society and Its Environment):**

The NSW Syllabuses in History and Geography are implemented at a Stage level. As far as possible we will integrate our reading, writing and creative arts activities (*visual arts, music, drama and dance*) with these syllabus topics.

##### **History** (Semester 1)

- All About Me

##### **Geography** (Semester 2)

- Caring for Special Places

#### **Science and Technology:**

The NSW Science syllabus will be covered in the following units which may also be integrated into other areas of our learning, such as English and creative arts.

#### **Units of work include:**

Term 1: On The Move

Term 2: What's It Made Of?

Term 3: Weather In My World

Term 4: Staying Alive

#### **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education: (PDHPE)**

We are required to provide students with regular sessions of sport and fitness across each week in accordance with Department of Education policy. Early Stage 1 students participate in one hour of physical education each week with Mr Christensen and one hour developing gross motor skills each Friday afternoon.

Students require a hat, a drink and appropriate footwear when participating in Sport and PE activities.

In addition to the Sport and Fitness programs Early Stage 1 students participate in **health and personal development** lessons each week. During Term 1, we will be implementing the **Bounce Back** program which aims to foster resilience, tolerance and confidence. We will cover topics such as positive relationships, anti-bullying, child protection and safety. Students K-6 will also participate in the **Peer Support** program in Term 3.

The K-2 Sports Carnival will be held during Term 3.

Early Stage 1 students may have the opportunity to participate in the Kindergarten-Year 2 Dance group in 2020.

**Technology:**

This year Early Stage 1 will have regular access to desktop computers and I pads. Students will be challenged to create, problem solve and research using the technology as a learning tool. Consequences will follow if a student demonstrates inappropriate online behaviour or is unsafe with the device. All students and parents are required to sign and return a School Technology Agreement acknowledging their commitment to safe, respectful behaviour when using computers. This will be sent home shortly.

**Parents in every K-2 Classroom Every Day:**

This year we look forward to parents volunteering to help in every K-2 classroom. We would love to see parents helping classroom teachers every morning!

*This information is by no means exhaustive. Please refer regularly to the school newsletter, school website and Facebook page for up-to-date information.*

If you have any questions during the year please see your child's teacher.

We are in this journey together and look forward to your continued support during 2020.

**Mrs Burns   Mrs Hornby   Miss Struthers   Miss Nethercote**  
*Early Stage 1 Teachers*

**Miss Nethercote**  
*Stage Supervisor*