



# Carcoar Public School Newsletter

*Out of the Past | Into the Future*

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Term 3 | Week 2 | Friday 29 July 2022

## From the Principal

Welcome back to another busy term. We have so many wonderful opportunities and experiences for our students, staff and community this term.

Over the course of the holidays, we had many school improvements thanks to the amazing Big Lift Crew. To find a group of young people who are willing to donate their time to schools and community groups across Regional NSW is amazing.



We would like to thank Miss Redmond for joining us the last 4 weeks of Term 2, on her 4-week placement. This term we welcome Mr Aniken every Wednesday on his first Primary placement. We enjoy working with Charles Sturt University and providing the opportunity for these beginning teachers to learn and grow at our school.

This week we have had the pleasure of welcoming four of our six 2023 Kindergarten cohort to our school on Wednesday. How exciting to have six eager, little people joining us next year. We look forward to watching them grow each week.



# Athletics Carnival

Finally, we had some sunshine and dry grounds to hold our annual Athletics Carnival with our Heritage Country Small Schools on our first Friday of Term 3.

Minus the wind chill factor, we had a lovely day competing with the most amazing sportsmanship and effort to match.



A big congratulations to all competitors and to Amity-Lea for being the senior girls champion for 2022!

Congratulations and Good luck to our students that will be competing at the District Carnival next Friday, Amity, Lewis, Adelia, Sophia, Louella, and Lilly.



# NAIDOC Day

This year, we hosted NAIDOC Day at our school on Friday, July 1, 2022, to finish off Term 3 with our Heritage Small Schools. We had a wonderful day learning and celebrating Aboriginal culture.



NAIDOC Week is held in the first week of July to celebrate and recognise the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for all Australians to learn about First Nations cultures and histories and participate in celebrations of the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. You can support and get to know your local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities through activities and events held across the country.



# Swimming

For Term 2, we have been taking part in swimming lessons each Monday at CentrePoint Sport and Leisure. On Monday June 27, we wrapped up the term with our students focusing on water safety activities. These included taking off a layer of clothing in the water, safe entry and exits, floating with objects, putting on a life jacket in the water, floating and swimming in a life jacket, and safe water tows to help save our friends.



The students had so much fun learning and building their knowledge and safe water skills. A big thank you to our instructors, Carissa, Ainsley and Karen. We will be continuing lessons throughout Term 3 each Monday.

# Phonics Assessment

The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is a quick assessment that tells teachers how your child is progressing in phonics. Phonics is important for students who are learning to read. This screening check observes how your child can read words with different letter combinations. The main purpose of the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check is to provide your child's teacher with information which will allow them to plan for your child's learning. Each child is individually assessed by a teacher and all Year 1 students will be assessed.

## Education Week

Education Week 2022 will be held from 1-5 August (Week 3, Term 3). This year's theme is 'creating futures – education changes lives' and celebrates the quality education we provide and the opportunities available to everyone in NSW public education. This year we continue to celebrate the journey students and learners take throughout the NSW Education system, focusing on how we are creating futures for our students, staff and families. From the first days in childcare to post-school pathways, our education system is preparing young people to be agile thinkers and lifelong learners.



We celebrate all types of learning that occurs at all levels across our education system, and we have a shared responsibility in helping to shape the lives and create the future of today's learners. Public education can change the lives of not just our students, but also the lives of our teachers, staff, families, and communities.

We look forward to sharing Education Week with you! Keep an eye on School Stream for our Education Week events.

# NCCD Collection

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial, or extensive.

## Uniforms

The wearing of school uniforms by students helps builds self-confidence and a sense of connection with their community. It is important that school uniform requirements are developed in collaboration with the school community. Throughout this term we will be conducting a uniform review, ready for implementation in 2023. We invite you to participate in this review to share your thoughts and review the proposed changes to the school uniform. LWR, our uniform supplier has provided samples to review.

Our uniform meeting will take place, Thursday 4 August (week 3) from 2PM in the library.

## P&C Meeting

Our P&C meeting will take place, Thursday 4 August (week 3) from 2:30pm in the library, straight after our Uniform Meeting.

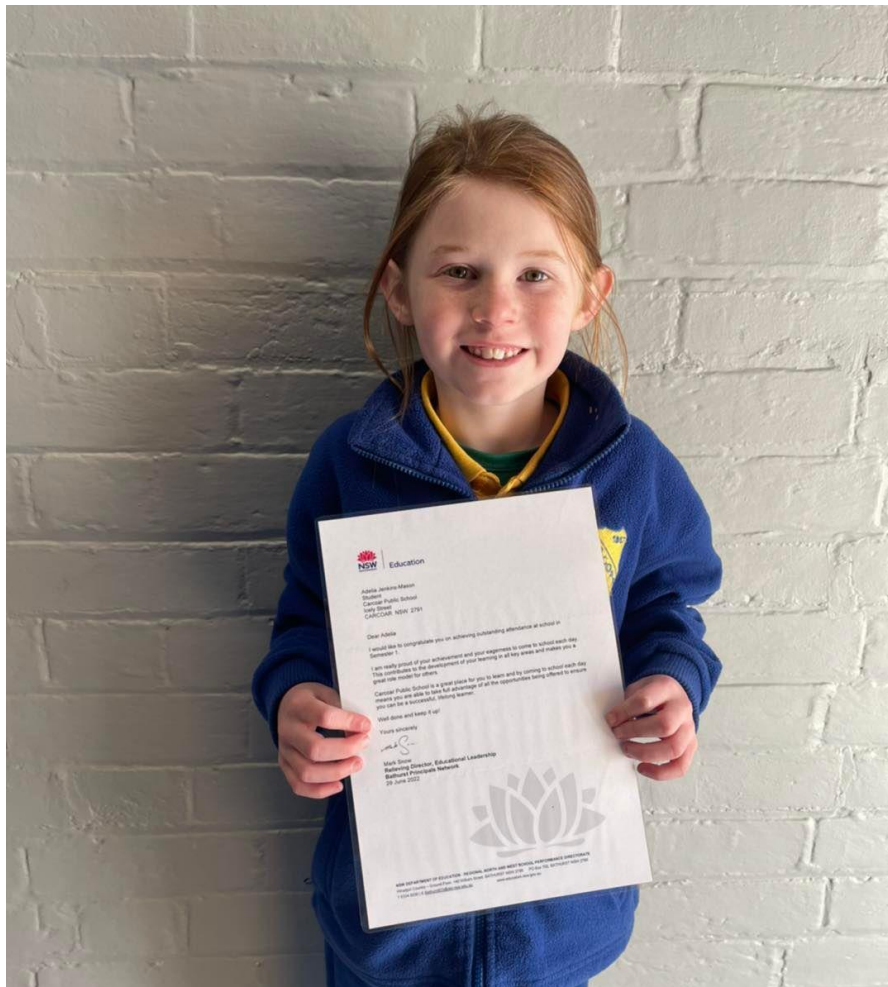


# Reports

At the end of last semester, we sent home your child's report. We hope you found them informative and easy to read. As we changed our report template, we are seeking feedback on whether you preferred the new format and how we could improve them for the next reporting cycle. If you would like to discuss your child's progress, please contact the office to arrange a time to meet with the teaching staff.

## Amazing Attendance

A very big Congratulations to Adelia for 100% attendance throughout semester 1! Adelia received a letter of merit from our Relieving Director, Educational Leadership Mr Mark Snow to acknowledge this achievement and we presented her with this special letter.



**We are very proud of our attendance superstar!**

# The Big Lift

In the holidays we had the most amazing experience with The Big Lift crew at Carcoar Public School!

The Big Lift is a student-run volunteering organisation at The University of Technology Sydney. Founded in 2010 on the philosophy of 'paying it forward', they provide a platform for students to volunteer and engage deeply with local and regional communities.

The Big Lift team arrived at Carcoar on Saturday to very miserable, cold rainy weather. They slept in our school building and spent Sunday morning, gardening, painting and cleaning up, in worse weather than the day before.

Thank you to the Big Lift for paying it forward to our beautiful School and Village, we are very grateful for experience!





# Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximise their potential. Students are required to attend school each day unless they are unwell.

NSW Department of Education

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun



## Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1

day per fortnight



= 4 weeks



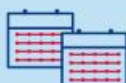
= Over 1 year missed

1

day per week



= 8 weeks



= Over 2.5 years missed

# COVID-19 Update

In Term 3 2022, our school will operate with a number of COVID-smart measures that have been developed with NSW Health to minimise transmission and keep schools open.

These key measures include:

- strongly encouraging mask-wearing indoors for all students and staff
- rapid antigen testing (RAT) of students and staff who have COVID-19 symptoms or are identified as household/close contacts
- strongly recommending staff and students keep up to date with their vaccinations
- maximising natural ventilation
- encouraging regular hand washing
- boosting enhanced day cleaning of schools
- assessing risk and applying appropriate safeguards across activities and events
- learning remotely where face-to-face learning is not possible.

In certain circumstances, NSW Health and the Department of Education may advise that additional COVID-smart measures be temporarily reintroduced at your school. Your principal will work with the Health, Safety and Staff Wellbeing Case Management team and provide further details of any changes to COVID-smart measures at your school, when required.

## RAT Testing

- If a student is unwell and has any COVID-19 symptoms, even the mildest of symptoms, they should always test for COVID-19.
- If the test comes back negative for COVID-19, the student should still not return to school until either:
  - The student no longer has any symptoms, or
  - A medical certificate is provided to the school confirming that symptoms are explained by another diagnosis (such as hay fever)



- It is important that students do not attend school if they are unwell, even if they have tested negative for COVID-19. Rapid antigen tests can produce false negative results and symptoms of other illnesses can also be similar to COVID-19, including flu, the common cold and stomach bugs. Health advice is that students who are sick should always stay home to rest and recover and avoid putting other students and staff at risk of getting sick.

## Household/Close Contacts

Being together in a classroom is the most effective way for students to learn and grow. Since COVID-19 remains a relatively mild illness for most children, the NSW Government is committed to school safety in 2022.

Students and staff who are identified as household/close contacts and have no symptoms can attend school (excluding schools for specific purposes (SSPs) and support units) if they follow certain guidelines agreed with NSW Health in addition to the NSW Health Guidelines.

- They must notify the school and/or early childhood education (ECE) service provider (including their outside of school hours care provider) if they are intending to return under this provision.
- They should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result each morning before attending school for 5 school days.
- No student or staff member identified as a household/close contact will be permitted to participate in overnight excursions, including school camps.

Any visitor to a school site who is a household/close contact is required to advise the school that they are a household/close contact before they come on site. These visitors should conduct a daily RAT and return a negative result before attending. They must also wear a mask indoors at all times. Schools should consider if the visit can be conducted virtually.

# Looking Beyond 2022

We are currently in the process of organising our 2023 Kindergarten Information packs as well as expressions of interest for Year 7 2023. Just a reminder, enrolment forms for 2023 enrolments are now available to complete online at your earliest convenience. You can access these through our school website.



If you know of children within the school community that will be starting school in 2023, please let us know and spread the word about our wonderful small school.

## School Communication



For 2022, we will continue to streamline all our administration process and use SchoolStream as our main form of communication with our families.

SchoolStream will be used to send out any information and updates such as school closures, permission notes, uniforms orders, school events and student absences. We ask that you ensure you have this app downloaded, an account created, and your notifications turned on. We also encourage all adults in your family to utilise this app.

Facebook will be used to share school celebrations, share success and promote positive stories about Carcoar Public School. Facebook will also be used to post anything urgent. Please like our page!



If you have any concerns or feedback regarding school communication, please share your thoughts so that we can continue to improve our ways in which we communicate.