




THE POINT

Your Community School Promoting Excellence

Term 4 Weeks 8 - 10 Picnic Point High School Update

20 December 2022

Thank you to the Picnic Point High School Community

I would like to congratulate all of our students and their families on another wonderful year at PPHS in 2022. This year we saw many of our usual school activities return after experiencing two very disruptive years in 2020 and 2021.

It was wonderful to recently celebrate our school's 60th Birthday with our students, parents/carers and the community. The 60th Birthday event was a great example of the strong leadership of our staff and students, clearly reflecting the positive culture and teamwork that we see every day at our school. Seeing our students proudly cheering on other students who were nervously performing on stage, or our leadership students still managing to smile and excitedly manage their stalls even though they were exhausted after a whole day and evening of supervision duties in the sun, or our VET Entertainment students for their professionally ensuring 8 hours of entertainment was presented seamlessly. Then there were the groups of students and staff that spent multiple days preparing cupcakes as a fundraiser, raising \$750 for Food Bank and the Starlight Foundation charities. To our amazing Student Leadership Team, your involvement in every aspect of the event was extraordinary and inspiring!

Thank you to the many staff that co-ordinated, led, prepared and assisted with the 60th Birthday celebration. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the following staff for their exceptional contribution: Ms Lisa Gourlay, Mr Ben Bleyerveen, Mr Nathan Anderson, Mr Blake Colbert, Mrs Cathy McManus and Mrs Teriesa Thompson.

I would also like to farewell and thank one of our long-standing teachers who will be retiring from service with the Department of Education at the end of this year. Mrs Louise McGrath has dedicated the past 35 years of her teaching career as an outstanding English Teacher at Picnic Point High School. Congratulations on your retirement Mrs McGrath. We wish you all the very best in your retirement and future endeavours.

I would like to wish all our students and their families a lovely school holiday. Stay safe, look after each other during this holiday season and enjoy your well-deserved break. We look forward to continuing our journey together in 2023.

Ms Suzy Tarasenko
Relieving Principal

Coming up @ PPHS

Reminder to all parents: Wednesday 01.02.23
Swimming Carnival - All Year Groups-ALL - STUDENTS
Max Parker Lesiure and Aquatic Centre, Revesby

Social Media

Website:

www.picnicpt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Facebook:

Picnic Point High School Official

Twitter:

@picnicpoinths

WEEK 1 - 2023		WEEK 2 - 2023	
Monday 30.01.23		Monday 06.02.23	
Tuesday 31.01.23	Yr 7, 11 & 12 Return to school	Tuesday 07.02.23	
Wednesday 01.02.23	Yr 7-12 Return to school Swimming Carnival	Wednesday 08.02.23	
Thursday 02.02.23		Thursday 09.02.23	
Friday 03'02.23		Friday 10.02.23	

Shoebox Donations

A big thank you to our PPHS school community for your generous donations to our Keith's Closet Shoebox appeal this year. This initiative supports members of our community who are suffering from Mental Health issues during the festive season. 65 boxes were provided this year and personalised messages were written on cards by our students.

Ms Lamaro
Deputy Principal



iThrive Faculty Validation

Thank you to all Year 7 and Year 8 parents/carers who completed the iThrive survey recently. Results highlighted the strong connections between students and their iThrive teachers. Parents/carers showed interest in further information/communication on One Note, 5Cs, subject content and projects.

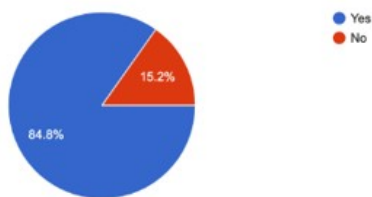
Here are a couple of snapshots from the data summary..

Ms Lamaro
Deputy Principal

Parent responses

Students have their iThrive subject every day and therefore see their iThrive teacher more often than other teachers. Do you feel this is beneficial to your child?

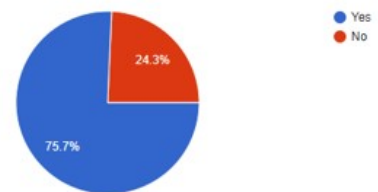
79 responses



Student responses

Do you feel your iThrive class has developed positive and respectful relationships with each other in iThrive?

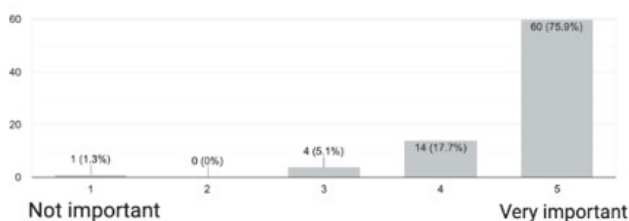
214 responses



How important is it to you for your child to develop positive, respectful relationships with their iThrive teachers?



79 responses



Teacher response

All iThrive staff collaborate to create meaningful, unique tasks and activities which integrate multiple Key Learning Areas. This integration empowers students to gain an appreciation of their real-world context learning, making clear and succinct links to their everyday life practices. I have seen this firsthand in my own class, where students who normally struggle with concepts in Science/Mathematics were able to apply the learning of forces and energy to a real life application of a roller coaster creation!

Year 9 and Year 10 Japanese Escape Room Incursion

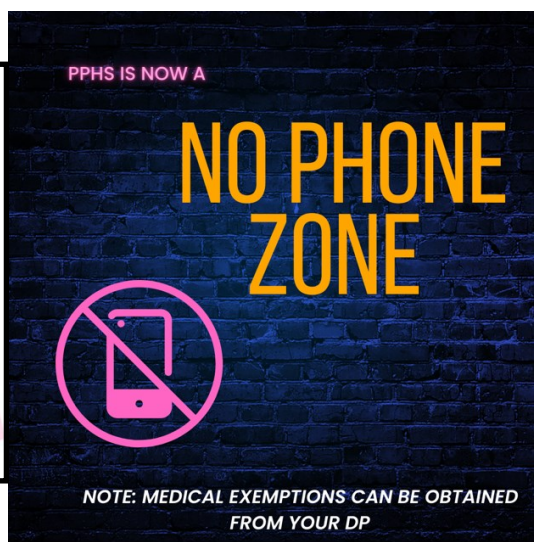
On Monday December 12, 2022 Year 9 and Year 10 Japanese students participated in an incursion presented by AoYama Taster Workshop called the Escape Room or 脱出ゲーム . The incursion was for an hour and we completed puzzles and activities, numbered one through to ten. The goal was to unlock the suitcase and save the ねこ [cat] statue. It was a really fun activity and we enjoyed working in groups and using our Japanese.

Report written by: Year 9 Japanese class



2023 TERM DATES

Term 1	First day	Friday 27 January	Staff only
		Monday 30 January	Staff only
		Tuesday 31 January	Years 7, 11 and 12 only
		Wednesday 1 February	Whole school
	Last day	Thursday 6 April	
Term 2	First day	Monday 24 April	Staff only
		Wednesday 26 April	Whole school
	Last day	Friday 30 June	
Term 3	First day	Monday 17 July	Staff only
		Tuesday 18 July	Whole school
	Last day	Friday 22 September	
Term 4	First day	Monday 9 October	Whole school
	Last day (students)	Friday 15 December	
	Last day (staff)	Tuesday 19 December	Staff only



Orientation Day

On Tuesday the 29th of November, the Year 6 students coming to Picnic Point High School next year visited the school for their Orientation Day. It was also a day for the Year 9 Peer Support leaders to meet the future Year 7s of 2023. The Peer Support leaders each ran a series of activities and games with their small groups of Year 6 students after lunch. With the help of Ms Marquis, the day ran quite smoothly and the Year 6s seemed to really enjoy it. The activities the leaders ran helped the Year 6s get to know their fellow peers and to support getting them ready for high school.

Hannah Cooke, Year 9

Social Skills Program 2022

Selected Year 9 and 10 learning support students were chosen to participate in this program to develop and enhance social skills such as verbal and non-verbal communication, being part of a group, expressing feelings, problem solving, caring about yourself and others, listening and conflict resolution.

The students practiced these skills during Terms 3 and 4 at several different venues such as Coffee Point, IGA, Panania Library, Menai Marketplace, Zone Bowling and Westfields Miranda. They also learnt to read bus and train timetables in order to travel to and from each venue. During each excursion there was a social skills focus and individual goal for the students to achieve. These goals were scaffolded so the students could challenge themselves more as their confidence grew.

Students began with the task of ordering food/drink independently (something many of them were quite nervous about) to talking within a small social group with unfamiliar faces. These skills progressed up to the last challenge which was a one-hour scavenger hunt in Westfields Miranda. Students were in groups and were given a store map and a list of challenges worth different points according to the level of difficulty. The students achieved well beyond our expectations as they managed to score an extremely high number of points and work together effectively in an unknown environment.

We are so proud of what they have achieved and the new friendships they have made. Here are some student comments and pictures of the program.

Ms Barton & Ms Kozma
Special Education Learning & Support

Ms Herbert
CAPA

"It went good and I was able to talk to the cashier and I found everything"

"I was a little scared because I haven't done this in a while getting groceries. It wasn't as bad as I thought"

"The shopping went well. I didn't get anxious."

"It went really good. I was able to find what I needed or talk to someone when I needed help"

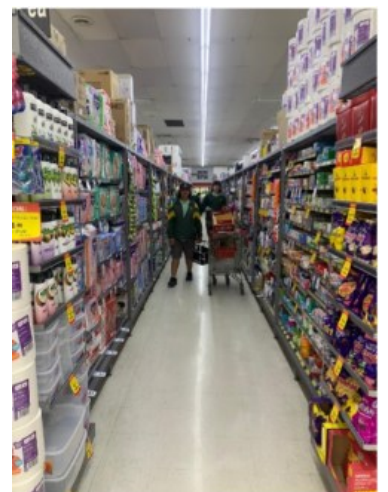
"I was a bit nervous to order but it was not as bad as I thought."

"It was fun playing UNO and meeting new people"

"I liked ordering the food even though I rarely do when I'm out. I wasn't excited about going but I am glad I went"

"I felt fine going on the walk but when I got to the shop I started to feel a bit nervous. I asked for my order and I didn't feel nervous after that. I had a lot of fun eating and chatting with the boys"

"I was very happy with the shopping experience and I found a shirt I really liked"



Support Unit Camp

In Week 8 our support unit students camped at Bonnie Vale campground as a part of their PDHPE Leisure unit. The students set up their tents, helped with food preparation, bushwalked and kayaked. It was a great success thanks to the students and staff who attended.

Ms Barton - Year 10 Learning Support Teacher Special Education Teacher

Here is what some of the students said:

Sarine

I like camp because I liked kayaking with my friends. I liked meeting the Nurse Bella who came on camp too. I was only a little bit scared sleeping in the tent. I liked spending lots of time with my friends.

Year 11 Student

Setting up camp was fun and seeing the sunset was really nice. It was different sleeping outside in a tent. I had a really good time and look forward to doing it again.

Mohamad S

I liked kayaking and getting ice blocks. I enjoyed everything at camp. Sleeping in a tent was fun, I woke up at 5am and started eating Twisties and Tim Tams.

Holly

We went on a walk and saw different things. I got to share a tent with my friend Sarine which was fun. We also went kayaking which was great. The food was yummy and the weather was good!



LOWES WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE...

NSW BACK TO SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM

What is covered by NSW back to school program?

3 x \$50 Vouchers

Eligible purchases are limited
to the following

School uniforms (K-12)

- Your complete school uniform
- Hats
- Socks
- Shoes
- Umbrellas
- Raincoats

Trade Schools (pathway program)

- High Vis Polo Tops and Shirts
- Industrial Pants and Shorts
- Steel Cap Boots
- Socks Protectors
- Safety Equipments

***T&Cs Apply. No returns, exchanges
in accordance with our returns policy**



STAY TUNED!

ONCE THE NSW SERVICES APP
RELEASES THE PROGRAM, REDEEM
YOUR VOUCHERS INSTORE OR ONLINE