



The Gum Tree Newsletter

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Key Contacts

Principal: Kylie Croke
School Board Chair: Daniela Vrkic
P&C President: Paula Edwards
Family Support Worker: Natalie Rutledge

Dates For Your Diary

27 May—3 Jun: Reconciliation Week
Mon 8 Jun: Queens Birthday Holiday
Fri 12 Jun: 10am P&C Meeting
Mon 22 & Thu 25 Jun: School Photos
Fri 3 Jul: Last day of Term 2
Mon 20 Jul: First day of Term 3

Dear Cranleigh Families and Community,

This is the first full Cranleigh 'GumTree' that we have sent to you since March and what a time we have endured as a school, as a community and as a world. It has been an incredibly difficult time and not one we have recovered from yet.

I am unsure if my words will truly capture my gratitude towards the Cranleigh families and staff for their dedication to keeping safe, staying home, working from home, working on site, being the most amazing 'Essential Workers' I have ever had the privilege to work with and to all involved as we moved from Pupil Free Days, to a 'Safe and Supervised Site (SSS)' and now back to school.

While we were a 'SSS', I would like to thank Cathy Otten who co-managed the site with me. To Caren, Amy and Laura, our three executive teachers who ran the 'hub. To Bri, Robyn, Nat, Bev and Geoff, who kept the site running and to the teachers and support staff for their dedication, professionalism and commitment in providing quality learning opportunities, unwavering teamwork, collaboration, and camaraderie. The feedback that we have received from our parents has been profoundly positive with an array of good news stories of what our student have accomplished whilst learning remotely!

Now that we are officially, 'Back to School' with most of our P-6 cohort bounding through the doors, ready to learn, it is time to get back to our new normal. As we return, flexibility will remain our focus. It may take our students some time to settle back. Wellbeing first and the learning will come!

It is essential that families keep up to date with advice and communication that we distribute and that you adhere to clear and deliberate signage in and around the school. We ask that you maintain appropriate social distancing at drop off and pick up times and be patient with us as we coordinate these somewhat hectic times of the day. If you have not already done so please read the FAQs for School families attached to this newsletter.

For Cranleigh families, a key message must again be reiterated:

If your child has any kind of illness, even if it is just a runny nose, they must not come to school. If a child at school is unwell, parents will be asked to collect them.

As we move into the Winter months, this message is even more critical. So, in advance, I thank families for the vigilance with illnesses and keeping children at home.

Now to share with you some very positive news. The highly regarded educator publication *The Educator* has just announced the finalists for the Australian Education Awards 2020. The Australian Education Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of the country's top performing schools, principals, department heads and teachers. This year, Cranleigh School has been nominated and is now a finalist for the category of **Special Education School of the Year**, along with only 3 other schools for the whole of Australia. This is a wonderful acknowledgement of the work that is carried out by the whole Cranleigh School community, so congratulations to all. We know we are already winners, but the official announcement will be made in Sydney in early November at The Educator Awards Night!

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable long weekend ahead.

Kylie



Term 2 Therapy for Students at Cranleigh

With the return of our Year 5 & 6 students to school today this is just a quick reminder of the current changes to access for external therapists at Cranleigh.

To enable all of our students to successfully return to school and reengage with their class staff and peers, currently at Cranleigh we will not be hosting external therapy visits. We are expecting that students returning to school will require time and support to return to school structures and routines, similar to what occurs at the beginning of each school year. With this in mind it will be a few weeks until this aspect of school life is back to normal.

This decision has taken into account the high numbers of external therapists requesting access to our school site, which in term is creating pressure in regards to current regulations and restrictions around social distancing.

This time also allows school staff time to settle with new hygiene and social distancing procedures that are essential with COVID 19 management – enabling everyone accessing the school site to remain safe.

Where there have been substantial changes in therapy needs of students over the past 10 weeks, requests will be managed on a case by case basis, in conjunction with the ED NSET Therapy Team. To facilitate this process parents will be asked to provide written approval for school staff, including the NSET therapy team, to liaise with external therapists.

The NSET therapists currently working at Cranleigh are:



Cathy Hurman
Speech Therapist
(AAC & Communication)

Maddi Wallace
Occupational Therapist

Matt Thompson
Speech Therapist
(Feeding Plans)

Genevieve McInnes
Physiotherapist

No doubt many of you have already seen them at school. Cathy, Maddi and Genevieve will be based at Cranleigh on Thursdays. Matt will be here intermittently, as needed. They are currently working along side school staff in classrooms and are based within the Teacher Workroom, so they can be readily available to all staff to answer any therapy based questions that arise.

As staff, we are so lucky to have such a talented therapy team working within our school. Our students are so lucky – they have such an awesome team of professionals assisting their learning!!

Parents will be continue to notified via School Newsletters and emails when changes regarding school access for therapists also occurs.

We are aware that a number of NDIS Therapists completed the induction session in Term 1, only a few completed the paperwork required for attendance at the school. They can streamline their involvement at Cranleigh when restriction reduce by completing the required paperwork that is outlined at this session.

Many thanks for your support and assistance in this process.

Cathy

CHANGES TO SEMESTER 1 REPORTING

Due to the unprecedented circumstances faced by schools across Australia this year, a national agreement has been reached to modify school reporting for Semester 1. In the ACT we will reduce the level of Semester 1 reporting for students from Kindergarten to Year 10.

We recognise that providing families with information about their child's progress and learning is crucial and will be especially valuable after the start to the year we have all experienced.

Semester 1 school reports for 2020 will still include information about each student's level of progress against specific achievement standards for the learning areas that were covered in Semester 1. Teachers will still make a judgement about the level of engagement each student has demonstrated with their learning and, where appropriate, work habits. Personal and Social Capability will still be included. Reports in Semester 1 will not include overall grades for learning areas/subjects or a comparative A-E grade summary. Additionally, reports will not include attendance information for Semester 1.

If you would like further information about your child's progress please consult with your classroom teacher.

For any other queries or concerns, you can contact the Education Directorate via the [Education Directorate Contact Form](#) or call 6205 5429.

Change to Primary Schools Central Placement Panel date for small group programs (LSU, LSU-A, LSC) and specialist school placement

The 2020 school year has started unlike any other, and this has caused significant disruption to usual routines for students, families, and schools. As we welcome students back into our schools, planning is underway to minimise long term impacts of these unprecedented times on our students and their ongoing schooling. In line with this, the date for Primary Schools Central Placement Panel (where small group program placements for LSU, LSU-A, LSC and Specialist Schools are determined) has been changed, with applications now due in \Week 6, Term 3 and letters of offer sent to parents in time for schools and parents to develop a transition plan together in Term 4.

The Secondary Central Placement Panel will proceed as anticipated with outcome letters for Year 6 student applications for high school placements in 2021, sent to parents early in Term 3.

If you would like to access more information regarding the Disability Education Central Placement Panel and process, please see the [Students with Disability](#) webpage on the Education Directorate website or speak to school staff. If you need further information, you can email your query to DisabilityEducation@act.gov.au.



Celebrating Cranleigh Students Learning from Home!

