



# ESCHOL PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

## The Grapevine

### Term 4 Week 2 (17<sup>th</sup> October to 21<sup>st</sup> October)

Dear parents & caregivers,

Welcome back to all our families, and a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this term. We hope you and your children settle into new routines and feel supported in your new school.

#### School Travel

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can apply now. A new application will need to be submitted if you are applying for your child for the first time. Further information is available in this newsletter.

#### Kindergarten Orientation

We will be holding Orientation Sessions for our 2023 kindergarten students' next term. There will be one orientation session per week in weeks 5, 6 and 7. These will be held on:

<b>Session 1</b>	Thursday 10 November 9:30-11:00am	
<b>Session 2</b>	Thursday 17 November 9:30 – 11:00am	<b>Sessions 2 and 3:</b> Parents and carers will have the option of staying for recess finishing at 11:30am.
<b>Session 3</b>	Thursday 24 November 9:30-11:00am	



#### Is Your Child Starting Kindergarten in 2023?

We have commenced the enrolment process for students starting Kindergarten in 2023. If you have a child starting kindergarten, or know of a family who does, an enrolment application should be submitted as soon as possible.

- In-area and non-local enrolment applications are now accessible online on the school's website <https://escholpark-p.schools.nsw.gov.au>

#### Changes to Students' Last Day of Term

An email went home last week to advise that students' final day at school will now be Friday 16 December. Monday 19 December has now been allocated as an additional staff development day to prepare for the new syllabus roll out. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact our friendly office staff.

#### Gymnastics

As part of our PDHPE program, all students will be participating in the 'Be Skilled Be Fit Gymnastics' program held at school in Term 4. The full cost has been covered by the school. Students will need to wear their sports uniform on their allocated days. Please refer to the calendar dates in this newsletter.

#### Tell Them From Me Parent Survey

Our school is participating in the Tell Them From Me Parent and Caregiver survey. This survey asks parents and caregivers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and caregivers' perspectives on their child's experience at school and includes aspects such as communication between school and home, activities and practices at home and parent and caregiver views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will support our school in making practical improvements. The survey is conducted online and may be accessed from your device.

Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary. It takes about 15 minutes to complete and is completely confidential. Your responses are very much appreciated. Link:

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/2022epps>

#### Selective High School Applications

Information about Selective High School placements for 2024 was recently emailed to parents and carers of current Year 5 students. Applications will open on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and close on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Jennifer Phani  
Relieving Principal



## Dates for your diary

### Term 4

#### October

- 18 Selective High School Applications open  
For current Year 5 students
- 20 Gymnastics Years 3-6
- 26 Assemblies:  
9am: K – 2 run by 12M, K1B,  
12.30: Stage 2 run by 34G,  
2pm: Stage 3 run by 56H
- 27 Gymnastics Years 3-6

#### November

- 3 Gymnastics Years 3-6
- 10 Gymnastics Years 3-6
- 10 Kinder Orientation 9.30am – 11am
- 16 Selective High School Applications for  
current Year 5 students close
- 16 Assemblies:  
11.30am: K – 2 run by 2D, 2H, 1S, 1C  
12.30pm: Stage 2 run by 34W  
2pm: Stage 3 run by 5/6J
- 17 Gymnastics K-2
- 17 Kinder Orientation 9.30am – 11am
- 24 Gymnastics K-2
- 24 Kinder Orientation 9.30am – 11am

#### December

- 01 Gymnastics K-2
- 08 Gymnastics K-2

## Learning Awards For Term 4 Week 3

- KG Amira K, Sascha D
- KM Cooper H, Alex E
- K1B Tarik K, Hunter K
- 1C Ashton B, Luca R, Mohamad A
- 1S Louis T, Cianna J
- 1/2M Youssif A
- 2D Lynkan L, Aubrey W, Wahaj A, Daniela S
- 2/3H Isa I, Paige H, Anna Mc, Henry T
- 3/4G Penny F, Mahmood H, Mira R
- 3/4M Tallirah B, Seth H, Omar S, Declan R, Jax M
- 3/4W Elijah M, Danica D
- 5/6B Caleb D, Indiana C, Anisha A
- 5/6H Aaliyah H, Nevaeh S
- 5/6J Blair C, Tristan P, Flynn Mc
- 5/6S Ares G, Noah Mc, Ilyas S



#### Athletics News

Congratulations to Jacob M who recently represented our school and Sydney South West at the State Athletics Championships. Jacob competed in the Junior Boys 1500m and finished 24<sup>th</sup> in his event. This is a fantastic achievement. Well done, **Jacob!**

### *Awards : Positive Behaviour In our School playground*

These awards are given to the students who display manners, friendliness, and good sportsmanship on the playground during recess and lunch. These awards are counted as part of the trade up system. The tear off strips are placed in a special box each week and 6 are drawn out each Friday to receive an ice block voucher at the canteen.

**Week 1:** Alirah KM, Hussein 1S, Hadi 5/6H, Kara KM, Joshua 5/6H, Ava 2D



# Student School Travel

## 2023 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2023 opened from **Monday 10 October 2022**.

Students who need a School Opal card or travel pass for 2023 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying 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, 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 entitlements remain valid for the start of the 2023 school year. 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 (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send 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 2023.

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 travel application endorsement

Occasionally, applicants completing the online form make mistakes, so we ask that school administrators be mindful of this and only endorse applications with correct information.

If you identify an error, you can amend the first name, date of birth or grade of a student's travel application by clicking in the relevant row on the portal. Please ensure you have confirmed the information before making any changes. Refer to page 16 of the School Portal User Guide for further instructions. The user guide is accessible within the School Portal by clicking the arrow next to your username.

If a student's details cannot be confirmed or they are not yet enrolled please do not endorse the application. By selecting 'no' the application will be rejected and the applicant will be informed. They will then need to submit a new application.

If a school administrator endorses an application in error, please advise our Concessions team as soon as possible [here](#).

If school administrators require access to the School Portal, please request an account [here](#).

If you need to remove school portal access for staff members who have left the school recently, please let us know via a [feedback form](#) and select 'school/operator portal' and then 'remove existing user access'.

### [Transport Concession Entitlement Cards \(TCECs\)](#)

Schools applying for Transport Concession Entitlement Cards (TCECs) for senior students are advised to submit applications at least four weeks before the end of Term 4. This will allow time for processing and delivery to the school before the holiday period commences. Applications scheduled for delivery during the holiday period will be held and delivered when school recommences from January 2023.

When applying for TCECs before the end Term 4 2022, ensure you enter the grade the student is in this year, not the grade they will be in during 2023. E.g., year 11 students who have commenced year 12 studies are still considered as being in grade 11 until the end of 2022.

### [Travel from Term 1 2023](#)

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 2023 School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) travel open at the start of Term 4 2022, so parents/students can [apply](#) or [update](#) details early and be ready for the start of the new school year.

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 busy period for local transport operators, and students travelling without a valid ticket make service planning and operations 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 with 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.

Students using School Opal cards are also reminded that they 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](https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/using-public-transport/school-travel)  
Enquiries can be submitted at [transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback](https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/passes-concessions-feedback)



# Local Businesses Supporting Our School

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