



Diary Dates

TERM 3

22 July	Year 5 Camp
24 July	TCC Athletics Carnival
28 July	Island Dancers - Cairns State Special School
31 July	Island Dancers - Edge Hill State School
3 August	Under 11 FNQ Futsal Titles
4 August	Rugby League 9s
5 August	Under 12 FNQ Futsal Titles
18 August	Year 6 Camp
Week 7	Book Fair
28 August	Book Week Dress Up Day

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

Welcome to the new school term! It has been wonderful to welcome all of our students and families back after the school holidays and the Cairns Show long weekend. Classrooms have quickly settled into strong routines, with students enthusiastically engaging in their learning and making a positive start to the term.

A sincere thank you to all our families who supported last week's P&C Cairns Show car park fundraiser. This event is a significant undertaking and requires many months of planning and organisation. I would particularly like to acknowledge our dedicated P&C Executive Committee – Sandra, Vanessa, Marika and Nicky – for their outstanding commitment, countless hours of preparation and tireless efforts in ensuring the fundraiser was such a success. This event is a valuable fundraising opportunity that directly benefits our students and school community.

Thank you also to our Year 5 and Year 6 students, along with their families, who generously volunteered their time to assist. We received many positive comments from members of the public about the respectful, responsible and friendly way our students represented Parramatta State School and engaged with the wider community. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school, and we are incredibly proud of them.

Across the school, we continue our focussed work in reading. This term, students are immersing themselves in a range of high-quality narrative texts, picture books and novels as they further deepen their comprehension skills and as we continue to foster a love of reading across our school! Building strong readers remains a key priority at Parramatta State School, and we look forward to sharing our students' learning throughout the term.

There is plenty to look forward to over the coming weeks, with both our Book Fair and Book Week celebrations scheduled later this term. Book Week Dress-Up Day will be held in Week 7, so now is the perfect time to start planning those creative costumes!

You will also find a Term 3 Planner included in this week's newsletter, providing an overview of the key events and activities planned for the term. At times, events can be rescheduled for a range of reasons and additional events are planned throughout the term. We will communicate any upcoming changes through our school communication channels.

Thank you for your continued support, partnership and commitment to our school. Working together with our families is integral in ensuring every student is supported to achieve their very best, and we look forward to another successful term of learning together.

Sincerely,

Jess Cockburn
Acting Principal



TERM 3 - EXCURSION & EVENT PLANNER

Excursion
Event
Incursion

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	16-Jul	17-Jul
				Cairns Show Choir & Island Dance Performance	Cairns Show Holiday
WEEK 2	20-Jul	21-Jul	22-Jul	23-Jul	24-Jul
			Year 5 Camp Mungalli Falls Camp	Year 5 Camp Mungalli Falls Camp	Year 5 Camp Mungalli Falls Camp
					Under 8s Day (Prep-Yr 2)
					TCC Track and Field Carnival
WEEK 3	27-Jul	28-Jul	29-Jul	30-Jul	31-Jul
		Island Dancers Performance Cairns State Special School			
WEEK 4	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug
	Boys Under 12s Futsal Redlynch Sports Centre	Rugby League 9's Stan Williams Oval			
WEEK 5	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug
	Year 1 Fire Department visit				
WEEK 6	17-Aug	18-Aug	19-Aug	20-Aug	21-Aug
		Year 6 Camp Tinaroo EEC - Barron River	Year 6 Camp Tinaroo EEC - Barron River	Year 6 Camp Tinaroo EEC - Barron River	Year 6 Camp Tinaroo EEC - Barron River
WEEK 7	24-Aug	25-Aug	26-Aug	27-Aug	28-Aug
	*** BOOK WEEK and BOOK FAIR ***				Book Week Dress-Up Day
WEEK 8	31-Aug	1-Sep	2-Sep	3-Sep	4-Sep
		Parent Teacher Interviews			Student Free Day
WEEK 9	7-Sep	8-Sep	9-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep
				R U Okay Day	
WEEK 10	14-Sep	15-Sep	16-Sep	17-Sep	18-Sep
		Fast Fives Football at Smithfield SHS		Fancy Dress Ball	Fancy Dress Re-Run

THE RSL RULES

The RSL rules : **Be Respectful**, **Be Safe** and **Be a Learner**. These rules reflect key behaviours that are required for success at Parramatta State School.

Parramatta's School Rules

Respect



Safety



Learning



HOMEWORK CLUB

Homework club has started and is every Monday in the library after school. Miss Yvonne and Mr Kev will be there with The Smith Family volunteers to help students with their homework. If you need additional information, contact your child's teacher or administration.

DRESS CODE

A copy of the school dress code is available from the office. Students are expected to wear a school uniform, including closed shoes, sandals or joggers (**thongs or Crocs are not appropriate**) and a broad-brimmed hat. Jewellery is to be kept a minimum – studs and sleepers for pierced ears, a watch, and medic-alert bracelets are acceptable. Nail polish is discouraged. The school appreciates your support with these matters.

HATS

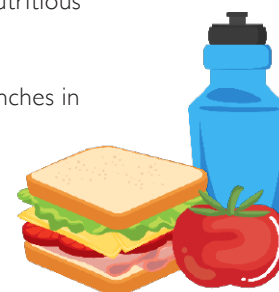
Our Sun Smart policy stipulates bucket or broad-brimmed hats. **Caps are NOT acceptable**. Students who do not have appropriate hat wear will not be permitted to play. Hats are available from the tuckshop for \$26.



HEALTHY CHOICES

All parents are encouraged to support the health and wellbeing of their children by providing them with a nutritious breakfast and healthy lunchbox food and drinks.

We are hoping to reduce the amount of litter that lunches produce, by asking parents to consider putting lunches in reusable containers rather than providing food to their children with multiple plastic wrappings. Not only does this reduce litter but as a Reef Guardian school it also ensures that the smaller bits of plastic do not make their way into our drains, and therefore, into the sea. Thank you for helping us to maintain our environmental awareness.



TUCKSHOP

The P&C will be running the tuckshop this year. The Tuckshop will be open Monday – Fridays from 8:00am to 1:30pm. *Any parents who would like to offer some time to help in the tuckshop should contact the office. Your assistance, even if only once a month, will be greatly appreciated.*

Can you help us?

SCHOOL TERMS 2026

Term	Dates	Length
Term 1	Tuesday 27 January - Thursday 2 April	10 weeks
Term 2	Monday 20 April - Friday 26 June	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 13 July - Friday 18 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Tuesday 6 October - Friday 11 December	10 weeks

CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Our teachers often arrive early in the morning to do preparation, planning and setting up for the day before the students enter the room. This means that classroom doors may be closed to parents and students until 8:25am. Once the students enter the room things can become a little hectic with homework folders, tuckshop orders, note collections, the sharing of news about birthdays and other family events and so on. We encourage parents to maintain regular communication with teachers, however, sometimes it is more appropriate to make an appointment particularly when discussions require confidentiality or time, so that the topic is valued. Appointment times can be negotiated with your child's teacher prior to 8:30am if required.



STAFF MEETINGS

Our staff meetings are usually scheduled on Tuesday at 2:50pm and teachers will be unavailable. Please avoid requesting appointments with your child's teacher at this time.

REGISTERS

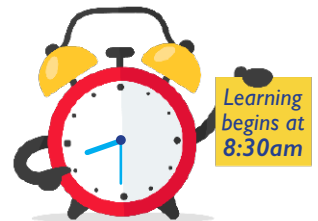
We have a number of registers in the school which we are required to keep for our accountability and audit purposes.

- Parents **must** sign their children out at the office if they are to absent during school hours.
- Volunteer registers are located in the office for parents who help in the rooms with reading and other activities.



BELLS

A warning bell is rung at 8:25 in the morning. This will give students time to get into class and be **ready for instruction at 8:30am. All students need to be at school prior to this bell and be ready to begin learning at 8:30am.** We appreciate parental support with these requirements as late arrivals cause interruptions to both the class teacher and the students who are able to be organised.



ATTENDANCE, ABSENTEEISM AND ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE REMINDERS

Late Arrivals

Any students who arrive after 8:30am will need to report to the office for a late note before going to class. Parents, we would appreciate your support in ensuring that your children are ready for the commencement of class before this time.

End of Day

The school day officially finishes at 2:30pm. Students should not loiter in the grounds but make their way home by bus, car, bike or foot. There is no teacher supervision after 2:45pm. **After School Care might be an option which you might like to consider. Please contact the Front Office for more information, or ring on 4051 6864.**

Attendance

As we commence the start of a new year, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school on every school day unless there is a reasonable excuse for the student to be away, such as illness. Research shows that students who have a good attendance record are more likely to achieve high results. Going shopping, visiting family, staying up late, being tired or extending school holidays are not acceptable reasons to be away from school. Visit the Department of Education website for more information:

www.education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts

Our school attendance target for each student is **90%**. For more information, contact the front office.

Absenteeism

If your child is away please contact the office by phone (**4042 8160**). Alternatively, you can send a text to **0429 397 242**.

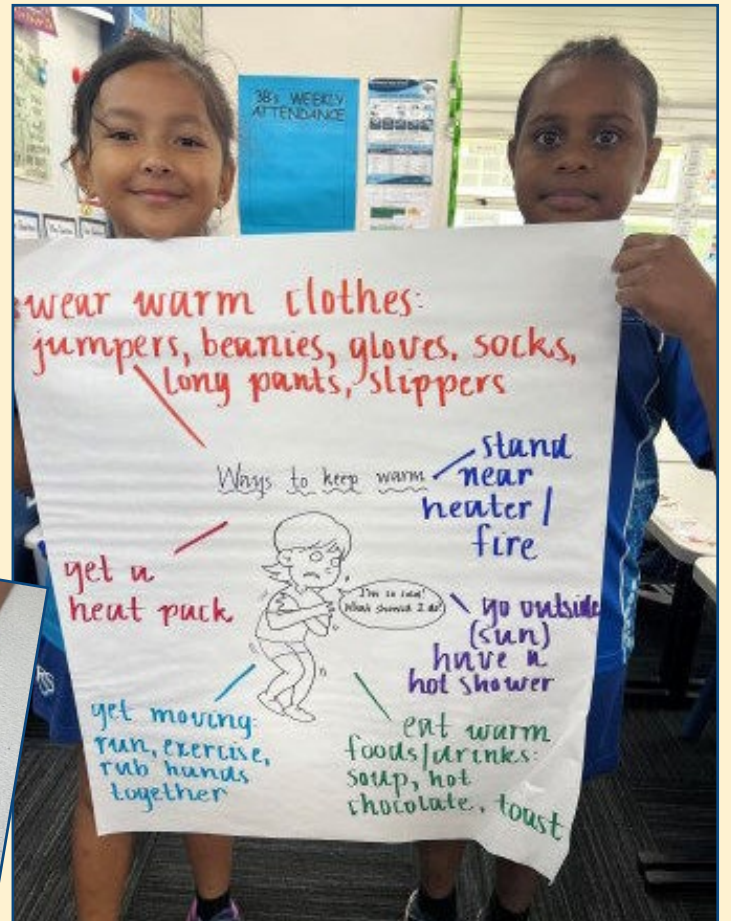
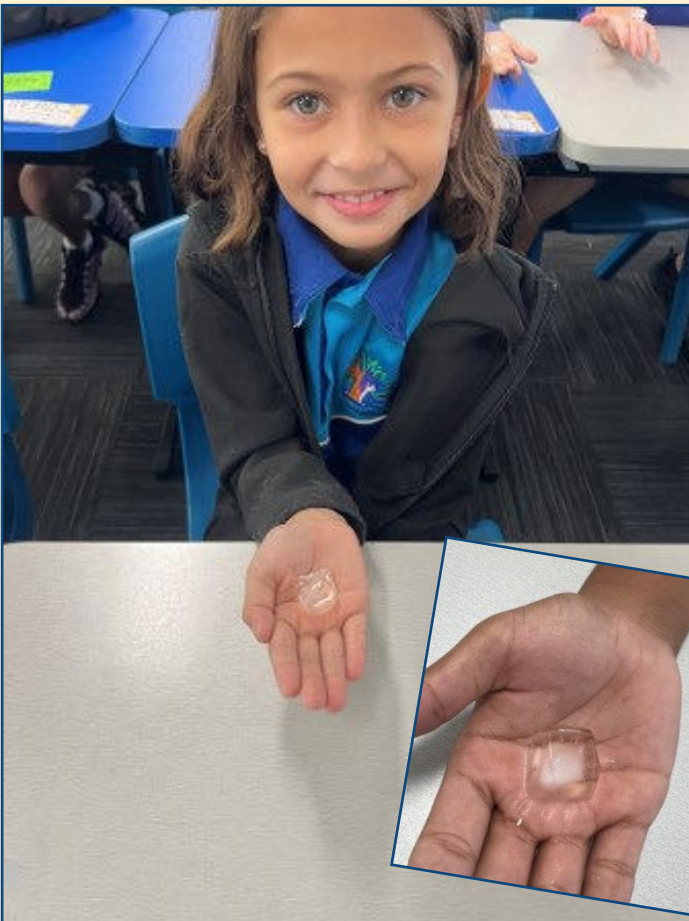
Absentee information is required for legal and audit purposes. By law we are required to contact any family whose child is absent for three days running without an explanation. After 10 days we are obligated to report lengthy absenteeism to authorities. Please understand that this is required in all state schools.



3B CLASS NEWS

This term in Science, 3B has been investigating heat through lots of fun, hands-on learning experiences. We have been exploring different ways we can keep warm when we are cold and were amazed to discover that the warmth from our own hands can melt an ice cube when we hold it in our palms!

Over the coming weeks, we will continue our learning by investigating which materials are good conductors of heat and exploring how heat can be transferred from one object to another. We are looking forward to carrying out more exciting experiments and making predictions as we discover the fascinating ways heat moves all around us.



HIGH FIVE

Why are we learning this?

We have a no tolerance policy at Parramatta State School towards bullying that is defined as an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm.

Why is it important?

It is important to understand what is bullying, why bullies bully and offer strategies to our students to stop bullying through the use of our school wide High Five program: Ignore, Talk Friendly, Talk Firmly, Walk Away, Report.

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Why do bullies... bully?

According to research, these are the main reasons why bullying occurs;

- ☐ They have been bullied themselves by others.
- ☐ They might have some hard things going on at home that they don't know how to deal with.
- ☐ It is a learnt behaviour.
- ☐ To show power and authority.
- ☐ They think it's 'cool'.
- ☐ They feel insecure.
- ☐ They are lonely.

Brainstorm with your class and teacher about why it is important that we understand the reason behind bullying.



WHY?



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High Five Strategies



How to do the 'High Five'.

- ✓ Who are some adults I can report to?
- ✓ What tone do I use when I talk firmly?
- ✓ Where can I walk away to?
- ✓ Why is trying to talk friendly first so important?
- ✓ What things can I do to help me ignore behaviour I don't like?





★ ★ Student Achievements ★ ★



Congratulations to this fortnight's award recipients:



Students of the Week



JMF Indigenous Football Challenge Winners



3C & 1B Parra Points Winners

BREAKFAST & ANNEX LUNCH



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Breakfast & Annex Lunch

Breakfast and annex lunch are available for students when needed each day.
Students are encouraged to please pre-order annex lunch at the office or Aunty Kitty's kitchen between 8:00-8:30am



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Activity Schedule Term 3 2026



TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BEFORE SCHOOL (8:00 – 8:25)	Breakfast (Ms Kitty)	Breakfast (Ms Kitty)	Breakfast (Ms Kitty)	Breakfast (Ms Kitty)	Breakfast (Ms Kitty)
FIRST LUNCH (10:30 – 10:55)	Social Groups P-2 (Chappy Kelly)  Garden Club (Mrs Kim) 	Touch Footy Skills Senior Oval (Mr Jonah) 	Football Academy Senior Oval (Mr Hall)  Social Groups 3-6 (Chappy Kelly) 		Garden Club (Mrs Kim)  Football Academy Senior Oval (Mr Hall) 
SECOND LUNCH (1:00 – 1:25)	Social Groups 3-6 (Chappy Kelly)  TSI Dance (Ms Kitty) 	Student Council Meeting	Netball Academy (Ms Ferguson/ Ms Sciacca) 	TSI Dance (Ms Kitty)  Choir Practice (Ms Fantone) 	
AFTER SCHOOL	Music/Band (Mr Perger) 	Netball Academy (Ms Jaquie) 	Rock Band (Mr Pardey 2:30-3:50 week 5-) 	STEM (Mrs Dunn-Year 5-6, Mrs Minniecon-Year 3-4) 	

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Rehearsal Schedule

Academies of Excellence, TSI Dance and Instrumental Band

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BEFORE SCHOOL					
FIRST LUNCH			Football Academy Mr Hall		Football Academy Mr Hall
SECOND LUNCH	TSI Dance Ms Kitty	Student Council Meeting Ms Browne	Netball Academy Miss Ferguson Miss Sciacca Ms Jacque Visual Arts Academy Miss Fantone	Choir Academy Miss Fantone	TSI Dance Ms Kitty
AFTERSCHOOL	Instrumental Band Mr Perger	Netball Academy Ms Jacque	Rock Band Academy Mr Pardey	STEM Academy Years 3 & 4 Mrs Minniecon Years 5 & 6 Mrs Dunn	

COMMUNITY NOTICES



The 12th Cairns Bon Dance

Japan 盆踊り

15 AUG 2026 SAT
12:00~20:30
Fogarty Park
Free Entry

Entry Free
Festival Vibe Memory Archive Project (more info at insta&facebook)
Performance BonDance, Taiko, KidsDance, Awaodori (New!)
Others Raffle, Festival Food & Drink, FierWorks (It's back!)

Sponsor by      

Organiser Consular Office of Japan in Cairns
 

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