

SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS



Congratulations and Thank You to Ms Stokes

Congratulations to Ms Stokes on her appointment as the Principal of Congewai Public School.

As a school community we want to say a huge THANK YOU for all that you have done for each and every one of us over the past 6 years. While you have been a part of our school community you have made such a difference to so many lives, both to our little people and their extended families. You have created lasting memories and you have ensured students have reached their learning goals while embedding programs that will continue to make a difference to Abermain students now and into the future! We are incredibly sad to see you go but know that you are off on another wonderful adventure!

Ms Stokes received her appointment on the very last day of Term 1 and was asked to commence at the school on day 1 of Term 2 and as such was unable to say her goodbyes in person. She has asked that we share this letter below....

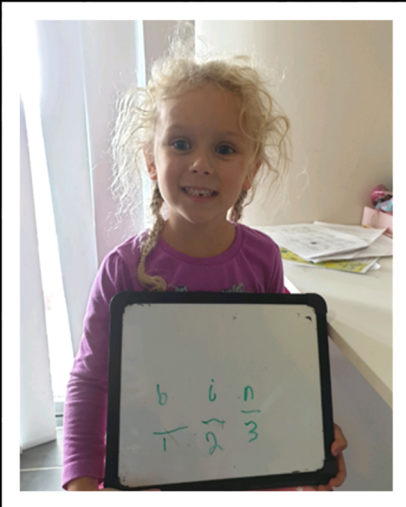
Dear families,

It is with very mixed emotions that I let you know I won't be returning to Abermain Public School for Term 2. I will be leaving to take up the position of Principal at Congewai Public School. Though I am very excited to undertake my new role, I will miss my Abermain families terribly. I will, of course, take with me, so many happy memories of the wonderful students I have had the privilege to work with during my time at Abermain. I will be forever grateful for the support and kindness shown to me by the families at the school.

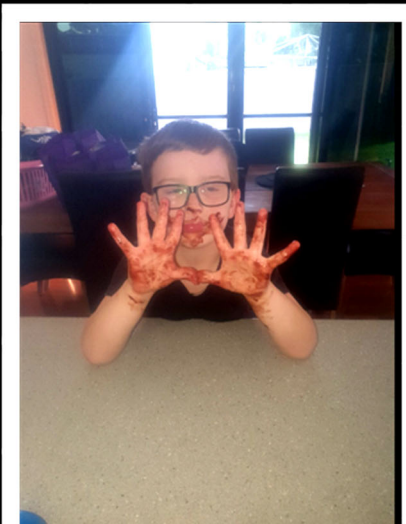
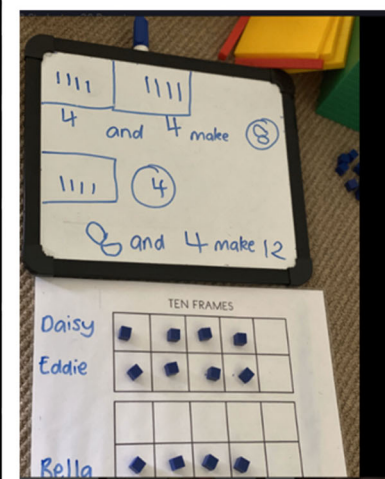
I have taught in a number of settings throughout my career and Abermain always strikes me as being something very special; so much more than just a school! It has real heart and soul and I feel so very fortunate to have been part of this. I am hoping to stay connected to the school and look forward to hearing about the achievements and progress of "my babies".

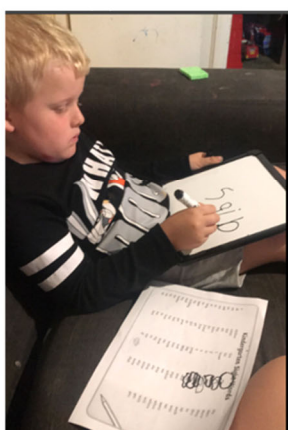
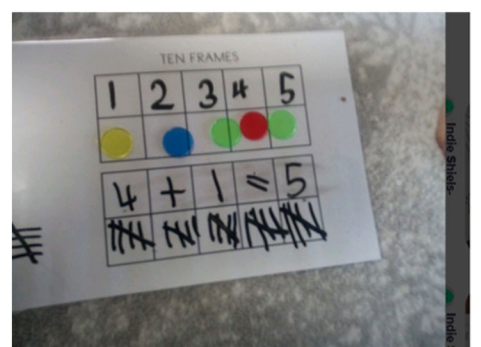
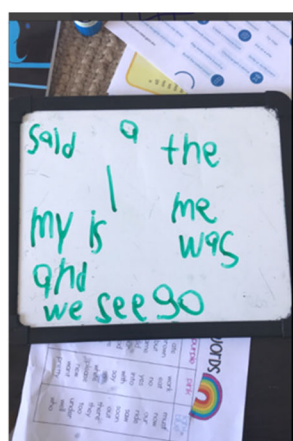
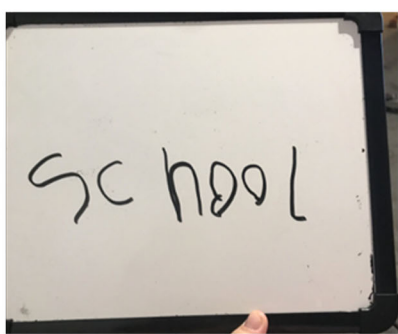
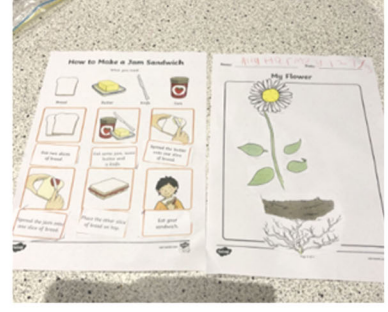
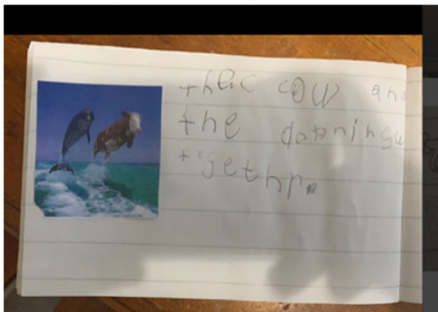
There are no words to thank all of the families and staff at Abermain Public School enough for their support - please know that you will all be in my heart forever.



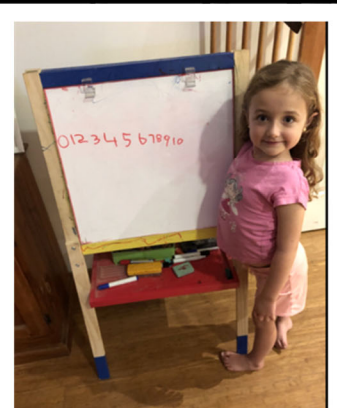


KF WORKING FROM HOME





1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10





VISION STATEMENT

As a learning community we know, value and care for every child. We share responsibility to nurture, guide, inspire and challenge students. High quality teaching develops confident and creative individuals with the personal resources for future success and wellbeing.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting our students with their "learning at home" units of work this past week!

We are so proud of our school community and thankful to staff who have continued to ensure that students and their families have had access to themselves for guidance and support. We are in this together and will continue to be available as we move through the next steps of the DoE phased plan.

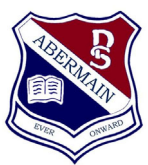
As outlined in last week's email we will move into PHASE 1 of the DoE Managed Return to School Plan as of next Monday 11th May, 2020.

We hope that the following points will help:

- * families have been allocated 2 days each week on which they can choose to send all siblings to school to engage with each of their Classroom teachers (please check your email for days allocated)
- * families are encouraged to keep child/children at home for the rest of the week wherever possible while continuing to engage with the unit of work provided
- * classroom teachers will have reduced numbers in the classroom space as a result of day allocations
- * students will engage with the same unit of work both at school and at home
- * the same processes that have been put in place by classroom teachers in week 1/2 will stay in place throughout the phased plan
- * students in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6 will bring their school based iPad backwards and forwards in their schoolbag
- * Year K-2 students will bring their paper based unit of work with them
- * talk to your children about the fact that their school day experience will look different for them as not all students in their class will be present at school on that day
- * during these phases it remains the family's decision as to when and if students access the onsite face to face sessions

Just a reminder that as we move to see more students on the school site next week we need to continue to ensure that social distancing and hygiene practices in place at the end of Term 1 continue to be adhered to.

Continued next page



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT continued

In order to protect the health and wellbeing of students, staff and their families the following will be in place;

- * drop and go at gates in the morning if possible/practice social distancing for afternoon pick up, remaining 1.5m from gate exits and those around you. **Please note that there will be NO parent pick-up inside school grounds**
- * phone the school if you wish to attend site in school hours (49 304210)
- * water bottles are encouraged as no access to bubblers
- * canteen is to remain closed
- * playground equipment is to remain closed
- * handwashing protocols will continue in classrooms (washing at least 5 times per day)

We have been directed that any student or staff member who presents with flu like symptoms will be asked to go home/stay home while seeking medical advice from their treating health practitioner.

Any identified cases of COVID-19 will continue to be managed in line with health advice, including temporary school closures where necessary.

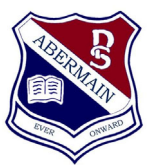
Congratulations to Ms Stokes and thank you for all that you have done for our school community, we wish you all the best for your new adventure and know that they are extremely lucky to have gained such an incredible educator into their school community!

Wishing all our Mums a wonderful Mother's Day on Sunday.

Ian Lamph & Debbie Bower
Principals

MANAGED RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
PINK GROUP <i>Learning at School</i>	YELLOW GROUP <i>Learning at School</i>	PINK and YELLOW group STUDENTS "LEARNING AT HOME"	PINK GROUP <i>Learning at School</i>	YELLOW GROUP <i>Learning at School</i>
YELLOW GROUP <i>Learning at Home</i>	PINK GROUP <i>Learning at Home</i>		YELLOW GROUP <i>Learning at Home</i>	PINK GROUP <i>Learning at Home</i>



YEAR 5 OPPORTUNITY CLASS ENTRIES

In response to the social distancing measures currently in place to help slow the spread of COVID-19, the Department has advised the placement process for students in Year 5 for Opportunity Class entry in 2021, including the Opportunity Placement Test, will be delayed until later in the year. As a result, applications will not open on 28 April, 2020 as previously advised. Revised dates for applications, tests and process changes will be announced as soon as they are confirmed. Please continue to monitor the department's website to remain up to date with information relating to opportunity classes via:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schoolsand-opportunity-classes/year-5>

SCHOLASTIC Book Club

BOOK CLUB IS COMING!

We're really excited to have **BOOK CLUB** running this Term, but it will look a little different! It will be a **virtual catalogue** rather than the printed catalogues you're used to receiving.

To order from this issue go to:

[Scholastic.com.au/Book-Club/virtual-catalogue-1/](https://www.scholastic.com.au/Book-Club/virtual-catalogue-1/)

Place your order on LOOP as normal and orders need to be in by:

15-5-2020

We will receive your order here to our school like normal. Once your order arrives, we will contact you to arrange for a collection time.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the school.



Even though this is a virtual catalogue, we will still receive 20% of your order value back in Scholastic Rewards to use to purchase additional books and resources for our school!

 SCHOLASTIC

KURRI KURRI YEAR 7 2021 TRANSITION DAYS

Due to Covid-19 restrictions Term 2 Transition days have been cancelled.

Information regarding rescheduling of days will be provided in Term 3.

CESSNOCK AECG MEETING POSTPONED

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and not yet being re-established, the Cessnock AECG meeting scheduled for next week has been postponed.

Please share with those that you know that may have been attending.



NSW Department of Education

An important message about our response to COVID-19

The health and safety of our staff and students is of the utmost importance to our school.

We have implemented a range of measures to help keep our school community healthy and reduce the spread of infection and illness. Some simple measures we ask that you adopt include:



Stay home if you're sick

Please don't visit our school if you are sick. If your child presents to sick bay with flu-like symptoms such as high temperature, cough, sore throat, and/or shortness of breath – you will be asked to come and collect your child and seek medical advice from your treating health practitioner. Contact our office to speak to one of our staff.

PHONE: 02 49304210



Increase hygiene practices

Clean your hands regularly and thoroughly. Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue. Dispose of tissues properly.



Maintain a healthy distance

For the health and wellbeing of our staff and students, please stand at least 1.5 metres apart while waiting in our office. Our visitors are encouraged to wait outside for their turn to speak with our office staff. We are also applying distancing requirements across all areas of the school as is reasonable and practicable.



Thank you for your patience

We know this is a difficult time, but we are doing all we can to support our staff and students.

We appreciate your patience and support while we work together to minimise the impact of COVID-19 in our community.



Please use hand sanitiser



Good for Kids good for life

MANAGING SCREEN TIME

While your family is at home, many activities for learning, fun and keeping in touch will be done using screens.

To keep active make sure you spend time away from screens every day.

Try some of the ideas below:

TURN OFF SCREENS + get active!

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

TIPS TO MANAGE SCREEN TIME

- Don't use screens in a family room or at the dinner table.
- Before screen time, have a family meeting to set rules and enjoy family time.
- No screens in bedrooms, especially at night.
- Use screen time to learn or create something new.
- Monitor and screen time. Set limits if needed.
- Go outside more often. Move every hour.
- Use screen time to help with learning or to help with a hobby.
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NSW HEALTH HUNTER NEW ENGLAND LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT

Source: Western Sydney Local Health District, November 2018



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<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

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TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS GAMES



Background

This object-throwing game was observed being played on Mer Island in the Torres Strait region in the nineteenth century. More recent versions have also been observed.

Short description

A game based on throwing accuracy. Teams of one to two players throw objects, attempting to make them land on a target on the ground.

Equipment

- Two mats (softball bases, carpet squares, rubber mats or small towels) placed 5–7 meters apart- alternative square piece of material/grass
- Beanbags, coins, large buttons or flat bocce balls to represent the kolap beans- alternative ball of socks or balloon filled with rice or rocks

Game play and basic rules-

- Two players sit (or stand) behind each mat.
- The players who are partners are diagonally opposite each other.
- Each player has four kolaps, which he or she attempts to throw to land on the mat opposite.
- One player has a turn. The kolaps are collected and then the player on the opposite team at the other mat has a turn. Continue in this manner.

Scoring

A combined total of 20 finishes the game for a team. The kolap must land completely on the mat to count.

Source: Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games, Sport Australia



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STAYING ACTIVE AT HOME

Children should be getting at least **60 minutes** of physical activity that makes them 'huff and puff' across the day.

Staying active as a family will support your physical and mental health.

Try doing some of these activities together each day:

FAMILY EXERCISES

- Backyard sports
- Dancing
- Hula hoops
- Family boot camp
- Walk the dog
- Make a game from chores
- Walking
- Tag
- Gardening
- Skipping
- Aerobics
- Hide and seek

NSW GOVERNMENT

Source: Office of Sport



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GET ACTIVE + MAP A TREASURE HUNT



- One person hides some treasure in the yard or around the home (e.g. a coin, small toy, sticker etc.) and then draws a map for the other person to find the treasure.
- Take turns hiding the treasure and drawing a map.
- Optional extra: Work out north, south, east and west



Source: Northern Sydney Local Health District



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