



Charlestown Public School

Newsletter Term 4 Week 10 – Wednesday 16 December 2020

A proud partner of the Whitebridge Community of Schools

Dear Parents/Carers

Presentation Day – Stage 2 & 3 – 2020

Welcome special guests, ladies and gentleman, boys and girls to Charlestown Public School's Years 3-6 Presentation Day 2020.

I would also like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay my respects to the Awabakal elders both past, present and future.

2020 has indeed been an unusual, yet amazing year for Charlestown Public School. Who could forget the Corona Virus which turned all of our lives upside down? A new way of learning instantly! Our staff were outstanding, being given less than two hours to put together work packs lasting three weeks. Our students and all of you rose to the occasion and took on the role of "learning from home". Combining Zoom meetings with online reading, maths and spelling programs was a huge achievement. We did it together! Never have I been so grateful for your continued support, your positive words and patience whilst our staff reorganised their whole way of teaching in a very tight time frame. Thank you for respecting our "Return to School" guidelines, and observing our social distancing processes. I along with all of you learnt some new vocabulary this year, terms such as COVID-19, learning from home, working from home, social distancing, hand sanitizing, Zoom, Teams, ISO, bubble, quarantining, and of course the constant search for toilet paper, just to name a few. But look at us now! Healthy and well – social distancing, but still sitting together in the hall.

This year our main focus has been encouraging our students to be responsible, respectful, and safe students who act with gratitude, integrity and kindness. Our school program 'Grow with Gratitude' has been really successful in reminding students of the 5 habits of happiness: developing an attitude of gratitude, being a well-being warrior, conducting random acts of kindness, being positive and finally, operation home service. I'm hoping that you noticed your child helping out at home more!!!! Our school motto "Integrity" in its simplest form means how you behave when no one else is watching you. We have talented school leaders who have shown integrity throughout the year, students going on excursions to Morisset and representing us at Zone and Regional swimming carnivals have all made good choices in displaying integrity.

Staff have also been preparing students to develop the characteristics of a good learner. Our students now have a range of strategies on how to improve their learning from being risk takers, using self-talk, having a growth mindset, being curious and setting goals to using feedback with their peers and teacher.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

16.12.20	Last day for students
	2021 Term 1
27.1.21	Staff Development Day Uniform Shop 9-11am
28.1.21	Staff Development Day Uniform Shop 9-11am
28.1- 1.2.21	Kinder Best Start
29.1.21	Y1-6 Students Return
29.1.21	Swimming Carnival
2.2.21	Kinder Start- Various times

Our students have given their best and our school has had marvellous successes. Our Check-in assessments for Yr 5 results showed excellent value added growth in all areas for Yr 5 and in Yr 3 we increased students in the top two bands for reading and numeracy. In the PAT test for reading and maths our Yr 2 students have achieved well above the average norms. Our students have improved their short term/long term memory with excellence in warm ups.

In Creative and Practical Arts our dance, choir and musical groups have had few opportunities to perform so we made our own mini concerts and enjoyed the many talents of our dancers and musicians.

Our specialist music teacher, Mrs Walsh has worked with her percussion band and a drumming group, as well as the talented ukulele group. Our music program provides rich and varied activities enhancing students' engagement. Special thanks also to Mrs Lynch, our Assistant Principal-Hearing, who has instructed the school signing choir in their rendition of the National Anthem.

In the sporting arena our school enjoyed themselves with the swimming, cross country and athletic carnivals being fun days for all. Students represented the school in swimming this year. One of our students represented the Zone at Regional swimming, finishing 3rd in the Hunter region. All students enjoyed cross country, tennis and gymnastics coaching sessions and our students participated in Lifeskills sessions. Our students organised successful fundraisers for Stewart House, Mark Hughes Brain Cancer foundation and Jeans for Genes Day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P&C for their support of the school in 2020. Our President, Linda Todorovski is supported by her fellow executive, Vice Presidents Amy Thompson and Therese Thompson, Secretary Kate King, Treasurer Vanessa Bulloch and Assistant Treasurer Kylee Lowe. These ladies are the engine room of P&C working behind the scenes to keep the organisation running. From all of

us here we thank you for always being there for us. Whilst we are lucky to have a small band of volunteers, new helpers would be most welcome!

This year we also acknowledge the contributions of our parents, Kylee and Patrick Lowe, Emma Nelson, Renee and Marcus Geale and Sonia Taylor whose youngest children Jackson, Noah, Patrick, Aidan and Michael are leaving the school this year. We appreciate all of your support throughout the years and thank you for your valuable time and tireless effort, dedication and passion at our school. There are also many others who have been there for us: reading group helpers, BBQ chefs, chauffeurs, canteen volunteers and clothing shop ladies. We have really valued your support this year.

Thank you to our Canteen Committee led by Maryanne Sternbeck and Laura Van Kraay with Vanessa Bulloch as the treasurer. You have done a marvellous job adhering to the COVID safety rules, implementing the new canteen strategy and also an extremely tasty canteen menu.

Our teaching staff also deserve special thanks in 2020. It has been a challenging yet rewarding year with so many changes to our normal routines. You have embraced them all and I am in total awe of your dedication and professionalism. We have implemented a new PDHPE curriculum and also rewritten our English Concepts units. This year all staff were trained in Zoom and other online learning components.

We welcomed two new staff in Mrs Cromarty and Miss Sawyer, and our two kinder teachers, Miss Darcy and Mrs Taylor gained permanent teaching positions at Charlestown Public School. Congratulations also to Mrs Neale who gained a permanent teaching position at Belmont Christian College. We will be very sad to see you go. The staff always give that bit extra to encourage positive relationships and providing the best learning opportunities for your child. The excellent outcomes achieved by our students are a credit to the staff of Charlestown Public

School and the close partnership with parents who value their child's education.

Our teachers are always well supported by our ancillary staff led by Mrs Rayna Bartsch and Mrs Kylee Lowe. Rayna and Kylee have done a wonderful job. Both of these ladies have put on their happy faces and cared for the sick and injured students and ensured our school's finances are on track. Our Student Learning Support Officers also deserve special mention Mrs Christie, Mrs Douglass, Mrs Filo and Mr Barlow. It is with great sadness that we farewell Mr Barlow and Mrs Filo who have decided to call it a day. They provided the coal face support for our students and teachers, performing jobs well beyond the call of duty.

To our Year 6 students, your last year of primary school has been very different and one I'm sure you will always remember. Your maturity, sense of fun and perspective have made you a credit to your families and your school. I hope that you take away happy memories and a significant repertoire of skills, knowledge and values as you move to high school. A special mention to our School Captains, Summer and Michael, Prefects Patrick and Jack, and House Captains Aidan and Jackson who have contributed much to the school this year. It has been wonderful to watch your personal growth and maturity, in a very difficult COVID year. Congratulations and best wishes and I wish you every success in the years to come.

I would also like to thank Mrs Gill who is the principal organiser of today's event and our school leaders for compering today's proceedings.

In closing, thank you to all of the individuals, families and businesses that have supported our school during 2020. By working together in a trusting, honest relationship combined with your encouragement and support we have raised the academic bar for our children and encouraged respect, integrity, resilience and kindness. I look forward to having you once again part of our amazing school community.

From my family to you and your family, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Jayne Thompson
Principal

First Day 2021

The first two days for the teachers and office staff in 2021 are Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 January where staff will be completing mandatory training.

Classes for students in Years 1 to 6 in 2021, start on Friday 29 January 2021 and students competing in the swimming carnival will then walk to the pool with teachers.

Kindergarten students starting in 2021 have Best Start interviews from Thursday, 28 January until Monday 1 February with Mrs Taylor, Mrs Gill and Miss Darcy. Times have already been booked in with the Office.

All students in Kinder 2021 start on Tuesday 2 February – staggered start times – please check your Kinder orientation folder.

CLOTHING POOL

The Clothing Pool is available for online orders. To place an online order, please go to this link:

<https://form.jotform.co/73258295131861>

**The clothing pool will be open between:
9 – 11 am on Wednesday 27 January
and
9 – 11 am on Thursday 28 January 2021**

Please enter via the Dickinson Street gate. Uniform sales will be held at the clothing pool door.

CASH ONLY on these days.

Please observe COVID restrictions while in attendance.

We suggest that you place your order online and just come and collect it on the day. Your order should then be packed ready to go and you can quickly try things on for size if necessary and just swap out sizes if required.

2020 Award Recipients

Academic Achievement	Junior Sports person of the Year	<i>Matthew P</i>
Year 6 (DUX) <i>Jack J</i>	Senior Sports person of the Year	<i>Patrick G</i>
Year 5 <i>Jacob P</i>	Public Speaking	<i>Jackson L</i>
Year 4 <i>Mason H</i>	Paddy Sharpe All Rounder Award	<i>Aidan G</i>
Year 3 <i>Matthew P</i>	Bev Allen Library Award	<i>Madeleine S</i>
Year 2 <i>Dexter B</i>	NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Medal	<i>Liam M</i>
Year 1 <i>Arlo S</i>	Citizenship Award Senior	<i>Michael T</i>
Kindergarten <i>Parker H</i>	Citizenship Award Junior	<i>Samuel H</i>
	Matt Levin You Can Do It Award	<i>Lachlan B</i>

Class Awards		
KD	<i>Braxton J and Duke B Ruben G Ulysses K Audrey S and Logan F</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
KT	<i>Zoe H and Shannon W Hugo O Zachary F Darcy K and Zahra K</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
1/2D	<i>Aleesha P and Olivia T Oliver-Henry T Logan H Koda S and Zachary B</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
1S	<i>Jasmine M and Max B Sullivan H Zada M Levai T and Jaxon V-K</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
2N	<i>Marley H and Vuk Predojevic Finn J Rosie G-W Jasper F and Maisie E</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
3/4C	<i>Jay W and Sienna B Kevin M Jasper G Josie H and Jasper G</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
4/5P	<i>Mackenzie F and Brodie L Luke D-M Matthew M Caitlin M and Andon T</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>
6H	<i>Noah B and Ale-Xander K Charlotte H Jackson L Brodie T and Payton G</i>	<i>Effort & Enthusiasm Technology Home Reading Class Awards</i>

Sporting Awards		
Champions	Swimming	Athletics
Junior Girl	<i>Caitlin M</i>	<i>Lily M</i>
Junior Boy	<i>Matthew P</i>	<i>Jasper G</i>
Senior Girl	<i>Olivia J</i>	<i>Erika D</i>
Senior Boy	<i>Patrick G</i>	<i>Liam M</i>

CPS Public Speaking Awards	
Early Stage 1	<i>Annabel F</i>
Stage 1	<i>Monique L</i>
Stage 2	<i>Matthew M</i>
Stage 3	<i>Ewan P</i>

2021 Student Executive	
Captains:	<i>Brodie L and Caitlin M</i>
Prefects:	<i>Saramina F and Rianna K</i>
House Captains:	<i>Olivia J and Tiniwhetu K</i>

Library Awards	
<i>Rian B, Charlotte H, Mellissa N, Sitapak P and Madeleine S</i>	

Presentation Day







Year 6 Farewell



