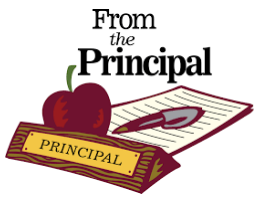


# HILLTOP NEWS

Week Six, Term Four, Tuesday, 19 November 2019 - Edition Three Hundred and Fourteen



From  
the  
Principal

## Embracing Challenge

Different research identifies different dispositions, but there is consensus about the importance of the learning dispositions furthering skills, engagement and deep understanding. NEPS attempts to capture some of these dispositions in the engagement behaviours we report in semester reports and parent teacher meetings, but there is one disposition we have purposefully highlighted: the disposition to be **persistent and embrace challenge**.

The NSW Department of Education talks about persistence in this way:

*Persistent students stick to a task until it is completed and don't give up easily. They are able to analyse a problem, and develop a system, structure or strategy to attack it. They have a repertoire of alternative strategies for problem solving and are comfortable in employing a wide range of these strategies for the one task. These students often have systematic methods for analysing a problem and are comfortable in ambiguous situations. Persistence is a key attribute for students to develop as it encourages a positive attitude towards tasks and a resilience for examining different ways a problem can be solved, rather than just giving up at the first sign of failure. This resilience is undeniably a necessary skill that students need for success in the 21st century.*

One example of an evidence-based set of discipline specific dispositions is that relating to Mathematics learning. Jo Boaler, Professor of Mathematics Education at Stanford University, has identified the dispositions associated with developing positive mathematical mindsets. The most prominent of these dispositions relate to:

- an inclination to accept and embrace struggle as a natural and expected indicator of deep learning
  - a capacity to recognise mathematics as a creative endeavour
  - an appreciation that great maths learners are flexible and responsive to the problems they encounter.
- What can parents do to support their child's growth in this disposition to embrace academic challenge? I can offer these suggestions:
- acknowledge that academic challenge is always accompanied by feelings of uncertainty and discomfort at the beginning of the process
  - encourage your child to do something concrete in response to these feelings: make a plan, get some feedback, try a strategy, then try an alternative strategy
  - celebrate the times when your child succeeds in something that was hard for them, rather than when they receives a high mark for something that was easy for them.

Mick McCann

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## Thought for the week



## Building Update

Work continues on our new build. At this stage, we are hoping to get the keys towards the end of this term and we are planning on moving all classes during week 10 ready for the 2020 school year.

Painting is being finalised and the lino and carpet is being laid this week. The new stadium seats have been poured and the final trim and electrical work continues.

Staff have been having 'excursions' during the week to see the progress and we are planning on holding several parent afternoons to showcase the new building before the end of term. Keep an eye out for more information.

We will endeavour to continue to send app notices out to parents with important daily notices of changes to drop off / pick up.

## Yr 5 Captain Speeches Date Change

Year 5 captain speeches will now be held at Week 8 Monday morning assembly (2 Dec 2019). All Y r 5 students wishing to present a speech are to fill in their expression of interest form and hand it back to their class teacher.

## Canteen Update

NEPS canteen runs on a Monday and a Friday for our school. With the menu options designed to be healthy and fun for our kids.

Canteen is a fun way to be involved at school for your kids and we offer the option on Fridays of doing a half the time as well! All new volunteers are trained by an experienced volunteer and it's a great way for your kids to see you involved with school.

A big thank you to all of those people who have volunteered to help with canteen!

If you can volunteer or have any questions please contact Kelly Wyman on 0421 or sign up on following link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508044CABAC23A1FC1-term2>

## Notes Home this week

Years 3 -6 Party day

2020 Yr 6 Senior Leader Captain Position



## 2019 Term Parent Planner

This will be updated on a regular basis.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Week One</b> 14.10.2019	1 <sup>st</sup> Day back for all	Roof Replacement Parent Meeting – 6.00pm				
<b>Week Two</b> 21.10.2019				St1 Awabakal Excursion St3 Drama Day		
<b>Week Three</b> 28.10.2019	Roof Replacement Parent Meeting – 5.00pm	Calm Mind Day – In class Calm Mind Parent Session 6.30-7.30		Kinder Orientation Evening – 6pm		
<b>Week Four</b> 04.11.2019				Kinder Orientation Day 1 9.30-10.30		Newy Park Run
<b>Week Five</b> 11.11.2019				Kinder Orientation Day 2 9.30-10.30		
<b>Week Six</b> 18.11.2019	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	Kinder Orientation Moring Tea 9.30-11.05 Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	
<b>Week Seven</b> 25.11.2019	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	Swim School - Year 2	
<b>Week Eight</b> 02.12.2019		P&C - SC Meetings				<b>NEPS Takeover - Newy Park Run</b>
<b>Week Nine</b> 09.12.2019		Presentation Day	Yr. 6 Farwell			
<b>Week Ten</b> 16.12.2019		Reports home	Bell Ceremony – 2.15 <b>Last Day for Students</b>	Staff Development Day	Staff Development Day	Christmas Break Back Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2020



# N.E.P.S Parkrun Take-Over



On *Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December* we aim to fill ALL volunteer roles at Newy parkrun by Newcastle East PS families.

No experience is necessary  
Children are most welcome

Roles include marshalling, barcode scanning, timing, photography, handing out finish tokens, tail walker.

This is a great opportunity to give back to our community and experience the family friendly atmosphere of parkrun. Both regular park-runners and first timers are welcome.

Don't be scared. The running community is welcoming and encouraging.

Please email Mrs Thompson if you are interested in helping.

[megan.thompson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:megan.thompson@det.nsw.edu.au)

# Newcastle East Public School

## Project update

September 2019

A project is underway to upgrade Newcastle East Public School. Works include the construction of four new flexible learning spaces, a new covered outdoor learning area, refurbishment of the staff administration area, and replacing the roof of the existing heritage building.

### Temporary relocation of administration area

During the October school holidays, the existing administration area will be temporarily relocated to the north-west corner of the school near the OOSH, to allow for the refurbishment of the existing administration area to commence (please refer to site map overleaf).

The temporary admin location can be easily accessed via the existing entry to the school off Tyrell Street and will be operational from day 1, Term 4 2019 until the refurbishment works are completed in 2020.

### Replacing the roof of the existing heritage building

Newcastle East Public School is a site of historical significance in Australian education and with the age of the site and the buildings come some unique challenges. The roof of the main building (Block A) needs to be replaced and bonded (non-friable) asbestos has been identified in the existing roof tiles. This is not unusual for a building of this age as asbestos containing material was a commonly used building material between the 1940s and the 1980s.

The existing roof tiles will be removed by a licensed asbestos removal contractor during the Christmas school holidays. The works will be conducted in accordance with the Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan, Asbestos Removal Code of Practice and Safe Work NSW requirements.

The health, safety and well-being of students, staff and our neighbours is of highest priority, and all necessary measures have been and will continue to be carried out to ensure that the material is removed safely.

### Upcoming community meetings

Two community meetings will be held at the school in Term 4 to further inform the community on the scope of these works and timing. A specialist hygienist will also be available to respond to any questions from the school community.

The meetings will be held at Newcastle East Public School Library on:

- Tuesday 15 October 6.00-7.00pm
- Monday 28 October 5.00-6.00pm

### Keeping you updated

We are committed to working together with our school communities and other stakeholders to deliver the best possible learning facilities for students.

If you have any queries relating to the Newcastle East Public School upgrade works, please contact School Infrastructure NSW using the contact information below.