

Boulder Primary School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 8, 2022



From the Principal

In the last Newsletter I wrote about the purpose and importance of On Entry Assessment and how this assessment informs teachers about the skills and understanding of students in Pre-primary to Year 2. At Boulder Primary School Early Intervention, especially in Literacy, is one of three priority areas identified in the Strategic Plan. As the results of On Entry become available there are some of the amazing improvements in the student performance over the last 12 months. Below are some snippets from an early analysis of the On Entry Data.

In Pre-primary with Numeracy the students achieved the highest percentage of 28.12% at and above Decile 5 for the last three years. The same cohort also achieved the lowest percentage at 31.25% at Decile 10 in three years. Amazingly this is down from 60% last year. Reviewing the Reading data the students achieved the highest cohort average of 446.8 in 2022 in the last four years. The same cohort also achieved the highest percentage of students at 37.5% at and above Decile 5 in the last three years. In 2022 16 students achieved decile 10 ranking compared to 2021 with 20 and 2020 with 31. A reduction by almost half in two years.

In Year 2 with Numeracy the percentage of students (same cohort) at and above decile 5 increased from 19% in PP 2020

to 39% in Year 2 2022. Reviewing Reading data the number of students (same cohort) in Decile 10 reduced from 31 in PP 2020 to 16 in Year 2 2022 (84% to 44%) and the percentage of students in Decile 5 and above increased from 8% in PP 2020 to 30% in Year 2 2022.

The School Board met last week to review and discuss the Good Standing Policy, Dress Code, endorse the School Budget from Mrs Softley, review the operational plan with Mrs McMeeken and to hear from Mr Harder about the progress Boulder Primary School is making with the implementation of the Positive Behaviour in Schools initiative. The Board did receive some sad news during the meeting. John and Fulu Sheck will be standing down from the board this year as they seek to engage with the School Board at the high school. During their time in the Board John and Fulu became very respected and valued members. On behalf of the Board and members of the Boulder Primary School community I would like to express a sincere Thank You to John and Fulu for their contributions over the years.

In the last 24 hours we have been notified of three positive cases of Covid. This news comes as a timely reminder for all members of our school community to monitor COVID-19 symptoms and seek testing if symptoms develop.

Great Future!

Advice for all families and staff:

- The school remains open.
- Students in Years 3 to 6 continue to wear masks at school.
- When on school grounds, we ask parents to wear masks.
- Parents do not enter the classrooms.
- We ask that you monitor your child/yourself for symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested and isolate until you receive a negative result if symptoms develop.
- If you or your child develop symptoms, please do not attend school.
- Please note that the Omicron strain can present with less typical symptoms such as diarrhoea, particularly in children.

We continue to ask parents and carers to inform the school when notified of a positive test result.

With the AFL season officially starting last week I can honestly say my footy tipping hasn't improved over the summer! C'Mon the mighty Hawks!

Regards,

David Callow Principal

Week 8 Awards

Merit Awards				
PPB	Isaac King			
PPS	Jaxon Feil			
Rm 1	Harlan Good			
Rm 2	Bridget McKenna			
Rm 7	Spencer Dakin			
Rm 8	Lachlan James			
Rm 9	Albert Petz			
Rm 13	Anthony Jetta			
Rm 14	Kyeetah Gleeson-Ras			
Rm 15	Joseph Humphries			

Values Awards - Inclusion

PPB	Tj Axell		
PPS	Larah Izakovic		
Rm 1	Natalia Marriner		
Rm 2	Mackenzie Gibbs		
Rm 7	Emilio Gill		
Rm 8	Brexlee Ras		
Rm 9	Savannah Ham		
Rm 13	Skye Heslop		
Rm 14	Olivia Wells		
Rm 15	Van Cochrane		

From the the Deputies

Behaviour in schools is always a hot topic of conversation in the community. We hear about it on the news, and never in a good way. At Boulder Primary School, we are very aware of the detrimental impact that inappropriate behaviours can have on the learning of students. When a teacher needs to manage inappropriate behaviours demonstrated by a student, they are not teaching others. When this happens repeatedly, very soon schools find themselves in all sorts of problems.

In 2021, we set about setting a high standard of student behaviour. The first step was to have a whole school, common behaviour management system. By doing this, all students understand the expectation of behaviour across all classes. No longer could it be possible to play teachers against each other. We also set about changing the detention and suspension process to include 'restorative justice', so that these consequences have positive impacts when they occur. We also trained all our teachers in the nationally recognised Classroom Management Strategies Professional Learning, so that they have the skills to intervene negative behaviours before they occur. To add to this, we implemented whole school Social-Emotional Learning programs such as TRIBES, Zones of Regulation and PBS. TRIBES has helped to build a community of learners, where all students feel comfortable to share how they feel in a whole group setting, as well as learning to work together. Zones of Regulation helps students to identify how they feel. Ask your child what zone they are and how they can get back to the 'green zone'. Finally, as an Executive Team, we took a 'hard line' approach to misbehaviour. All students understand that disrespect to teachers, being physical with others, making threats or swearing are not accepted at Boulder Primary School. To do all this, we have needed parental support along the way, to back us up when misbehaviour (almost inevitably with kids, am I right?) occurs. We thank you for your continued support as we try our best to provide an excellent school environment for your child.

By implementing all these changes, we have created an environment that students want to be at, and teachers are able to teach. One measure is in the 'feel' of the school. Walking around, there are rarely students out of class, classes are clearly focussed and on task, and lunch times feel calm and playful. Another measure is suspension data. The data below is taken from the same period in 2021 and 2022 and shows a drastic difference in suspensions:

	Students Suspended	Days Suspended For	Number of Suspensions
2021	17	57	35
2022	4	9.5	6

The number of office referrals as well as lunch time detentions tell a similar story. As I have stated before, there has never been a better time to be at Boulder.

Ash

What's been happening in Room 13?

To start off our year we have been focussing on small things that set us up for success. One of these is making a good start to the day, but once the school year begins, rushed and frantic mornings are often the norm. In our assembly, Room 13 sings a song about having a 'Bad Hair Day' and nothing seems to be going right.

Being organised in the morning will help our students feel positive about the day ahead. It will also help reduce stress, which is good for everyone's wellbeing. One of the best ways to stay calm and get organised is to have a calm morning routine for school. A routine will help our students know what's happening and remember what they need to do such as:

- Have a good night's sleep
- Get dressed
- Make your bed
- Eat breakfast
- Brush your teeth
- Pack your school bag
- Ready for school





Attendance Update

Well done to the two Kindy class for this fortnight taking out our attendance awards. The highest attendance Tjitjiku 1 and winning the most improved attendance Tjitjiku 2 improving by a whole 10.11%.

Well done to the classes who also improved their attendance for this fortnight Room 1, Room 2, Room 7 and Tjitjiku 1.

Keep making sure every day counts. If you are struggling to get your child to school, please do not hesitate to speak to your classroom teacher or a Deputy Principal.



Learning Support Coordinator

Siska Katzen has been a teacher at Boulder Primary School since 2017. Her passion is working with children and families. Since teaching at Boulder Primary School, she has worked in numerous leadership positions and taught in a variety of year groups.

Siska is the Learning Support Coordinator at Boulder Primary School. She has embedded the Students at Educational Risk Policy and monitors students who have been identified at educational risk. Siska assists teachers in identifying students who might require intervention and direct appropriate support, while working with all stakeholders and allied health professionals involved. In her role, she also assists teachers in creating Individual Educational Plans, Behaviour Support Plans and Social and Emotional Support Plans.











Contact Us

9092 4100 boulder.ps@education.wa.edu.au

www.boulderps.wa.edu.au https://www.facebook.com/boulder.primary.3