

Wednesday 3 April 2024

Term 1 Week 10

Issue 5



Dear Parents and Students,

Celebrating Growth in Positive Behaviour

We are thrilled to share some exciting news about the positive changes happening within our school community!

This term, we have witnessed a remarkable **10% decline in negative behaviour referrals compared to the past three years**. This is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our staff and students, as well as the implementation of several key strategies aimed at promoting a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment for all.

1. Berry Street Education Model

One of our primary focuses has been the introduction of the **Berry Street Education Model**, which provides our staff with professional learning opportunities centred around fostering **social-emotional skills**. By incorporating practices such as morning circles and brain breaks, we aim to **empower students** with the tools they need to **regulate their emotions** and make **positive choices**.

2. Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

We continue to reinforce our PBL framework, which establishes **clear expectations for behaviour** and rewards students for meeting these expectations through our green token system and reward days. By ensuring consistency in our approach, we create a **supportive atmosphere** where students **feel valued** and **encouraged to succeed**.

3. Additional Playground Supervision

Recognising the importance of **proactive intervention**, we have increased the presence of staff members during break times. With two executive staff members on duty, we can provide **guidance and support** to students, helping them navigate social interactions and **resolve conflicts peacefully**.

4. Restorative Practices

When conflicts do arise, we approach them from a **restorative perspective**, bringing students together to discuss their perspectives and brainstorm positive solutions. By **encouraging accountability** and **reflection**, we **empower students** to take ownership of their actions and work towards constructive outcomes.

We want to emphasize that these achievements are the result of collaborative efforts and the dedication of our entire school community. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to **implement these strategies consistently**, and we are already seeing the positive impact they are having on our students.

As we continue on this journey of growth and improvement, we encourage families to **support these conversations at home**. Together, we can reinforce the importance of **empathy, respect, and responsibility**, both inside and outside the classroom. Later in the year, we plan to host parent workshops to provide further insight into our strategies and how families can contribute to our **collective success**. We look forward to your continued support and partnership as we strive to make Chester Hill PS a place where **every child can thrive**.

Recognising & Valuing Teachers' Time

As a parent or carer, you are an important part of our school community. We know that you play a crucial role in helping your child become a **motivated learner**. Communication between our school and our community is critical for us to partner together.

To give our teachers the opportunity to recharge, spend time with their families and bring their best creative selves to work, the NSW Department of Education has provided **guidelines for communication** that allow teachers time to **'switch off'** so they can use the time outside school hours to manage their workload. We are setting **clear expectations** for when and how they **respond to communication outside school operating hours**. This means teachers may not reply to non-emergency messages or emails outside of school operating hours.

As a first step, contact the school for non-emergencies and our staff will respond to your queries within 2 school days under normal circumstances. For longer discussions or complex matters, we ask parents and carers to **make an appointment to speak to teachers directly**, at a time that works best for everyone. For emergencies, please contact the **front office on (02) 9644 1286**. Emergencies include serious student health, safety and wellbeing issues.

Our staff will always stay in touch because **open communication** is what's best for your child and their education. We don't want you to stop communicating with your teachers – we still want to hear from you if you have any questions or need to discuss a matter about your child. We know it's often easier to send emails or messages after work. We will make sure we read and respond in school operating hours. Our dedicated teachers want to help our students **achieve their best** – we're on the same team.

Thank you for treating our staff with kindness and respect.

Opportunity Class Applications for Year 5

Placement in 2025

Opportunity classes are just one of the ways that we support our high potential and gifted students. The classes **are offered in Years 5 and 6**, with parents / carers **applying when their child is in Year 4**.

Opportunity classes provide an environment where students can learn and make friends with classmates of similar abilities. This can benefit students' academic progress and wellbeing.

Opportunity classes are not zoned.

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered on the results of the **Opportunity Class Placement Test**. Students who wish to be considered for placement are required to sit the Opportunity Class Placement Test on **Thursday 1 August 2024**.

How to apply:

- Parents/carers apply online between Thursday 4 April and Monday 20 May 2024 at: <https://shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au/>
- You must use your own email address and not one belonging to your child.
- You must submit only one application for each child.
- Late applications are not usually accepted.

If you do not have internet access, you can apply at a public library or at your child's school. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the **Selective Education Unit** for assistance after 4 April 2024.

Sun Safety

Despite the fact that we're heading into the cooler months, it's crucial to instil habits that protect our students from the sun's harmful rays. We have a **shared responsibility** between, parent, student and the school to encourage positive habits in terms of sun protection.

Parents play a pivotal role in cultivating **sun-safe habits** in their children. We kindly ask parents to ensure their child is adequately prepared for outdoor activities by **applying sunscreen before school** and **providing them with a school-approved hat**. Additionally, we encourage parents to dress their children in appropriate clothing that offers sun protection.

Students, too, have a crucial role to play in their sun safety. We encourage students to be **proactive** in **applying sunscreen before outdoor activities, wearing the designated school hat, and seeking shade** whenever possible during breaks. By taking ownership of their sun safety, students contribute significantly to creating a safer outdoor environment for themselves and their peers.

As a school, we are committed to **fostering a sun-safe environment** for our students. To support this endeavour, **sunscreen will be readily available on-site**, and students will be encouraged to engage in outdoor activities in shaded areas whenever feasible.

It is a school requirement for students to **wear a school hat** during outdoor activities. We understand that financial challenges may arise for some families, and we encourage those facing hardship to reach out to the principal for assistance in acquiring the necessary sun safety items.

By working together, **parents, teachers, students, and the school**, we can ensure that our children enjoy the outdoors safely while **minimising the risk of sun-related harm**. Let's embrace this shared responsibility and prioritise the well-being of our students.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

As this is the last newsletter for the Term 1, I'd like to wish you all a **very safe and enjoyable holiday**. We've had yet another very productive term and I know this break is well deserved by all.

Just a reminder that students are due to return to school on **Tuesday 30 April** to commence another exciting term of learning.

See you in Term 2!

Ben Walsh
Principal



Coming Events – What’s happening at CHPS

Dates are accurate at the time of printing.

Keep this calendar handy so you are aware of what is happening at our school.

Term 1			
Wk 10	Wednesday 3 Apr – Tuesday 9 April Parent Teacher Interviews		
	5 Apr	Fri	Summer PSSA Round #2
Wk 11	8 Apr	Mon	Blue Reward Day
	10 Apr	Wed	Canteen CLOSED
	12 Apr	Fri	3-6 Assembly (11.35am) 3/4 Kerr
	12 Apr	Fri	Last Day of Term 1
School Holidays Saturday 13 April - Sunday 28 April			
Term 2			
Wk 1	29 Apr	Mon	Staff Development Day
	30 Apr	Tues	Students Return Term 2 begins
Wk 2	6 May	Mon	U11's Zone Rugby League Championship
	9 May	Thurs	Selective High School Test
	9 May	Thurs	Mother's Day Stall
	10 May	Fri	Winter PSSA Round #1
Wk 3	13 May	Mon	Parent Information Session: OC Classes
	14 May	Tues	U12's Zone Rugby League Championship
	17 May	Fri	Winter PSSA Round #2
Wk 4	22 May	Wed	P&C Meeting
	24 May	Fri	Winter PSSA Round #3
	24 May	Fri	K-2 Assembly – K Green

PBL NEWS

Our **Blue Reward Day** will be held at school on Monday 8 April. This term, fun activities presented by Be Skilled Be Fit have been planned for those students who have been on **Level Blue all term**.

This week, our students are learning to focus on and accept responsibility for their own actions.

RESPECTFUL

- Take pride in your school and wear full school uniform
- Look after your own belongings and respect the property of others
- Speak calmly with appropriate tone, body language and words
- Stop, look and listen when a person speaks to you
- Focus on your own actions
- Accept responsibility for your actions

Students often get involved in others' issues which makes problems bigger. Sometimes they deny or shift blame to others, rather than **accepting responsibility** for their actions.

Students can focus on their own actions by **not worrying about what other students are doing** and just making sure that they are doing the right thing and being a **safe, respectful, active learner**.

Accepting responsibility for your actions means never blaming others for the mistakes we make. **Its means taking ownership of our behaviour and our actions.**

Accepting responsibility means:

- Admitting you did something wrong.
- Saying sorry.
- Saying you won't do it again.

Attendance Matters

[NSW Department of Education Attendance Policy](#)

Everybody has a responsibility to help children

Families, caregivers, the student, the school and the community

- All kids in NSW must go to school by the time they turn 6.
- They must go to school or be involved in training or employment up to the age of 17.
- The law says they must attend school every day.
- If they do not go to school they will fall behind in their learning.
- Children who go to school every day do better and have more opportunities.

Missing school matters and EVERY DAY counts

If kids go to school...

1/4 of the time
They get 1/4 of the learning opportunities

1/2 of the time
They get 1/2 of the learning opportunities

3/4 of the time
They get 3/4 of the learning opportunities

All of the time
They experience all of the learning opportunities and get the best chance at success

Consent to reprint image given by Council of Catholic School Parents, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Parent Committee 2014.

P&C News

Canteen Closure

The canteen will be closed for one day only on **Wednesday April 10**. Please ensure your child brings recess and lunch from home on that day.

CANTEEN CLOSURE

Canteen will not be open on
Wednesday April 10th 2024

Students must bring recess and lunch from home on the day.

Mother's Day Stall

The P&C will be running a Mother's Day stall in Week 2 Term 2 on **Thursday 9 May**.

More information will be sent home early next term.

School Holiday Activities

Canterbury Bankstown Council

has a range of activities on during the school holidays.

Scan the QR code below for more information.



Go4Fun Term Two, 2024

FREE



All programs run once a week.
FUN healthy lifestyle program for children aged 7-13, and their families.

Programs in South Western Sydney Local Health District

Where:	Address:	Day and time:	Starts:
Bankstown PCYC KARI	55-57 Meredith St, Bankstown	Wednesdays, 4:30pm-6:30pm	1 May
Eagle Vale Leisure Centre	Corner of Emerald Drive and Feldspar Rd, Eagle Vale	Thursdays, 4.30pm-6.30pm	2 May
NEW! Flip Out Smeaton Grange	1/13 Dunn Road, Anderson Rd, Smeaton Grange	Wednesdays 3:30pm-5:30pm	1 May
Michael Clarke Recreation Centre	2 Margaret Dawson Drive, Carnes Hill	Mondays, 4:30pm-6:30pm	29 April
Mt Annan Leisure Centre	368 Welling Drive, Mt Annan	Saturdays, 1pm-3pm	4 May
Prairiewood Youth & Community Centre	194-222 Restwell Rd, Prairiewood	Thursdays, 4.30pm-6.30pm	2 May
NEW! Wilton Community Centre	20 Broughton St, Wilton	Saturdays, 1pm-3pm	4 May

Register now!

Scan the QR code or
1800 780 900



Hello from the Community Hub!



Arabesque Workshop

This term we have been running an Arts program focusing on Arabesque drawing which will continue next term.

The workshop runs on **Fridays** and will be starting at **10:30 am** next term.

New Hub Activities for Term 2

Self-Care Workshop

Wednesday 8 May

Join us for an interactive session to learn about practical strategies and **setting self-care goals and habits**.

Cyberbullying

Wednesday 15 May

The workshop will look at:

- preventing bullying and cyber bullying
- how to support a child who is being bullied
- working with your child's school,
- what to do if your child is bullying others

Tuning into kids

Starting Wednesday 5 June

This is an evidence-based parenting program that focuses on the **emotional connection** between parents and children through **emotional coaching**.

This program will be delivered by **experts** from one of Bankstown's leading **child and family services**.

Looking to Join a Sporting Team?

Birrong Sports Netball Club are currently looking for children in the 5 to 9 years ages. The club is very keen to have **local children** and **young people (all genders)** active and playing sport.

Birrong Sports Netball Club have been an active club in this area for 60 years and want to continue our proud club. Information and contact details are listed below.

Come and Join Birrong Netball Club in 2024



WANTED:
Girls & Boys aged 5 to 12 years.
Girls aged 13 years and over.

All new Registrations for 10 years and under receive **FREE REGO** and a **FREE UNIFORM!!**

**Birrong Sports
Netball Club**

CONTACT US NOW!
EMAIL: info@birrongnetball.com
PHONE: Lee - 0418759874

FAMILY SERVICES
TUNING IN TO KIDS

Starting in Term 2
Dates: Wednesdays from 5 June to 3 July
Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am
Venue: Community Hub, Chester Hill Public School

You can get regular updates on programs and activities on our Facebook page.

Follow the [Community Hub Facebook Page](#) for Hub updates.

Anisha

find us on facebook

Community Hub Leader
0436 943 537