

**Term 3 | Week 8 | Thursday 2 September 2021**



## Message from the Principal

Wow, it's been a long term!

Doesn't it feel like Week 26 of Term 3! Our staff completely understand and empathise with families who are feeling the cumulative effect of current Stay At Home orders as well as coping with the associated challenges of Learning From Home. We recognise that many of our students, families and staff may be feeling tired and, at times, finding it a challenge to stay motivated and engaged. But, despite the challenges we face, I could not be prouder of the way our school community are all working together to ensure that our students are supported to the highest degree in regards to continuity of learning, whilst maintaining our ongoing focus on student wellbeing.

In our conversations with parents this week, whilst there is (understandably) a definite sense of tiredness creeping in, there still remains an ongoing sense of support, effort and optimism from parents, teachers and students as we continue to do everything we can to see our students engaged in their learning journey. We know that this journey is far different to those that we had anticipated at the start of 2021, and one that has been hard to predict: happily, we've now been provided with a pathway back to school.

Last week, the NSW Premier announced the "roadmap" for the planned return to face to face learning for NSW schools. This plan was developed by the NSW Department of Education, following strong consultation with, and advice from, NSW Health.

In terms of the planned return to face-to-face schooling, under our LGA's current Stay-At-Home orders, we will remain in this period of Learning from Home (Level 4) until at least September 10. Following this date, we will be guided by NSW Health in regards to whether the current Stay-At-Home orders will remain in place for our LGA. If these orders are lifted, all of our students and teachers will return to school on Monday 13 September under "Level 3" conditions.

If there is no change to our Stay-At-Home status after September 10, we expect the following key dates to be the roadmap to return for all students at PBPS:

- From October 25 (Term 4, Week 4), Kindergarten and Year 1 students will return to face-to-face teaching.
- From November 1 (Term 4, Week 5), Year 2 and Year 6 will return to face-to-face teaching.
- From November 8 (Term 4, Week 6), Year 3 and 4 students will return to face-to-face teaching.

This staggered return-to school plan is based on the understanding that whilst our LGA may still have Stay-At-Home orders in place, NSW Health will have decided that, in light of vaccination rates and case rates, it is safe for students to return to school. Through this staggered return, schools must operate under Level 3+ conditions, with a range of restrictions in place to ensure the safest possible learning environment for our students and staff. Should we be in a situation where the Central Coast becomes an LGA of concern, schools may be directed to return to Learning From Home, under Level 4 restrictions, to ensure community safety.

As always, we will endeavour to keep you updated as best we can regarding this plan and any further changes. As a small school, we recognise that there are many contextual implications to this plan, especially in regards to our staged-approach to learning. You can be assured that we are working with the Department of Education in regards to recognising and being responsive to community and contextual needs. Whilst there is some uncertainty ahead, what is guaranteed is the overwhelming excitement our staff feel in regards to having an end-date we can work towards! We optimistically look forward to seeing our students back on site as soon, and as safely, as possible.

*Please take care and stay safe. X Mrs Wardlaw*

**Assembly and Principal Awards**

Congratulations to the students who received Assembly and Principal Awards.

**Assembly Awards – Weeks 5-6**

KG	Alfie, Leo, Lois, Arlo, Fern, George, Ffin, Boh, Harvey, Mila
1T	Soul, Georgette, Taia, Kloe
1M	Dallas, Sylvie, Zoe, Brianna, Charlie, Eric, Jock, Jannes
2R	Anna, Jack, Hattie, Lilybell, Olivia, Annabelle, Elliott, Ulysses
2-3P	Xavier, Jake, Flora, Mish, Sophie, Toby, Violette, Indy
3B	Niamh, Audrey, Gabe, Teddy, Violet, Harvey, Orlando, Elliot

**Principal Awards – Weeks 5-6**

KG	Indigo, Bentley, Harrison, Cedar, Huon, Lois
1T	Frankie, Artie, Eve, Jack, Matilda, Fox, Sophia, Frankie, Megan
1M	Morgan, Ryder, Ben, Josie, Luke
1-2H	Eva, Sullivan, Artie, Axel, Zack, Bodhi, Louis, Braxton
2R	Ethan M, Ella, Jalen, Olivia, Olympia, Jessica, Hugh, Isabelle, Ethan G
2-3P	Lucy, Finlay, Friday, Jake, Fletcher, Joseph, Freddie
3B	Noah K, Marcus, Noah H, Sebi, Harvey, Max

**2022 Kindergarten Enrolments**

If you have a child who will be starting school in 2022, please go onto the school website or click the [link](#) and complete the online enrolment. Please attach any required documentation to the online enrolment.

Thank you

**2021 Indigenous Literacy Day**

This week we acknowledge Indigenous Literacy Day, highlighting that this year's theme is "Celebrating Stories and Language". At PBPS, we recognise that, when Aboriginal students are connected to their language and culture, and feel supported by their community and they are more likely to thrive in their learning journey. We also recognise the diversity of Aboriginal languages and the significant role they play in keeping Aboriginal culture vibrant and strong. We affirm and celebrate the national commitment to increasing the number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken by 2031, in tandem with legislation around protecting Aboriginal languages.

If you haven't visited already, the Indigenous Literacy Foundation have launched a new website where over 40 short, inspiring and diverse video stories will go live! We invite you to select, share and immerse yourself in stories and language that highlights the diversity and richness of First Nations culture. There

is something for everyone! This is a celebration for all Australians.

Below is a link to a YouTube link which provides a wonderful, immersive celebration for primary students to engage with Indigenous Literacy Day: we invite you to watch this with your families:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEuzclQd7vY>

**Attendance matters**

At PBPS we remain committed to ensuring continuity of learning for every student, so that each one of our young learners continues to progress during this challenging period of Learning From Home. As such, we have a responsibility to ensure that students are engaging in set activities each day. Engagement can be evidenced by:

- student completion of set task/s (e.g. activities and online tasks that are submitted by a specified date);
- student engagement with online lessons (e.g. the teacher keeps a roll of student attendance during online lessons);
- student engagement with roll call (e.g. via seesaw);
- student engagement with set learning tasks in student workbooks (evidence may be photos, scanned work, discussions with class teacher regarding set work or returned workbooks).

Where needed, alternate processes can be implemented to show evidence of participation if families are experiencing difficulties engaging with online content. This may involve parents returning work books on a weekly/fortnightly basis for feedback and registration and attendance marking purposes. If necessary, please contact the school to discuss the best way we can offer support so that parents can continue to provide appropriate evidence of learning during this current period of Learning From Home.

**Wellbeing matters**

At PBPS, we continue to ensure that students are at the heart of all we do and that student success is measured by more than academic progress. As we aspire to see our students grow, succeed and thrive, we acknowledge that this includes the development of positive wellbeing, a growth mindset, the ability to set goals and work towards them and resilience and persistence in the face of challenge. Whilst we acknowledge the importance of regular engagement in set learning tasks during Learning From Home, we recognise that parents know their children best: please know that, if your child is upset, unmotivated, unhappy or anxious, school work can wait. Thank you for feeling confident that not all work must be submitted and that it's okay to "down tools" and focus on relationships, reassurance and re-connection.

Please reach out to your child's classroom teacher if you are worried about your child's wellbeing but remember, it's normal to have 'good days' and 'not-so-good days'. We encourage families to set good routines around school work but to also know when kids need a break. Exercise, spending time in nature, surrounding yourselves with loved ones, and focusing on gratitude, are great ways of re-setting. As we continue to assert, our teachers will be there to re-engage our learners and get them back on track: they are going to be okay. Mum's and dads, hang in there! You're doing a great job. We greatly appreciate your amazing efforts and encourage you to continue to put your children's wellbeing first.

### Professional learning: Relational Mathematics

At PBPS our teachers are lifelong learners: we highly value professional learning as a means of continuing to extend our skills and excel in our vocation. Despite the current barriers that make participation in professional learning a challenge, our teachers today participated in professional learning (via zoom) with Carol Spencer, Head of "A learning Place": an Australian Education Company recognised for professional learning that builds teacher skills, understanding and pedagogy in the area of teaching Mathematics. The outcome of this professional learning is to continue to equip our teachers in order to develop our students' deep relational understanding of Mathematics.

Through this professional learning, our teachers are also extending our capacity to differentiate teaching to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities by learning about the principles of relational mathematics: how concepts are logically developed, based on previous, logical concept foundational understandings. We anticipate that, following this professional learning, our teachers will feel equipped and confident in planning, structuring and sequencing learning programs using a curriculum-based, relational mathematics approach. Teachers will be applying this knowledge of relational teaching and learning in Mathematics from the start of 2022.

### Fathers Day – virtual celebrations planned

We hope all our dads have a great day on Sunday and get spoiled rotten for Fathers' Day!

If families haven't joined the Belle Property Facebook group and would like some fun and interactive ways to celebrate their dads, please refer to the flyer below...



**belle**  
PROPERTY

JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL  
**FATHER'S DAY WEEK**

Proudly presented by Belle Property Central Coast,  
you're invited to join us in a virtual Father's Day celebration week!

From a five star homemade breakfast to special handmade gifts,  
there's loads of fun ideas for you to do with Dad.  
Plus when you engage with our Facebook page, you instantly go into the draw to

**WIN ONE OF TWO LANDSCAPING PACKAGES WITH  
BLUE SKY LANDSCAPING AND DESIGN VALUED AT \$2000!**

Text 'DAD' to **0488 883 840** receive your details.

### Kindy Learning from Home

Kindergarten have once again excelled in their attitude and commitment to LFH. We have students that participate in the activities at school and many that are learning in their homes. Wherever the students are, they are following their timetables and trying their personal best. During the last fortnight we have completed science experiments about the clouds and learned a little more about them. We have read and designed maps in geography. Our story this week is 'Pig the Pug', the students have all completed fun activities about the story then we did some 'dog' research. Here are a few photos of our Science experiment 'Cloud in a Jar'.

Mrs Gordon



### 2R Learning from Home

Since COVID lock down restrictions have everyone living under a rock, here are 4 things you may not know about LFH in 2R!

- We like to start and end the day with some shared positivity, respect and enthusiasm (see below for some of our daily posts).
- We maintain 93% Zoom attendance each week to check-in, catch-up and clarify the weeks' tasks and expectations.

- Our most popular weekly tasks include delivering creative BTN reports and nominating peers for Friday's 'Awesome Awards'.
  - This fortnight, 2R posted over 300 new quality pieces of work, shared over 1000 likes and left over 400 positive comments for their peers!
- What a team! Keep up the great work 2R!**

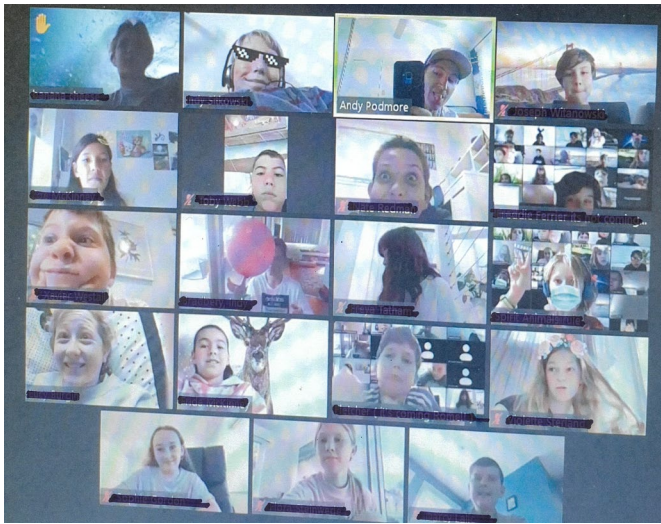


**2/3P Learning from Home**

2/3P keep stepping up to the challenges while learning from home and continue to blow me away with their positivity, effort and attitude. Over the past 2 weeks they have produced a mountain of quality work on so many different topics! I have thoroughly enjoyed reviewing all of their submitted work on Seesaw and particularly love reading their weekly merit awards, where they shout out each other and recognise effort and achievement throughout the week!

Keep up the wonderful work 2/3P and before we know it, we will be back in class where we all belong!

Mr P 😊



**3B Learning from Home**

I am constantly blown away each week with the incredible work my Stage 3 students are producing, and that is testament to their own resilience and drive, and the support they are getting from their parents. This time is not an easy time. We are social beings and work well together, thriving from bouncing off ideas and seeing the responses our actions and work have on those around. Despite the challenges extended lockdown is bringing to us all; mentally, emotionally and physically, I am in awe of the positivity and connectedness my class constantly displays. My students are not only continuing to grow academically at home by producing astounding work which shows their ongoing progress, but furthermore they are showing such a strong sense of support, encouragement and care for their fellow classmates. They are checking in with one another, teaming up to complete different tasks, catching up for a physical activity and commenting praises on classmates' submitted work on Seesaw. This is what makes us a team. This is what is getting us through. So keep it up everyone. Keep doing your best. Keep Zooming in with your beautiful faces and being honest with how you are feeling. Keep checking in with others. Keep teaming up to tackle the hard...because together we can do anything.

Mrs B

**1/2 H Learning from Home**

1/2H have been doing an amazing job learning from home. We have had some brilliant informative texts created as well as some amazing PowerPoints on the Olympic athletes. I am proud of the independent learning that is taking place. I have mentioned to a few students that being able to learn independently is a real sign of growing up and they should be very proud of themselves.

The students are especially enjoying Mathantics videos, Times Table Rock Stars and Wushka.

Here are some images from our Seesaw:

Mrs Hollomon



**NEWS FROM 1M**

We've had another busy two weeks in 1M, filled with amazing creative writing, making playdough in science, learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' connection to Country through storytelling and art and also the explored use of hand made utensils. 1M have spent time comparing the mass of objects by hefting and making our own balance scales.

1M were also very excited when Miss Metcalfe (or should we say Mrs Smith!) popped in to say hello from outback Queensland with her new friend Lily the Llama. She is missing everyone at PBPS and cannot wait to be at our wonderful school.

Every week, the students in our class continue to amaze me with their resilience and persistence during this very unusual time. They are superstars! Keep up the awesome work, 1M. I am so proud of you, as you should be of yourselves!

Mrs Noble



**Wellbeing Wednesday**

Last Wednesday, 25 August we participated in a whole school "Wellbeing Wednesday." Students took part in a morning Zoom with Mrs Keyes and read a variety of Short Listed Picture Books.

Throughout the day, students opted to engage in a range of activities like dress up as their favourite book character, create an Olympic event or complete a kindness challenge.

We ended the day with a fun art lesson hosted by Mrs Bridgman.

We received lots of positive feedback on the day. I think it was a day much need by everyone!

Mrs Keyes



**Wellbeing – Check Ins**

This week staff have been calling home to check in with families on how Learning from Home is going, offering support and strategies on how to maximise learning time and also give comfort in knowing that we are all doing our best to make positive light on a tricky situation. Thank you for taking the time to offer some feedback and suggestions on how we can make our plan even better and also asking relevant questions and concerns about Learning from Home. We value your time and are always here to help. Staff will be continuing these calls again in Week 10 and using this time as a celebration of learning and positivity towards the holidays and learning ahead.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Mrs Keyes

# RELATIONSHIPS

## Bucket Filling

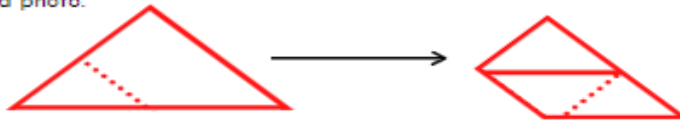
Fill someone's bucket! In other words, lift someone up, make someone's day or help to make someone else feel good. In this activity, a bucket represents someone's emotions. If the bucket is empty, how can you fill it full of positive emotions?  
Resources: 1 x square piece of paper per bucket

Instructions:

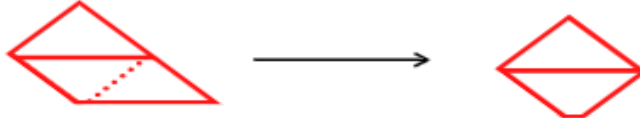
- make a bucket for you and each family member
- display the buckets next to slips of paper and a pen
- make an effort throughout the day to add a positive comment to each other's buckets



Step 1: fold a square piece of paper in half on the diagonal. See diagram and photo.



Step 2: position the triangle so the longest edge is closest to you (when the piece of paper is on a flat surface). Fold the left corner over to the other side of the triangle. See diagram and photo.



Step 3: Repeat Step 2 for the right side of the triangle. Fold the right corner over to the other side of the triangle.



Step 4: Fold the top flaps down on either side of the bucket. Push out the opening of the bucket. Optional: colour in your bucket.



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4



FINISHED