

**Monday 11 November 2019**

Dear Parents,

It was an honour to join in the school's Remembrance Day commemorative assembly this morning, which was appropriately meaningful and respectful. Our student leaders did a superb job leading the assembly which was indeed a moving event.

I thank and congratulate all students involved, many of whom have parents currently employed in the defence forces. Thank you to Mrs Fuimaono for her coordination of the assembly.

### State Runner

Congratulations to Mia in Year 2 for being selected to represent Soldiers Point and the Hunter Region at the NSWPSA Athletics Carnival in Sydney last week.

Mia competed in the 100 metres finishing with a very respectable time of 15.68 seconds, which placed her 13<sup>th</sup> overall. This is a super achievement, Mia.



### Survey Results

Thank you to the many families and students who completed the 2019 Tell Them From Me survey. The survey findings and comments will be explored further at a number of Parent Forums which will be held on November 20 (6:30-8:00pm) and November 22 (9:30-11:00am). These forums will be run by members of the School Improvement and Finance Committee (parents). Invitations for the Parent Forums will be sent out to some families over the next few days.

### Bush Fire Preparation

We are indeed fortunate to have such a beautiful school environment which has an abundance of flora and fauna. Of course, having such a treed site comes the increased exposure to bush fire.

As a school we prepare our site, staff & students for such an occurrence by ensuring firebreaks & gardens are well maintained, and fire protection equipment is tested and working. Additionally, we prepare all staff and students for possible emergency situations by having evacuation and lockdown drills each term. We also regularly check fire danger ratings, including local fire activity and alert levels at [rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au) and the *Fires Near Me* app.

Whilst we prepare our site, staff and students as well as we can, in an emergency situation, communication is critical. For this reason, I strongly encourage all families to add the Skoolbag app to their phones as this will be our primary method of communication in an emergency. Skoolbag has an alert feature, which is how we would inform parents if we were required to evacuate. Details of how to download Skoolbag onto your phone are included later in this newsletter.

The staff and I have been made aware that members of the wider community have shared information via social media which includes Soldiers Point Public School on a list of schools to *Cease Operations* (close) if the alert level is catastrophic. Soldiers Point is located in a bush fire prone area, however, it is not deemed as high risk compared to other schools across NSW. At this stage, the school will be operating tomorrow. If a decision is made to cease operations, I will notify the community via Skoolbag and the school's Facebook page.

# TERM 4

## Term 4 – Week 5

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Swim School (Week 1) Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30am Evening of Music 5-7:45pm Selective High School Applications Close Cultural Workshop
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Peer Support

## Term 4 – Week 6

Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Swim School (Week 2)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	High School Maths Teacher Visit 9:00am
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	High School English Teacher Visit 10:00am Parent Forum 6:30-8pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parent Forum 9:30-11am

## Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Indigenous Transition Tomaree High School
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Stage 2 Camp
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Stage 2 Camp

## Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	2020 OC Information Session at 2:00pm
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Yr 6 @ Tomaree High School
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 Woollies Cup Cricket – Nelson Bay Year 6 Transition Activity
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Twilight Concert – all schools
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	

## Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Scripture Assembly 1:30pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Farewell, SPBC
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration Day – 9:30am Colour Run

## Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Students' Last Day</b>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Development Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Staff Development Day

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Listed below are Departmental requirements for student absences both **Whole Days & Part Days**.

**Whole Day Absences** must be in writing (eg. Note from parent/guardian, Skoolbag, Email). Phone call will be taken but must be followed by a note.

**Late or Slept In** are no longer justified reasons for being late to school. They will be recorded as **Explained** but **Unjustified**. Any student not accompanied by a parent and arriving **Late** will be marked as **Unexplained** and a letter will be sent home to parents for explanation.

***Students who are late will be escorted to class by a school staff member if needed. Parents will not need to escort their child to class.***

Any student who is away for more than two days without explanation will receive a phone call from the Class Teacher. Student absences **MUST BE explained within 7 days**. School generated letters are sent home every week if students have **Unexplained** absences.

Absences which are not explained **within 7 days** will be recorded as **Explained** but **Unjustified**.

Any student picked up by a Parent, Guardian, Emergency Contact must come to the office for an **Early Leavers Slip** before picking up the student.

***No student(s) can be picked up directly from the classroom/playground. Early leavers will be sent to the office after Early Leaver Slip is generated.***

If you have any questions please come to the office for clarification. Thank you

# SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

**Friday 15 November 2019**

No Assembly

**Friday 22 November 2019 – 2:15pm**

Years 3-6

**All Welcome**

## P&C SCHOOL DISCO

THANK YOU THANK YOU

A huge Thank You to the wonderful DJ Tim Halls for so kindly donating his time and skills to DJ the Disco for so many years. We truly appreciate all that you have done.

Also a Thank You to the enormously kind people at White Sands Bistro and Salamander Superstrike for again generously donating to the P&C Disco.

And finally Thank You to all of the parents who volunteered on the night to help make our Disco a fun and safe night for all the students.

SPPS P&C

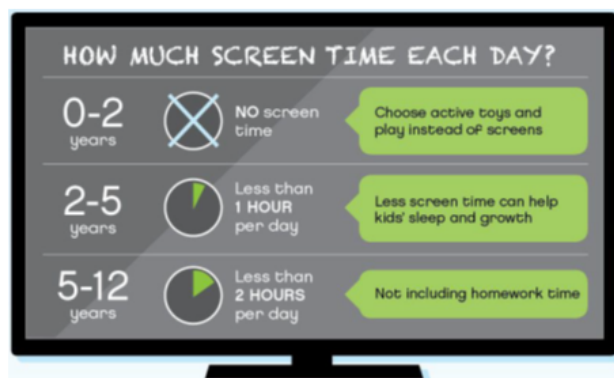
## Good for Kids good for life

### TURN OFF SCREENS AND GET ACTIVE!

Screens can be great for learning, play and communication, but too much screen time can be unhealthy. Try to sit less and move more.

How can parents help?

- Ensure kids have at least one hour of physical activity a day,
- Limit kids total screen time to less than 2 hours per day,
- Remove TV sets and computers from your child's bedroom,
- Encourage other types of fun that include both physical and social activities, like walking the dog or joining a sports team.



Source: Make Healthy Normal and the 24hour Movement Guidelines

## PARK SAFELY

Parking in and around any school at drop off & pick up times is a challenge. Our school is no different as we have cars, buses, bicycles and pedestrians moving in all directions. To ensure our children's safety it is imperative that we all respect and follow local road & parking rules. Failure to do so may result in a fine being issued by the NSW Police Force or Port Stephens Council Rangers.

**I remind parents that the car park on the northern side of the school's hall is available for staff & parent parking, it is not a drop off / pick up zone.**

Our pick up & drop off zone is on Bagnall Avenue (south of the staff car park). Parking must be in the bays provided and cars should be parked with their rear to the kerb. Parents are also urged not to drive up the gutter and park on the grass.

## KINDERGARTEN 2020

If you have a child starting with us in 2020 and have not yet submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) we encourage you to do so. To obtain an EOI you can either call into the school office or download it from the school's website. The website also lists all the dates of this year's transition activities.

**Christ the King of Christmas**  
**Colin Buchanan**  
Sunday 8th December @ Nelson Bay Baptist Church

5pm - Free Christmas festival + BBQ. Face painting, craft, photo booth, slot cars, fun activities for all ages	6:30pm - Concert starts 19 Government Rd, Nelson Bay <b>\$10</b> Adults and Children 3+ To book go to: <a href="http://www.nelsonbaybaptist.org">www.nelsonbaybaptist.org</a>
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## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



### For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

### For Windows 8.1 Phone and Windows 8.1 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 8.1 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones, or Windows 8.1 and 10 devices.

