

**BANKS PUBLIC SCHOOL**

*Stage 2*

*Parent Information*

*Booklet*

**2020**



Dear Stage 2 Parents/Carers,

We would like to welcome all families who are returning to Banks PS and those who are new to our school. We are looking forward to a successful 2020.

### **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.

### **2020 Stage 2 Classes:**

*Geronimo 3     Mr. James Graham*

*Rowan 3         Miss Kate Renshall*

*Charlotte 4     Mrs. Amanda Casis*

*Gruffalo 4      Mr. Daniel Gough*

*Assistant Principal     Mrs. Amanda Casis*

### **Support Staff**

During the week your child may be taught by the following teachers in addition to their classroom teacher:

- Mrs Kew is the Teacher Librarian. Students will complete reading and writing tasks designed to develop their reading, vocabulary and writing skills in their library lessons. In addition, students will have time for independent reading and borrowing. All students require a library bag to borrow books from the library.
- Mrs Schumann, Mrs Loupos and Mr Bransdon will take classes for relief from face-to-face teaching for Stage 2 teachers.
- Mr Christenson is the Physical Education Teacher. He will be taking each class once a week for a P.E. lesson.
- Mrs Clifford is the LaST (Learning and Support Teacher) who may work with students with additional learning and support needs. Mrs. Dunn, Mrs Haamid, Mrs Sherry, Miss Wynn and Mr Shannon assist Mrs Clifford to deliver specialised programs and support students in their classrooms.
- 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.

## **Behaviour Expectations**

Banks PS is a PBL school, Positive Behaviour for Learning. Students at Banks PS are expected to be ***Safe, Respectful Learners in the classroom, playground and when representing Banks outside of the school.*** Positive behaviour is recognised and celebrated through individual class reward systems, school awards (Bilby, Banksia and level awards), a Principal morning tea (Diamond Award) and a rewards day at the end of each term. We also teach children that they are responsible for their own behaviour and that there are consequences for unsafe or inappropriate behaviour at school. This can include a behaviour notification or lunch reflection time. Class teachers will contact parents if there are concerns with behaviour which need to be discussed. If parents have a concern, please follow the process for arranging an interview with either your child's classroom teacher or Mrs Casis.

## **Attendance**

All students at Banks PS are expected to be punctual. School attendance is compulsory by law and any child who is absent must produce a note from their parent/caregiver upon returning to school. Failure to supply a note will result in a letter being sent home from school asking for an explanation. Children may not leave early unless parents/caregivers obtain a note from the front office and children who arrive late also need to go to the office with a satisfactory explanation. ***Research has shown that high absences, arriving at school late and leaving early has a significant impact on your child's learning.***

## **Uniform**

All students are expected to dress in the correct uniform and appropriate footwear. Our policy is "no school hat, play in the shade". All children are expected to wear a **school hat** while outside. Once the weather starts to cool down, students must wear the correct red jumpers. We understand that, at times there may be a reason as to why your child cannot wear the correct uniform and a note sent in explaining this reason would be appreciated by the teacher. School and sports uniforms can be purchased from the uniform shop. From this year we are transitioning into a newly-designed school uniform. There is a transition period where students may wear either shirt.

## **Assemblies**

Whole school morning assemblies will continue on **Monday and Friday mornings.**

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

A whole school assembly is held on Thursday afternoons from 2pm, every fortnight. Families are welcome to attend when their child's class performs.

Additional assemblies are held throughout the year for various presentations and awards. Parents will be advised of the date and times via school notices on the app, in the online newsletter and on Facebook. In instances such as the Induction assembly and Presentation Days, parents will be notified by letter.

## **Homework**

The purpose of homework is to revise learning that is happening in class, share learning with families and to develop strong study habits for our students. The development of these habits is the shared responsibility of a child's education between home and school. A homework sheet will be given out every Monday and is due back at school on a Friday. If your child cannot complete homework please supply him/her with a note. If your child has any difficulty with homework, please make sure they approach their teacher early in the week for further explanation. You are not assisting your child if you do the homework for them, however by looking over it with them it shows that you are invested in their education. Homework club runs every Monday afternoon if your child requires further assistance.

**Home Readers** will also be handed out every Monday and will be due back on a Friday. This reader is a book that can be easily read by your child. The purpose of giving a home reader is for students to practice their reading and comprehension skills. A good way to help with your child's comprehension skills is to talk about the book they are reading with them. Students are also encouraged to read library books and texts from home for enjoyment.

## **Equipment**

Please refer to the equipment list that was published online earlier this year. It is essential that your child comes organised as it will assist them in their daily routine. Please ensure that your child's name is on their belongings so that, if lost, they can be returned to their rightful owner. These items may require replacement during the year. Students have been provided with the exercise books required to complete their lessons. Parents are required to supply a homework book.

## **Technology**

A class-set of laptops is available to each grade. While these laptops are the property of the school, it is the responsibility of the student to use the device safely and respectfully. The laptop is provided for students as a learning tool. Students must demonstrate appropriate and safe online behaviour with the device. All students will discuss safe, respectful behaviours when using technology and acknowledge their commitment by signing a class agreement.

Students will be using Google Classroom as a platform for learning this year. This is an app that allows teachers to set work and share resources with all students. It allows students to collaborate on projects and share their learning with their teachers and peers. It is also possible for students to use this platform at home as long as they can access the internet. Being a safe, respectful learner using technology applies when accessing this resource at home.

## **Canteen**

Currently closed. More information will be provided when available. Please send your child to school with lunch, snacks and a drink as there are no facilities available.

## **Excursions**

Term 2 – Year 3 Day Camp

Term 2 – Year 4 Overnight Camp

Term 3 – Year 4 CARES (Road and Bicycle Safety Course)

In addition, there will be two incursions during the year. Information will be sent out closer to these events. All incursions and excursions will incur a cost.

Our incursions and excursions relate to a Key Learning Area and offer an excellent learning experience for the participants. Please note that invitations to these events, along with any carnivals we may have out of the school grounds, depend on the child's ability to follow our school expectations of being a ***Safe, Respectful Learner***.

## **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 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.

## **Key Learning Areas**

### **ENGLISH**

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

- Daily Modelled, Guided and Independent Reading and Writing lessons targeted at individual student needs.
- Opportunities for students to learn and practice effective speaking and listening skills in a variety of experiences.
- Jolly Grammar - phonics, grammar and spelling program.

### **MATHEMATICS**

<b>Number and Algebra</b>	<b>Measurement and Geometry</b>	<b>Statistics and Probability</b>
Whole number Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division Fractions and Decimals Patterns and Algebra	Length Area Volume and Capacity Mass Time Three-Dimensional Space Two-Dimensional Space Position	Data Chance

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

The NSW Syllabus in History and Geography are implemented at a Stage level so both Year 3 and Year 4 study the same topic at the same time on a two-year cycle.

**History** (Semester 1) - First Contacts

**Geography** (Semester 2) - The Earth's Environment

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The NSW Science syllabus is also implemented at a Stage level with Years 3 and 4 both studying the same topics on a two-year cycle.

*Units of work include:*

Term 1 - Heating and Cooling

Term 2 - Light, Heat and Electrical Energy

Term 3 - Producing Food and Fibre for Living Things

Term 4 - How the Earth's Surface Changes Over Time

Throughout the year students will also engage with a variety of technology lessons as well as Robotics and coding.

## **CREATIVE ARTS**

Students will have the opportunity to express themselves creatively across all Key Learning Areas throughout the year. They will also participate in formal Creative Arts lessons where they will be able to make and appreciate the various art forms.

Term 1 - Visual Arts

Term 2 - Drama

Term 3 - Creative Dance

Term 4 - Music

## **PDHPE Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**

### **Physical Education**

Mr Chistensen will deliver the Fundamental movement and sport skills program.

### **Health**

Students will participate in a weekly Health lesson. These lessons will have a focus on Health, Wellbeing & Relationships and Safe & Active Lifestyles. They will cover topics such as Child Protection, Bullying, Healthy eating, Drugs, Problem Solving, Managing Emotions and developing a sense of self and others.

### **Bounce Back**

This school-wide program is a proactive education approach to wellbeing, resilience and social-emotional learning. Classroom teachers will deliver these lessons to students each week.

### **School Sport** (every Friday)

Each week student's will play a sport in their house team. All students will need to wear their sports uniform, a school hat and have their drink bottle to gain points for their house. Students are encouraged to work as a team and display good sportsmanship. If a child has an injury and cannot compete, a note is required to be given to their class teacher.

### **PSSA**

There will be opportunities to participate in PSSA sport teams in Terms 2/3. Students will receive details as they become available.

### **Crunch and Sip**

To further encourage a healthy lifestyle, students are asked to bring in a **healthy snack** each day to eat in class in the morning. This snack should be fresh fruit or vegetables (preferably cut up and easy to eat) and a bottle of water.

### **Topsteps**

As part of the STEPS Learning Community (St Clair & Erskine Park primary and high schools) there will be an opportunity for a number of students to participate in an enrichment day later this term. Nominated students will attend the primary school that is running their chosen activity for the day. This provides an opportunity for students to meet and work with students from the same stage in other local schools. If nominated, your child will bring home a note with further details.

### **Parent Helpers**

Parent helpers are a valuable and appreciated resource at Banks PS. We welcome and encourage parents to volunteer their time in Stage 2 classes this year. If you would like to volunteer as a parent helper, please speak to Mrs. Lalor.

### **Communication**

This information is just an overview for the year ahead and things may change from time-to-time. Please refer regularly to the school newsletter, school website, app and Facebook to keep informed with up-to-date information. Please ensure you check with your child daily for notes that are sent home regarding excursions and events.

#### **Contact Information**

Facebook: Banks PS

School Website:

[www.banks-p.schoolwebsites.com.au/](http://www.banks-p.schoolwebsites.com.au/)

School App:

<https://banksps.schoolzineplus.com/szapp>

Library website:

[www.banksialibraryweebly.com](http://www.banksialibraryweebly.com)

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child in their academic, emotional and social development.

Mrs. Casis, Mr. Gough, Mr. Graham and Miss Renshall