

# PICNIC POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL



'Strive to Excel'

Welcomes you to

## Stage 3

ACACIA OC

Senior School

2021

## Senior Classes

<b>GWIANGA</b>	Mr Belgre	<b>SARSAPARILLA</b>	Mrs Winks & Mrs Gray
<b>MYRTLE</b>	Mrs Collinet	<b>LILLY PILLY</b>	Mrs Allen & Mrs Jaure
<b>ACACIA OC</b>	Mrs Perantuono		

## Other Support Staff Working With Students

### Release From Face To Face (RFF)

These teachers provide 2 hours per week to each teacher to allow time for planning, preparation and evaluation of educational programs. The students learn ICT & STEM skills with Mrs Chatterton and Mr Narris on Wednesday.

### STEM

Mr Narris will be guiding students through lessons in G Block to challenge and equip them with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) skills to solve authentic problems in the world around them. Students will become more competent in their ability to design and engineer creative solutions through engaging in collaborative teams and applying their understandings in Mathematics, Science and Technology.

### Learning and Support Teacher & English as Additional Language or Dialect (EALD)

Students with identified needs in learning areas or English development are given intensive assistance with Mrs Black. Small groups and individual students benefit from carefully structured tuition. The focus may be on communication skills, reading or written language and grammar.

### School Counsellor

Mr Frank Virgara has qualifications and experience in both education and psychology and attends the school 2½ days per fortnight. He works with students to help learning, concentration, behaviour and social skills and also offers support to parents. Appointments are organised through the Learning Support Team and in consultation with the class teacher and the Principal.

### Library

Teachers will be taking their own classes to the library to develop reading, research and information skills. Children will learn how to find useful material and books that will aid them in research work or a book that they will enjoy reading for leisure. The library will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at lunchtime; the children may borrow, browse or research.

## The Opportunity Class (OC)

This class is a 'multi age' grouping of students covering Years 5 and 6, all of whom have been identified as 'gifted' in particular areas. Clustering these students with their peers allows them greater opportunity to be extended, accelerated and enriched. We aim to develop the whole child - socially, emotionally, ethically, physically and academically.

The class program is designed in line with the High Potential and Gifted Policy. By catering for differing learning styles, interests, abilities and talents, it is anticipated that the students will become highly motivated, autonomous learners driven by an intrinsic desire to learn.

## Features of the Curriculum

- Development of higher level thinking skills

- Integration of subject matter
- Enrichment, extension, acceleration and remediation to meet individual needs
- Development of organisational skills and routines
- Introduction to other disciplines outside the primary school curriculum, e.g. philosophy, psychology

### Features of Classroom Practice

- Excursions and experience based learning
- Research based projects
- High school integration, including attendance of high school classes in Mathematics
- Individualised learning contracts, cooperative learning and peer matched group strategies
- High challenge, low stress environment
- Active learners in a busy, fun, learning environment

### Student Challenges

As the class curriculum is fast paced, challenging and diverse with an emphasis on students becoming self directed, autonomous learners, students need:

- a large degree of task commitment
- to be responsible for their belongings
- to keep track of individual homework requirements
- to organise time to complete projects
- to develop independence, initiative and creativity
- to ask questions about things of which they are not sure - this is the most important point!

### Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

Topics covered encourage an understanding and valuing of oneself and others and promote physical activity on a regular basis. Gymnastics is delivered by Gymnastrix in Term 4. A Gross Motor Skills program is delivered by SISA in Term 3.

### Special Activities

Throughout the year the students may participate in a number of extra activities:

- |                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • ICAS competitions - English & Maths | • Chess, Band, Dance and Choir     |
| • Public Speaking                     | • SRC                              |
| • PSSA, House and School sport        | • Maths Olympiad                   |
| • Buddy Class activities              | • Year 6 High School Links Program |
| • Peer Support activities             | • High School Enrichment Programs  |

### Attendance

The *Education Act (1990)* requires parents to ensure that children of compulsory school age attend school on each day that the school is open for instruction. If children are absent from school, parents are required to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within three days of the absence. All students are expected to aim for 100% attendance.

### Excursions/Incursions

- |                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Cybersafety Talk - Week 7, 9 March | • Dance - Term 2 for 8 weeks |
| • Australian Colonial Excursion TBC  | • Jellybeans - Term 3        |

- Nepean Adventure 3 day camp Term 3, Week 7, 23 - 25 August
- Teen Ranch (Year 6 Transition Retreat) Term 4, Week 9, 29 November to 1 December

Other excursions and in school performances will be organised to link with units of work across the curriculum, especially for HSIE and Science & Technology.

### National Testing Program

Year 5 students will participate in the National Assessment Program (NAPLAN) in Literacy and Numeracy over three days, in Term 2, Week 4 from the 11 to 13 May. Students in Year 6 will be participating in the Check In Assessment in Term 2 Weeks 1 – 3.

### Stage 3 - Senior School

Teachers actively encourage all students in the development of greater maturity and responsibility toward their studies and peers.

In Term 4, Year 5 students will have the opportunity to present themselves as candidates for School Captains, Prefects, Sport Captains and Vice Captains.

### Year 7 Placement/Transition

Applications for selective high school placement are made in November by interested Year 5 students. The Selective High School test is run in March of the following year.

Local high school placement depends upon residential address. Placement procedures begin in March. If unsure of options, make enquiries early. Orientation programs are held at high schools later in the year.

### Homework

Students are set homework tasks each week. A variety of tasks drawing from a range of curriculum areas are set, with an emphasis upon English and mathematics.

Project work will also be a feature of homework. Projects have a set time for completion with some school time allocated for research and development.

*Having difficulties with homework?* Let us know so that alternative arrangements can be made.

### Student Equipment

The school supplies all exercise books and paper. Please ensure that the students have the following:

- |                           |                       |  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| • Pencils (HB)            | • Calculator          | • Ruler (metric, with millimetres)       |
| • Coloured pencils        | • Glue stick or paste | • Dictionary (particularly for home use) |
| • Pens (blue, black, red) | • Geometry set        | • Homework book                          |
| • Eraser                  | • Scissors            |  |
| • Sharpener               | • NO WHITE OUT        |  |
|                           | • Display folder      |  |

### Parent Participation

Teachers, students and parents working together is essential. Parents are encouraged to participate in the education process. If you have an enquiry or would like to organise a personal interview, **please phone the school on 9773 7817 or email [picnicpt-p.school@det.nsw.edu](mailto:picnicpt-p.school@det.nsw.edu).**

Our aim is to give the students the opportunity to enjoy school whilst developing their potential in all areas.

***We need your support to achieve our aims. We believe that this year will be a great year!***