

# SOFALA PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*Learning Caring Sharing*

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Principal: Debbie Barratt



Term3 Week4

Wednesday 14th August, 2019

## Principal's Report

Education Week 2019 saw a wonderful Open School at Sofala. The support was wonderful and our community lunch was well received and allowed time for us to acknowledge Mrs Chapman and Mrs Davison for their contribution to our school through the P&C and to Mrs Coyle on her service to our school. Our open classroom allowed time for sharing of school work and our learning experiences. Mrs Shelton shared our schools involvement in the Bathurst Small Schools Random Act of Kindness with our community collection of winter woollies and the hand made crocheted items that were made especially for those in need. I thank Mrs Shelton for her outstanding dedication to this initiative. I also extend a big thank you to all who attended during the day.

Stage 3 Camp permission notes and money need to be finalised by the end of this term. Weekly payments may be a good alternative over a larger payment.

Kelso High Campus will be hosting their second transition to high school next Thursday from 9.30am - 2.30pm.

We will be hosting our Student Assembly & Afternoon Tea next Thursday from 2.30pm and hope our parents/carers are able to attend.

Book Week is next week with the theme 'Reading is my SECRET POWER'. We will be visiting Wattle Flat PS next Friday morning details over the page.

With the winter sniffles still with us, we have included the childhood diseases and illness information.

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is included with this newsletter for your reading and contains the latest information.

Kind regards  
Debbie Barratt

## Calendar of Events



Education

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>4</b>	12	13	14	15	16
<b>5</b>	19 Book Week	20	21 KHC Transition 2	22 2.30pm Student Assembly & Afternoon Tea	23 9-12.30 Book Week @Wattle Flat PS
<b>6</b>	26	27	28 One Schools @Capertee PS	29	30 Premier's Reading Challenge ends

## 2019 Book Week



There are six categories in the CBCA Book of the Year Awards.

CBCA Book of the Year: Older Readers

CBCA Book of the Year: Younger Readers

CBCA Book of the Year: Early Childhood

CBCA Picture Book of the Year

Eve Pownall Award

CBCA Award for New Illustrator

Many of the 2019 Shortlisted Books have started to find their way to our library shelves ready for borrowing. With the winners being announced this week.

## Book Week Parade and Activities at Wattle Flat Public School

Students, pre-schoolers and parents/carers are invited to dress up as a favourite book character and be involved in activities during the morning session.

8.30am Book Fair open

9.00 am Read aloud session

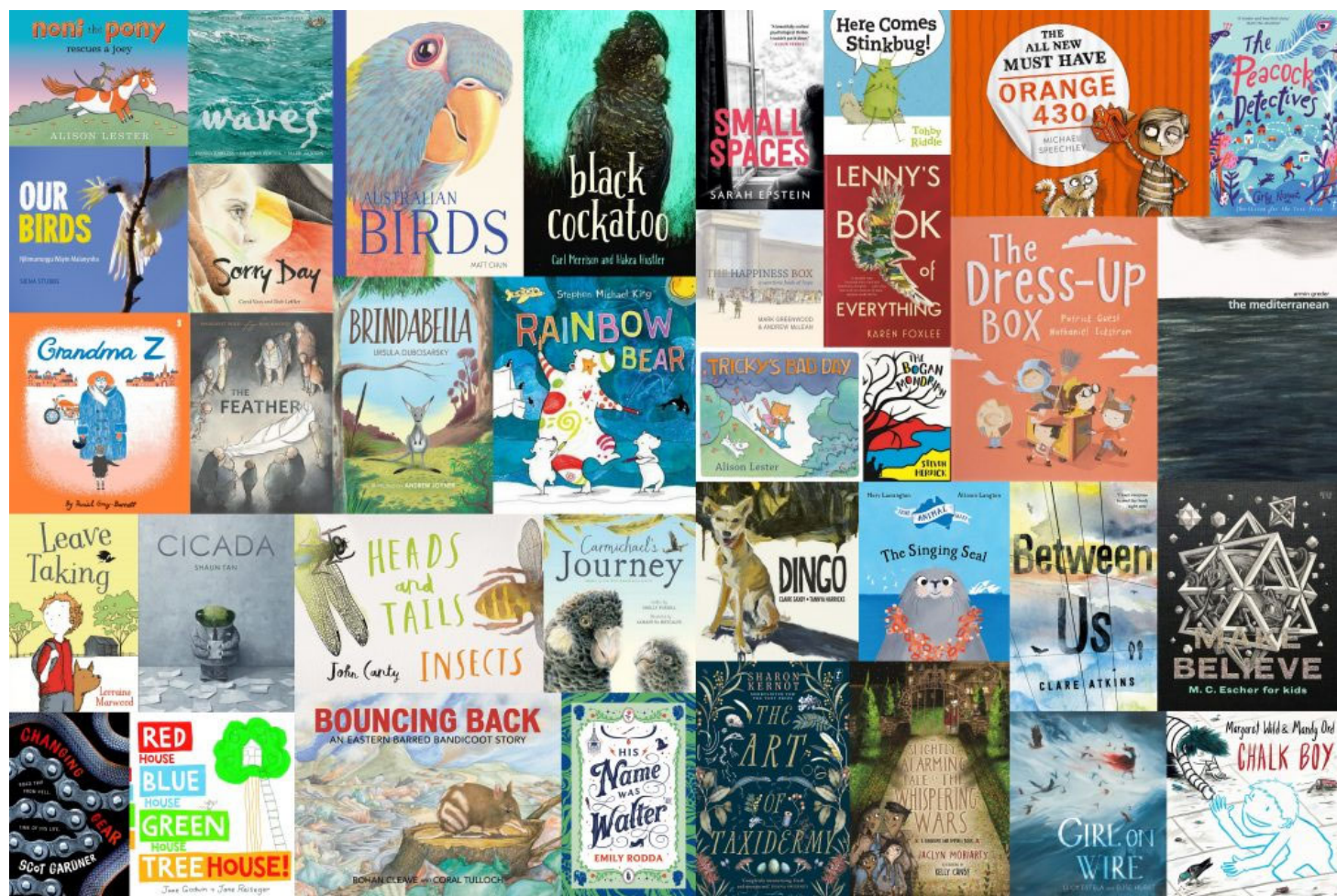
9.30 am Book character parade

10.00am Fruit break

10.12am-11.30am Group activities

11.30am-12.30pm Sausage sizzle lunch (supplied by staff).

12.30pm Parents/carers pick up students and transport to Sofala PS



# Infectious Diseases

There are many infectious diseases that affect children and young people. Information on the following infectious diseases is available on the NSW Health site. Primary school students who do not have proof of immunisation may have to stay at home during an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease at school. Particular arrangements will be worked out by the local public health unit in consultation with the school.

Schools and parents should contact their local public health unit for advice regarding infectious diseases. This information has been supplied by NSW Health and is not intended to replace a visit to your doctor if anyone in your family is unwell. This information is current at the time collected. Stay updated at the NSW Health website

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/default.aspx>

<b>DISEASE</b>	<b>SYMPTOMS</b>	<b>SCHOOL OR HOME</b>
Chicken Pox (can reappear later in life as shingles)	Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab	Keep home from school for 5 days from the onset of the rash and all of the blisters have dried
Diphtheria	Depend on the site of infection but the most severe form of diphtheria affects the throat and tonsils. The first symptoms are usually a sore throat, loss of appetite and a mild fever. Within 2-3 days, a membrane forms over the throat and tonsils that can make it hard to swallow and breathe.	Stay at home until a doctor has given a certificate of recovery.
Gastroenteritis	A combination of frequent loose or watery stools (diarrhoea), vomiting, fever, stomach cramps, headaches	Keep home from school until diarrhoea/vomiting stops. (Wait 24 hours for little kids who may have trouble toileting)
Influenza	Sudden onset fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches	Keep home from school until well
Measles	Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts 4 to 7 days	Keep home from school for at least 4 days after the rash appears
Meningococcal	Sudden onset of fever and a combination of headache, neck stiffness, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness, a dislike of bright lights and sore joints. A rash of red-purple spots or bruises is common but not always present	<b>Seek medical attention immediately.</b> Patient will need hospital treatment. People with meningococcal disease can become extremely unwell very quickly
Mumps	Fever, swollen and tender glands around the jaw	Keep home from school for 9 days after onset of swelling
Polio (Poliomyelitis)	Fever, headache, lethargy, nausea and vomiting	Stay at home until a doctor has given a certificate of recovery.
Rubella (German measles)	Often mild or no symptoms: mild fever, runny nose, swollen lymph glands, pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time	Keep home from school for at least 4 days after the rash appears
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Starts with a running nose, followed by persistent cough that comes in bouts. Bouts maybe followed by vomiting and a whooping sound as the child gasps for air	Keep home from school until the first 5 days of an antibiotic course has been completed

# Common Childhood Illnesses

Sometimes it's hard to know if your child is really coming down with something or not. Here's some information on common childhood illnesses.

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<b>ILLNESS</b>	<b>SYMPTOMS</b>	<b>SCHOOL OR HOME</b>
Bronchitis	Cough is the main symptom of bronchitis. Other symptoms are a runny nose, sore throat and mild fever. The cough is often dry at first, becoming moist after a couple of days. There may be a slight wheeze and a feeling of shortness of breath.  A higher fever (typically above 39°C) may indicate pneumonia	Keep home from school until they are feeling better. Antibiotics may be needed.
Conjunctivitis	The eye feels scratchy, is red and may water. Lids may stick together on waking	Keep home from school while there is discharge from the eye unless a doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious cause
Diarrhoea (no organism identified)	Two or more consecutive bowel motions that are looser and more frequent than normal and possibly stomach cramps	Keep home from school until diarrhoea stops. (Wait 24 hours for little kids who may have trouble toileting.)
Fever	A temperature of 38.5 oC or more in school-aged children	Keep home from school until temperature returns to normal
Glandular Fever	Fever, headache, sore throat, tiredness, swollen nodes	They can go to school unless feeling sick
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease	Generally a mild illness caused by a virus, perhaps with a fever, blisters around the mouth, on the hands and feet, and perhaps the nappy area in babies.	Keep home from school until all blisters have dried up, and any rash (if present) has gone and any fever has resolved.
Hay fever	(Allergic rhinitis) caused by allergy to pollen (from grasses, flowers and trees), dust mites, animal fur or hair, mould spores, cigarette smoke	Sneezing, a blocked or runny nose (rhinitis), itchy eyes, nose and throat, headaches
Head lice or nits	Itchy scalp (sometimes), white specks stuck near the base of the hairs; lice may be found on the scalp	They can go to school as long as head lice management is ongoing
Hepatitis A	Often none in young children; sudden onset of fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools	Keep home from school for 2 weeks after first symptoms or 1 week after onset of jaundice. Contact your doctor before returning to school

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<b>ILLNESS</b>	<b>SYMPTOMS</b>	<b>SCHOOL OR HOME</b>
Hepatitis B	Often none in young children. When symptoms and signs do occur, they can include sudden onset of fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools	They can go to school if they have chronic hepatitis B unless they are feeling unwell. If they have hepatitis B symptoms, contact your doctor before returning to school
Impetigo (School sores)	Small red spots change into blisters that fill up with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp	Keep home from school until one day after antibiotic treatment starts. Sores and blisters should be covered with watertight dressings until all blisters have dried up
Molluscum Contagiosum	Multiple small lumps (2-5mm) on the skin that are smooth, firm and round, with dimples in the middle. In children, occur mostly on the face, trunk, upper arms and legs. Symptoms can last 6 months to 2 years	They can go to school
Ringworm	Small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring	Keep home from school for 24 hours after fungal treatment has begun
Runny nose	fever, sore throat, cough, rash or headache	They can go to school unless there are other symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough, rash or headache. Small children who have trouble wiping their own nose clean may need to stay home
Scabies	Itchy skin, worse at night. Worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, groin and between fingers and toes	Keep home from school until 24 hours after treatment has begun
Shigella	Diarrhoea (which may contain blood, mucus and pus), fever, stomach cramps, nausea and vomiting	Keep home from school until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours. Antibiotics may be needed to shorten the illness and reduce severity
Slapped Cheek Syndrome	Mild fever, red cheeks, itchy lace-like rash, and possibly cough, sore throat or runny nose	They can go to school as it is most infectious before the rash appears
Worms	The main sign of threadworms is an itchy bottom. Sometimes children feel 'out of sorts' and do not want to eat much. They may also have trouble sleeping, due to itching at night	They can go to school, but please treat

# Head Lice and Nits

## ***Pediculus humanus capitis***

*The head louse, or Pediculus humanus capitis, is a parasitic insect that can be found on the head, eyebrows, and eyelashes of people. Head lice feed on human blood several times a day and live close to the human scalp. Head lice are not known to spread disease.*

*Head lice are most common among primary school aged children and are spread by direct contact with the hair of the infested individual. Head lice are rarely transferred through clothing, hats, furniture or bedding.*

## ***The facts***

- head lice are one of the most commonly reported health complaints from parents and teachers
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via direct contact with the hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

## ***At a glance***

- Head lice and nits only live on human heads.
- They don't care if the hair is long or short, clean or dirty.
- Head lice are an unavoidable fact of life for all school-aged kids.
- The best and cheapest way to remove them is with inexpensive conditioner and a nit comb.
- You will need to re-treat your child several times before all the eggs will be gone.

## ***Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice***

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair



# Enrolment policy

## Information for parents

The Enrolment of Students in NSW Government Schools policy is in place to assist schools to meet their obligations under the *Education Act 1990* - to ensure that every student has a place at their local school. The policy also communicates to staff and the community a transparent enrolment process.

### Why was the enrolment policy revised?

Across the state, many communities are changing. Some are growing at rates never seen before. Some schools that used to be able to accept out-of-area enrolments, no longer have the room to do so.

The revised policy is designed to support schools to manage all enrolment applications, encourage greater consistency in decision-making and make sure the enrolment choices are clear for parents.

### What are the changes?

#### The enrolment cap

The enrolment cap is the number of students that can be enrolled at a school based on the school's permanent accommodation. The enrolment cap tells us whether the school may or may not have the capacity to accept non-local enrolments. It is not a target or limit on the number of local enrolments a school can take.

Each school with a local intake area will have a cap set by the department from Term 4 2019.

Within the enrolment cap, a number of enrolment places (the buffer) must be kept aside for the likely number of local students who will need to enrol during the year. For this reason, a school will not take non-local students once they reach their buffer, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

#### 100-point residential address check

Parents planning to enrol their child at a school that is near or at their buffer or cap will be asked to complete the 100-point residential address check to confirm they live within the school's designated intake area. This means you will need to provide documents to verify your child's current address.

So that schools only seek information relevant to your child's enrolment, a list of approved documents for the residential address check is available from the school or the department's website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/enrolment-of-students-in-nsw-government-schools>.

#### Selection criteria for non-local enrolment

Sibling enrolments are now clearly prioritised (where possible) and selection criteria for non-local enrolment will not include student ability, performance or achievement.



## What has not changed?

Schools will continue to enrol students who live in their local intake area, regardless of the school's cap status.

There are no changes to enrolment rights of siblings of non-local students. In schools with available places, each enrolment application is considered on its merits, including if siblings currently attend the school. If the school is below capacity, out-of-area applications for siblings of current students will be given enrolment priority.

Schools will continue to provide families with support and advice during the enrolment process, including assessment of exceptional and compelling circumstances particularly for vulnerable students and their families.

Schools will also continue to apply the policy fairly and consistently using transparent and accountable processes when making decisions around enrolment applications. Parents have a right to appeal to determine whether the stated processes have been applied in a procedurally fair manner.

## But what do the changes mean for me?

### What if my child is already enrolled but we do not live in that school's intake area?

Your child will remain enrolled at the school as the revised policy does not affect students already enrolled in NSW Government schools.

### We were in area when my child was enrolled in the school. The department has since changed the school's boundary and our residence is now out of area. I have other children and I want them all to go to the same school.

#### What are my options?

At times it is necessary for the department to make adjustments to a school's local enrolment intake area. This could mean a family with a child/children already enrolled is then outside the local intake area. When this happens, the family will still be able to enrol siblings together at the school, regardless of whether the school is over the buffer or cap.

### I already have a child enrolled as an out-of-area student in a NSW Government school. Can I enrol my other children at that school too?

This will depend on the capacity of the school:

- If the school is **not near its buffer**, then siblings should be able to be enrolled at the school. In fact, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is **nearing its buffer**, then the school will form a non-local enrolment panel. The panel considers non-local enrolment applications when the number of non-local applications received exceeds the number of places available below the buffer. Again, in this instance, siblings of students currently enrolled will be prioritised, where possible, over other non-local enrolment applications.
- If the school is **at capacity** they will not accept non-local enrolment applications unless there are exceptional circumstances.

### I have already accepted an offer for my child to attend a school in 2020 that is not my local school. What happens now?

The enrolment will proceed. Non-local enrolments accepted before Term 4 2019 for students starting in 2020 should not be affected.

### What is the criteria for enrolment in a school that is not my local school?

Schools that are able to accept non-local enrolment applications establish a non-local enrolment selection panel, if demand exceeds the number of places below the school's buffer.

Schools are required to make the selection criteria available to the school community.

### My circumstances are challenging and I think this school is best for my child. We live outside the school's intake area. What should I do?

We understand that not everyone's circumstances are the same, and that there are instances where exceptional circumstances will need to be considered.

Your circumstances should be discussed with the principal of your local school who can assist you to negotiate an out-of-area enrolment if there are exceptional and compelling circumstances.

## Contact

For general enquiries contact: 1300 679 332 or email: [DoEinfo@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:DoEinfo@det.nsw.edu.au)

For enrolment enquiries, speak to your local school. Find school contact details at: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/finding-a-public-school>