

Penrith South Public School



Information Book

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Opportunity Growth Success

Welcome to Penrith South Public School

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We at Penrith South Public School view the home and school as a working partnership in preparing your child to be a lifelong learner.

We hope this booklet will assist you as you enter this partnership by providing relevant information for you and your child. It will be a handy reference during the years ahead.

I feel confident that your child will become a happy member of our student body. The staff and I look forward to working with you to develop your child to his/her full potential.

Kerrie Beeby
Principal

At Penrith South Public School Students, Staff and Parents together will:

- Create a caring environment, conducive to sharing and working;
- Recognise and value individual achievement and worth;
- Pursue personal excellence;
- Promote the customs and expectations of our society;
- Assume our place in the wider world and accept its challenges;
- Plan and strive to be contributors to our future.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Address / Postal Address:

Penrith South Public School
172-190 Jamison Road
PENRITH NSW 2750

Phone: 4721 3160 **Fax:** 4731 1011

Email: penrithsth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website : www.penrithsth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

School Times: 8:58am – 2:55pm **Office Times:** 8:30am – 3:15pm

TERM DATES FOR 2019

❖ Term 1

Tuesday 29 January 2019 - Staff Development Day (Student Free Day)
Wednesday 30 January to Friday 12 April
Kindergarten students begin – Monday 4 February

❖ Term 2

Monday 29 April 2019 - Staff Development Day (Student Free Day)
Tuesday 30 April to Friday 5 July

❖ Term 3

Monday 22 July 2019 - Staff Development Day (Student Free Day)
Tuesday 23 July to Friday 27 September

❖ Term 4

Monday 14 October to Wednesday 18 December
Thursday 19 & Friday 20 December 2019 – Staff Development Days

KINDERGARTEN

The First Day



Your child's first day at school is an exciting and important event for both parents and children. We want every child to love coming to school as this closely relates to a love of learning.

Please convey a positive attitude about school. Prepare your child by explaining to him/her what to expect and answer all questions honestly. It is beneficial if your child has some experience with other people prior to starting school. Spending some time with another family member, for even an hour at a time, conditions your child to the idea of being separated from you (and you from them).

Your child will be allocated a starting time for his/her first day at school. This allows each child the opportunity to settle in a calm and organized environment. At the allocated time please bring your child to room 3 and sign them in. Leave your child and explain that you cannot stay but that you will be back to pick him/her up. We understand that leaving your child at school for the first time can be distressing for many parents/caregivers. Avoid "long goodbyes" and please ensure that you return on time to pick up your child.

If your child is upset at the prospect of starting school we suggest that you leave as soon as you can. Our experience has shown that children stop fretting very quickly, particularly if you treat leaving them at school as a happy, exciting and positive occasion. When children see their parents upset they themselves are more likely to follow suit and not settle.

Your child must adjust to mixing, playing and working with other children socially, emotionally and physically. They will learn to share, not only things but also time. The first few weeks in Kindergarten is a busy time adjusting to school, learning rules, and daily routines and understanding teacher's expectations.

WHAT TO BRING

All belongings (including shoes), must be labelled with your child's name. We recommend that school bags and lunch boxes have some tag or mark which the child recognises.

Each child should bring:

- a small snack for recess;
- lunch and drink in a plastic bottle or 'popper';
- a raincoat on wet days;
- a school hat;
- a handkerchief or tissues;
- a smock or old shirt for painting; and
- a library bag which is supplied during Kindergarten Orientation.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are held regularly in the School Hall. They are an integral part of the school program. Dates and times of upcoming assemblies are advertised in the newsletter and the school website. We welcome all parents and family members to the school assemblies.

The school assembly aims to:

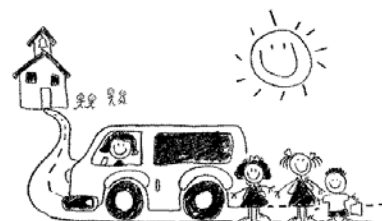
- develop school spirit;
- develop a feeling of belonging;
- provide opportunities for group and individual performance;
- develop patriotism; and
- recognise excellence by presenting awards.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is compulsory for all children between the ages of 6 and 17 years or once they have been officially enrolled. It is a requirement of the Department of Education and Communities that all absences for illness or changes to family routine be explained by way of a note to the class teacher by the parent/caregiver on the day the student resumes school. The date/s of the absence/s and the reason/s must be included in this written note. The note must be dated and signed by the parent/caregiver.

Late arrivals or early departures are termed partial absences and also require explanation. Notes for late arrivals should be obtained from the School Office before the student enters the classroom. If a parent/caregiver wishes to remove a student early from class, a signed departure note must be given to the class teacher stating the reason and time for the early departure. When collecting your child please visit the School Office first where you will be required to sign a release note. Your child will be called to the School Office for collection.

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds at any time unless a note is provided by the parent/caregiver and the student is accompanied by an adult.



A Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) visits the school regularly to assist with any problems that may occur with regular attendance.

BOOK CLUB



Each term, students have the opportunity to purchase discounted reading and other educational material from Scholastic Australia Book Club. Reading materials cater for different levels, ages and ability. Students receive a catalogue from which they may order.

If you wish to place an order, please complete the order form at the back of the catalogue and place it with the correct money in a clearly marked envelope in the Pay in Point (PIP), in the School Office prior to the due date.

Purchases through Book Club accrue a commission which enables the school to purchase valuable resources for the students.

CANTEEN

A canteen operates five days a week. Students may order their lunch by writing their order on a paper bag and taking it to the canteen in the morning. They may also purchase their recess and items before school.

There is an online ordering system available at our school which enables you to pre order and pay for your child's recess/lunch without having to go to the canteen.

Website: www.healthycanteen.com.au

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Research suggests that children whose parents are involved with their school see school as important and worthwhile. Involvement also has special benefits for parents by giving them an insight into the complexities of education and a greater appreciation of their child's school. Staff at Penrith South Public School encourage and welcome parents to become involved in all aspects of their child's learning.

Parents may assist in a variety of ways:

- in school organisations;
- in classrooms assisting with academic programs;
- in our sports' programs;
- covering books; and
- home reading and tutor programs.

P & C ASSOCIATION

The Parents' and Citizens' Association welcomes all parents to its monthly meetings held during the school year in Room 24 at 9.15am. Meeting dates and times are communicated through the school newsletter and website.

The P & C is the principal forum for parental discussion on matters relating to the school and plays a vital role in the functioning of the school through communication and fund raising. At Penrith South Public School we believe that parents and the school are partners in the education of our children and the best learning occurs when this partnership is strong.

We encourage and welcome all parents to attend the P & C meetings.

COOL KIDS MUSIC PROGRAM

Cool Kids is a Music Tuition program available to those wishing to learn a musical instrument. Tuition is done in a group setting. More information can be found at www.coolkidsmusic.com.au

COUNSELLING SERVICES

The School Counsellor visits the school each week. The Counsellor assists staff in assessing student's learning needs and/or helping to compile educational, performance or behavioural programs. The Counsellor is an experienced teacher with special training in child psychology and development.

The parent/caregiver will be contacted if the classroom teacher deems it necessary for a student to consult the Counsellor. A referral will be completed by the class teacher and the Counsellor will contact the parent/caregiver before conducting an interview with the student.

If you would like your child to be referred to the Counsellor please discuss your concerns with the Principal, class teacher or Stage Supervisor.

Following assessment, the Counsellor will advise the parent/caregiver of the outcome and follow-up programs that may be initiated.

CURRICULUM

Six Key Learning Areas

Penrith South Public School caters for the needs of all children in our community and we are proud of the academic, cultural, social and sporting achievements of our students.

In our classrooms at Penrith South, care and discipline are woven into the learning tasks. Students are assisted to achieve the highest possible standards in a secure and happy environment.

Penrith South Public School offers a balanced education for the whole person ~ emotionally, socially, physically, morally and intellectually. Our range of subjects allows each individual every opportunity to lay solid foundations for their future and to reach their individual potential.

The staff are dedicated to developing your child's potential.

Penrith South Public School adheres strictly to the curriculum guidelines set by the Department of Education and Communities. The staff make every effort to present programs in an interesting and motivational manner.

The Department of Education and Communities requires every public school to teach subjects which are grouped within Six Key Learning Areas (K.L.A.s):

- **English:** Interesting activities based on a central theme or text will include experiences in reading, writing, talking and listening. We encourage parents to take an interest in reading and writing, by encouraging students to borrow regularly from the school and Penrith libraries and completing take home reader tasks.
- **Mathematics:** Concepts which will be covered are incorporated in Number, Measurement and Space and Geometry, Patterns and Algebra and Data.
- **Science and Technology:** Students will explore the natural and technical realms of the world we live in. They will experience designing, modelling and adjusting designs to make working models to suit the topic they are studying. Students use technology to support teaching and learning activities across all Key Learning Areas.
- **Human Society and It's Environment (HSIE):** Studies incorporated vary from the local community to Australian resources and our trading neighbours. Students will be exposed to information and fact gathering exercises and will learn about people, societies, cultures and environments.

- **Physical Education/Health/Personal Development (PE/H/PD):** Students will develop skills in a number of activities. Through participation in these programs students enjoy themselves, interact with other students, attempt to improve on their personal best and become aware of healthy mind and body practices.
- **Creative Arts:** This K.L.A. concentrates on students making art work, listening to and performing musical items and dramatic expression. Development of practical skills receives equal emphasis with creativity and originality of approach.

EXTRA PROGRAMS

Choir and Dance The children have the opportunity to be involved with Dance and Choir groups which perform at various events. Penrith South also has a specialist music teacher which some classes are fortunate to experience.

Gymnastics Children at Penrith South have the opportunity to participate in a gymnastics program which runs for a term.

CUSTODY OF STUDENTS

As the welfare and safety of our students is our first priority, the school must be advised immediately of any custody matters that may affect the wellbeing of your child. If a divorce has occurred, a family is separated, or one parent is denied access to a child, this information must be advised to the Principal.

A photocopy of any court order denying a parent access to a child must be held by the school before access can be denied. Schools are bound to act upon legal documentation and cannot prevent access of a non-custodial parent unless it has a copy of the court order preventing access. Such matters will be treated with sensitivity and confidentiality.

Should custody arrangements change at any time it is essential that the Principal is notified in writing.

ENROLMENTS

All students enrolling from interstate or a non-government school must provide proof of birth date and place of residence. It is a legal requirement that the school sight either a current passport or a full birth certificate noting the child's full name and date of birth. Proof of residence can be provided by way of original copies of a council rates notice, residential lease, electricity accounts or statutory declaration.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

Most students who attend our school enrol in one of the local High Schools upon completing Year 6.

Students who achieve particularly well in Year 6 may be eligible for Selective High School placement. Advice can be sought from this school regarding the Selective High Schools test. However, it remains the parents' decision as to whether the student undertakes the test.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

All children who are turning 5 years of age before 31 July of the year they start school are eligible to enrol.

Enrolments for Kindergarten are accepted from the beginning of Term 2 in the year preceding that in which the child is due to start school. An Application for Enrolment form must be completed and is available from the School Office.

Kindergarten Orientation is held in Term 4. Parents and children are invited to three orientation sessions. These sessions assist the children in becoming familiar with the school environment and routine, and gives the teachers an opportunity to observe the student in the school setting. Parents and caregivers will be invited to attend an information session at each orientation.

Parents will be advised by letter of the dates for Kindergarten Orientation.

NON-LOCAL ENROLMENTS

Schools may accept some non-local enrolments. All non-local enrolment enquiries should be made directly to the Principal.

TRANSFERS TO OTHER SCHOOLS

When a student transfers to another NSW government school the parent/caregiver must advise the school in writing before the student departs. Once the student presents for enrolment at the new school all records will be forwarded.

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are an integral part of the educational program. Whilst adding academic value, excursions also develop a student's social skills. Students in all grades participate in day excursions throughout the year. Parents/caregivers may be invited to assist with excursions and school activities.

Students in Stage 3 may participate in overnight excursions.

Students **will not be permitted** to attend excursions unless payment and a signed permission note are received from the parent/caregiver by the due date.

We understand that excursions and school activities may place a financial strain on some families. If financial circumstances prevent your child from undertaking an educational activity we urge you to contact the Principal to discuss the matter. Every attempt will be made to arrange a solution. Please do not hesitate to ask for help.

HEALTH

STUDENT HEALTH

If a child is taken ill at school or suffers an injury of significance, the school will make every attempt to contact the parent/caregiver or one of the people you have nominated as your emergency contact person. If contact with you or your nominee is not possible, the child will be made comfortable at school. In the case of illness or accident where the matter is urgent the school will call an ambulance. If it is necessary to call an ambulance, the school is covered by an Ambulance Fund ensuring free transport.

It is important that the school is notified of any changes to contact numbers or emergency contacts.

If your child is ill before school, it is a fair indication that the child will need close supervision at home for the day. The child should not be sent to school.

Designated officers administer first aid to children who have sustained minor injuries by way of cleaning wounds with water and dressing them. Medication by way of Aspirin is NOT administered at school.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

It is not the usual practice of this school to administer medication to students. If your child is required to take medication for a short term ailment such as the flu, we ask that you administer the medication before and after school. A small number of our students require long term medication at school. Based on Departmental requirements, the following arrangements apply:



Medication must be taken to the School Office together with instructions for its dispensation, detailing the time and dosage. You will be required to sign a Deed of Indemnity, Request for Support at School of a Student's Health Condition and Request for Administering Prescribed Medication to the Student. You may also be required to have a form completed by your family doctor regarding the medication.

Students are not permitted to keep any form of medication in their bags at any time.

If your child has a long term illness which requires supervision or medication, please discuss your requirements with the Principal.

INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES

Certain common illnesses and conditions spread rapidly among children. Where a student has not been immunised for a particular disease, should that disease 'breakout' the un-immunised student may be excluded from school. We ask that the school be advised immediately of any infectious disease as soon as it is diagnosed.

If a child contracts any of the communicable diseases and the parent is unsure of how long the child should remain absent from school, the Department of Health or the local doctor should be contacted.

Further information can be gained from the Department of Health website:

www.health.nsw.gov.au/topics/index.html

The Department of Health advises of the following minimal periods of absence. Where a child returns to school and is obviously not fully recovered and/or is feeling uncomfortable in the school situation, the parent/caregiver will be contacted to take the child home.

Illness	Exclusion Time
Measles	5 days from appearance of rash
Rubella (German Measles)	7 days from appearance of rash
Mumps	10 days from onset of swelling
Chicken Pox	7 days from appearance of spots
Ringworm	All evidence of disease has disappeared OR on a medical certificate
Impetigo (School sores)	Only if sores are not covered or on exposed areas such as the face
Scabies	All evidence of disease has disappeared or on a medical certificate
Pediculosis (Head Lice)	Until hair is completely free of the infection – lice and eggs
Conjunctivitis	Until discharge from eyes has ceased

PEANUT AWARE ZONE!

We have a number of children in this school who have an allergic reaction to peanuts and peanut products. As you may be aware, peanut allergy can be life threatening or, at the least, require ambulance attention.

As a result we ask that children DO NOT bring peanut products such as peanut butter sandwiches, Nutella sandwiches, peanuts or peanut products, or nut bars to school.

IMMUNISATION

It is the policy of the Department of Education and Communities to request an Immunisation Certificate for each child starting Kindergarten. These are issued by the doctor/nurse following the five year old booster. If a child does not present an Immunisation Certificate upon enrolment he/she may be excluded from school should any incidence of an illness covered by immunisation occur at the school.

CRUNCH and SIP

Crunch and Sip is a 5-10 minute time slot in the morning session where the children can bring into class a small piece of fruit or vegetable to eat and a small bottle of water only to drink.

HOMEWORK

In order to develop desirable habits and consolidate work completed at school it is expected that students in Years 3 to 6 complete regular homework assignments and tasks. In determining the amount of homework given, due consideration is given to the ages and stages of development of the students. Students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 are encouraged to do some home practice, particularly in reading, spelling and maths.

Homework is a means of:

- improving communication between home and school;
- involving parents positively in their child's education;
- developing productive independent study habits;
- developing the ability to effectively organise and use time; and
- practising and consolidating skills and understanding.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any specific information you require to further assist you with your child's homework.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The use of information technology at Penrith South Public School:

- ◆ supports student-centred learning;
- ◆ promotes the development of information and communication skills; and
- ◆ encourages collaboration, creativity and critical thinking.

The multimedia presentation of the Internet suits a range of teaching and learning styles and can be highly motivating for students. Our students use a range of technologies including computers, printers and communications technology.

A computer room has been established in the library and there are computers in every classroom to support the learning program. A wide range of software including new interactive whiteboards (Smartboards), is used to compliment, reinforce and extend classroom work.

The staff at Penrith South Public School follow set procedures in regard to inappropriate use of the Internet and e-mail. Students are ultimately responsible for their own behaviour and the appropriate use of this valuable resource.

Students must adhere to the following rules:

1. have a specific educational purpose;
2. ask the teacher before they print any material;
3. have the teacher edit any e-mail prior to sending; and
4. notify the teacher immediately if they discover any inappropriate material.

INTERVIEWS

Parents are always welcome to arrange interviews with staff members. If you wish to discuss any concerns with the classroom teacher we ask that an appointment be made at a mutually convenient time through the School Office.

Parents are invited to attend Parent/Teacher interviews held during the year. This time provides a valuable opportunity for both teachers and parents to share information. A written report on your child's academic progress is sent home twice a year. If you have any concerns regarding your child's progress please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

LIBRARY

The Library supports the educational program providing access to a range of instructional and recreational materials.

We are very proud of our large and well equipped library. We have over 15,000 books as well as support materials for teaching staff. Each class has one time-tabled session with the Teacher-Librarian each week. The library is also used at other times by individuals and classes for research. It is also open during the second half of lunch three days a week. During these times students are encouraged to visit the library to browse.

They may exchange and borrow books.



Students wishing to borrow books to take home must have a library bag in order to help protect library books. Borrowed books must be returned to the Library by the due date.

Replacement of lost or damaged books will be at the cost of the parent or caregiver.

LOST PROPERTY

Students enjoy bringing their new or treasured possessions to show for news or class sharing times. We appreciate their desire to do so but recommend that valuable items not be brought to school as staff are unable to assume responsibility for any items of a personal nature.

Lost property is an unnecessary cost to parents. Please ensure your child's name is CLEARLY labelled on all belongings and clothing.

We expect all students to treat the property of others as they would wish their own property to be treated. This includes taking possessions found directly to the teachers in charge of lost property.

MATHLETICS and READING EGGS

Mathletics and Reading Eggs are interactive educational programs which provide extra support and activities to Literacy and Numeracy. Penrith South supports these programs and gives your child 24/7 access to these sites during allocated class time and at home.

MOBILE PHONES

Students are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school. The mobile phone **MUST** be handed in at the School Office in the morning before the commencement of school and collected by the student after the afternoon bell. Students must sign their own phone in and out.

MONEY COLLECTION

Payments for excursions, sport or any school activities should be placed in an envelope, clearly marked with the student's name, class, reason for payment and permission slip if required. As we are unable to give change, the **correct money must be provided**. These envelopes must be placed in the Pay In Point (known as PIP) in the School Office by the due date. Payment can be made by cash or cheque, payable to Penrith South Public School only.

There is no need to use multiple envelopes or cheques when making payments to the school. You are welcome to:

- use the same envelope for all the children in the same family; or
- use the same envelope with one payment for different excursions.

However, it would be appreciated if you could send a **separate permission note for each child**. You may obtain a copy of the permission note from the School Office or from the school website by visiting the calendar option.

A receipt is printed for transactions over \$10.00 and returned to the student via the class teacher.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter contains valuable information regarding calendar dates, news, excursion information, details of P&C Association meetings and events that happen at Penrith South Public School. It is also a way of celebrating student's success and demystifying various educational issues.

The newsletter is sent home fortnightly on a Wednesday with the **eldest child** in the family. Parents have the option of receiving it by email. Please advise the front office of your email address.

A copy of the newsletter is also placed on the school website at: www.penrithsth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

OSH CLUB

Osh Club is a Before and After School Care Program for children who attend Penrith South Public School. They also provide Holiday Programs. Childcare Benefits and Rebates available. More information can be found at www.oshclub.com.au or 02 83555300

PARKING FOR PARENTS

To ensure the safety of our students, cars **MUST** be parked outside the school grounds. There is ample parking available at the eastern end of Jamison Road and along Evan Street. Parents are asked to abide by the rule **NO PARKING IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS**. For the safety of all students we ask that you do not walk your children through the staff car park.

To ensure the flow of taxi transport for the Special Education students, **the car park off Evan Street is strictly for staff and taxi services.**

PHOTOGRAPHS

Each year a professional photographer is engaged by the school to take class and other group photographs.

An envelope will be sent home showing the photographic packages available for purchase. The front of the envelope must be completed with your child's name and class and your indication of package required. The **exact** money must be placed in the envelope and returned to the school on the day of the photographs. No change will be available as the school does not manage this transaction.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

A variety of religious instruction opportunities is available to all students during a half-hourly weekly lesson on Tuesdays. Local church groups provide teachers to deliver religious instruction. All students are encouraged to attend.

If you do not wish your child to participate please notify the school in writing. Students not attending religious instruction are supervised and provided with alternate activities during scripture time.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The first day of Terms 1 to 3 are school development days. These days are placed aside for staff development and professional learning, curriculum and school organisation.

Students are not required to attend school on these days.

SCHOOL HOURS

8:58am – 10:50am	Morning classes
10:50am – 11:35am	Lunch
11:35am – 1:20pm	Mid morning classes
1:20pm – 1:55pm	Afternoon tea
1:55pm – 2:55pm	Afternoon classes
2:55pm	School concludes



Students should not be at school before 8.30am each day as there is no supervision provided.

We enjoy and appreciate the support and help we get from our parent community. However, for Occupational Health and Safety reasons, student safety, and the importance of child protection we must insist that all parents dropping their children off at the school between 8:30am and 9:00am do so and leave the school grounds immediately. With almost 400 students, some with disabilities, arriving before 9:00am teachers on duty need to be able to supervise the students. Cars, prams, toddlers and extra people in the playground make this situation a potentially dangerous one.

It would also be appreciated if parents and caregivers do not enter the school grounds prior to 2:50pm to collect children.

Parents assisting with classroom programs must visit the School Office before going to the classroom to sign in and collect their visitor's pass. Once your business at the school is completed you must sign out and return your visitor's pass prior to leaving the school grounds. Under the requirements of OH&S and Child Protection all visitors to the school between the hours of 9:00am and 2:50pm **must** be wearing a visitor's pass. Please go directly to the School Office to sign in and collect the visitor's pass.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear the school uniform at Penrith South Public School. We believe that the wearing of school uniforms gives the child a feeling of wellbeing, and belonging to the school. It also encourages school pride.

Students are not permitted to wear make-up or nail polish and only minimal jewellery must be worn.

The official school uniform is listed below:

WINTER UNIFORM

BOYS

Maroon sports top with gold trim & school logo,
Maroon tracksuit (no white stripes)
Maroon jacket, cardigan, jumper
Long grey trousers
Black footwear and grey socks

GIRLS

Maroon sports top with gold trim & school logo,
Maroon tracksuit (no white stripes) or pants
Maroon jacket, cardigan or jumper
Black footwear and white socks

SUMMER UNIFORM

BOYS

Maroon sports top with gold trim & school logo,
Grey shorts or sports shorts
Maroon jacket
Black footwear and grey socks

GIRLS

Cotton dress uniform with white collar
Maroon sports shorts with Maroon sports top
Maroon jacket
Black footwear and white socks

SPORT UNIFORM

BOYS

Maroon shorts with school logo
Maroon sports top with gold trim and school logo
School sport socks (Brisbane Broncos colours)
maroon with yellow stripes

GIRLS

Maroon skorts/netball skirt with school logo
Maroon sports top with gold trim and school logo

Please note that bike pants and ski pants are not acceptable.

The school uniform, except sport socks and the school hat is available from:
Prestige Creations,
3/2 Peachtree Road, Penrith NSW 2750

Phone: 4727 2622.

The sport socks are available at Rebel, Westfield Penrith.

The school policy of **“No Hat, Sit in the Shade”** states that all students must wear the school hat in the playground. It is a maroon broad-brimmed hat with the gold embroidered logo.

A selection of sizes is available for purchase from the School Office at \$10.00 each.

SPORT

Sport is a core unit of the P.D. Health and P.E. Syllabus.

A wide range of sporting activities encourage students to:

- participate in sporting programs;
- develop sporting skills;
- improve their physical fitness; and
- develop recreational skills for later life.

Students from Kindergarten to Year 2 participate in sport and gross motor activities as well as fitness once a week. Years 3 to 6 School Sport is organised on a team basis and involves the students rotating through selected activities to increase their level of skill development.

If your child is unable to participate in sporting activities due to illness please send a written note to the classroom teacher.

Students in Years 3 to 6 participate in P.S.S.A. Sport on a Friday. P.S.S.A. Sport may include cricket, netball and soccer. We compete in District Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals. At Penrith South Public School we have a proud record of students competing at District and Regional levels. Some of our students have achieved the highest honour by having been selected to compete at State Level.

Students in Kindergarten to Year 6 are divided into four house teams, according to their surname. The house and colours are:

House Name	Surname Range	House Colour
Gordon	A – E	Green
Kendall	F – K	Red
Lawson	L – P	Yellow
Paterson	Q – Z	Blue

STUDENT WELFARE

Our school has a Student Welfare Policy which provides for and promotes a caring and supportive environment for students, teachers and support staff. The Policy has been developed by the teachers and parents of our school.

The Welfare and Discipline Policy at Penrith South Public School endeavours to ensure the provisions of a safe, happy and healthy learning environment for students, parents and staff and equity for all children to address their needs. These standards will be met through the following school rules:

- follow all instructions by teachers and other staff;
- stay in bounds;
- keep your hands and feet to yourself;
- show respect to other people and their property;
- walk on all paved areas;
- keep our school clean;
- speak nicely at all times;
- show respect to each other, all teachers, staff and parent helpers;
- respect the rights of others without discrimination; and
- behave in an appropriate manner to ensure your right to represent your school. (This means that a child's behaviour at school will determine his/her right to attend school excursions, out of school sporting activities and other special school functions).

TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

BIKES

Children are permitted to ride their bikes to and from school. By law, children **MUST** wear a bicycle safety helmet. Children are not allowed to ride their bikes in school grounds. Skateboards and roller blades are **not** permitted at school. A bike rack is available for securing bikes at pupils' own risk.

BUS TRAVEL

Many of our students travel to and from school by bus. We ask that parents work with us in establishing safe and sensible behaviour whilst travelling.

Our school is serviced by three bus runs, two operating from Jamison Road and one from Evan Street. On arrival at school, children must move immediately to the security of the school grounds. In the afternoon, students are supervised by the teacher on duty at bus stops inside the school grounds until boarding their bus.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE BUSES

Many students travel to and from school on the before and after school care buses. Please advise the school if there is a change in the arrangements for travel for your child.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

A pedestrian crossing with traffic lights exists on Jamison Road. Students wishing to cross Jamison Road must use this crossing. A pedestrian crossing with a crossing attendant operates at Evan Street.

We encourage parents and caregivers to model safe behaviour. Encourage your child to live safely and insist upon a high standard of pedestrian care.

UPDATING STUDENT INFORMATION

In order that we are able to contact the parent quickly in the event of illness or accident we ask that the school is notified as soon as there is a change in circumstances. These changes include address, phone numbers, emergency contacts and custody issues.

Notification of any changes must be in writing on a 'Change of Contact Details' form which is available in the Front Office or in the form of a written advice.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

All visitors to the school must do the following:

- report to the School Office;
- sign the Visitor's Book; and
- wear the name tag supplied at the office.

This policy has been implemented for:

- *The safety and welfare of our students* – if visitors are wearing a name tag, then students are confident that the visitor has reported to the School office and is permitted to be within the school grounds; and
- *The safety and welfare of visitors* – should there be a need for an evacuation then the Principal is able to account for all persons present within the school grounds.

WEBSITES

We hope that the following websites will be of assistance to you.

WELCOME TO NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.schools.nsw.edu.au

PARENT FOLDER INFORMATION SHEETS

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schooldays

STARTING SCHOOL INFORMATION

Time To Start School

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/gotoschool/ttss.pdf

Starting School Checklist

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/gotoschool/ttss_check.pdf

School Orientation Vodcast

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezine/yr2009/issue03/watch/index.php

School Handbook

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/index.php

SCHOOL CALENDAR

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar

STUDENT HEALTH

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/studenthealth

HEALTHY KIDS

www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

RTA SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY

www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/children

SCHOOL PLEDGE

In love and truth
I shall honour my beliefs

In loyalty and pride
I shall honour my country

In courtesy and love
I shall honour my neighbour

In honest work and good behaviour
I shall honour my school.

SCHOOL CREED

This is our school
May it be a peaceful and happy place
May we enjoy learning
And build a love of knowledge

May we be kind in our work and play
And grow to love all that is true and honest

So that when we leave this school
We take with us the will to do and serve.



Opportunity Growth Success

