



Castle Hill Public School

NEWSLETTER

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Email: castlehill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au Webpage: castlehill-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Term 4 Week 3 – October 20, 2021

WHAT'S ON

Wednesday October 20

Kindergarten 2022 Parent
information session via Zoom
at 6.15pm

Monday October 25

Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 return to
face to face learning

Principal's Report

Return to school.

What a great day Monday was! It was wonderful to be able to welcome our Kindergarten and Year 1 students back to school and to see so many smiling faces. We can't wait to welcome all other students back for their return to school next Monday!

I would like to thank our school community for your wonderful support this week by keeping your older children home wherever that has been possible. This has allowed us to implement the first stage of our return to school very successfully. Thank you so much.

Please see further in the newsletter for information that explains the school organisation from next Monday for the remainder of the year.

Arrangements for Monday morning (25 October)

Upon arrival at school next Monday, all students (K-6) are asked to go to their classroom between 8.30am and 9.00am. During the day, students will be shown the playground areas that they will use before school, recess and lunch each day.

School Hats

We have already noticed many students who do not have a school hat to wear in the playground. We understand that there are many reasons for this but ask that students do bring their school hat each day, particularly as the weather gets warmer. Orders for school hats can be placed online. Please see further in the newsletter for uniform shop details.

PBL Fortnightly Expectation Focus



Term 4 Weeks 3 & 4 Aspire
Be a team player.

One of the considerations in devising new playground areas for students was the ability for each cohort of students to have a 'play in the shade' option. Students without a school hat will be asked to play in a shaded portion of their playground area.

Planning for 2022

We are busily planning in preparation for next year. In order to allow us to plan as effectively as possible, we ask families who know that they won't be returning to the school next year, to write to us as soon as possible. Similarly, if you are aware that your child will return to our school after February 1, 2022 due to an extended holiday or other reason, I ask that you write to us to confirm these details as well.

I have included a slip in the newsletter for you to complete and send back to the front office if either of these scenarios apply to you. Thank you for your anticipated co-operation with this matter.

Should you have a specific request with regard to your child's class placement next year, I ask that you put that request in writing to me via email at craig.oliver@det.nsw.edu.au

Kindergarten Enrolment for 2022

Please note that the Department of Education has now mandated that Kindergarten Orientation programs cannot involve students attending on-site until such time as we are working at Level 3 settings. We are hopeful that we will revert to Level 3 settings once all students return to school according to the timeframe above but this is not yet confirmed.

This means that our Orientation student session dates have changed and are as follows (and are still subject to change if level settings are altered). Parents will be sent an email with these changes confirmed.

Parent Session 1: Wednesday 20 October 6.15pm (tonight) via Zoom.

Student Session 1: week commencing Monday 8 November

Student Session 2: week commencing Monday 15 November

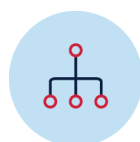
Student Session 3: week commencing Monday 22 November

Parent Session 2: Wednesday 17 November 6.15pm via Zoom.

Craig Oliver – Principal
Craig.oliver@det.nsw.edu.au

What you need to know about our return to school in Term 4

We're excited about our return to face-to-face learning and welcoming students and staff back onsite where we know the best learning happens. This is a short summary of what our parents and students can expect during Term 4.



Key dates for our staged return

While we know there is excitement about the return to school it's important that we stick to the staged return to give us time to be ready to welcome back students onsite. Students will return to face-to-face learning in the following order

- **from 25 October** – Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 students.



Our school's COVID-safe operations

Our COVID-safe return to school plan is NSW Health approved and includes numerous effective practices to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff. These practices include vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of student groups and staff, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning.



Keeping student groups together

As we return to school students will be kept in their cohorts to minimise opportunities for transmission of COVID-19 and to enable effective contact tracing and containment. This means minimising interaction between students on school grounds and keeping cohorts together where possible.

At CHPS, we will adopt a **stage-based cohort model**. This means that Kindergarten students (Early Stage 1) will be a cohort, Years 1 and 2 students (Stage 1) will be a separate cohort, Years 3 and 4 students (Stage 2) will be a separate cohort and Years 5 and 6 students (Stage 3) will be a separate cohort.

Start times:

All students will commence school at 9.00am.

Before school:

On Monday 25 October, all students are to go to their classrooms once they arrive at school, regardless of the weather conditions. During the day, students will be informed of the playground that they can play in before school, for the rest of the year.

Separate recess and lunch break times:

From 25 October onwards, we will operate with a 'split timetable' for the remainder of the year. To maintain the requirement of keeping cohort groups separate from one another, it is not possible for all students to have the same break times.

Break times for students as of **25 October** will be as follows:

Kindergarten and Years 5 and 6 (Stage 3)

Recess: 10.30 - 10.50am

Lunch eating time: 12.40 - 12.50pm

Lunch play time: 12.50 - 1.30pm

Years 1 and 2 (Stage 1) and Years 3 and 4 (Stage 2)

Lunch eating time: 10.50 - 11.00am

Lunch play time: 11.00 - 11.40am

Recess 1.40 - 2.00pm.

Student cohort groups that share the same break times will play in separate playground areas. For example, Kindergarten students will play in separate areas to Stage 3 students. Stage 1 students will play in separate areas to Stage 2 students.

Toilets:

Students will be shown the toilet block they are expected to use while at school. Students will be encouraged to use the appropriate toilet facilities during their recess and lunch breaks.

Finish times:

Kindergarten students and their siblings who use Kiss and Drop or walk to the traffic lights at the top of Les Shore Place will be released from class at 2.50pm. All other students will finish school at 3.00pm each day.

Kiss and Drop:

From 25 October onwards, Kiss and Drop will continue to operate each morning between 8.30 – 9.00am. Of an afternoon, Kiss and Drop will commence at the following times:

Kindergarten students (and their siblings): starting at 2.55pm;

Stage 1 students (and their siblings): starting at 3.05pm; and

All remaining students: starting at 3.15pm.

Unwell students:

Students who are unwell will be admitted to one of two sick bays. Parents will be called and asked to collect their child immediately.

We urge you to consider your child's health and the health and safety of other students and staff. **Please do not send your child to school if they are unwell.**



Mask wearing for students and staff

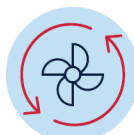
Masks are required to be worn on school site by staff indoors and are strongly recommended for students indoors unless exercising or eating.

We strongly encourage parents to provide a face mask for your child. If possible, please write your child's name inside the mask in case it is left behind somewhere during the day. Teachers will also encourage students to wear a mask whilst inside at school.



Vaccinations

All staff required on site supporting the return to school needed to be fully vaccinated by 18 October. Then from 8 November all staff, contractors, volunteers and students on student placement on a school site will need to be fully vaccinated, including Outside of School Hours Care staff.



Ventilation

Having open or well-ventilated spaces reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 because infectious particles are more quickly diffused in the open air. The department will continue to work with NSW Health to provide us with advice and guidance on maintaining good ventilation in our school and we will make use of our outdoor spaces wherever practical.



School activities

During Term 4 many school-based activities will remain on hold until NSW Health advise otherwise. This includes large celebrations like assemblies, presentation days and graduations, arts and sports events.

Canteen Arrangements:

From Monday 25 October onwards, lunch orders can be placed via Flexischools **only**. The deadline for the placing of orders is **9.00am** each day (please note that this is a change from the previous deadline time of 9.30am each day).

There will be no counter service until further notice. Students will not be able to purchase items at recess and lunch.

Uniform Shop:

Orders to purchase uniforms can only be made via Flexischools. Orders will be filled at school and items delivered to your child's classroom. The uniform shop remains closed for on-site purchases.



School Attendance

All students should return to school on the date indicated for their year group, unless:

- they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness;
- they are currently unwell; or
- they have been asked by NSW Health to self-isolate.

Please note that once students return to school on their assigned date, learning from home programs will cease and no other learning programs will be offered unless one of the above criteria is met or there is another exceptional circumstance. Please contact the school for further information if required.



Covid Communication

Parents and students will be notified if a decision is made to close the school due to a confirmed case of COVID-19. During this time we will continue to provide learning from home activities and we will let you know when we can return to face-to-face learning.

We will continue to notify you of any further information via the Sentral and skoolbag apps and the class parent network.



Preschool and out of school hours care

Out of school hours care, vacation care settings and preschools operating on school sites will follow the same COVID-safe guidelines as public schools including the requirement to be fully vaccinated from 8 November.



Orientation and transition to school

Onsite orientations and transition programs are not currently allowed in person on school sites until we are advised differently by NSW Health. We'll share more information in the coming weeks about our school's virtual orientation and transition program.

We are hopeful of running our Kindergarten orientation sessions for students on-site. Please continue to refer to the school newsletter for details.



Castle Hill Public School Kindergarten Enrolment for 2022

Applications to enrol for Kindergarten at Castle Hill Public School in 2022 are now open. If you, or someone that you know, is looking to enrol a child into Kindergarten next year, enrolment forms can be lodged online by following a link on our school website at <http://www.castlehill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/enrolment>

In-Area enrolments

If you are an Australian or New Zealand citizen or permanent resident, you are eligible to complete the online enrolment application. The school will contact you after we receive your application to finalise the enrolment.

Online enrolment link:

<https://enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/#/?schoolCode=1529>

If you are not eligible to enrol online, use the [application to enrol](#) (PDF 768.4KB) form. Please complete the form in English. A translated application to enrol may help you do this.

Out-of-area enrolments

The online enrolment portal now also accepts Out-of-Area applications. In circumstances within a family where older children are currently enrolled here at Castle Hill Public School but your residential address is now outside our catchment area, an Out-of-Area online application will be required.

Out-of-Area enrolment link:

<https://ooa.enrol.education.nsw.gov.au/?schoolCode=1529&catchmentLevel=primary>

An Out-of-Area application form should be completed providing names of siblings currently enrolled at Castle Hill Public School and provide any special circumstances to be considered. Applications will be assessed and parents informed of decisions by the end of Term 3.

News from the Deputies

Selective High School Placement for Year 7, 2023

Applications for entry in 2023 will open on 19 October 2021 and close on 17 November 2021. The placement test will be held on 10 March 2022.

Download the printable information for applicants about placement in selective high schools for Year 7 entry [here](#).

Late applications will be considered only where documentary evidence can be provided to show that families were affected by extraordinary circumstances which prevented them from applying on time.

Find more information about the application and placement process and apply online [here](#).

All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday March 10, 2022.

The application dashboard system enables parents to log in to make updates and add attachments even after an application is submitted. Parents can also communicate directly with the High Performing Students Team through the system's 'messages' feature. Parents having difficulty completing or submitting an application, can contact the High Performing Students Team by email ssu@det.nsw.edu.au or by calling 1800 880 367.

Keep updated on the selective high school placement process at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes>

An information session for parents/carers of current Year 5 students will be held on **Wednesday 27 October at 6:30pm** (via Zoom), to outline the application and placement process. Further information will be distributed via Seesaw, the Sentral for Parents app, Skoolbag and your child's class parent.

Opportunity Class Placement Test for Year 5, 2022

The Opportunity Class Placement Test for Year 5, 2022 will be held at our school on **Wednesday 17 November**, for registered students. Further information can be accessed [here](#). Parents will receive 'Test authority' advice by email on Wednesday 3 November 2021 which will confirm where their children will sit the Opportunity Class Placement Test. Parents will also receive a test information bulletin at the same time which will provide further detail about the test including how students can familiarise themselves with a computer-based sample test. Parents can also log into the application dashboard and ensure that contact details and their child's current school are up to date. A message can also be sent to the Team through the application dashboard if the school or any other details have changed.



School Photos

Due to current NSW Department of Education restrictions (based on public health advice), our school photos scheduled for Term 3 have been postponed until further notice. We are hopeful that photos may be able to take place towards the end of Term 4, however, this is dependent on the level of restrictions our school is operating under.

Attendance

All students should be in attendance at school from next Monday – 25 October, unless:

- they have a medical certificate which says they can't return to school due to a condition or illness;
- they are currently unwell;
- they have been asked by NSW Health to self-isolate.

Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home and should not return to school unless:

- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available;
- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free;
- In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Please communicate the reason to your child's class teacher either by email or by explaining their absence through Skoolbag or the Sentral for Parents app. If you have not yet been able to connect through the Sentral for Parents app, please email the school for assistance castlehill-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Chess classes @ Castle Hill Public School - Term 4, 2021

Due to the current COVID lockdown, we will be conducting our chess class online. When restrictions are lifted and children return to school, we intend to return for face to face coaching as soon as we are given the green light by the school. Our online chess classes will be held before and after school Monday – Friday from 8:00am–9:00am, 3:15pm–4:15pm, 4:30pm–5:30pm and 5:00pm–6:00pm. Your child can attend as many of these online classes as he/she wishes until we return to face to face lessons. See the link on this page for more details:

<https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/online-classes-2021>

To register your child in the class, go to <https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment> and enter the following code:

Years 5-6: BGOFXA56UK

Years 3-4: AR99HSR67I

Years 1-2: 9T3MWBGWQ8

For more information, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess info@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au

Special Education in Ethics and Special Religious Education (SRE – Scripture) Online Resources

SEE and some SRE providers have made available resources to support families wishing to follow the intended program while students are learning from home. These tasks are optional for families and should not be posted to Seesaw. Other links will be provided once these are made available to the school.

Baha'i SRE resources

<http://www.supportingthecoreactivities.org/childrens-classes/>

Catholic SRE resources

<https://www.cress.org.au/learning-from-home-sre-lessons/>

Hindu SRE resources

<https://www.chinmaya.com.au/event/online-chinmaya-hindu-scriptures-lessons/>

Islam SRE resources

<https://www.isre.org.au/students/kindergarten-to-year-2/#> (for Kindy to Year 2)

<https://www.isre.org.au/students/year-3-to-year-6/> (for Years 3 to 6)

Protestant SRE resources

<https://cepconnect.com.au/learningathome>

Special Education in Ethics resources

<https://primaryethics.com.au/education>

Mrs Alex Kohary and Miss Danielle Machuca
Deputy Principals

😊 Getting Back in a School Routine 😊

 <p>Go to bed at a reasonable time each night to ensure a good sleep.</p>	 <p>Eat a good breakfast to start each new day.</p>	 <p>Remember your school hat and be sun safe.</p>	 <p>Exercise and play at recess and lunchtime.</p>
 <p>Pack your school bag each night ready for the next day.</p>	 <p>Clean your teeth and do your hair each morning.</p>	 <p>Pack a healthy recess and lunch. Bring fruit too.</p>	 <p>Unpack your school bag each afternoon.</p>
 <p>Keep using your smile - bring it to school each day.</p>	 <p>SCHOOL UNIFORM Have your school uniform ready for each school day.</p>	 <p>Dedicate a part of the afternoon to do any homework.</p>	 <p>Set the alarm to get up in time for school.</p>

School News

What a positive way to start the term!!!

To showcase their remarkable strength and resilience in getting through a long period of home schooling, Year 1 students have created a Spoonville display located in the garden beds outside room 30, near the blue grass area. It is hoped that this space will enrich our school community spirit as we welcome all our students back to school. Mrs Alibrandi would like to publicly acknowledge and thank Asher L (1J) and his brother Aaron L (3D) for their outstanding effort in designing and creating the signage for the garden.

**Thank you
Mrs Alibrandi**





Hello families,

Have you booked your tickets for our quiz night **THIS FRIDAY, 22 October?**

We've enlisted premier Sydney quiz masters Time for Trivia to host a fun night of online trivia designed for the whole family.

- 50 questions in five rounds!
- Questions are suitable for all ages from 5-95!
- Musical/picture hints for each question!

Prize packs to be won with family size lollies and canteen vouchers as well as special prizes from:

Il Nido restaurant

Harvest Collection masks

Clifford Chong Optometry

Fit4You personal training and massage

Tickets are \$15 per family. To book your ticket, visit <https://events.humanitix.com/let-s-get-quizzical-an-online-trivia-evening>

We look forward to seeing you there!

Katherine Mullen & Erica Miller
castlehillpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au



Canteen

CANTEEN:

With current covid-19 regulations in mind, we will be offering online lunch ordering via Flexischools only. **Counter service is not available at this stage.** Please send recess to school with your child as we will only be fulfilling lunch orders.

Flexischools is all set and ready to go to place lunch orders. Please note that we have changed our order **cut-off time to 9.00am.** to allow for the changes to break times as outlined in Mr Oliver's notices at the beginning of the newsletter.

HALLOWEEN SHOW BAGS AVAILABLE SOON 🎃

We are also very excited about our **\$10.00 Mega Halloween Show Bags** which can be ordered **now on Flexischools.** With Halloween trick or treating possibly looking a little different this year we wanted to organise something extra special.

Available to order

When we receive your order, we will get in touch with you to arrange delivery to your home. Orders will close 29 October.

Show bag contents:

- 🌟 4 packs Zappos (mixed flavours)
- 🌟 2 Chomp bars
- 🌟 Sea Salt chips
- 🌟 Honey Soy Chicken chips
- 🌟 2 Killer Pythons
- 🌟 5 Yoghurt Frogs
- 🌟 4 Wobbli Stix
- 🌟 Eucalyptus drops
- 🌟 Butter Menthol drops
- 🌟 Party Mix lolly bag



A V A I L A B L E
N O W

C H P S C A N T E E N

\$10 MEGA

H A L L O W E E N

S H O W B A G

P L A C E Y O U R O R D E R
O N F L E X I S C H O O L S



Castle Hill Public School

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Web | castlehill-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Non-returning / Late returning 2022

If you know that your child/ren are not returning to Castle Hill Public School next year or will be returning after the commencement of the 2022 school year, please complete the form below and return it to your classroom teacher. If more than one child please return with your oldest child to the office.

The first day of school for students in Years 1 to 6 is Tuesday, February 1.

The first full day of school for 2022 Kindergarten students is Thursday, February 3 – to be confirmed.

Non-returning 2022

Child 1 _____ of class _____
Child 2 _____ of class _____
Child 3 _____ of class _____
Child 4 _____ of class _____

Destination school _____

Late returning 2022*

The following child/ren will be returning to Castle Hill Public School after the commencement of the 2022 school year.

Child 1 _____ of class _____
Child 2 _____ of class _____
Child 3 _____ of class _____
Child 4 _____ of class _____

My child/ren will be starting school on the following date _____

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian

* This form should be accompanied by an Application for Exemption from Attendance at School form, which is available on our website.

School Travel for 2022



2022 school travel applications are now open

Students (currently in Kindergarten-Year 5) who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2022 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for a school travel pass for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, or who have repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details before **the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications and current entitlements are updated and remain valid. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2022.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

School Student Transport Scheme site change

On 1 October 2021 the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) information and application portal was moved to **transportnsw.info**. This will assist families to find all their travel information in the one place.

Travel from Term 1 2022

We ask that parents plan ahead and make sure their child knows which service/s to use and has a valid ticket to travel; either a School Opal card or Child/Youth Opal card (within Greater Sydney) or a School Travel Pass (outside Greater Sydney), from the start of the school year.

Applications for the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) open at the start of Term 4 2021 for travel in 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year. For Kindergarten students in 2022, please apply in January 2022.

Most students using the Opal network will not need a new Opal card and can continue travelling on their existing card each year.

The start of the year is a difficult period for local bus operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations increasingly difficult.

We recognise that for some families last minute changes to school enrolments mean they may not have a School Opal card or Travel Pass for the start of term. In the Opal network, we strongly encourage these families to have their children travel on a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.

Bus operators are flexible and understanding, particularly at the start of the school year, and will ensure students can travel safely to and from school. But to best support our operators we encourage all students to have a valid ticket, as early as possible, from the start of the school year.

Please also remember that students using Opal cards must tap on and tap off in line with the [Student code of conduct](#) and [Opal terms of use](#).



Further information can be found at transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel

Enquiries can be submitted at transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback

LET'S GET QUIZZICAL!

A TRIVIA NIGHT ORGANISED BY
CASTLE HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C.

FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER

6:30PM - 8:30PM

ONLINE EVENT

\$15 PER FAMILY



TO PURCHASE TICKETS HEAD HERE

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YD2TFX8Z](https://tinyurl.com/YD2TFX8Z)



ALL
PROCEEDS
GO TO





CASTLE HILL KNIGHTS

TRY T-BALL & BASEBALL



CASTLE GLEN RESERVE

Ridgercrop Drive,
Castle Hill
(Behind
Knightsbridge
Shopping Centre)

SUNDAY

**31ST
OCTOBER
(1 DAY ONLY!!)**

10AM-12PM



For more information, contact Dave on 0417344430 or
vpjuniors@castlehillbaseball.com.au