



The Blue and White Armidale City Public School



the heart of Armidale

Quality teaching since 1861

9 December 2020



Congratulations to our Assembly Award Recipients...

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Calendar

10 December	Year 6 Dinner
11 December	Presentation Day
16 December	Last Day for Term 4
27 January	Staff Development Day
28 January	Staff Development Day
29 January	Year 1-6 Student First Day
2 February	Kindergarten First Day

MUFTI DAY

Tomorrow, Thursday 10 December, we are holding a Mufti Day.

This will allow time for washing of uniforms so students will be dressed in uniform on Friday for Presentation Day...

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As the year draws to a close, I would like to recognise our staff, students and community for their resilience during 2020. In the last twelve months we have experienced drought, bushfires, flooding, a pandemic and damaging storm. Let us hope that the air remains clear, any fires are easily controlled, the rain replenishes water reserves without doing damage and our community remains free of COVID-19 into the future and especially in 2021.

This last week has been extremely busy. The stormy weather held off and we managed to finalise water safety lessons for students in Years 3 - 6 last Friday. Our primary students have been able to finish the year with a fun day at the pool this morning. **Mr Commen's** class ventured out for an excursion to Mt Yarrowyck instead. Next Tuesday, students in K-2 will have the opportunity to have some fun under the sprinklers. Please understand that we will be using the tank water so that we still comply with the council's water restrictions.

Celebrating our own

Yesterday was an extremely busy day. We started the day with our strings group and orchestra performing two concerts for students and staff, the first for K-2 and then 3-6. It was the first opportunity this year for these students to perform for an audience. The strings group performed two very different pieces *Matchmaker* and *Liebertango*, accompanied by their teacher, **Laura**

Carotta. The orchestra then played *Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps* followed by a piece from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and finished with *Jingle Bell Rock*. We took this opportunity to recognise Laura, who has worked with our orchestra for a number of years.

A special assembly was held yesterday afternoon, where forty students were presented with a special certificate recognising their efforts in *excelling with honour* throughout Term 4. We also had the opportunity to recognise **Mrs MacGregor** and **Mrs Thomas** for 30 Years of Service with the Department of Education. Students and staff showed great pride when acknowledging these two long-serving staff members.



In addition, we held our second raffle for the year to recognise students for their positive attendance. Students who have maintained 100% attendance for the first eight weeks of this term were placed in two draws (K-2 and 3-6) for \$40 vouchers to the movies. The following five draws of the raffle for a \$10 K-Mart voucher included students maintaining five or less days of justified absence as well as those with 100%. A further five draws were made with students selecting from a range of inexpensive prizes. The following students were successful in being drawn from the raffle:

\$40 vouchers - **Josie, Alexis**

\$10 vouchers - **Zion, Quinn, Taylah, Sidharth, Aayan**

Lucky dip prizes - **Matilda, Lilah, Hannah, Kaedyn, Mem**

Further raffles will be held in 2021 to recognise students who attend regularly and have all absences justified. We ask that parents ensure that children are at school on time and only away for justifiable reasons, with all absences explained within seven days of the first day of absence.

Presentation Day broadcasts

An email has been sent to parents earlier in the week with information to join the Zoom webinars for Presentation Day on Friday. This will be a closed event open only to those people for who we have email addresses. We ask for your patience in relation to the fluid starting times, particularly for the K-2 assembly, and your understanding if any technical glitches occur. The audience will be admitted to the webinars once students are seated and we are about to start proceedings. Students without permission to publish for this event will be presented with awards after the broadcasts are complete.

Damaging winds

Last weekend our school was impacted by strong winds.



Sadly, one of our older pine trees on the main oval was affected. The tree roots were dislodged, causing the tree to lean dangerously.

As a result, the tree was removed on Monday.

End of year reports

Student reports will be provided to students next Monday, 14 December 2020. Parents are reminded that children in Years 1 - 6 who are achieving at the expected level will be seen as 'sound' and awarded a C grade. Please take the time to read the explanation of grades on the front of each report. Kindergarten students will not receive a grade like older children. We ask that you consider the impact that COVID-19 has had on the learning of students this year when reading report comments.

Dates for the calendar

Holidays commence on Thursday, 17 December. Students going into Years 1 - 6 will return to school on Friday, 29 January 2021. Kindergarten will start on Tuesday, 2 February 2021 after participating in Best Start assessments. More information to be provided to parents of enrolled Kinder students before the end of this year.

Thank you

Thanks to the commitment of our community on following the recommendations around staying home if unwell and implementing appropriate hygiene measures, the overall attendance rate for Semester 2 this year is much better than for the same period in 2019 (89.6% in 2019 and 91.8% in 2020).

The Department of Education has informed us that we should be able to send a COVID-safe summer pack to each student before the year ends. The contents of the pack will help students maintain healthy hygiene practices and to stay COVID-safe during the school holidays.

Here are some quick tips to help you and your families stay COVID-safe during the school holidays:

- Encourage your children to use their packs whenever they leave the house
- Meet outdoors whenever possible and wear sunscreen
- Meet in small groups
- Encourage good hand hygiene practices and remind your children to cough and sneeze into their elbow

Keep up-to-date with the latest health information by monitoring the [NSW Government website External link](#)

From all of us at Armidale City Public School, be safe and enjoy the school holidays. I look forward to seeing our returning and new students and their families in the new year.

Take care,

Ms Deborah Nay
Principal

Congratulations

KB	Unique and Ria	3/4B	Dipankar and Katherine
KP	Nora and Darcy		
KR	Grace and Sandar	3/4E	Hayley and Charlie
K/1G	Cohen and Willow	3/4R	Tristen and Monty
1/2W	Isaac and Alfred	3/4C	Isabelle and Victory
1/2JS	Keziah and Fatiha	4/5S	Lola and Jesse
1/2L	Penn and Jacob	5/6J	Bowden and William
1/2B	Susannah and Amelia	5/6T	Sonam and Jade
1/2D	Semi and Nina	5/6C	Emily and Zac
1/2C	Minh and Reuben	5/6K	Henry and Danika
		5/6R	Darcy and William



Orchestra Performance