



Principal's *Message*



We would like to welcome back all our students and families to the 2023 school year. We hope you all had a safe and relaxing holiday. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new students and families. It has been wonderful to see all the children settle into their new classes quickly and in a mature manner. A huge congratulations goes to our new Kindergarten students; they have adjusted to school beautifully and are now following class and school routines very well. We have an enrolment of 597 students, and we have formed 23 classes. Please see the newsletter insert for a list of the 2023 classes and staff.

We look forward to a fantastic year of learning and fun.

Meet the teacher and Welcome BBQ

On Wednesday 15th February we had our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions, followed by the 'Welcome BBQ'. This was a wonderful evening. It was great to see so many families attending the meetings and joining us for a BBQ sausage and some dancing. Thank you to our P&C members for hosting the BBQ and Disco. We are very fortunate to have an active and caring P&C. Thank you also to all staff who helped cook and serve hundreds of sausages.

Visit from the Police Youth Liaison Officer

On Monday 13th February we had Constable Shane and Constable Dean speak to our Stage 3 students about the safe use of devices and social media. As a staff we want to make sure all our students stay safe online and are aware of the consequences of inappropriate online behaviour and the digital print we leave behind. We will continue to address this topic with the students throughout the year.

Unfortunately, we still have students using devices inappropriately. Parents will be contacted each time this occurs. Students must also remember to hand in their mobile phone to the office as soon as they arrive at school (not when the bell rings).

Please make sure you and your child are aware of the current digital policy. Misuse of technology can lead to loss of privileges and a ban from using devices at school.

Student Safety

We have had several calls from concerned neighbours reporting students' inappropriate behaviour before and after school at the local Bradman Street Park and Merrylands Sports Ground. To ensure students' safety, we have staff members on duty at the main entrance, the gate opposite Taylor Street and near the crossing on Bradman Street to supervise students leaving the grounds at the end of the school day. Students who are waiting to be picked should wait with the teachers at one of these exit points. Any student that has not been picked up by 3:10 pm will be taken to the office where they will need to be signed out by a parent or carer. Students who walk, are encouraged to walk directly to school in the morning and walk home immediately after the bell rings at the end of the day.

Please note that students should not be on school grounds before 8:25 am unless they attend Before and After School Care or are accompanied by a parent or carer. Teacher supervision commences at 8:25 am.

Up to date contact details

From time to time there is a change in family contact details and addresses. It is extremely important that you let the school know of any changes regarding family contact details (including change to emergency contacts). This ensures that we can contact family members if the need arises.

Regards,

Maria Dichiera



GREYSTANES PUBLIC SCHOOL

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(02) 9631 4000
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From the



Deputy's Desk



Week 5 Term 1 2023

PAX Good Behaviour Game

At the beginning of this year, all GPS teachers were trained in implementing the PAX Good Behaviour Game.

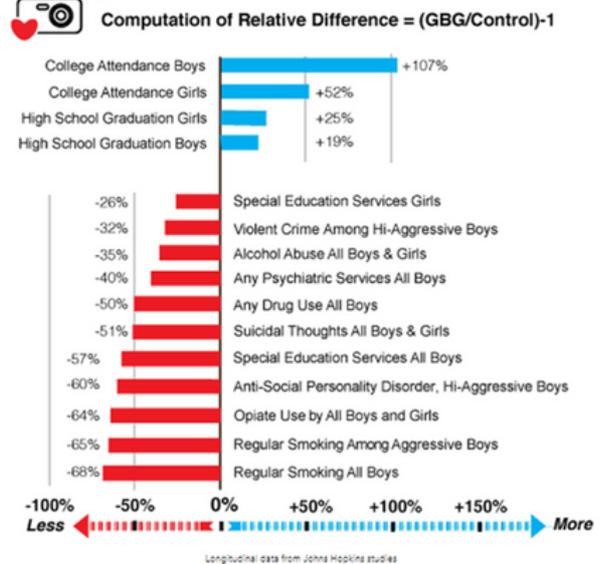
PAX means peace, productivity, health and happiness, and is what the PAX Good Behaviour Game helps create and strengthen in each classroom.

PAX GBG consists of proven behavioural strategies used daily by teachers with students. The 10 evidence-based and trauma informed strategies build self-regulation in children, strengthen peer networks, reduce impulsivity and teach prosocial decision-making in children. The 'peaceful' classroom environment supports learning, wellbeing, participation and confidence.

PAX GBG develops students who can be fully attentive and engaged in learning so teachers can use their time and resources to teach. Schools using PAX GBG report:

- Increased time for teaching and learning
- Increased attention to and completion of academic tasks
- Engaged learners
- Improved learning outcomes including reading scores
- Reduction in off-task and disruptive behaviours.

Snapshot of Good Behavior Game® Benefits



THE FIVE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL CORE COMPETENCIES



REV 10.01.20.JC



PAX GBG is presented as a game. Like all games there are rules or guidelines and rewards for doing well. But it is a game where everyone can succeed in their own way. It teaches children to have voluntary control over the attention circuits in the brain and increases the ability to self-regulate when excited. Additionally, PAX GBG reduces students' reaction to accidental reinforcement for negative behaviour from peers and adults. PAX GBG is not a curriculum, nor a system of "consequences" for bad behaviour. Instead it helps children learn to work together for mutual benefits.

Since 1999, PAX Good Behaviour Game has been used in thousands of classrooms in 38 states across the USA, Canada, Ireland, Estonia and Sweden. A limited trial was run by Black Dog Institute and the results have led the NSW Department of Education to commission this program for its schools.

It was wonderful to see the playground filled with community members who were chatting, catching up with old friends and making new friends at our Meet the Teacher and Welcome to School BBQ/Disco. Over 40kg of sausages were cooked and served. It was a pleasure to see students thoroughly enjoying the lights and music at the disco. A big thank you to all the community members who were able to make it on the night, and to the staff and P&C for their organisation and time.

The weather wasn't kind to staff and students at our swimming carnival this year. With limited cover, students did well to stay within their house areas, participate in war cries and cheer their peers on when they were not swimming themselves. Congratulations to all students who participated, and we wish students who will be competing at the Zone Swimming Carnival the best of luck. Thank you to all parents/carers for attending. Many thanks to staff for working in the rain, and in particular, to the organising team: Mr Hansen, Mr Filpi, Mrs Kukucka and Mrs Manson.

Students have been busy preparing for the Pulse Alive concert later this term. This week, the dancers attended a full dress rehearsal at Netball Central, Sydney Olympic Park. The choir will be attending their dress rehearsal on Wednesday March 1. Thank you to Miss Smallhorn, Mrs Royle, Miss Campbell and Miss Bond, Mrs Kirmani, Mrs Kalender, Miss Summers and Miss Kam for their work with these students.



February 7 was Safer Internet Day and we have kicked off the school year with many activities as we work with parents and the wider community to keep GPS students safe online. During this day, all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 participated in activities to highlight the importance of learning how to keep safe.

On February 13, Stage 3 students were fortunate to attend a workshop presented by Police Liaison Constables Shane and Dean. The ThinkUKnow workshop stressed the importance of correct online etiquette and reminding them of the dangers that they can face if they choose not to follow safety guidelines for their age group.

To continue with cybersafety education stemming from Safer Internet Day, students from Year 4 to 6 attended a webinar run by the eSafety Commissioner, called Be an eSafe kid: connect, reflect, protect. Parents are reminded of the free eSafety Parent and Carer Webinars run by the eSafety Commissioner: esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars.

Our Connected Partnerships team organised a Tech Bar to help parents get connected to online platforms and answer questions. The first session was about Sentral and they will be running other support sessions throughout the year.

The Year 6 team organised not one, but TWO, Zooper Dooper Fundraising days; very welcome in this summer heat. Both days were resounding successes and we look forward to their next fundraising day.

Parent Teacher Interviews will occur during Week 10, with the exception of 3M whose interviews will occur during Week 8. Keep an eye out on Sentral next week for the information note explaining how to book interviews via the Sentral App.

This year the NAPLAN window for students in Years 3 and 5 will be in Term 1: 15th to 27th March. Students will complete tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All tests will be completed online, except writing for Year 3 students. Parents are reminded that NAPLAN provides a snapshot of what your children know at one point in time and is not an indication of their learning for the year. If students are unwell, please do not send them to school as there will be catch up sessions.

Information about the High School EOIs will be sent home shortly to all Year 6 students. This year, parents will complete the information online. Assistance will be provided for those needing support in this area. Parents are advised to start thinking about the choice they would like to make on behalf of their children. Please note that the form needs to be submitted for all students regardless of whether they are attending government schools.

A reminder to all Year 4 parents that the OC applications open on March 30. Please follow instructions on the OC Application page <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5/application-process>

Warm regards,

Renee McVicar & Michele Beach



GREYSTANES
PUBLIC SCHOOL

Inspiring Greatness

781 Merrylands Road, Greystanes, NSW 2145

(02) 9631 4000 | greystanes-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Greystanes Public School Staff List
TERM 1, 2023 Teaching Staff

Staff Name	Class/Role
Miss Holly Bond	KB
Mrs Donna Kitsos (Mon-Wed)/ Mrs Carly Wing (Thurs-Fri)	KD Kindy AP Donna
Mrs Michelle Bragg	KM
Mrs Pamela Armour	1A-AP Stage 1 Yrs 1&2
Miss Jana Baca	1B
Mrs Eleonora Farrell	1F
Miss Martha Tooma	1/2M
Mrs Vanessa D'Souza	2D
Mrs Wendie Neill (Mon-Wed) / Sera Pinto (Thurs-Fri)	2N
Mrs Tamara De Silva	2/3T
Mr Mark Foley	3M
Miss Erin Finlayson	3F AP Yr 3
Mr Gordon Anderson	3/4A AP Yr 4
Mr Vince Filpi	4F
Miss Laura Smallhorn	4S
Mr Grant Hansen	5H
Mrs Kate Manson	5M AP Yr 5
Mr Bill Zhang	5Z OC
Miss Jamee Campbell	5/6C
Mrs Kubra Kalender	5/6K (Ext)
Mrs Maria Kukucka (Mon-Wed) / Mrs Jessica Kirmani (Thurs-Fri)	6M Maria AP Yr 6
Mrs Rachael Royle	6R
Mrs Margaret Smith (Mon-Thurs)/ Mr Peter Morris (Fri)	6S OC
Mr Sandeep Narayan	AP Curriculum and Instruction
Mrs Katy Roukos (Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri)	LST/COVID ILSP
Mrs Sonja Maksimovic (Mon-Wed)	LST/COVID ILSP
Ms Jolanda Van Leeuwen (Mon-Thurs)	LST/COVID ILSP
Ms Melissa Summers	Library
Mrs Premma Starr	RFF
Miss Rose Yalda (Mon, Wed, Fri)	RFF
Miss Sera Pinto (Tue)	RFF/Support
Miss Carol Kam	EaLD
Ms Christine Pacialeo (Mon-Thu)	EaLD
Mr Brendan Correy (Tues/Fri, even Wk Wed)	School Counsellor
Mrs Renee McVicar	DP K-2
Mrs Michele Beach	R/DP 3-6
Miss Maria Dichiera	Principal
	Wellbeing & Health In-reach Nurse (WHIN)
Ms Brenda Mwanza (Tues/Fri)	
Jacqueline Gad	School Psychologist

Greystanes Public School
TERM 1, 2023 Non-Teaching Staff

Staff Name	Role
Mrs Karen Semciw	School Administration Manager
Mrs Dianna Bateman	School Administration Officer
Mrs Kristin Cummings	School Administration Officer
Mrs Kate Holder	School Administration Officer
Mrs Jo Dring Mon/Wed/Thurs 5.5hrs, Tues 4hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Margaret Roberts Wed/Fri 5.5hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Vicky Siderides Mon 5.5hrs, Tues/Thurs/Fri 4 hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Mr Tate Crozier Tues/Fri 5.5hrs, Wed 3.25 hrs, Thurs 4 hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Miss Claudia Oliverio Mon 5.5hrs, Wed 4 hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Miss Roxanne Thomas Mon 5.5hrs	School Learning Support Officer
Mr Van Tran	General Assistant



Northmead

Creative and Performing Arts High School

Audition Information for Parents and Students

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School.

CAPA Auditions Semester 1 – Apply online via School website.

Monday 20th – Friday 24th March 2023

AUDITIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2024 (AND FOR YEARS 8-11, 2023)

Talented students in Dance, Drama, Visual Arts, Music and Circus are encouraged to apply for positions in the 2023 specialised pathways in either Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts or Circus.

Local (In Area) students wanting to be part of our selective Creative and Performing Arts program **MUST** also audition.

Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School has a long tradition as a centre of excellence in the Creative and Performing Arts. An exciting opportunity is available for talented students to audition for placement in our outstanding CAPA programs.

Students in the specialised streams are afforded a wide range of opportunities to excel in their chosen field with extensive co-curricular programs and a whole school approach to fostering our gifted students' talents.

Auditions will be held for Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts and Circus. The cost of auditions is \$50.00.

Applications close and forms need to be submitted to NCAPAHS by Monday 13th March 2023.

Please register your interest via our school website or contact Mrs Stepic on 9630 4116

Email june.stepic@det.nsw.edu.au

CAPA Audition applications are to be submitted with all documentation, portfolios and video submissions online. (Video submissions are for Visual Arts only)

Principal: Narelle Vazquez

www.northmead-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

28 Campbell St, Northmead NSW 2152

Ph: 9630 4116



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with the health advice regarding COVID-19.