

# Carcoar Public School Newsletter

*Out of the Past | Into the Future*

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Term 3 | Week 9 | Friday 18 September 2020

## *From the Principal*

As we near the end of Term 3, this will be our last newsletter for the Term, although one week still remains of Term 3. Thank you for adaptability in this ever-changing time around our changes to ensure that we remain COVID safe. I think its safe to say this is our new normal for a long time to come.



The staff and I wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday period.

Staff and students return to school on Monday 12 October for the final Term of 2020. Currently we are unsure about our school events for Term 4 which include transition to School and transition to High School, Presentation night, learn to swim and end of year celebrations- we will update you throughout the term.

## *Sun Safe*



As the weather starts to warm up it is important for us to abide by the 'No Hat Play in the Shade Rule'. Hats should be worn outside at all times.

If your child does not have a hat they will be asked to play under the COLA – sandpit and play equipment. Please assist us by ensuring your child has their hat each day and it is clearly labelled with their name.

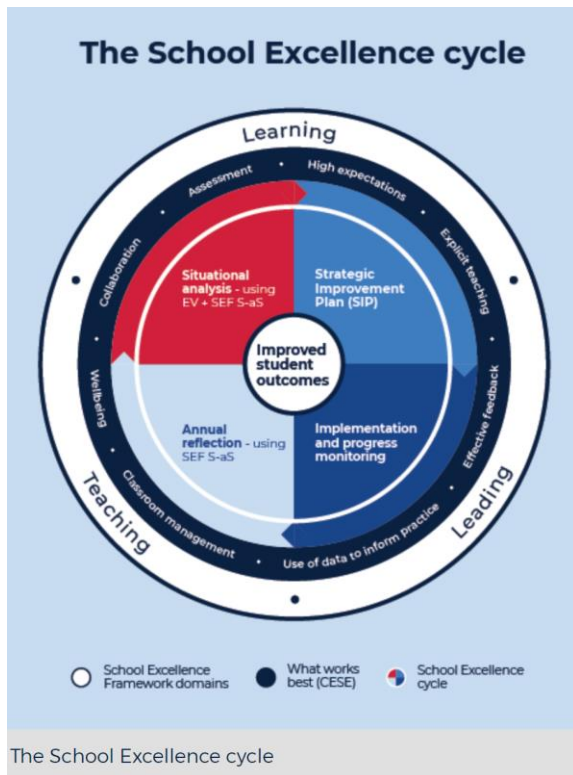
Caps are not to be worn. Applying sunscreen in the morning before school is also a great idea and sunscreen is available. Hats can be purchased from the office.

**Just a reminder as the weather is warming up, please send a water bottle with your child to school every day.**

# Summer Uniforms

Boys	Girls
Yellow polo shirts	Yellow polo shirts
Grey shorts or blue sport shorts	Royal blue skorts or blue sport shorts
Grey or white Socks	White socks
School hat	School hat
Black shoes for format events & appropriate footwear at other times	Black shoes for format events & appropriate footwear at other times

# School Excellence in Action



Throughout this term, the staff have been collating and analysing evidence across various areas of school performance. We have looked at: enrolment data, student performance data, wellbeing information, human resources trends and financial patterns. This is the first step in the development of our new Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP), which will come into effect from the beginning of 2021. Early next term I will invite our parents and community to join me for discussions and planning.

This is an exciting and informative process and is already providing us with some clear areas for further development. As part of gathering some baseline data about our whole school wellbeing practices, staff have been asked to think about what works best.

They have explored current research, best practice and have reflected on their own classroom-based practices. This will then support the work completed in 2021 as our school completes External Validation to demonstrate growth and achievement against the School Excellence Framework.

# Cyber Safety

We would like to draw your attention to information our schools have received regarding disturbing content currently circulating on social media platforms, in particular TikTok. You may have seen some media reports about this too. In this instance, the safety commissioner recommends that all children are kept away from social media for the next few days. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind parents to be diligent in supervising children using technology and in particular, social media. Please use the age limits as a guide to the cognitive ability children need to safely navigate platforms.

I encourage you to be familiar with the resources and advice for parents available at <https://www.esafety.gov.au>

## COVID-19

Please read carefully the latest update for COVID-19 in NSW Department of Education Schools as of 11 September.

Schools continue to be safe, and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health advice. All students should be learning on site unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.



### **Students should be at school unless:**

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe
- they are currently unwell.

In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms. Schools will make arrangements for students who present as unwell or have flu like symptoms to be sent home. Students and staff with flu like symptoms that have been absent from school for this reason, or sent home will need to provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result before being permitted to return to school.

Parents will be required fill out the COVID-19 Testing Form on School Stream. An automated email will then be sent to the parents email address requiring a reply with a screenshot of the results to be attached. Alternatively, parents can print off the negative result and send it in with the student. Should students return

to school without the school being provided with the negative test result or with ongoing symptoms, parents/carers will be immediately notified to provide the information or to come and collect the child.

**Additional safety measures for school activities have been put in place. These include:**

- Inter school activities must remain within the local community or zone. This applies to all interschool sport and physical activities, curriculum activities, arts activities and extra-curricular activities organised or sponsored by the school.
- Only providers that are essential to the delivery of curriculum can continue to provide services and programs until further notice.
- Parents/carers and other non-essential visitors are not allowed on the school site. If an academic or welfare meeting is required, these MUST be kept under 15minutes.

**The following events will be reconsidered for Term 4. For now, these events must remain on hold.**

- Kindergarten orientation
- Year 7 orientation
- School camps
- Excursions
- School or community run playgroups
- Face to face professional learning for staff.
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school events
- Parent and carer volunteers – e.g. parent reading helpers (note: canteen volunteers are permitted)
- School-based activities that involve large gathering of adults. These include parent/community gatherings such as parent functions, working bees, fundraisers, school BBQs, large parent information evenings, and large onsite cultural events.
- Interschool sport, drama, debating and other events that are not within the local community or zone including gala days and regional sporting carnivals.

Physical distancing of students in schools is not required under the AHPPC guidelines. All teachers, support staff and parents must maintain physical distance from each other (1.5m). Physical hygiene of sanitiser and washing hands will still remain at our school with the same importance.

# ***Online Check-in Assessments: Year 3 & 5***

The Check-in assessment is a NSW Department of Education online reading and numeracy assessment available to support schools to assess and monitor Year 3/5/9\* student learning following the period of learning from home.

The Check-in assessments can supplement existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

Year 5 have completed their check in assessments and Year 3 will be held in Week 10 commencing Monday 21st September. If you would like to discuss your child's results, please call and make an appointment to speak with Mr Bullock.

## ***Updated Emails***

Due to the arrangements made by the NSW DoE, we are required to have an updated list of parent contact emails for COVID-19 protocols. **We still have a number of families who have not completed this form online.** A new form has been made on School Stream and it is a requirement that all families fill out.



## ***Warm Ups***

Just a reminder that Tuesdays and Thursdays are 'Hot Lunch' days. This means we have the pie warmer ready to heat up food, such as mini pizzas, pies, sausage rolls etc. On these days, we ask that you please send the warm up item wrapped in foil, with names clearly marked on the outside. We will place a box near the front door for lunches to go straight in on these mornings. Please do not send warm up food on other days.

## ***Enrolments***

We are excited to announce we that we have a new Online Enrolment System which is now live and ready to use. The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for our parents to submit an enrolment application online and at the time that best suits you. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android. The online application process is currently restricted to:

- Enrolments into local schools only
- Children who are Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Children who live in NSW. We will offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If, however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy will be available for collection from

We welcome families of students who wish to enrol in Kindergarten and all others years for 2021 at Carcoar Public School. All new and prospective enrolments for Carcoar Public School are required to contact the school office to arrange an appointment with the School Principal.

Our Kindergarten Orientation Program has been impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, but will hopefully commence in Term 4.

Your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before 31 July in that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

**We look forward to welcoming new families to our school community.**



**Enrol now for 2021!**