



2014

PARENT INFORMATION BOOKLET (UPDATED JANUARY 2014)

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Bathurst Public School

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Definitions of words & acronyms

A.P – Assistant Principal

CAPA – Creative and Practical Arts

COLA – Covered outdoor learning area

DEC – Department of Education and Communities

ED – Emotionally Disturbed disability

E.S.L. – English as a Second Language

G&T – Gifted & Talented

HSIE – Human Society & Its Environment

IM – Mild intellectual disability

Infants – Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 classes

IO/AU – Moderate intellectual disability and/or Autism

KLA – Key Learning Area

LAP – Learning Assistance Program

NAPLAN – National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy

P&C – Parents & Citizens Association

P.B.L. – Positive Behaviour for Learning

PD – Personal Development

PDHPE – Personal Development, Health, Physical Education

Primary – Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 classes

PSPI – Parent School Partnership Initiative

PSSA – Primary Schools Sports Association

Reading recovery – Individual assistance year 1

SRE – Special Religious Education

Stages

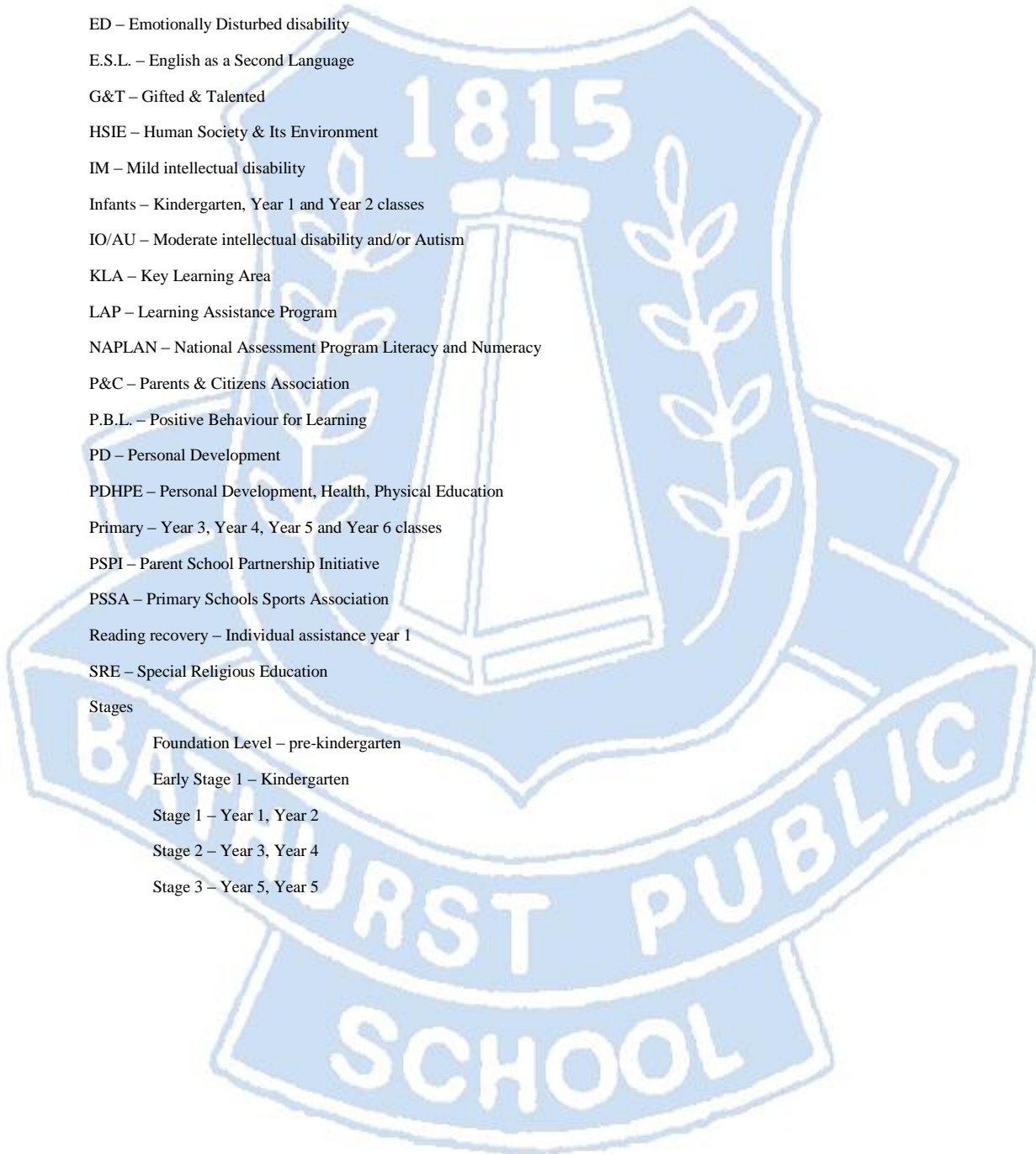
Foundation Level – pre-kindergarten

Early Stage 1 – Kindergarten

Stage 1 – Year 1, Year 2

Stage 2 – Year 3, Year 4

Stage 3 – Year 5, Year 6



WELCOME

On behalf of the staff and students, we would like to extend a warm welcome to you and your family, to Bathurst Public School. We sincerely hope that your association with the School will be educationally stimulating and socially enjoyable and that you as parents take the opportunity to join with your children in the wide range of activities the school conducts during the year.

Bathurst Public School was the first school established in Bathurst and moved to its present site in 1935. The school celebrated its 150th Birthday in 2003. Being centrally located in the City of Bathurst, it occupies 4 hectares of attractively landscaped ground. The Bathurst Schools Office and Macquarie Tutorial Centre are also located on the site.

The purpose of this information booklet is to assist you to become familiar with our School by providing information on what it is attempting to achieve, its organisation and the services it provides.

If after reading the contents you have any concerns about the information provided, or you require additional information, please contact the school so that we may assist you. Again, a warm welcome and we trust you and your children enjoy and benefit from your association with Bathurst Public School.

Kate White
Principal



Absence

Regular attendance at school in infants and primary years is important to ensure your children experience academic and social success. Please make sure they are at school everyday unless there is a genuine reason for their absence.

A note needs to be sent for all absences from class. They should be given to the class teacher when your child returns to school. See Notes for sample note. This is a legislative requirement (partial as well as all absences.) Notes are also required if a child is to go home for lunch, or when their routine for going home is changed (especially K-2 children) Please telephone the school if your child has a contagious illness or if they will be absent for more than 2 days.

A reminder slip will be sent home if an absence remains unexplained for more than a week.

Absences without notes are monitored by the Home School Liaison officer.

Annual events

There are many special events held each year at Bathurst Public School. These include: Stage 1 sports day, athletics, swimming and cross country carnivals, Grandparents Day, Book Fair, Education week, captains induction, school photos, presentation day, Year 6 graduation dinner, eisteddfod concert, Easter hat parade and monster egg raffle (see table).

	Stage 1 (Kindergarten, Year 1 & 2)	Stages 2 & 3 (Years 3-6)
Term 1	School Development Day - Pupil free(first day of term) Captains Induction Ceremony Easter Hat Parade School Photos	School Development Day - Pupil free(first day of term) Captains Induction Ceremony Swimming Carnival Cross Country School Photos
Term 2	School Development Day - Pupil free (first day of term) Walk a thon/Cross Country Athletics Carnival	School Development Day - Pupil free (first day of term) NAPLAN years 3 and 5 Athletics Carnival Stage 3 Canberra Excursion
Term 3	School Development Day - Pupil free (first day of term) School Concert Bathurst Eisteddfod Education Week Book Week and Book Fair	School Development Day - Pupil free (first day of term) School Development Day - Pupil free (second day of term) School Concert Bathurst Eisteddfod Education Week Book Week and Book Fair
Term 4	No pupil free day at the start of the term Presentation day Christmas Assembly Swimming Program Last two days pupil free days	No pupil free day at the start of the term Presentation day Year 6 Graduation dinner Swimming Program Last two days pupil free days

Annual School Report

This is a public document that details school achievement and future directions for school improvement. The report provides invaluable information on the success of school programs. A report is provided to each family at the end of the school year and is also posted on our school website.

Assembly

Assemblies are held on each fortnight on Wednesdays and Fridays and are an opportunity for parents to share in the life of the school with their children.

- ◆ The Stage 1 (Year K-2) assembly is held in the McMullen hall every second Friday at 2.10pm.
- ◆ The Stage 2/3 (Year 3-6) assembly is held in the McMullen hall from 2.10pm to 3.00pm every second Wednesday.

Your child will let you know when their class is hosting or performing during an assembly so that you can make an extra effort to come.

In addition, the school has whole school assemblies for important ceremonies such as Induction of School Captains, Anzac day, Presentation day, and Remembrance Day.

By coming together as a whole school, all children are able to share their school experiences with one another and develop a feeling of oneness across the whole school. A cordial invitation is extended to all parents to join us on these important occasions or at any of our weekly assemblies. All assemblies are included in the dates to remember section of the weekly newsletter.

After school care

Bathurst After School Care Inc. (BASC) is a non-profit organisation that operates an after school care service from the Macquarie Tutorial Centre (Rankin Street) from 3pm to 6pm Mondays to Fridays during school terms. The service is operated by a management committee of parents and interested community members. The after school care service is available to children aged 5 to 12 years who are attending infants and primary schools in Bathurst. Travel to the centre is not arranged by the after school care service; however, all children who use school buses are met by BASC staff at the closest bus stop. Some children are brought by their parents and others walk with their parent's permission. A healthy afternoon tea is provided daily. Children participate in a range of indoor and outdoor activities and games. Each afternoon, age appropriate activities are arranged as well as some time for free choice activities. Children are able to set up a table in a quieter corner if they wish to begin their homework. Fees for permanent users are \$18.00 per child per day up to 6pm. Casual users pay an extra \$1.00 for each child for each day of attendance. Child Care Benefit and Child Care Assistance are available through Centrelink if parents are eligible. Coordinator mobile phone 0412 898 446.

Assessment

In order to measure children's academic progress, the school uses the process known as continuous assessment. This means that teachers are regularly and systematically using a number of methods to determine children's progress and development.

Teachers continuously assess the children's learning using a number of methods. Methods include pre- and post-testing, diagnostic and standardised tests and standardised assessment tasks. The curricula in each Key Learning Area list a number of learning outcomes, which children must achieve. Kindergarten will complete the Best Start Assessment in Literacy and Numeracy. Year 3 and Year 5 sit the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). See Reports.

B

Band

A school band has been formed and rehearses each week. Instruments may be hired from the school, or hired externally. Members receive an instrument group lesson once a week with full band practice on the same day. Children are given scores to practise before the next band lesson. Members of the band must undertake to care for any instrument and be prepared for full commitment to it. Children are involved in the annual Bathurst Eisteddfod. The conductor of the school band is Mr Phil Snitch 0429 390 995.

Book club

The school participates in the Scholastic book club scheme. Eight times a year the children are able to purchase quality paperback books at very reasonable prices through the school. Children will receive a brochure containing pictures, descriptions and prices of the books for sale. By supporting the club you are earning the school commission which is used to purchase more books for the classrooms. The book club is operated by the P&C.

Book fair

A book fair is held annually during Book Week. The books in the fair are for sale during the week and the school receives a commission on the sales. The commission is then used to purchase more resources for the children.

Bell times

School hours are 9:00am through to 3:00pm Monday to Friday during school terms. Bells are rung to signify changes within the school:

9:00am	School commences.
11:15 – 11:40am	Recess
1:10 – 1:35pm	Lunch (1 st half)
1:35 – 2:00pm	Lunch (2 nd half)
3:00pm	School ends

Playground supervision begins at 8:30am and students are not permitted on the school grounds before this time. Some areas are out of bounds before school begins.

Bikes

Bikes can be ridden by children in Years three to six, but the Road Safety Council recommends all children under 10 years should not ride to school. Children in Kindergarten should not ride to school.

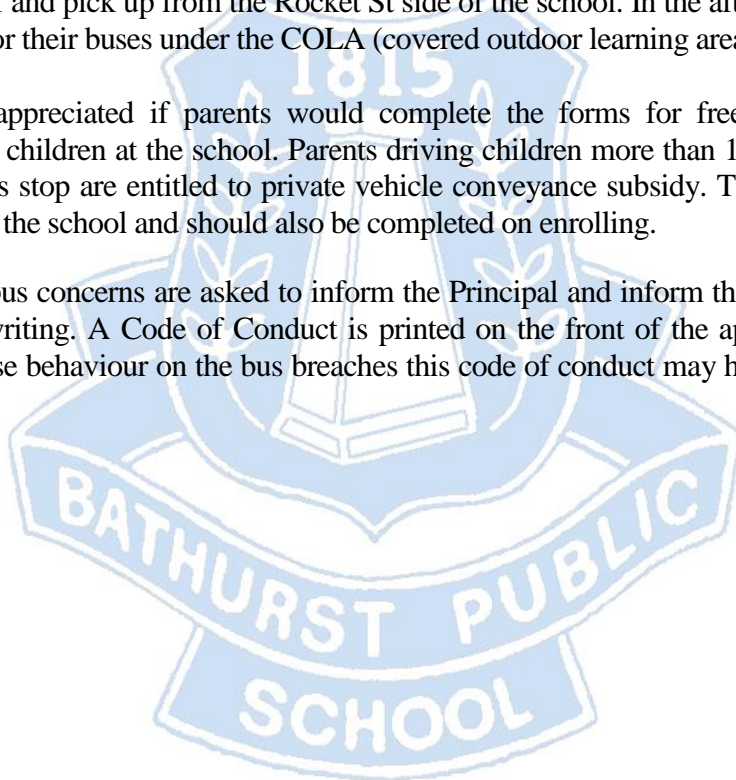
Bus

Bus travel is free for all students in Kindergarten, Year one and Year two and for all children in Years three to six if living more than 1.6 kilometres from the school. It is suggested that parents of young children bring them to and from school, or travel on the bus with them, until they are sure of their destination. **Parents should skill their children in rudimentary bus safety before they allow their children to travel.** Information on this can be obtained from school.

Buses drop off and pick up from the Rocket St side of the school. In the afternoon children wait in lines for their buses under the COLA (covered outdoor learning area).

It would be appreciated if parents would complete the forms for free bus travel on enrolling their children at the school. Parents driving children more than 1.6 kilometres to the nearest bus stop are entitled to private vehicle conveyance subsidy. This form can be obtained from the school and should also be completed on enrolling.

Parents with bus concerns are asked to inform the Principal and inform the respective bus company in writing. A Code of Conduct is printed on the front of the application form. Children whose behaviour on the bus breaches this code of conduct may have their passes withdrawn.





Canteen

The school canteen operates on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at recess and lunch. A price list is published each term. A healthy lunch can be purchased for between \$3.00 - \$5.00. Children may order their lunches each morning before school commences. Lunch orders should be written on a paper bag with correct money (if possible) and placed in the slot in the canteen window before the morning bell. There is no credit available at the canteen.

The school is committed to running a healthy canteen as a practical demonstration of good nutrition. The canteen is run by the school community for our children, and operates within the Canteen Association's gold level requirements for healthy food. We employ a supervisor to co-ordinate and organize the day-to day running of the canteen but rely on volunteers to help with food preparation and serving. Volunteers are always welcome, so please ring Heather on 6331 3275 for more information.

Carnivals

As part of the school's sporting activities annual swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals are held for Stage 2 and 3 students. Stage 1 students have a separate sports day. Information regarding dates, times and general guidelines for these events are printed in the school newsletter. The terms and dates may vary due to a number of factors. Parents are most welcome to attend these events. If keen they can also work as volunteers on the day. Requests for volunteers are printed in the newsletters.

- ◆ Swimming carnival – Term 1 (for Years 3-6)
- ◆ Cross country carnival – Term 1 (for Years 3-6)
- ◆ Athletics carnival – Term 2/3 (for Years 3-6) and Term 2/3 for (for Years K-2)

Choir

Like our school band our choirs are an integral part of the performing arts program of the school.

We have two choirs

- ◆ Stage 1 (for children in Years 1 and 2)
- ◆ Primary Choir (Years 3 - 6)

The choirs participate in the Eisteddfod, school ceremonies and performances. Our Senior Choir also participate at events such as the Choral Festival. Practices are held weekly. Parents can help by ensuring children are presented in full uniform for performances.

Clothing pool

The clothing pool is a service run by P&C volunteers. It is located in the sheltered area near the canteen.

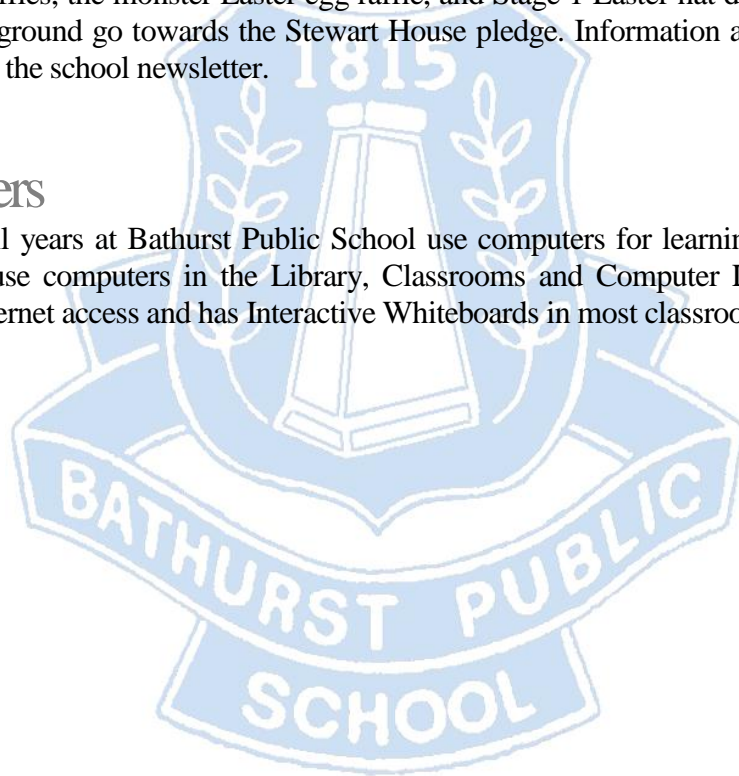
Opening times vary but are printed in the newsletter, along with contact numbers. Used uniforms may be donated to the clothing pool. Arrangements for the purchase of new shorts with logos and school hats can also be made at the clothing pool.

Community Charity Support

At the school we annually pledge to donate \$1000 to Stewart House. To achieve this there are fund raisers held throughout the school year. These include used clothing bag collections, raffles, the monster Easter egg raffle, and Stage 1 Easter hat day. Coins found in the school ground go towards the Stewart House pledge. Information about these fund raisers go into the school newsletter.

Computers

Children in all years at Bathurst Public School use computers for learning. Children are also able to use computers in the Library, Classrooms and Computer Laboratory. The school has internet access and has Interactive Whiteboards in most classrooms.





Debating

Debating is an important part of the school's performing arts and talents program. Each year children from Years 4 - 6 are invited to join in a round robin competition in order to learn the skills of formal argument and rebuttal. The topics are well within their range of experience and allow for a great deal of fun eg, "That our parents had it easy in their day". As the competition progresses, a caseline and supporting material must be prepared by the children without adult help. It is a fun and enriching experience for our students.

Dental clinic

The professionally staffed Dental Clinic maintained by the Department of Health operates at Bathurst base Hospital in Howick Street. The clinic operates to provide free dental treatment for all children attending school up to Year 6. Upon the completion of a permission form available from the Clinic, your child will receive free check-ups and dental treatment as required. Phone 1300 552 208

Drop off zone

This zone is situated at the pedestrian entrance on George St which goes directly into the top playground.

It operates between 8.30 and 9.30 am. Cars pull in parallel to the kerb to let the children out of the car on the kerb side. Once this is completed it is easy to move back out into the flow of traffic along George St. Parents are urged to follow this procedure to assist the road safety of our children.

Drumming

Children in Years 3-6 have the opportunity to join the schools Drumming Group. The Drumming Group has a 60 minute lesson per week.

E

Easter hat parade/dance and monster

Easter egg raffle

This fun event occurs annually for Stage 1 children and their families. It is held in the last week of term 1 in the COLA assembly area. There are fun games, dancing and the drawing of the monster Easter egg raffle.

Stage 1 children are asked to make Easter hats at home to wear on the day. The children can wear fancy dress or casual clothes as well as their Easter hats.

Children are asked to donate Easter eggs for the raffle. Requests for these are printed in the school newsletter. They are also asked to purchase a \$2 social ticket before the day. These tickets are another chance to win a prize. Tickets for the raffle are sold on the day. Prizes can be picked up at the dance or from the school office. All monies raised go towards meeting our annual pledge to Stewart house.

Education week

This is a special week of activities to celebrate public education. A different theme is chosen each year and a program of activities is developed around the theme. In conjunction with this week the school holds its open day. On open day you are invited to visit your child's classroom, attend a special education week assembly and join with the children in other special activities.

Eisteddfod

BPS participates in the Bathurst Eisteddfod each year. The school usually enters sections such as the band, infants' choir, primary choir, recorder ensemble, dance and verse speaking. Children should to wear their full school uniform proudly to perform in eisteddfod events.

Emergency contact details

The School requires up to date information on each child to enable us to contact parents in case of illness or accident. Please ensure that your child's contact information is kept up to date with your home, work and other contact numbers. Children who are ill or injured become very distressed when parents cannot be contacted. You can inform the school of any changes at the office in the George St building.

Excursions

Excursions by class groups to places within Bathurst and to other centres are organised and conducted as part of the children's educational programs. Excursions are valuable because they supplement the learning taking place in the classroom. They provide children with opportunity to see and experience, at first hand places, events and objects that are being

studied. They are not only social but a valuable learning experience. Parents will receive early notice of costly excursions so that they may budget accordingly.

Parents may assist by providing additional supervision. Class teachers will inform parents of these requirements.

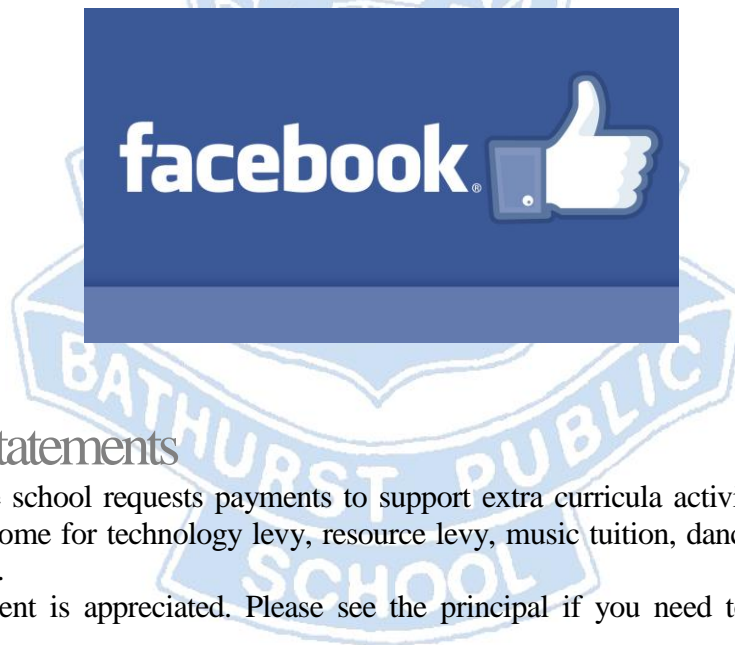
The school has a mandatory seatbelt policy for bus travel on excursions that extend outside the city limits.





Face Book

Like our Page on Facebook – Bathurst Public School have a Page on Facebook that is updated with events and activities the School is doing, parents are encouraged to like the Page to keep up to date. Students are not encouraged to be on Facebook .



Family statements

Each year the school requests payments to support extra curricula activities. Statements will be sent home for technology levy, resource levy, music tuition, dance fees, recorder ensembles etc.

Prompt payment is appreciated. Please see the principal if you need to negotiate part payments.

Fundraising

The P&C annually conducts fundraisers to assist with the purchase of equipment and goods to facilitate our children's learning. You will be informed of these in the school newsletter. Payment of the School Voluntary Contribution greatly assists in reducing the amount of extra fund raising required. This contribution is administered by the office staff and funds raised have been used to purchase reading and maths materials. Annual fundraisers include Mothers and Fathers Day stalls and mini fetes whenever there are elections being held. If you have any great ideas for fundraisers please attend a P&C meeting and share your ideas.

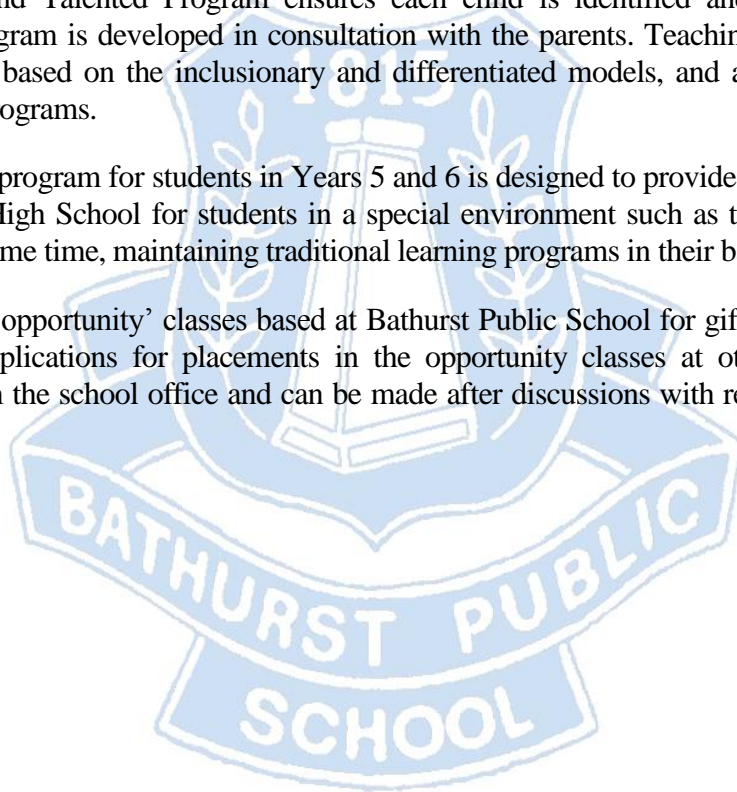


Gifted and talented program

The Gifted and Talented Program ensures each child is identified and an individual education program is developed in consultation with the parents. Teaching and Learning Programs are based on the inclusionary and differentiated models, and acceleration and opportunity programs.

The I explore program for students in Years 5 and 6 is designed to provide enrichment and transition to High School for students in a special environment such as the High School while at the same time, maintaining traditional learning programs in their base school.

There are no 'opportunity' classes based at Bathurst Public School for gifted and talented students. Applications for placements in the opportunity classes at other centres are available from the school office and can be made after discussions with relevant teaching staff.





Hats

A broad brimmed hat and legionnaire must be worn during recess and lunch times and during outside activities as the school has a “no hat no play” policy. Children without appropriate hats will be required to sit or play in shaded areas.

History

Bathurst Public School has a long and proud history. In 2003 we celebrated 150 years of public education in Bathurst. If interested, contact the school for a citation read by Ms Tina Slattery, Principal of Bathurst Public School at the time of our 150 Year celebrations.

Houses

Children are allocated a house and can contribute points to their house by their participation in school events e.g. sports carnivals etc. The school houses are:

- ◆ Chifley whose colour is red
- ◆ Hargraves whose colour is green
- ◆ Evans whose colour is blue; and
- ◆ Macquarie whose colour is yellow.

House points are aggregated throughout the year and a trophy is awarded to the winning house on Presentation Day.



Illness

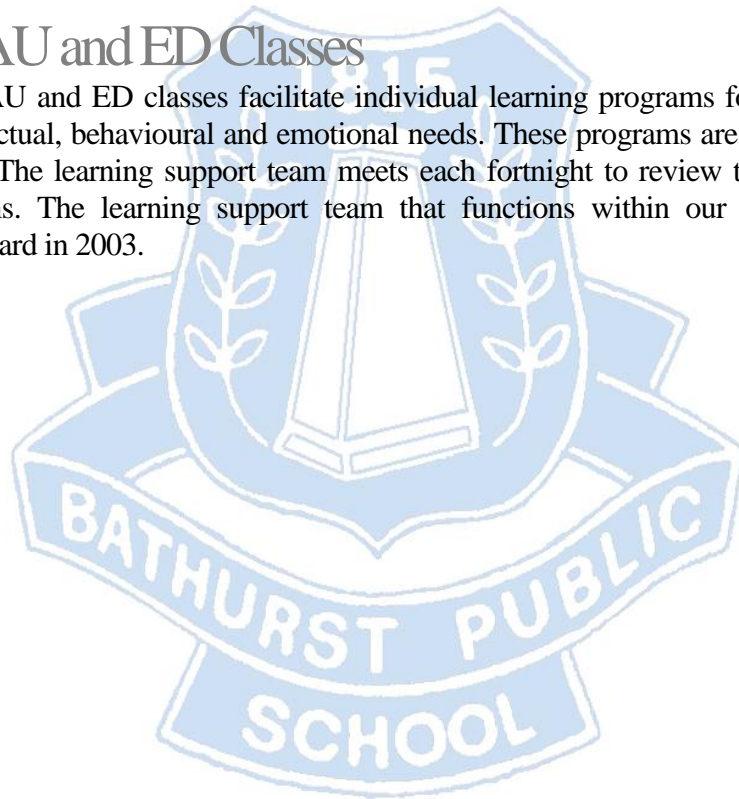
YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IF S/HE HAS THE FOLLOWING ILLNESS: The following information is from the State Health Publication No. (EB) 95 0126. Copies are available from the school and GPs.

- ◆ **Chicken Pox:** For at least 5 days after the first spots appear or when blisters have crusted. (Blisters must be dry)
- ◆ **Conjunctivitis:** See your GP. Keep child at home until discharge from eyes has stopped. It is not necessary to keep contacts at home. (Contacts are people who have been close to the patient for some time and could catch the disease)
- ◆ **Diarrhoea** (Gastroenteritis): Give child plenty of drinks. Only some are suitable, and most must be diluted. Ask a health professional for more information. Keep child at home until diarrhea had stopped. If severe, see your GP, particularly if the child is passing less urine.
- ◆ **German Measles** (Rubella): Until the child has fully recovered, or at least 4 days after the rash appears.
- ◆ **Glandular Fever** (Infectious Mononucleosis): It is not necessary to keep your child at home, but some children with glandular fever are too sick to attend school.
- ◆ **Head Lice:** Your child need not be sent home from school. Treatment can be carried out that night, and the child can return to school next day. You can buy an appropriate solution from your pharmacist – you don't need a prescription. Everyone living in the same house should be treated at the same time you are treating the affected person. Notify the school.
- ◆ **Hepatitis A** (Infectious Hepatitis): Until the child has recovered (usually 7 days from the first signs of jaundice).
- ◆ **Hepatitis B:** It is not necessary to keep your child home, but some children with hepatitis B are too sick to attend school.
- ◆ **HIV** (Human Immunodeficiency Virus): It is not necessary to keep your child home (unless she/he has a secondary infectious disease, such as TB).
- ◆ **Impetigo:** See your GP. If the sores are being treated properly and are properly covered by a clean dressing, children are allowed to attend school. It is not necessary to keep contacts at home.
- ◆ **Influenza:** For 5 days after the appearance of the first symptoms.
- ◆ **Measles:** For at least 4 days after the appearance of rash.
- ◆ **Meningitis:** Child should be seen by a doctor IMMEDIATELY.
- ◆ **Mumps:** Until the child has fully recovered, and for 9 days after the appearance of the swelling.
- ◆ **Ringworm:** Keep your child home until you have seen your pharmacist and begun treatment. Notify the school. It is not necessary to keep children at home, but you should inspect them regularly for signs of ringworm.

- ◆ **Scabies:** Keep your child home until you have seen a pharmacist and begun suitable treatment. Notify the school. You need not keep contacts at home, but you should inspect them regularly for signs of scabies.
- ◆ **TB (Tuberculosis):** Child should be seen by a doctor.
- ◆ **Whooping Cough (Pertussis):** Child should be kept home for 14 days from the start of the illness, or until 5 days have been completed from the start of 14 day course of antibiotics .

IM, IO/AU and ED Classes

The IM, IO/AU and ED classes facilitate individual learning programs for students with special intellectual, behavioural and emotional needs. These programs are developed with parent input. The learning support team meets each fortnight to review the children and their programs. The learning support team that functions within our school won an excellence award in 2003.



K

Key Learning Areas (KLA)

The NSW school curriculum is organised into Key Learning Areas from Kindergarten to Year 10. The six KLAs of the primary school curriculum are:

- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ English
- ◆ Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)
- ◆ Science and Technology
- ◆ Creative Arts; and
- ◆ Personal Development, Health, Physical Education (PDHPE).

Your child will learn about in each of these KLAs throughout the school year.

Kindergarten preparation

A Kinder transition program for children is conducted in term 3 and 4 prior to commencing school. The program is called Kinder Smart Start and is advertised in the newsletter, local paper and letters are sent home to individual parents.



Library

The school has a well equipped library that caters for the needs of all the children in the school. Children have set library lessons each week as well as being able to use the library at other times during the week for private research and/or study.

The library is open each morning and lunchtime to allow for borrowing, quiet reading or browsing.

The children who borrow books must have a library bag. A number of types are available: Plastic \$0.40, Cloth drawstring \$2.50, or a calico bag with the school crest \$6.00

These bags can be purchased from the librarian or children can supply their own bags from home.

Kindergarten students borrow from week 3 term 1. They have free choice to borrow which ever books they like. Books may be beyond the children's capacity to read independently so we would encourage parents to read their library books to them before they return them at their next library lesson.

Life Education Van

Life Education NSW (a not for profit community based organization) runs a series of educational sessions that addresses many of the components and objectives within the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education key learning area of the curriculum. Children have an opportunity to attend these sessions when the Life Education Van visits the school. This service comes to Bathurst every alternate year.

Lost property

There is a lost property box located in the shelter area next to the canteen. Parents and children have access to look for any items that have been lost.

Any coins found in the playground are put towards our Stewart House pledge.

Lucky book club (see Book club)



Map

Medicine

Parents are encouraged to organise a regime that sees all medication given before and after school. If the child's condition demands regular medication at recess or at lunchtime, arrangements must be made with the Principal. For these children there are two options. Parents may visit the school and administer the medication to their own child or parents must sign an *Agreement to Administer Medication Letter* and an *Indemnity Form*. After the *Agreement* and *Indemnity Forms* have been signed, our ancillary staff will dispense medication that is supplied by parents weekly and in a secure and clearly marked dosage container. Medication is to be supplied weekly by the parents. Ventolin etc. for Asthma sufferers should be discussed with the Principal to allow for suitable individual arrangements to be made. Under no circumstances is medication to be kept in your child's care, except "puffers". This should be carried by your child and not left in school bags. The school does not dispense aspirin, panadol or other analgesics. The school needs to be made aware of medical conditions to make appropriate provision.

Merit awards

Students receive Assembly awards during their fortnightly assemblies. They reflect the expectations taught as part of the P.B.L. Program – Being a Respectful, Responsible, Safe Learner. See Student Welfare Program.

Money

It is suggested that you limit the amount of pocket money brought to school. It can be easily lost. All money should be kept with the children and not in their bags.

Money envelopes

Often notes require a response from you. For example, permission to be involved in an activity and the forwarding of money to the school. Please ensure that the money and notes are in a sealed envelope and have your child's name, class, and purpose of the money clearly marked. This must be handed to the front office at school after arriving in the classroom. Correct money is greatly appreciated. Eftpos/Credit Card is available at the front office.

Mufti days

These are fun days where casual clothes rather than school uniform are worn. They may be themed days e.g. wear clothes of a particular colour. There is a gold coin donation required on these days. That is the cost of going mufti. The money raised is for a specified cause. Notification of up coming mufti days and the reason for the fundraising will be in the school newsletter. The children need to wear broad brimmed hats when outside.

Music

All children participate in musical activities within their school week as part of the Creative Arts key learning area. As well as this, there are extra activities that children can be involved in: see Band, Choir, Drumming and Recorder. Group music is a valued component of our school curriculum.

Musica Viva

This is an award winning music education program which the school is involved in. Throughout the year our students have the opportunity to attend high quality live performances by ensembles from around the world. These highly skilled musicians share their love of music with the students and involve them directly in the performances. The children practice things which will facilitate their participation in the ensembles performance prior to the performance. This program of learning is integral to the music component of the key learning area of Creative and Performing Arts within the Curriculum. It is always great fun and parents are invited to attend the concerts free of charge.



National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

During term 2 all students in Year 3 and 5 undertake the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). This test is administered to all Year 3 and 5 students in Australia. They enable the school to both benchmark with other schools and to monitor our own students progress. There are three components: numeracy, literacy and writing. Parents will be provided with a written report on their child's results in term 3. Parents are welcome to discuss the results with class teachers.

Newsletter

The weekly newsletter is distributed each Thursday. It is given to the youngest child in each family. It is also uploaded to our school website each Thursday. This can be found at www.bathurst-p.school.nsw.edu.au. The newsletter keeps parents and caregivers up to date with all the activities of the school and advises them of coming events.

Throughout the year you will receive from the school many notices, notes as well as the regular school newsletter. The notes keep you informed about what's happening in your school or provide information and seek permission for your child to be involved in excursions, activities, sporting events and so on.

The school encourages children to give all written communications to parents promptly. It would be appreciated if you would check each day with your child to see if she/he has a note for you. This will assist in ensuring that children get into the habit of giving you notes from the school.

Notes and absenteeism

A sample note for absence could be:

Date

Dear [Teacher's name]

[Child's name] [Class] was absent from school on [date] because [reason].

Signed

Notes and money

Often notices and notes require a response from you. For example, permission to be involved in an activity and/or the forwarding of money to the school. Please ensure that notices and money are in a sealed envelope and have your child's name and class and purpose of the money clearly shown. This must be then given to the CLASS TEACHER as soon as possible after arriving in the classroom. Notes and money must be in by the due date or the child will miss the activity unless there are special circumstances. Eftpos is available in the front office.



P

P&C

The Parents & Citizens' Association (P&C) meets each month on the third Wednesday between 7:00 and 9:00 pm in the Staffroom. The P&C is made up of parents, caregivers, teachers and friends of the students of the school. The P&C aims to promote the parent-teacher partnership and assist the school in its many activities. The clothing pool and canteen committees are sub-committees of the P&C. Fundraising and ground maintenance are major areas of parent involvement. As a result of fundraising activities many significant purchases have been made. Present and future plans are discussed at the meetings and guest speakers keep parents up to date on issues in education. The annual membership fee is \$1. Updates from the P&C and reminders of the next meeting date are in the school newsletter.

Parent involvement

Parents are from time to time asked if they can assist in many of the varied programs and activities which the school has organised.

Some of these activities are:

- ◆ P&C;
- ◆ Assisting with reading groups;
- ◆ Additional supervision on excursions;
- ◆ Transporting children to and from school activities;
- ◆ Assisting with special events, e.g. craft days;
- ◆ Assisting with covering of books and cataloguing in the library;
- ◆ Providing expertise and knowledge in lessons;
- ◆ Participation in curriculum committees and in Target area reviews;
- ◆ Choir, Music and Band

The school is very appreciative of the participation by so many parents in so many ways, and looks forward to you being able to assist in some way in the future.

Parent teacher interviews

You can arrange an interview time with your child's teacher to discuss any issues or information relating to your child's progress at any time. You can arrange an appointment via the front office or by sending a note with your child. A parent can also organise an appointment with the principal if the parent teacher interview does not meet your needs.

PD

The Personal Development program is a component of the Welfare Policy. It is for rectifying inappropriate playground behaviours and works towards developing the child's ability to demonstrate appropriate playground behaviour. See Welfare Policy

Peer support

Children throughout the school are involved in a peer support program.

Pets

Pets are never allowed at school, unless they are a component of the teaching program.

Playground

Students can use the playground equipment during the second half of lunchtime. It remains out of bounds during recess and the first half of lunchtime. For safety reasons children are not allowed to run on the concrete areas of the playground.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Bathurst Public is a PBL school. PBL stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning with the focus being on a positive approach to teaching school-wide expectations.

Students meeting these expectations are reinforced with Gotcha racing tickets, as our theme is Race to Success. Tickets may be earned by students meeting the expectation that has been taught in class. All of the tickets will then go into a weekly draw to win a voucher to use at the School Canteen, which is kindly donated by the P & C.

Once the students have achieved a certain number of Gotcha racing tickets, we will hold a Special School wide celebration. With PBL we hope to reach all students by positively teaching and reinforcing expectations, therefore affording all students the rewards of positive choices.

Presentation day

Presentation day is held during the last few weeks of the year. It starts at 10.00am and lasts for approximately two hours. It is usually held at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre. Parents and friends are invited to attend. It is a celebration of the schools as well as individual student's achievements during the year.

PSPI

The Parent School Partnership Initiative (PSPI) focuses on the implementation of creative approaches to improving the educational outcomes of Indigenous school students. It encourages parents of Indigenous students, Indigenous communities and schools to work together in partnership to address local barriers to education.

The PSPI supplements mainstream education services and programmes and may provide mechanism for capacity building in Indigenous communities to enhance learning outcomes of Indigenous students.

Public speaking

See Debating

R

Reading Recovery

Reading Recovery is an intensive literacy program for Year 1 students. Students who participate in the program are those most in need of support in reading and writing. Teachers trained in Reading Recovery provide the programs.

Recorder

Children in Years 1-6 have the opportunity to join one of the schools Recorder Groups. The Recorder Groups have a 30-60 minute lesson per week. Children need to supply their own recorder (please see the Recorder Teacher regarding Recorders)

Reports

Teachers compile comprehensive reports or interviews on your child's progress. This occurs for all children at Bathurst Public School.

- ◆ Term 1 – Parent/Teacher Interviews.
- ◆ Term 2 – Written Reports.
- ◆ Term 4 – Written reports.

These reports provide you with an overview not only of your child's academic achievements, but his/her social, physical and personal development.

When reports are sent home, a formal opportunity is available for you to visit the school and discuss personally with your child's teacher the progress reported on. In this way, it is possible to foster a greater understanding and appreciation of your child's progress between you and their teacher.

The parent-teacher interview is the most effective method for parents to obtain information about children's progress and these can be arranged at any time throughout the year. Do not wait until the formal reporting times if you have a concern about your child. When seeking an interview, contact the school and arrange a time that is mutually convenient to you and your child's teacher.

S

School counsellor

All students in NSW government schools have access to a school counsellor. School counsellors provide assistance to students experiencing emotional, psychological, social and learning problems. In supporting students, school counsellors will also provide advice to parents and teachers as appropriate. If a parent wishes to speak with the school counsellor, an appointment can be made by telephoning the school.

School hours

School hours are 9:00am through to 3:00pm Monday to Friday during school terms. Bells signify changes within the school and are rung as follows:

9:00am	School commences.
11:15– 11:40am	Recess (A short whole school assembly is held daily under the COLA.)
12.55 – 1.10	Eating lunch in classrooms
1:10 – 1:35pm	Lunch (1 st half)
1:35 – 2:00pm	Lunch (2 nd half)
3:00pm	School ends

Playground supervision begins at 8:30am and students are not permitted on the school grounds before this time. Some areas are out of bounds before school begins.

School Magazine

Our School Magazine is written and published in Term 4 of each year. It contains an overview of the year, class reports, a report of all the activities and sports we have participated in and our Year 6 children's Hopes and Dreams. The School Magazine is on sale from week 8 term 4 each year from the school office.

School song

On the banks of Macquarie our city is built. Where the plains roll away to the west.
On the blue mountain ranges cloud shadows are spilt. And with sunshine our hills are caressed.

Oh Bathurst we always your children will be, No matter how far we may roam
And our hearts and our thoughts will turn ever to thee. And always we'll yearn to come home.

In happy school days in the School on the hill. We make friendships that last through the years.

We work and we learn and we play with a will, Through sunshine and laughter and tears.
Oh School on the hill we will always be true. To the things that are worthy and right
And bearing our banner of white and of blue. All evil and wrong we will fight.

P.J.Cunningham

Scripture

Special Religious Education (SRE) involves authorized representatives of approved religious groups providing instruction to students of that group within school time. Parents nominate their children's religious denomination at enrolment and they may withdraw them from or change SRE classes by notifying the principal.

Sport

Sport occurs on different days for children in different years. Ask your child's teacher which day is their sport day.

The school is affiliated with the Public Schools Sports Association and is involved in many sporting activities organised by the Association, which involves many of the children of the school. As well, the school has a sports afternoon each week for children in Years 3 to 6 while children in kindergarten to year 2 have special P.E. activities weekly.

The school conducts major sporting carnivals for all primary children in swimming, athletics and cross country as well as entering teams in a number of state knockout competitions. Parents with sporting expertise are encouraged to coach representative teams in partnership with teachers.

Staff

The school is staffed by committed professionals. At the beginning of each year a list of staff will be distributed in a school newsletter.

Principal:	Mrs Kate White
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Joanne Curran (Relieving)
Assistant Principal:	
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Sharon Cafe
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Jodie Goninan
Assistant Principal Learning Support:	Mrs Fiona Proctor
Assistant Principal Hearing:	Mrs Jennifer Eagle
Counsellor	Miss Hathor Brackenreg
Class Teacher	Mr Thackray
Class Teacher:	Mrs Murphy
Class Teacher:	Ms Simmons
Class Teacher:	Mrs Francis
Class Teacher:	Mr Given
Class Teacher:	Mrs Ivory
Class Teacher:	Ms Roberts
Class Teacher	Mrs McClements
Class Teacher:	Mr Datt
Class Teacher:	Mrs Morris
Class Teacher:	Mrs Healey
Class Teacher:	Miss Puebla
Class Teacher:	Miss English
Class Teacher:	Mrs Curran
Class Teacher:	Mr Attard
Class Teacher:	Ms Nelson

Class Teacher:	Miss Bennett
Class/Support Teacher:	Mrs Johnson
IM Teacher:	Mrs Tanya Gray
IO/AU Teacher:	Mrs Henderson
IO/AU Teacher:	Mrs Crook
IO/AU Teacher:	Miss Jackson
ED Teacher:	Mrs Angie Lee
Teacher/Librarian:	Mrs Guihot
Support Teacher:	Mrs Kelly
Reading Recovery:	Mrs Proctor
E.S.L. Teacher:	Miss Newton
Hearing Support:	Mrs Chalker
Hearing Support:	Mrs Redding
Hearing Support:	Mrs Bekkema
Home School Liaison:	Mr Cross
School Administration Manager:	Mrs DiFazio
School Assistant:	Mrs Bogart
School Assistant:	Ms Willott
School Assistant:	Mrs Wilkin
School Learning Support Officer:	Mrs Mitchell
School Learning Support Officer:	Mrs Fowler
School Learning Support Officer:	Mrs Dive
School Learning Support Officer:	Mr Phillips
School Learning Support Officer:	Mrs Mooney
School Learning Support Officer:	Mrs Angus
School Learning Support Officer:	Miss White
School Learning Support Officer:	Miss Cafe
General Assistant:	Mr White/Mr Dinger

Stewart House

See Community Charity Support

Student Welfare

The welfare of all students is paramount to the staff at Bathurst Public School. We have a comprehensive welfare policy that was revised in 2006 to incorporate a new anti bullying policy.

This policy includes such things as our school rules and expectations, services available to students and staff, our merit system and how our school deals with inappropriate behaviour. It also gives an overview of our PD program and its anticipated outcomes.

Support for your child

The school has programs to support the diverse learning needs of our students. The Learning Support Team identifies needs and manages support programs for children.

- ◆ The Support teacher assists children in literacy and numeracy.

- ◆ The Reading Recovery Program provides assistance in reading for Year 1 Students.
- ◆ The School Counsellor assists with special learning needs, counselling and assessments.
- ◆ The school has three IO/AU classes, an ED class and an IM class for children with high levels of support needs and/or intellectual, behavioural and emotional disabilities.
- ◆ The Gifted and Talented Program ensures each child is identified and an individual education program developed in consultation with the parents. Teaching and Learning Programs are based programs on an inclusionary and differentiated model, acceleration and opportunity classes.

There are many avenues available to parents and to the school staff to assist with concerns about children experiencing difficulties, such as learning and/or emotional problems; social and physical development matters.

Any concerns you may have about your child's development should be discussed with your child's teacher and an Assistant Principal or Principal. It is important that you do this before the concerns become a real problem. The school extends to you an open invitation to discuss any problems at any time. Would you please inform the school of any home or school matter you believe is causing your child stress.

The school is able to call on the expertise and support services of a number of agencies to assist it and you. Some of these are:

- ◆ The School Counsellor;
- ◆ Staff of the Department of Education and Communities;
- ◆ Department of Health; and
- ◆ Department of Family and Community Affairs.

These agencies are all available to assist you and the school in providing the best possible educational opportunities for your child.

Swimming

All children are offered the opportunity to be involved in a swimming program in term 4. Notes will be sent home to parents during term 3 advising them of dates, time and cost. There are different levels of swimming which cater for beginner to advanced swimmers during the two week intensive program.



Teachers

See Staff





Uniform

The school encourages the wearing of our school uniform. It has been designed to be as flexible and as attractive as possible. It can be worn in a number of combinations by both boys and girls. The uniform is practical and comfortable, with provision for ease of making for parents who prefer to make their own. The individual uniform items can be purchased from the front office at school or a variety of shops in Bathurst. Specialist school uniform shops such as Lowes (Bathurst Shopping Centre) and Marietta's (George St) stock our uniform. However, parents have the right of choice and may choose to use other outlets. The school logo can be embroidered onto shorts and polo shirts at Mitchell Embroidery.

Hats are part of our uniform and they must be worn during play periods.

While uniforms are not compulsory, parents are urged to buy items of school uniform when replacing school clothing. Children wear the uniform with pride and as a symbol of belonging in our school community.

Parents are strongly requested to make sure ALL items of clothing are marked with child's family name at least so they can be returned if mislaid. The lost property box is found in the canteen building.

Jewellery is not permitted as cautionary measure for students during play and sport. Students with pierced ears are requested to wear studs rather than earrings.

Girls' School uniform

Summer uniform worn Terms 1&4

- ◆ Summer tunic – blue, white and grey checks with navy tie
- ◆ School navy blue broad brim hat
- ◆ White socks with black shoes
- ◆ Navy hair ribbon

Winter uniform worn Terms 2&3

- ◆ Winter pinafore – blue, white and grey checks and white long sleeve polo shirt or white skivvy or white blouse
- ◆ School navy blue broad brim hat
- ◆ Navy track pants
- ◆ Navy opaque stockings and black shoes
- ◆ Navy hair ribbon
- ◆ Navy sloppy joes with white school emblem, navy scarves, navy beanies and navy parkas in winter. Combinations from this list can be worn due to our variable climatic conditions.

Boys School Uniform

Summer uniform worn Terms 1&4

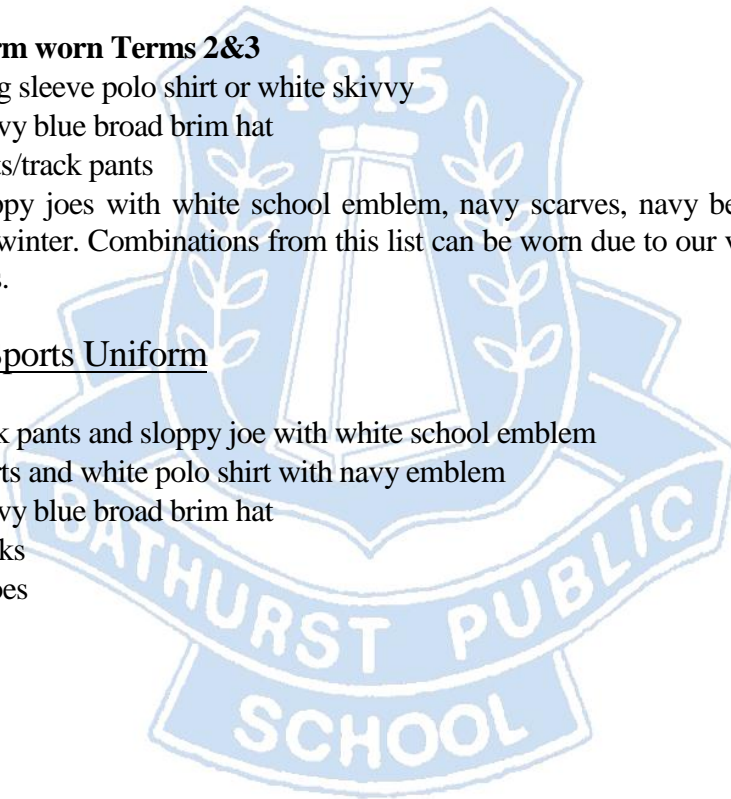
- ◆ School navy blue broad brim hat
- ◆ Navy shorts and white polo shirt with navy emblem
- ◆ White socks with black shoes

Winter uniform worn Terms 2&3

- ◆ White long sleeve polo shirt or white skivvy
- ◆ School navy blue broad brim hat
- ◆ Navy pants/track pants
- ◆ Navy sloppy joes with white school emblem, navy scarves, navy beanies and navy parkas in winter. Combinations from this list can be worn due to our variable climatic conditions.

Girls/Boys Sports Uniform

- ◆ Navy track pants and sloppy joe with white school emblem
- ◆ Navy shorts and white polo shirt with navy emblem
- ◆ School navy blue broad brim hat
- ◆ White socks
- ◆ Sports shoes





Violin

Our Violin Program commenced in 2009. The teachers of this program are Mr Nicholas Newell & Miss Stephanie Baker. Members of the Violin Program receive lessons every Tuesday in the George Street Room. This program is operated in conjunction with the Mitchell Conservatorium.

Virtues program

This is a recent school initiative which has been incorporated into the curriculum and student support program. Staffs have nominated a number of virtues which enhance social interaction and develop citizenship. These virtues are discussed in class and in the school newsletter. Parents are asked to reinforce the value we are focusing on at home as well to facilitate the effectiveness of the initiative.

The Virtues that we treasure at Bathurst Public are:

Truthfulness	Justice	Friendship	Equal Opportunity
Courage	Helpfulness	Truth	Convictions
Freedom	Honour	Honesty	Talents
Equality	Tolerance	Loyalty	Use of Time
Citizenship		Respect	Talents
Generosity		Courtesy	Choice
Kindness			

Voluntary contribution

It would be impossible for schools to provide effective educational materials, teaching aids, library books and other equipment without the financial support of parents. Whilst the Department of Education and Training resources the school, voluntary contributions help supplement the various programs operating within the school.

In order to assist the school in providing these resources for your children. Each family is asked to contribute \$50.00 per year, per child, \$90 for two children and \$120 for three or more children. This contribution is not compulsory, nor does it intend to impose a financial burden on families. However it would be appreciated that if you could provide the amount asked it be paid at the beginning of each year or upon enrolment. A letter outlining subscriptions is sent home to each family in Term 1 each year. The school manages all voluntary contributions received.

Volunteering

See Parent involvement.



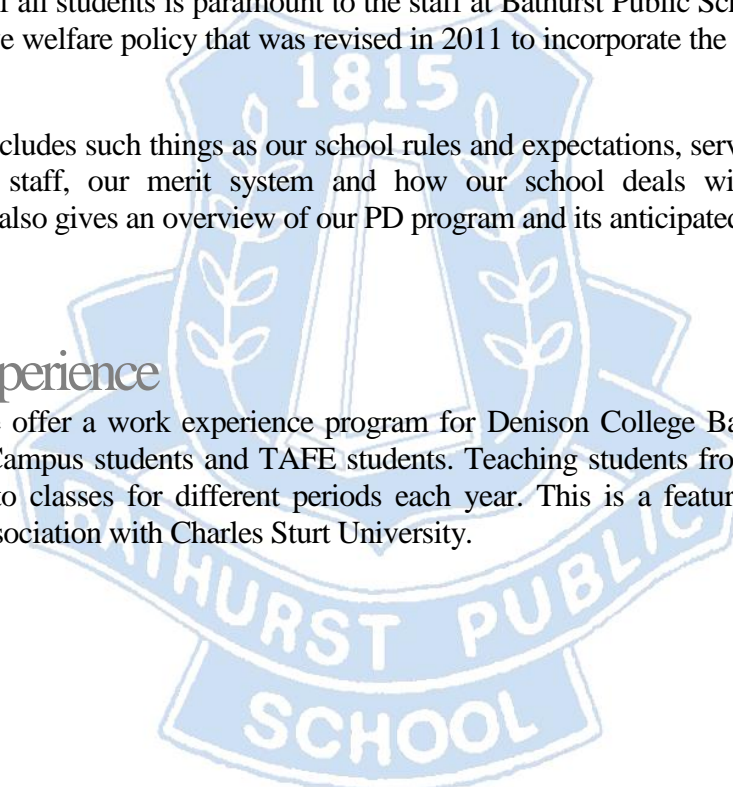
Welfare policy

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Work experience

Each year we offer a work experience program for Denison College Bathurst High and Kelso High Campus students and TAFE students. Teaching students from the university are attached to classes for different periods each year. This is a feature of a long and productive association with Charles Sturt University.



Important Points To Remember

Contacts

Please contact the classroom teacher first to discuss issues, followed by the Assistant Principal for the stage and then if further discussion is needed make an appointment to see the Principal. Appointments may be made via the Administration Office on 63313923.

Student Medical Conditions

Advise the School of any medical conditions that your child has that will require support whilst at school. Please keep the School up to date with this information.

Remember

Bathurst Public School promotes 'Peanut Free' foods for student's snacks and lunches.

Label

Please label every possession worn or brought to school with your child's name.

Advise

Advise the School immediately of any change of address, home telephone numbers or changes to family details that you feel necessary for School staff to be aware of in regards to your child. e.g. medical or custody details.

Student Absence

Send a note following a period of absence, signed by you and stating the reason for the absence and the dates that the absence occurred.

Hats

Please ensure your child wears a Navy Blue broad brim Hat to School
Bathurst Public School has a 'NO HAT, NO PLAY' Policy.

Lunch Orders

If students are ordering their lunch, please ensure that they have their orders into the canteen by 9.10am.

Library Bags

Please supply a bag for your child to put borrowed Library books in. Bags can be made of any material and should be approximately 30cms by 40cms.

Student Travel

Please advise your child's Teacher in writing, of any change to your child's travel arrangements before or after school.