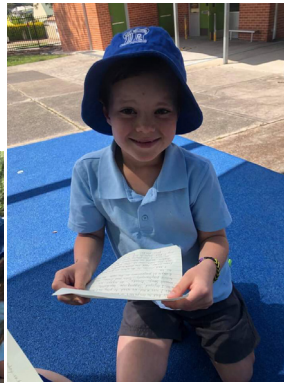
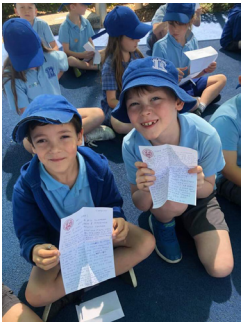




WESTY WHISPER

1/2D and 2C studying History

Last term 1/2D and 2C explored “The Past and The Present” in History. To find out more about the past, the students wrote letters to the residents of a local nursing home. During the last week of term 3, students received responses to their letters. The girls and boys were very excited to hear back from their pen pals.



What's on at Westy

Notes on the go....

*Swim School - updated information

Dates for your Diary

Monday 26th October-Friday 6th November

*Swim School

Friday 13th November

*Kinder Orientation Group 1

Friday 20th November

*Kinder Orientation Group 2

Friday 27th November

*Kinder Orientation Group 3

Wednesday 16th December

*Last day of Term 4

Thursday 17th & Friday 18th December

*Staff Development Days

Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th January 2021

*Staff Development Days

Friday 29th January 2021

First day of Term 1 for Years 1-6

ANAPHYLAXIS and ALLERGIES – Thank you for your support in helping our students with allergies. Due to the life threatening Anaphylactic allergic reaction to nut and peanut products, we would like to encourage families not to send these products to school with their children. They include peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seeds, loose nuts, muesli, nut and chocolate bars.

OFFICE NEWS

KINDER ORIENTATION

A lot of planning has gone in to the Kindergarten orientation process for the girls and boys joining us in 2021. So far the parents have been sent a letter to advise of the changes this year due to Covid19. They have also been sent a Youtube video of a tour of the school which includes the introduction of some of the staff members and our school leaders. The parents have also been sent information regarding the ordering of uniforms.

Whilst the transition process differs slightly this year, staff have worked hard to ensure that the stepping stones to “big” school are fun and that our new students are not missing out on this important part of their introduction to Kinder.

On Monday parents were sent an email advising them of the date that their child is scheduled to attend their Orientation Session in the Kinder rooms. Please call or send an email to confirm your child will be attending their allocated day.

SWIM SCHOOL

Back in February we sent a note home regarding our 2020 Swim School program. If you paid for your son/daughter to participate, you will have received a note on Thursday 15th October. Due to the pandemic, all school excursions and sporting activities were placed on hold. We are grateful that our students will now get the opportunity to be involved in the 10 day program starting on Monday 26th October. Please direct any questions via phone or email to Mr Bamborough.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

The team from SISA are back this Term. Students will undergo the program on the odd weeks, the next session will be Thursday 29th October. Please ensure your child brings their hat/cap and plenty of water.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

This year NSW will celebrate Word Teachers' Day on Friday 30th October 2020.

World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to celebrate the hardworking and dedicated primary, secondary and early childhood teachers in NSW. 2020 has been a year like no other with teachers having to adjust their teaching practices in response to the outbreak of COVID-19.

If you would like to send a special message of thanks to a teacher for being amazing in 2020, we have attached a link to a thank you card template.

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/wcm/connect/d27a9fc1-b0e8-4c75-85d8-6327605fa3c0/thankyou-card-b-black-and-white-wtd2020.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=>

P & C NEWS

FUNDRAISING

A big thank you to all of the families in our community that placed an order with Thompson's Bakery. The fundraising event which ran for the month of September was very successful. Once a decision has been made on how the funds will benefit the students, we will make an announcement.



Term 4 latest update on guidelines for our school in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Schools continue to be safe and operations are in line with AHPPC and NSW Health guidelines.
- All students should be learning on-campus unless they are unwell or have a medical certificate to support their absence.
- Existing infection control protocols at schools, and new health and safety measures put in place will help maintain the health and safety of students and staff.
- All activities permitted at school are safe and appropriate in a living with COVID-19 environment.
- Schools continue to monitor and plan for any changes in local circumstances that may arise, including changes in health advice or local restrictions.
- Non-essential adults visiting schools including parents and carers are still not permitted for Term 4.

Key Changes

End-of-year celebrations

Advice regarding all other end-of-year assemblies, graduations or other celebrations are currently still under review. Further information will be provided later in Term 4.

- Year 6 formals can proceed provided they occur in a COVID-safe way.
- Kindergarten orientation can commence in Term 4 with strict guidelines.

Excursions within NSW

Excursions within NSW can recommence in Term 4 provided schools follow the requirements that all providers and venues are to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan to ensure health and safety measures are in place to maintain the health and wellbeing of students and staff whilst participating in excursion activities.

As the COVID-19 situation can change quickly, we will continue to follow guidelines in the planning of term 4 events. Please make sure you regularly check emails, skoolbag app and notes sent home to keep informed. I have also included two links below that may be of assistance.

Mrs Wasson

Principal

School Safety App

Encourage staff and parents to [download the School Safety app](#). This app is one of the main communication tools that the department will use to notify families of school closures due to COVID-19 or a natural disaster.

Care and Connect resources

Please remember to promote the new [Care and Connect resources](#) with students and staff and continue to check-in with them about their mental health and wellbeing

COMMUNITY NEWS

What is Saver Plus?

- A free ten-month savings program providing financial education, budgeting and savings tips.
- Participants receive up to \$500 from ANZ in matched savings for education costs for themselves or their children.
- Delivered by Brotherhood of St Laurence, The Smith Family, Berry Street and other local community organisations.
- Offered in communities across Australia in every state and territory.

A Saver Plus Participant's Journey



Who can join?

- Participants must meet all of the below criteria:
- Be 18 years or over
 - Have a child at school or starting next year, or attend vocational education themselves
 - Have regular income from paid employment (themselves or their partner)*
 - Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
 - Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment*

Benefits for participants'

- 87%** continue to save the same amount or more 3 to 7 years after completing the program.
- 78%** were better equipped for unexpected expenses.
- 88%** reported increased self-esteem.
- 80%** had more control over their finances.

How did it start?

Saver Plus began in 2003 as a Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ pilot program with 268 participants in three sites across Victoria and New South Wales.

Since then, the program has expanded to all Australian states and territories reaching more than 45,000 people, making it the largest and longest-running program of its kind in the world.

Since 2003:

45,000+ participants

\$24m+ total amount saved by participants

\$19m+ matched funds paid by ANZ

Find out more

- 1300 610 355
- saverplus@bsl.org.au
- saverplus.org.au
- [@SaverPlusAU](https://www.facebook.com/SaverPlusAU)



* Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

© BSL University 2018. A number of Saver Plus program evaluations have been carried out since 2003. For more information see www.saverplus.org.au

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Berry Street and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.bsl.org.au for more information.

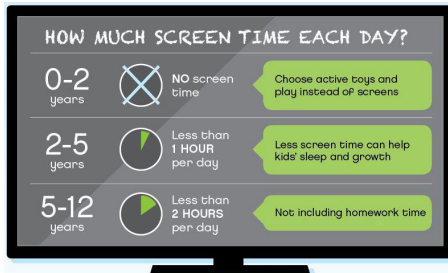
Good for Kids good for life

TURN OFF SCREENS AND GET ACTIVE!

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

How can parents help?

- Ensure kids have at least one hour of physical activity a day,
- Limit kids total screen time to less than 2 hours per day,
- Remove TV sets and computers from your child's bedroom,
- Encourage other types of fun that include both physical and social activities, like walking the dog or joining a sports team.



Source: Make Healthy Normal and the 24hour Movement Guidelines



HNELMD.GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>



HAVE A BLAST. BE PART OF THE CREW!

Get into Woolworths Cricket Blast. It's a fun and active program for kids of all abilities - whether it's your first time with a bat or you're a backyard cricket star!

- It's easy to join a crew and make awesome new friends.
- Wear the colours of your Big Bash heroes.
- Parents warm up, you can join in too!
- Outdoors, non-contact.



JUNIOR BLASTERS

AGES 5-7 | 60 mins | 6+ weeks

Learn new skills, including catching, throwing and teamwork, through fun game based activities.

Sign up now for your Starter Pack. Returning Junior Blasters score a Returner Pack with a Backpack, Ball and choice of bonus item!



MASTER BLASTERS

AGES 7-10 | 90 mins | 6+ weeks

Everyone gets a chance to bat, bowl and field in short, modified games of cricket. For kids with basic cricket skills.

Sign up now for your Master Blasters Pack!



You could PLAY Woolworths Cricket Blast for Free!

Thanks to the NSW Government, every student (K-12) is entitled to 2x\$100 Active Kids vouchers each calendar year. Remember to use your voucher when you sign up at playcricket.com.au



Register now @ playcricket.com.au



Casual Work

Casual positions - Multiple locations across Hunter Region (6556)

Help protect our vibrant school communities

Become a Casual School Crossing Supervisor!

- Keep our kids, parents and teachers safe on the road
- Be a second pair of eyes for our local motorists
- Earn an income and still have time to live your life to the fullest

Shifts fall between the school zones hours 8.00am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 4.00pm, with a minimum of one, one hour shift as and when required Monday to Friday during the school term.

Does this sound like you?

- Reliable in good or bad weather
- Good communication skills
- Community spirit
- Positive energy

If it does, visit jobs.transport.nsw.gov.au to apply today!

Applications close Wednesday, 28 October 2020

