

Bruny Island District School

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
learners first

Where every child is empowered to develop the skills and confidence to enrich their lives and the lives of others.

ASPIRATION

GROWTH

COURAGE

RESPECT

10 FEBRUARY 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

Little Penguins

Wednesday 9:00—11:00

Friday 9:00—11:00

PAT Early Years Assessment (Preps)

Begins 22 February—12 March

Year 6 Student Leadership Day

Wednesday 3 March

Learn to Swim Years 3-6

March 25, 26, 29, 30, 31

Moderation Day (Student Free Day)

Thursday 1 April

Easter and Term Break

Friday 2 April—Tuesday 20 April

Term 2 Starts

Wednesday 21 April

REMINDERS

Friday (each week)

School finishes at 2:30pm

Hot Lunch (Tomato Pasta \$4.50)

Wednesday 10 Feb

TERM DATES 2021

Term 1 3 February—31 March

Term 2 21 April—2 July

Term 3 20 July—24 September

Term 4 11 October—16 December

CONTACT DETAILS

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Web <http://www.brunyislandschool.org/>

Dear Families,

Welcome to the latest school newsletter.

I can report it was a great first week back for the new school year. Our students have transitioned from the holiday break and back to school with ease and confidence. I have really enjoyed seeing our students connect with each other and with our staff this week and observe signs of new friendships forming. Bruny Island District School offers an incredibly unique experience for our students in many ways but what was especially obvious this week was the integration of students across grades. At every break time you will see students from across Kinder to Year 6 engage in safe and creative play with mentoring and support offered from our older students. It is truly wonderful to see .

We are well underway with our *School Improvement Focus* of Mathematics. Our staff have engaged in rich dialogue and professional learning before school started, we have secured a professional development workshop with a Mathematics Facilitator from Melbourne for the beginning of Term 2 and we have support from the DoE Curriculum Team to provide planning and support materials. We are very well supported to develop our skills and understanding of what is considered best practice in Mathematics and we look forward to sharing this with families as the year continues.

I very much look forward to our *Meet the Teacher* and *Welcome Back Pizza Night* tonight and connecting with our families once again. It is a privilege to be working in partnership with you, for your children, and for this community.

Take care and kind regards,

Ashley McPherson
Principal



Bruny Island District School
Department of Education



ALLERGY AWARE AT BRUNY ISLAND DISTRICT SCHOOL

Thank you families for your support with our implementation of becoming an **Allergy Aware School**. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

We currently have two students attending our school who are at risk of **anaphylaxis**.

Triggers for these students include: **nuts and kiwi fruit**.

The school has implemented a number of strategies to help eliminate the risk of anaphylaxis and this will be documented in a policy that will be shared soon.

Parents are asked to also help us eliminate the risk by:

- Children are instructed and reminded to not share food and drink;
- Parents send up to date information about their child's allergies;
- Parents avoid sending messy food, such as egg sandwiches and grated cheese in sandwiches;
- Parents identify on hot lunch orders if their child has allergies;

Parents do not send nuts or kiwi fruit.

OUR VALUES

The Department of Education has a shared set of values that underpin the organisation. The values are enacted within each sector of the Department from Schools, to Executive, to Marketing, to Finance. With a shared set of values, we begin to use the same language and develop a shared understanding for the culture and way in which we work.

Throughout 2021 we will be implementing the Department of Education values at our school. We will do so by firstly aligning our current school values to the new values and methodically teach the meaning of each of the new values within the context of our school community.

Many schools have already implemented the new DoE values and as a team we now believe we are ready to do the same.

I look forward to sharing this journey with you.

The new values:



WE ARE NOW ON INSTAGRAM.



Follow us on
Instagram

Follow us: [brunyislanddistrictschool](https://www.instagram.com/brunyislanddistrictschool)



Name: _____

Class: _____



READ TOGETHER

Our home reading program *Read Together* has started once again for the new year.

Read Together is an important part of our whole school approach to reading. The booklet provides you with information and ideas to support a successful home reading routine.

With regular reading you will not only support your child to build their language and love for literacy, but also begin the important learning required to support comprehension development.

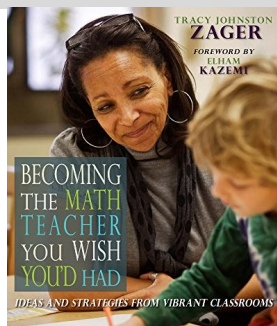
Your child will be rewarded with a certificate for every 20 reading sessions completed, and a book prize for 100 reading sessions.

If you would like to discuss *Read Together* or how you can support your child at home with their learning, please contact the classroom teacher or Ashley.



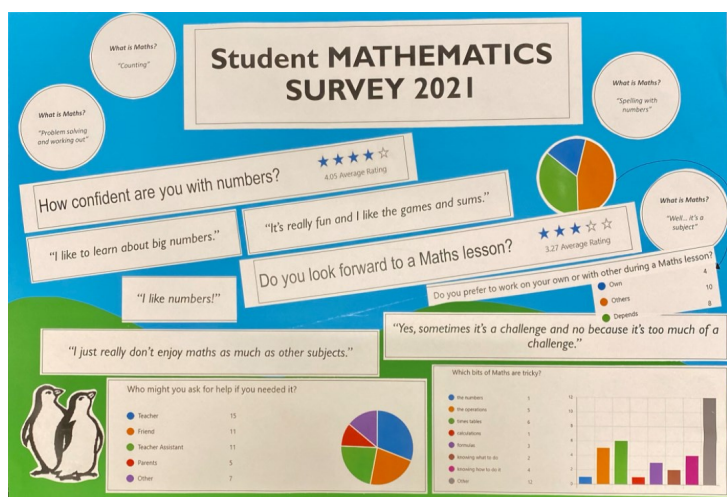
MATHEMATICS

We started 2021 with a strong focus on Mathematics. Each of the teachers were given the text: *Becoming the Maths Teacher You Wish You'd Had* as a holiday read, and this was discussed on our professional learning day before school started.



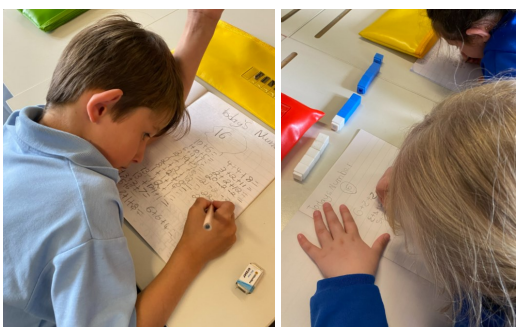
This text has become the foundation for our work this year by challenging us to think about the culture we create for the subject of Mathematics. How do we talk about it? How do we show it's relevance? How do we inspire creative thinking and engagement with problem solving and reward effort over correct answers.

We decided that interviewing each student about their ideas and beliefs about Mathematics was an important way to start this focus. Throughout Week 1 our teachers have been interviewing each student and the data has been very interesting. Here is a snapshot of what we heard.



This snapshot is now on display in our school courtyard and it is our hope that we can improve this data throughout the year.

It is also our aim to work in partnership with families with our focus on Mathematics. In the coming weeks we will be offering families a number of ways to engage with Mathematics and work in partnership with us to support



your child with their learning.

We hope many of you are able to do this work with us.

WHAT DO WE VALUE?



As an introduction to the implementation of our new school values, we started the year by asking students the big question: *What do you value?* This will be the overarching question that will guide our whole school inquiry for the first half of the year.

Each of our students (and staff members) were asked to create a canvas display of the things that they really value and of things that are important to them.

This activity encourages us to be reflective about what is important to us, why they are important and make connections with other people. It has been wonderful to see students looking at the canvas squares that are on display and say "Oh, I didn't know you liked...".



Next time you are walking through the school, stop and have a look at our canvas squares.

VALIDATION FORMS

We would like to offer our students a whole school beach day excursion in the coming weeks. To do this, we will need all of the student validation forms back to school so we have the correct permissions. Thank you for helping us by returning the forms as quickly as possible.

NEW SRC FOR 2021



This year we are going to try a different format for our SRC. Our Year 6 students will be our SRC for 2021. They will be responsible for attending weekly meetings, supporting the school with special events and representing the voice of our students.

Our SRC will visit each of our classes weekly to provide an SRC update and to remind students to share their ideas with them. At various times throughout the year, the SRC will interview and ask questions to gather student voice from the rest of the students at our school and share this information back at our SRC meetings.

Our SRC will be attending a Student Leadership Workshop in the coming weeks which will be attended by senior students from across Southern Tasmania. This will be a great opportunity to develop their leadership skills and meet other student leaders.

When: Wednesday 3 March

Where: Huonville School

I look forward to working with our SRC this year.

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AT SCHOOL

To align to both our *Move Well, Eat Well Policy* and our *Allergy Aware School Policy* we would like to ask parents to please not send or supply cakes and treats to school for your child's birthday.

We know this is not ideal and it has been a hard decision to make, but we feel it is in the best interest of all children at the school if we limit our 'sometimes' foods and ensure we are only having food on site that is safe for everyone.

Our staff have spent some time this week thinking of many alternative ideas to celebrate each child's birthday whilst they are at school which do not include food treats, but will be equally as special.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

FROM THE P AND F COMMITTEE

You're invited...



WHEN: Wednesday 10 February 4:30pm

WHERE: Classroom visits 4:30-5:30pm then School Garden for a Pizza with the school community.

WHY: Our *Meet the Teacher* sessions are an open classroom time where families can come and speak to the classroom teachers and see the classroom spaces. We would then like to invite all of our families to come and cook a pizza of your choice in the School Garden.

BRING: Please bring your pizza toppings. We will supply you with a fresh pizza base and tomato paste, but you are welcome to bring your own toppings. We will then cook your pizza in our school pizza oven.

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