



# Blandford Public School

## Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 9

Wednesday 1 December 2021



## Coming Events

When	Event	Who	More Info
Every Thursday	Art with Anita	All students	10.30am - 11.30am
Every Thursday	Library	All students	Please return all library books
Every Friday	Sport	All Students	Sports Uniform
Every Friday 9.15am - 12.15pm	Transition Days	New Kinder Students 2022	Information in Enrolment Packs
01.12.2021	P&C Meeting	Everyone Welcome	Zoom Meeting
03.12.2021	Poetry Slam	All Students	Notes to be returned Thursday 02.12.2021
03.12.2021	Canteen Day	All Students	Notes to be returned Thursday 02.12.2021
06.12.2021	Fun Fitness	All Students	Sports Uniform 9am - 11am
10.12.2021	Presentation Day	All Students	More information Page 3
14.12.2021	Lake Keepit	All Students	Permission Notes to follow
16.12.2021	Last Day of Term 4	All Students	
17.12.2021	Staff Development Day	All Staff	



# Awards



## Newcastle Permanent Participation Awards

- Ayesha Hussain
- Jorja Roser
- Zara Shahid



## Term 4 Week 6 - Week 9 Attendance Awards - 95% or above attendance

- Dustin Farquhar
- Lindsay
- Solana Talty
- Georgia Caldwell
- Aiza Shahid
- Zarah Shahid



## Awards



Congratulations to our school leaders, Ayesha Hussain, Jorja Roser and Zara Shahid for attending Upper Hunter Youth Council meetings in 2021.

The Upper Hunter Youth Council is made up of students from Primary and High Schools from across the Upper Hunter.

- Students meet twice per term to:-
- discuss issues relevant to local young people
  - create events which provide new opportunities for Upper Hunter Youth
  - share ideas for school fundraising and issues management
  - learn new leadership and communication skills

## Presentation Day

On Friday 10 December 2021, Blandford Public School will be celebrating the achievements of our students during 2021.

The structure of this year's event has been altered to keep in line with guidelines the Department of Education and Department of Health have set around COVID-19.

- These guidelines include**
- presentations will be allowed outdoors on site.
  - only students and fully vaccinated visitors who have been invited by the school to present an award.

Presentation Day Assembly will commence promptly at 2.00pm and finish at 3.15pm.

Photos and award winners will be displayed on the school website and facebook page.

It has been another trying year for everyone, and we thank you for your understanding as we work together to support our students.



# Term 4 roadmap

## From 8 November

- All schools will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4.
- School sports allowed
- Inter-school sports allowed outside of school hours
- Assemblies and presentations allowed outdoors on-site
- Excursions allowed outdoors
- Dancing and some music classes allowed
- Fully vaccinated visitors allowed on site to support curriculum delivery, wellbeing programs and school operations
- Community use allowed (including P&C meetings)

## From Term 1 2022

We can look forward to more freedoms as schools return in 2022.

# Keeping us all safe

A combination of layered safety measures allow us to prioritise student and staff wellness while we keep schools open.

## Stay home if unwell

- Do not attend or participate if unwell, even with mild symptoms.



## Vaccinations required

- All adults must be fully vaccinated.



## Always check in

- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.



## Physically distance

- Maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.



## Maximise ventilation

- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practicable.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees.



## Stick to your cohorts

- Avoid mingling with other groups when moving around the school.



## Wear masks indoors

- Masks are required indoors for all staff, visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students.
- You can take your mask off when eating or exercising.





# Poetry Slam



## What is a Poetry Slam?

A Poetry Slam is a competition where people recite poems without props, costumes, or music. It puts a dual emphasis on the written word and performance, encouraging poets/performers to focus on what they're saying and how they're saying it.

The poem can be an original or one from another author.

## What style of poem can be performed?

One of the best things about poetry slam is the range of poets/performers it attracts. Poets/performers are free to do work in any style, on any subject.

## What are the rules?

Blandford PS Poetry Slam rules are:

- Poems can be an original or from another author. Your job is to engage your audience!
- Start your performance with the title and author of the poem.
- Props, costumes or musical instruments are NOT to be used.
- Each poet/performer should aim to recite their poem within the allocated time.
- Points will be deducted from performers if there is a difference of 30 seconds or more from the allocated time:

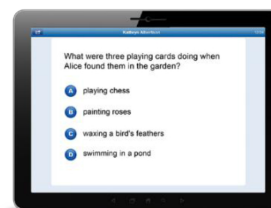
Kindergarton	Year 1/2	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
1 minute	2 minutes 30 seconds	4 minutes	5 minutes

- Audience members must give their full attention to the poet/performer while they are performing.
- Audience members are encouraged to respond to the poet/performer in an appropriate manner. Remember, it takes a lot of courage to stand up and perform in front of an audience!
- The judges' scores will be totaled, and a grand slam score given. The poet/performer with the greatest total in each stage is the winner and will be awarded a certificate and special prize.

## Parent's Guide to Accelerated Reader

### What is Renaissance Accelerated Reader (AR)?

AR is a reading program that helps teachers support and monitor children's reading practice. Your child picks a book at their own level and reads it at their own pace. When finished, your child takes a short online quiz to measure how much of the book they understood.



### What is a Renaissance Star Reading test?

Star Reading is an online test used to measure your child's reading level. The test uses multiple-choice questions and takes around 20 minutes.

### How do students select books?

AR includes over 40,000 books. These can be found in the school library as well as public libraries, books shops, homes, etc. Each book is assigned three scores to help your child make a suitable choice:

#### Book Level

Book Levels represent the difficulty of the text. The Star Reading test tells your child what range of Book Levels to read within. This is called the Zone of Proximal Development (ZPD).

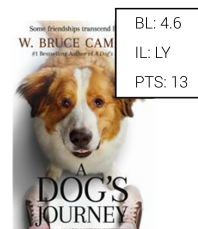
#### Points

Books are assigned Points based on their word count. Points are earned by passing quizzes. Students are set personalised targets each term by their teacher.

#### Interest Level

The Interest Level indicates for which age group a book is suitable for. It does this based on the content and themes.

Interest Level	Age (in years)
LY - Lower Years	5-8
MY - Middle Years	9-13
MY+ - Middle Years+	12+
UY - Upper Years	14+



The two examples above both have a Book Level of 4.6. This is because they both have short sentences and simple vocabulary. However "A Dog's Journey" is worth 13 points because it's a lengthier text and is intended for Upper Years' students. Meanwhile "Little Miss Sunshine and The Wicked Witch" is worth 0.5 points as it is much shorter and intended for Lower Years.

### How can I help my child become a better reader?

- Make time for them to read at home. Children need to read for at least 20 minutes every day to improve their reading ability.
- Encourage your child to read; discuss books, asking questions about what they have read; and visit your local library.
- Find suitable books for your child at [www.arbookfind.com.au](http://www.arbookfind.com.au). Use the search function to look for specific titles or topics, or go to Advanced Search to browse for books within your child's ZPD and interest level.
- To find out more about your child's reading progress, visit Home Connect. This will allow you to track your child's progress towards their targets and to view your child's reading history. Contact the school to find out more information.



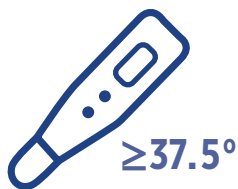
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# Got symptoms? Get tested.

**Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms should be tested.**

Symptoms include:



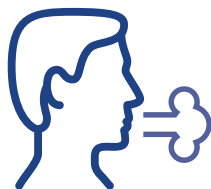
fever



cough



sore throat



difficulty breathing



loss of smell



loss of taste

**Other reported symptoms of COVID-19 include:**

fatigue, runny nose, muscle pain, joint pain, nausea/vomiting,  
diarrhoea, loss of appetite or other flu symptoms.



Testing is free, quick and easy  
[health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus](https://health.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus)



**SIGN UP TODAY**

**Contact**

Matt 0478 285 757

Paige 0478 285 758

Play Cricket

- +Fun for all ages and abilities
- +Learn ball skills and stay active
- +All girls groups where possible
- +Coached by our trained Cricket NSW staff

**Sydney Sixers Holiday Programs - Greater Hunter**



**Who:** Boys and girls welcome

**Ages:** Recommended ages 5-11

**Inclusions:** 6 hrs of fun + blast participant pack

**Cost:** \$69



CRICKET NSW

**Programs running across the Greater Hunter:**

**Newcastle**

**Date:** Monday 20th + Tuesday 21st December

**Time:** 9am - 12pm each morning

**Location:** Ford Oval, New Lambton

**Register:**

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/b37fa5>

**Central Coast**

**Date:** Thursday 13th + Friday 14th January

**Time:** 9am - 12pm each morning

**Location:** Adcock Park, Gosford

**Register:**

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/6f9ec7>

**Lake Macquarie**

**Date:** Wednesday 19th + Thursday 20th January

**Time:** 3pm-6pm each afternoon

**Location:** Feignhan Oval, Warners Bay

**Register:**

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/8cc83c>

**Singleton**

**Date:** Monday 24th + Tuesday 25th January

**Time:** 9am - 12pm each morning

**Location:** Cook Park, Singleton

**Register:**

<https://www.playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/5343b4>



**2021-2022 Xmas School Holidays**

**TENNIS CAMPS**

With Chris Herden, Tennis Australia Club Professional, Former NSW ranked junior, USA college representative. For ages 4-14 yrs all abilities at Scone, Denman, Casillis and Gresford.

**Heaps of fun for beginners and experienced players**

Camp includes stroke development, drills, point and game play. You will also play a mix of cricket, soccer and t-ball to help develop hand-eye coordination. With prizes and competitions!

**SCONE TENNIS CLUB:**

Dec 13-15, 20-22, 2021. Jan 24, 25, 27, 2022

For ages: 4-5  
For ages: 6-14

Time: 9-10am  
Time: 9-12noon

\$15 per day / \$45 per week  
\$25 per day / \$75 per week

**DENMAN TENNIS CLUB:**

Dec 20-22, 2021. Jan 24, 25, 27, 2022

For ages: 4-5  
For ages: 6-14

Time: 2-3pm  
Time: 2-5noon

\$15 per day / \$45 per week  
\$25 per day / \$75 per week

**CASILLIS TENNIS CLUB:**

Dec 20-22, 2021. Jan 24, 25, 27, 2022

For ages: 4-5  
For ages: 6-14

Time: 2-3pm  
Time: 2-5pm

\$15 per day / \$45 per week  
\$25 per day / \$75 per week

**GRESFORD TENNIS CLUB:**

Dec 23-24, 2021. Jan 28, 2022

For ages: 5-14

Time: 2-5pm

\$25 per day / \$50 per week

**Bookings essential!**

**Call Chris on 0400 331 553 for details and bookings**

Term 1, 2022, coaching and match play programs for children 4 to 16 yrs, commencing Jan 30, 2022. Bookings essential.

and Like Scone Hardcourt Tennis Association, Upper Hunter Tennis & Sports and ANZ Hot Shots on Facebook





## 150 Celebrations

Due to playground upgrades planned for February 2022, the committee has decided to postpone our 150 Celebrations to Friday 2 and Saturday 3 September 2022. Notices will be posted on our Facebook page, in The Links and the school newsletter with information of upcoming meetings. The committee warmly welcomes new members. If you would like to be involved in organising the event but are unable to attend meetings please contact the school.

# BLANDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL FAIR

held in our beautiful school grounds.  
Celebrating 150 years!

Saturday 3 September 2022  
10am till 3pm

Lovely Market Stalls  
Anniversary celebrations activities &  
family games

Contact Blandford Public School for more  
details. PH: 02 6546 6117

1 5 0 T H M E E T I N G

TUESDAY 8TH MARCH 2022

HELD IN SCHOOL  
LIBRARY AT 6.30PM

COVID GUIDELINES MUST  
BE FOLLOWED

ALL ADULTS MUST BE  
FULLY VACCINATED

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**BLANDFORD PUBLIC  
SCHOOL**

**150TH CELEBRATION BAGS  
FOR SALE**



**\$25.00 EACH**


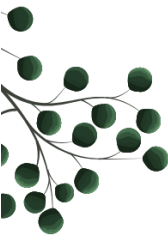
**TO PURCHASE**

**EMAIL:  
BLANDFORDPANDC@GMAIL.COM**

**OR**

**PHONE JODIE - 0488 560 495**

**PAYMENT TO: BPS P&C  
BSB: 932 000  
A/C: 100298204  
REF: BAG/SURNAME**







# COMBINED SINGLE & DOUBLE NAME PAVER TEMPLATE

## Blandford Public School

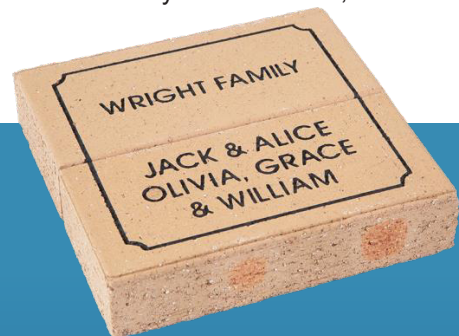
As part of the Blandford Public School 150 Year Anniversary in September 2021 a paved area will be created with personalised pavers. Anyone who has been a part of our wonderful school over the last 150 years is welcome to purchase pavers, these will become a treasured memory for the school, students and families.



### OFFER 1: \$40.00

#### INDIVIDUAL PAVERS

Your donation of \$40.00 entitles you to have your name engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed at Blandford Public School. Thank you!



### OFFER 2: \$85.00

#### DOUBLE PAVERS

Your donation of \$85.00 entitles you to have your name engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed at Blandford Public School. Thank you!

Simply fill out this form and return along with full payment by cheque, cash or money order to:

Payments can also be made online. Go to the Blandford Public School Website and select make a payment. Please phone Belinda in the office if you need any assistance. Phone: 0265466117

**Blandford Public School**  
109 Salisbury Street  
Blandford NSW 2338

Contact Name	Phone	
<input type="text"/>	( )	
Street	Email	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
City	State	Post Code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="radio"/> Offer 1	<input type="radio"/> Offer 2	Our Donation
		\$ <input type="text"/>

Offer closes on the {date}

For engraving details please complete the form on the reverse.

Please copy and pass on to any friends & family.

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

**SIGNATURE**  
ENGRAVING

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