

Barooga Public School Newsletter



Term 4, Week 1

Tuesday 6th October, 2020

Important Dates

Fri 30 th October – Fri 6 th November	Free Dental Service
Friday 6 th November	2021 Kinder Transition Program
Friday 13 th November	2021 Kinder Transition Program
Friday 20 th November	2021 Kinder Transition Program
Friday 27 th November	2021 Kinder Transition Program
Friday 4 th December	2021 Kinder Transition Program
Mon 30 th Nov – Fri 4 th Dec	Book Fair Week



WELCOME BACK MR FRANCIS

We welcome back Mr Francis after his long absence due to ankle surgery. We thank Mrs Davis and Miss Peake who have done a wonderful job looking after our school while he was away.

Mr Francis looks very comfortable back in his old chair!!

SRC CRAZY HAIR DAY



Visit our website: www.barooga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

E-mail: barooga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au (Staff/General)

Ph: 03-58734242 & 58734920

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Baroogaps

e-mail: john.francis@det.nsw.edu.au (Principal/Confidential)

17-20 Hughes Street Barooga, NSW, 3644

Principal's Report

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back for Term 4. Unfortunately during the holidays our school community experienced significant loss. Blake Berry, younger brother of Nathan, Kate and Emily died in a tragic accident and Mrs Davis' adult son, Jamie, also died suddenly and unexpectedly.

Barooga Public School offers our sincerest condolences to the Berry and Davis families. At times such as this it is important to be able to talk with your children regarding what has happened. People's experience of loss varies greatly and their reactions do also. Not all our students know the family involved but it is very common for an event like this to trigger memories of loss. Others may be concerned that they should be sad or upset but have not cried and many may have had no emotional response at all. It is important that whatever the young person is feeling is validated as it is their way of responding. As Elisabeth Kubler-Ross tells us "...there is not a typical response to loss, as there is no typical loss. Our grieving is as individual as our lives."

Today we have had two school counsellors on site to support any student should they feel it may be helpful. Please find some additional information on how to talk with your children about loss and grief attached to the newsletter. If you still have concerns or require further information on how best to support your child please contact the school to make a referral for ongoing support from our school counselling service.

Covid-19 update

All NSW schools have returned to full-time on-campus learning. With updated health advice and changes to state and national restrictions, schools have recommenced the majority of school-based activities.

Activities and site usage that can take place:

- Students can use the school library.
- Students can engage in sporting activities.
- School sporting events and activities held within the school site during school hours must not involve spectators including parents and carers.
- School assemblies must be limited to 15 minutes with no external visitors.
- Students may attend other schools for essential curriculum-related reasons or placements (e.g. auditions or placement tests).
- Incursions or external providers can provide activities that support delivery of curriculum (e.g. music tutors, sport skills development programs, science demonstrations, drama tutors, Healthy Harold).
- Essential activities such as NSW Health partnerships including mobile dental vans and vaccinations can proceed.
- Excursions and day field trips within NSW (e.g. DoE Environmental Education Centres and sport and recreation facilities, trips to the local river to collect water samples) can occur from Term 4.
- Overnight activities can occur from Term 4 in accordance with strict COVID safe requirements.
- Kindergarten orientation in Term 4
- Year 7 transition to high school in Term 4 after 12 November.
- [SRE/SEE lessons](#) can occur within restrictions.
- P&C meetings and events must be on-line only.
- Parent/teacher meetings will be online unless involving serious matters that require face to face discussion.

Parents on Site

In line with health advice please be aware that non-essential adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events – this **includes parents/carers** unless specifically approved by the principal, as well as the office, canteen and classrooms. Please drop off and pick up your children from outside the school grounds and enter the office by appointment only. We need to continue with this protocol until further notice from the NSW Department. Students can be picked up from either gate on Hughes Street or the gate between the bus gate and the staff car park.

No Hat, No Play

Please remember that children must be wearing a suitable wide brimmed hat to play outside during Term 4.

Drink Bottles

A reminder to parents that the bubblers are currently not in use as a COVID-19 prevention measure. Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school every day.

John Francis, Principal

Supporting Your Child in Times of Grief and Loss

Our school community is experiencing a difficult time at present whilst we grieve the loss of Blake and Jamie. Today we have had two School Counsellors in the school to speak with the children and staff. They will continue to provide ongoing support as it is required.

I hope the following information allows you as parents and carers to support your children and yourselves during this time.

When children hear about the death of someone they know a range of emotions or none at all can be experienced – this is ok and considered normal as there is no one way to react. For some this news will remind children of other losses they have had. It is important that whatever your child is feeling in response to what has happened is validated as it is their way of responding and this is OK.

Some helpful tips can be:

- Keep things as normal as possible, especially encouraging school attendance and continued participation in sport, creative and other activities.
- Keeping to regular routines will help those who may be having difficulty sleeping, an initial common response to grief and loss.
- Allow children time to talk, ask questions and share worries with a caring adult. They might be very confused and need to ask lots of questions. If you can't talk about it, find another adult who is close to your child who can. If children can't talk to you about the loss, they might feel that it is not safe to talk about it and so continue to have muddled and scary feelings. You may have to answer the same question over and over as your child learns to understand what has happened.
- Children may not seem sad when you think they should be, because they still don't really understand what it all really means. This isn't a lack of being sensitive, it is just the stage they are at.
- They may be very matter-of-fact in the way they talk about death and want lots of information, such as what happens to the body. They may not know what it is they are feeling or know the words to say how they feel, but you will see it in their behaviour and play.

If you are concerned about your child, please phone the school or speak to their teacher. You or your child can speak with the school counsellor if required.

Some useful websites and numbers

Parentline: 1300 1300 52 or <http://www.parentline.com.au/>

ReachOut: <http://au.reachout.com/common-reactions-to-death>

SA Gov Child Youth Health: <http://www.cyh.com/>

Beyond Blue: <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/the-facts/grief-and-loss>

For older primary school children - Reach Out: <https://parents.au.reachout.com/>



Barooga Public School P&C

2021 Calendar Fundraiser

The P&C are running a 2021 Calendar fundraiser this term.

Order forms have been sent home today.

Please return them to school by Friday 16th October



Australian Dental Health NSW

Australian Dental Health NSW is an Independent Initiative providing all school students dental treatment beyond the Medicare eligibility criteria, meaning all students are able to participate. ADHNSW is an independent, stand-alone company that can see both non-eligible children alongside those who are eligible. The organisation runs on its own accord to ensure all children across the board are receiving vital treatment.

The ADHNSW will be visiting Barooga Public School from 30th October – 6th November. Consent forms have been sent home today. Please complete and return to the office by Wednesday 14th October if you would like your child/ren to attend.



KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2021

Our 2021 Kindergarten class is filling up fast and enrolments are now being taken. If you, or someone you know, have a child starting school next year please encourage them to contact the school.

Phone: 5873 4242 Email: barooga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au