

Monday • October 15 • 2018

Dear Parents,

The staff and I welcome you back to Soldiers Point for the fourth and final term. We trust you've had a refreshing holiday with some fun, family adventures.

Term 4 is a 10-week term concluding for students on Wednesday, December 19. Some of our planned activities include: Stage 2's Great Aussie Bush Camp, Stage 1's Excursion to Hunter Wetlands Centre, Hunter Thinkfest for our Opportunity Class, further orientation for our 2019 Kindergarten students, as well as our annual Twilight Bandstand, Year 6 Farewell & Celebration Day.

NAPLAN

All students in Years 3 & 5 will have received their NAPLAN report toward the end of Term 3. The school's NAPLAN results are healthy again this year which is a positive reflection on the great learning that occurs each day at SPPS.

Our analysis has identified areas of strength and some to develop further. I've included some percentages and how SPPS compares with state averages in the areas of reading and mathematics. *The percentages included are for the top 3 skill bands i.e. Year 3 = Bands 4-6 & Year 5 = Bands 6-8.*

Year 3	Strand	School	State
	Reading	77	70
	Numeracy	82	66
Year 5	Reading	72	58
	Numeracy	67	53

We all congratulate our students on their achievements in this year's NAPLAN. I think it's also important to recognise and thank our teachers and parents for their committed efforts in supporting all our students in their learning adventure.

Parent Survey

Our annual Parent Survey, which provides us with your valuable feedback, as well as ideas for future improvement, will be closing on Friday, October 26. I urge parents to take the time to complete the survey as it really does provide us with helpful information from a parent's perspective and ideas we are able to consider in future planning.

A few of the improvements the school has achieved this year, which are a direct response to your feedback in 2017, include:

- *Renewal of the student report;*
- *More consistent implementation of YCDI; and*
- *K-2 Sports Day.*

To complete the survey click on the below link:

<https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/soldierspoint>

A note will also be sent home on Wednesday, October 15, to all students in Years 4-6 regarding completion of the student survey.

Organisation

As we move closer to the end of the 2018 school year we need to ensure that we are organised for 2019. One of our annual challenges is to know how many students will start school each year and to organise classes based on these numbers. To assist, we ask families with children in Kindergarten to Year 5, who will be leaving the school at the end of 2018, inform the school at your earliest convenience. This will enable us to plan our teachers and classes for next year.

If leaving, please inform the school via email, soldierspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au or call into the office by Tuesday, October 23, so we can continue planning for next year.

Term Dates

Term 4 – Week 1

Monday 15 th October	Term 4 Commences
Tuesday 16 th October	Stage 2 Camp
Wednesday 17 th October	Stage 2 Camp
Thursday 18 th October	
Friday 19 th October	

Term 4 – Week 2

Monday 22 nd October	Stage 1 Woodworking
Tuesday 23 rd October	Stage 1 Woodworking
Wednesday 24 th October	
Thursday 25 th October	
Friday 26 th October	

Term 4 – Week 3

Monday 29 th October	
Tuesday 30 th October	Stage 1 Excursion - Wetlands
Wednesday 31 st October	AECG Meeting
	Stage 3 Boat Safety
Thursday 1 st November	
Friday 2 nd November	

Term 4 – Week 4

Monday 5 th November	Stage 2 Woodworking
Tuesday 6 th November	Stage 2 Woodworking
	Oakvale Farm Kindergarten
Wednesday 7 th November	Year 6-7 Transition Activity
	School Improvement & Finance Meeting
Thursday 8 th November	
Friday 9 th November	Remembrance Assembly

Term 4 – Week 5

Monday 12 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Tuesday 13 th November	Year 2 Swim School
	Stage 3 World of Maths
	P&C Meeting
Wednesday 14 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Thursday 15 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Friday 16 th November	Year 2 Swim School

Term 4 – Week 6

Monday 19 th November	Kindergarten Orientation
	Year 2 Swim School
Tuesday 20 th November	Kindergarten Orientation
	Parent Information Session for

Wednesday 21st NovemberThursday 22nd NovemberFriday 23rd November

Kindergarten 2018

Year 2 Swim School

Kindergarten Orientation

Year 2 Swim School

Year 2 Swim School

Year 2 Swim School

Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 26 th November	Kindergarten Orientation
	Mackellar Girls High School Band Visit
Tuesday 27 th November	Kindergarten Orientation
Wednesday 28 th November	Kindergarten Orientation
	AECG Meeting
Thursday 29 th November	
Friday 30 th November	

Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 3 rd December	
Tuesday 4 th December	Year 6-7 Transition Activity - THS
Wednesday 5 th December	
Thursday 6 th December	
Friday 7 th December	

Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 10 th December	
Tuesday 11 th December	Year 6 Farewell
Wednesday 12 th December	Scripture Assembly @ 1:30
Thursday 13 th December	
Friday 14 th December	Celebration Day
	Student reports sent home

Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 17 th December	
Tuesday 18 th December	
Wednesday 19 th December	Term 4 concludes for students
Thursday 20 th December	Staff development day
Friday 21 st December	Staff development day

Year 7 Entry into Selective High School in 2020

Application information for selective high school entry in 2020 has been sent home today. Please follow the instructions if you intend your child to apply for Selective High School placement in 2020. Applications close on 12th November 2018. The placement test will be held on Thursday 14th March 2019.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

*19th October
No Assembly*

*26th October
2.15pm – Whole School
Class Councilor Induction*

All Welcome

Important Update

UPDATE ON WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK WWCC

As from January 2019 all –

Classroom Volunteers

Canteen Helpers

*Anyone transporting students in private cars (other than
their own children)*

will need to apply and have an Unpaid Volunteer WWCC number. **This is free** and must be applied for on-line at
- <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

After receiving your WWCC Number please bring to the school office and we can place you on our data base.

If for some reason you do not have access to a computer please let the school office know and we can help you to apply on-line.

If you do not have this WWCC number, from 2019 you will not be able to help at the school as a Volunteer.

Thank you

Bronwyn Sherman - Admin Manager

Visual Arts

At the beginning of Term 4, your child will be involved in a Whole School Art Program in order to produce a piece of artwork which may be reproduced into greeting cards, calendars, diaries, notebooks and tote bags.

Tote bags are a new item this year and should prove to be a popular choice considering the recent ban on plastic bags. Usually this activity is well supported within our school community.

The aim of the program is to celebrate art, not to raise money; therefore costs have been kept to a minimum.

Cards and calendars: \$10.00 each

Diaries and notebooks: \$15.00 each

Tote Bags \$18.00 each

Samples of all items can be viewed in the office foyer.

Artwork will be sent home in this term for you to view.

To order, simply fill in the required number of items in the boxes on front of the artwork, and return the artwork and money to the office who will then pass artwork onto your child's teacher for ordering.

Rose Aitchison

School Opal Cards – Term 4

The School Opal card gives eligible school students free or subsidised travel on public transport between home and school on trains, buses, ferries and light rail in the Opal network.

Starting Term 4 - **ALL students** will be reminded that they are required to use their School Opal Cards every time they catch the bus to AND from school. Students who fail to use the School Opal Card will initially receive a warning and then a possible suspension off ALL school services for subsequent offences. To prevent issues with their travel, please ensure your child has an School Opal Card and is aware that they must use it every time they catch the school bus.

For more information about the School Opal card, visit
<https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students>

O'Grady Drama

TOMAREE DRAMA
 DRAMA CLASSES on MONDAYS in the Primary Hall

Primary Ages 7-11yrs 4pm - 5pm

Youth Ages 12-16yrs 5pm - 6pm

Enrol now for TERM 4

Call Shane today Ph: 49692338

IMPROV & SCRIPTS... ACT & PERFORM!



Principal: Shane Skerly

Phone: 02 49 692338

Email: dramacorp@bigpond.com

Facebook : Helen O'Grady Drama Academy - Newcastle

<http://www.helenogradys.com.au/academies/newcastle-district>