

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With the publication of the first newsletter for 2021 I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. Some of you may know me as I have been attached to Burbridge in many roles over my career. Before and while I completed my teacher training I worked as a volunteer and Education Assistant at the school. Prior to this I had gained extensive experience working in the disability sector as a social trainer. Since qualifying as a teacher (B.Arts (Primary) and B.Ed (Special Education), I have worked, both locally and in the UK, as a special educator for students with mild to severe and multiple disabilities across the primary and secondary sector as both a primary and secondary classroom teacher, Upper School and VET Coordinator. Over the past 10 years I have held leadership positions, Deputy Principal and Principal, within various education support settings and have completed a Masters in Ed (Special Education).



I am delighted to be back at Burbridge School and after a few weeks, I felt as though I had never been away but when I looked at the students I knew from before, I realised how much they have grown and how much time has passed! There are some new faces, both in students and in staff and it has been lovely getting to know them.

I have loved meeting parents, carers and families since commencing here and I encourage you all to pop in or to call me if you have any questions.

A few reminders:- there is not a pupil free day on Monday 19th April but there is on Friday 23rd April with a public holiday following on Monday 26th April.

Assemblies will be held 2x per term only being week 2 and 8.

(see below for important dates to diarise).

Joanne Gordon



You're invited to DDWA's members morning | Tuesday 20 April 2021

If you have any questions about the NDIS, advocacy or support coordination then send them to DDWA when you RSVP for this event.

Everyone is welcome to attend this event however membership is essential. Membership is FREE for individuals. If you are not a member join: <https://ddwa.org.au/membership/>

Meetings will be held quarterly, North and South of the river, with the first meeting to be held on:

Date: **Tuesday 20 April 2021** at 9.30am – 12.00pm
 Where: Marangaroo Family Centre: 46 Highclere Boulevard, Marangaroo
 09.30 Guest presenter from Carers WA discussing the respite/other support available through the new Carers Gateway
 10.30 Morning tea
 11.00 Leticia Grant from DDWA will share her knowledge on Advocacy and the NDIS
 12.00 Finish

RSVP on Eventbrite or phone our office on 9420 7203

IMPORTANT DATES TO DIARISE

Thursday 1st April - End of Term 1

Monday 19th April - Start of Term 2

Friday 23rd April - Pupil Free Day (no school due to staff development day)

Monday 26th April - Public Holiday for ANZAC Day

Friday 30th April - Whole school assembly - Item by Area C at 9.15am



As part of our Senior School, Area C students Ahmed, Declan, Connor, Yasmin, Brock, Firman and Zeynab are on their journey towards their post school options of possible Supported Employment and/or Alternatives to Employment.

It has been a pleasure to meet with parents to get a better understanding as to what post school pathways our students are working towards. Some of our students have already

participated in Work Place Learning (WPL) last year. The benefit of WPL is that students are given opportunities to work at different work sites during their senior years of school with the ultimate goal of possibly obtaining some form of supported employment that matches their preference and skill set. We are currently planning for some placements to begin end of week 3, term 2 for some of our year 11s. In the meantime, all our students have been participating in a senior school enterprise program with Ms Colette, to explore and possibly identify student interests and talents.

Whilst in class, we have been learning about money, time and safe relationships. Students have also been learning about 'Private and Public Places and Behaviours' (i.e. to shower and change as independently as possible before and after swimming sessions) and to launder and peg clothes. They have been loving their swimming lessons and it is wonderful to see some students do laps and learn to dive under water and basically show an awareness of safety in and around the pool. Some things that we have been very lucky to be part of this term: Declan celebrating his 16th birthday in February and Brock walking with greater confidence overall, it has been an amazing start to the term and we are quite excited to see our students learn and develop new skills.



Clean Up Australia Day

Burbridge School participates in Clean Up Australia every year in early March and students do their part in maintaining the school environment. This year due to the heat, some clean-up activities happened

indoors. Clean Up Australia is designed to encourage all Australians to clean up, fix up and care for our environment.

<https://www.cleanup.org.au/about-us>



This term our superstars in Area J have worked very hard. Our class has a focus on communication and independence. Our students have had a ball learning how to play safely with each other and share interesting parts about their day. Every day we celebrate our friends and their movements up the class ladder towards their goals. They have personally chosen their rewards for all their amazing work. Some of our girls enjoy rolling around in the ball pit, while our boys enjoy going outside for some water play or visiting friends in other classes.

We help our students make choices about their behaviour and learning to help them take control of their day. We'd like to introduce some of our students and what they enjoy working for.

Shaylee enjoys listening to music, she especially loves staff members singing for her.

Daniel choses the iPad to watch videos and scroll through photos of his friends at school.

Ali enjoys watching and moving to Jump Jam.

Blayze earns stars to use the iPad and watch videos about from The Hulk, Shrek and Finding Nemo.

Jessica likes visiting staff members from other classes. When she completes neat work she gets to show it off.

Heaven enjoys eating her lunch or morning tea with a staff member. They take awesome selfies and then share them with the class.

Alby looks forward to visiting friends in other classrooms.

Tase loves playing with water in the garden. He watches as it flows between different containers.

Sadie works to visit the ball pit with her classmates Heaven and Jessica. They like to cover themselves from head to toe and throw the balls around.

A reminder to parents that Area J has their swimming lessons on Wednesday mornings so we would like students to be bright and early to school so they can enjoy as much time as they can in the pool. We look forward to all the amazing work to come from our fantastic Area J class for the rest of 2021.



Crunch and Sip® March Munch



Our school participates in the Cancer Council's Crunch and Sip® program which promotes healthy eating in school. Students who are able to are encouraged to see, hear, feel, smell and for some to taste and eat fresh fruits, vegetables and to drink water. This month the focus is on vegetables during March Munch. The website includes some helpful hints to create healthy lunches.

<https://www.crunchandsip.com.au/healthy-lunchboxes>





We have had a very busy start to 2021. The students from K-12 have been creating amazing artworks that focus on the celebrations and holidays of different cultures. We have created oxens and fans to celebrate Chinese New Year, love inspired pieces for Valentine's Day, individualised cultural background artwork for Harmony Day and will end the term with Holi and ANZAC Day pieces. We can't wait to share our exciting artwork from our folders with you at the end of the semester.

I am excited to be working with the High School Enterprise Team again this year. The micro-business program has expanded to include all high school students from years 7-12, which is fantastic! We are busy making products that will be available to purchase very soon via order forms or through our pop up market stall before parent morning teas. The team is looking forward to helping you with your purchases, so please stop by and meet our talented Team.



NEWS FROM SWIMMING

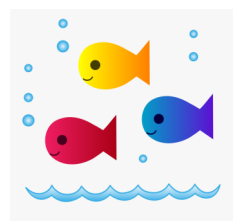
Congratulations to all students at Burbridge who participated in the swimming lessons this term.

We had a great start to the year, practising our swimming goals and having fun. Students did lots of kicking, standing, walking, practising freestyle arms, floating on their backs and started their survival backstroke skills.

We had two students who participated in the Koondoola Primary School Interm swimming and they both did amazingly well.

Next term the focus will be on moving independently in the pool and progressing with swimming strokes.

Thank you to everyone who assisted the swimming team during the swimming lessons!



A big thank you from the Burbridge P&C to Balga Friday Markets for their very generous donation to our school community! We look forward to using it in our upcoming school projects.



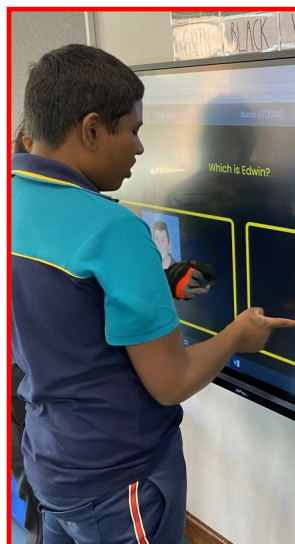
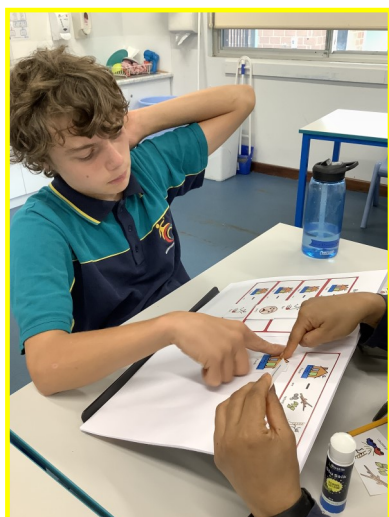
Area G have had a great start to the year. We may be a small class but when it comes to school we 'pack a punch'. Our focus for this semester is communication and behaviour. Our goal is to immerse Oscar, Edwin, Kieran and Rayhan into a communication rich environment through the use of PODD, Key Word Sign, Big Mac switches and their personal AAC devices. Timetables and other visual supports are used throughout the day to provide predictably and consistency. This promotes pro-social behaviour and assists in self-regulation. Area G boys are always on the go, whether we are in class doing work, Science experiments, sensory play or movement breaks. We know how to work hard and have fun. Here is a little insight into our rambunctious class.

Edwin- Edwin is our shimmy shaker, put some Bollywood music on and his shoulders start to shake and he jumps around the room. Edwin enjoys Science and watching what happens during experiments. His favourite is the Stephanie Alexander kitchen with Ms Suzette because he gets to eat the delicious food they make. Edwin loves to jump on the trampoline and swing high on the nest swing.

Kieran- Kieran is the gymnast in the class. He loves to swing high on the swing and jump off it for the perfect dismount, much to the staff's panic. Kieran has enjoyed the Science experiments and making delicious healthy food in the Stephanie Alexander kitchen with Ms Suzette. He relishes in group activities and practising his hand writing.

Oscar- Oscar is the youngest in class. He loves riding the bike outside and having someone chase him around the playground. Oscar enjoys Science and using his senses to engage in Science experiments, especially if there is shaving foam involved. He continues to improve in the use of his Key Word signs and enjoys completing 1:1 work tasks.

Rayhan- Rayhan is the eldest in the class. He loves to listen to music and dance. Rayhan has enjoyed cooking in the Stephanie Alexander kitchen and participating in art with Ms Colette. He likes doing group activities that include the smartboard and singing "banana, banana, meatballs". Rayhan's favourite lesson is swimming with Ms Daniela where he gets to splash about.



For a shorter term, wow, it sure was a busy one! All the Area D students have been off their feet with their MOVE program and they are showing tremendous progress in their endurance, flexibility and strength. A special mention to William and Harrison D for showing initiation and endurance in their movements.

Another focus has been exploring various ways to access different modes of communication systems as each one of us communicate in such different ways! Mehdi has been impressing all the staff by beginning to explore a 2- switch communication system. We also must mention Noah who is increasingly creating fuller sentences using his Nova Chat.

As a senior class, we practise having fun and working alongside others in leisure and recreation activities. Harrison P has really grown into a young man who enjoys a good laugh and interacting with his peers. A big shout out to the two young ladies in our class, Kaitlin and Juliet who have or are turning 18 years old this year. Area D staff are confident that there will be many greater and more impressive outcomes coming from our Area D students!





On the Thursday 18th of March, Burbridge school held their annual Harmony day assembly to celebrate the cultural diversity of our school community. The staff and students dressed up in orange to show their support of inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background. The assembly showcased our school multicultural community with a cultural dress up parade, an international food festival, cultural dances, and singing in different languages. Thank you to all the staff and families for their support



Snapshot from Area C2

It has been very productive in C2 classroom this term! Students have been enjoying going on many adventures with their peers at Koondoola playground during recess and lunch times. They have been exploring ideas, problem solving, making connections, and discovering different play areas such as their water and nature playground. For example students like to practise their balancing skills in the nature playground by walking across the ledge, others have chosen to use it for the opportunity for imaginary play. We will continue to build friendships with KPS through play-based learning throughout the year.

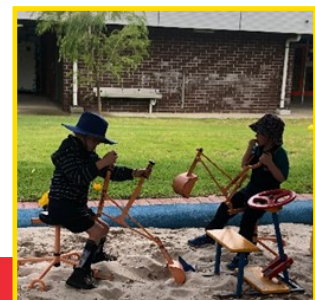
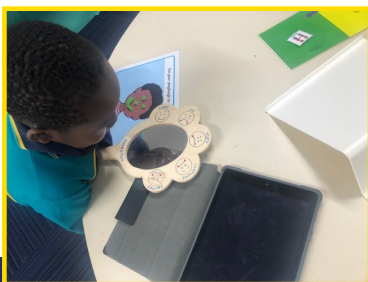
In the classroom we have been focusing on our new routines with lots of fun activities going on in our small group numeracy and literacy rotations. We have been focusing much attention on number recognition, listening skills and comprehension.

During morning mat sessions, we have been learning about; weather, the concepts of time, dates and any special occasions that may be happening.

Practising Self Help skills plays a big role in C2. Since the weather is still very hot, we have been learning about sun safety and why we apply sunscreen. There has been positive results in students having a go at putting on their own sunscreen to go outside.

All students have been working extremely hard and we look forward to more of the same during Term 2.

Just a friendly reminder to please email / or send in a family picture for our Family Tree. Students enjoy sharing stories and telling their peers about their families.





We work hard, we play hard!

Area A has had a wonderful start to the year. Our main focus has been building our relationships through a reward focused routine. Staff have maintained consistency by using lots of visual aids, gestures and students' personal AAC devices. With the consistency the students are experiencing, they in turn have been more motivated to participate in group lessons. When the lesson is finished they then check their timetables for a play break where they are able to choose what they would like to do next. During these play breaks, staff get down on the floor and engage in play promoting positive experiences. The students are also given the opportunity to engage in work with another staff member. They show an eagerness to participate in these activities as they receive one on one attention and staff have found this time to be more meaningful too.



Busy Bees in Area B

For an 8 week term it has been quite busy in Area B. We have all been on the MOVE! Our mornings are very busy and engaging with most of our students doing MOVE activities such as sitting in Rifton chairs, standing frames or some floor



work. Alisha has made excellent progress in her walking, she moves up and down the stairs in the playground before coming in for work in the mornings too.

On Mondays we have been doing swimming with Ms Daniela and Miss Simone whilst also exploring the Multi-Sensory Room to practise and engage in MOVE, switching and targeting a variety of goals with the students as well. This makes for a fun and active day for all staff and students. In area B there is also a lot of hands-on and sensory based activities that relate to all aspects of the curriculum. In English, this term, we have been looking at weather-based books incorporating a sensory aspect with tactile items. We also use sound scapes and actions to do with the students i.e. lift their arms up in the air. Depending on the contents of the book, students create art or have a food sensory experience towards the end of the week i.e. making spaghetti Bolognese to represent a meal eaten in winter. So much has been achieved in Area B this term and I can't wait to see what else the year brings!

