

BONDI BULLETIN

The latest news and updates from Bondi Public School



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

- Thu 9th - Last day of Term 1
- Tue 28th - First day of Term 2

Principal's Report

I'm still not used to seeing the shores of our beautiful Bondi Beach deserted but this will be our new normal for a few more months to come. This morning I have spent a little time reflecting on the last few weeks and I'm incredibly proud, once again, of our school community.

Although new to online learning, our students have demonstrated resilience, flexibility and an ongoing commitment to their education. I've seen many examples across the school of students engaging in learning activities at home and trying their very best. They are having a go at completing the tasks set by their teachers and accessing Microsoft Teams and Google classrooms to check in with their classes.

The incredible staff at BPS have transitioned to online learning in record time. Teachers regularly evaluate online learning tasks and have actively sought feedback from parents on ways that we can improve and simplify learning at home. We are working towards ensuring that every online activity is delivered with an explanatory video describing the task, sharing exemplars and setting expectations.

The Department has approved the use of Zoom meetings in public schools across the state so we will be moving towards using this platform across the school in Term 2 in place of Microsoft Teams. In order to ensure an appropriate level of security, students are to use their Department login details when accessing this platform. Follow this link for instructions on '[How students can access Zoom meetings in NSW public schools](#)'.

The transition to online learning has, without a doubt, been a challenge for parents and families around the world. I've had many phone conversations with parents who feel as though they can't manage, that they're letting their kids down and that juggling working from home, toddlers and online learning is near impossible. As a parent myself I understand the complexities that families are facing at the moment. **My advice is to slow down and be kind to yourselves.** What I want, first and foremost, is for our students and their families to be healthy, safe and happy. If your family has been struggling then please take careful note of the information below.

There will be many ups and downs on this online learning journey. Some days your children will submit outstanding work and other days they will submit nothing at all. I want you to know that this is OK. Our students very rarely work at the same level or at the same pace, so try not to compare yourselves with other families. In addition to that, our teachers are degree-trained professionals, with many years of classroom experience, and you cannot replace them or do their job and we certainly don't expect this of you. You are however a critical partner in this home-supported learning environment and some of the steps for success that will make a big difference for your child's learning are:

- creating an orderly environment for learning, for example, by limiting distractions
- helping to set and reinforce routines and timetables
- supporting children to be ready for learning, including ensuring they have the materials they need
- accepting that the work your child completes is good enough - mistakes and all
- engaging in meaningful conversations about learning
- communicating with your child's teacher if you need additional support or devices

The two weeks over the holidays are a wonderful opportunity to rest up and reconnect with family and friends - even if it's only via video conferencing. If you do happen to run out of things to do with your kids over the holidays, the Department has released some [fun activities](#) that you can all enjoy.

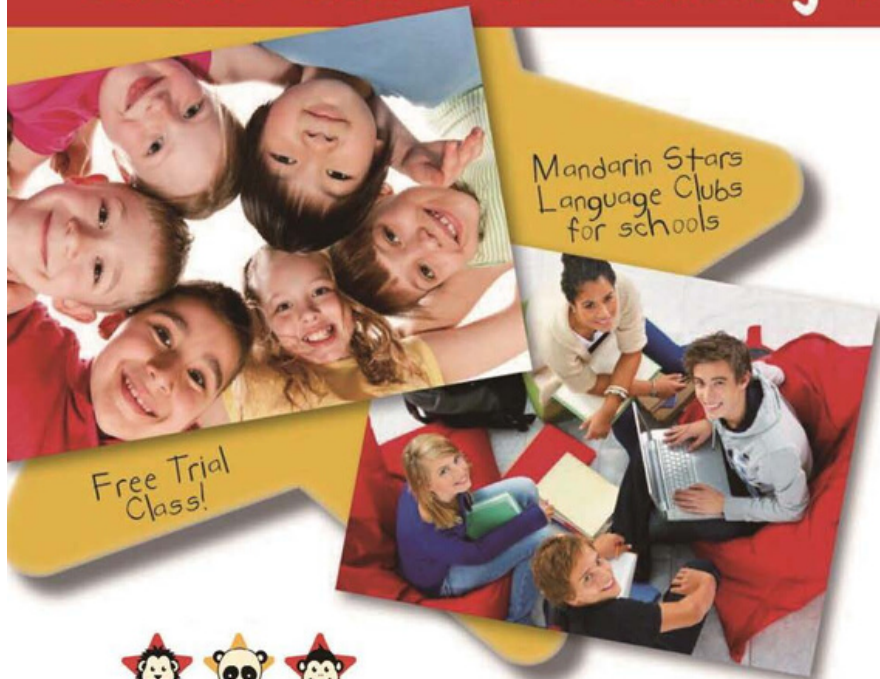
Next term will see our school operate in the same capacity as it currently is. Our school will remain open for students whose parents are not able to supervise them at home as well as for students who are vulnerable. As always, students in attendance will be made to feel welcome. If there are any changes to this advice over the school holidays I will update you via Dojo.

Our community was also informed earlier in the week that I have agreed to stay on at BPS in the capacity of Acting Principal during this very difficult period. I must admit I was saddened by the prospect of leaving BPS without saying goodbye to students, families and staff face-to-face! I now have a little hope that this may still be possible.

Enjoy the Easter break and see you next term!

Mrs Olivia Parry
Acting Principal

Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin



mandarin stars
ONLINE

NEW Online Mandarin Classes **The Mandarin Stars program offers:**

- An engaging program that will inspire a love for learning Chinese.
- An immersion-based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, Chinese songs & rhymes!
- The teaching of Chinese characters, reading, writing and Pin Yin.
- The discovery of Chinese history, culture & festivals!

*Online classes are available from Term 2 on:

Weekdays:

Kindergarten- Year 2: 4pm- 4.45pm

Years 3-6: 5pm- 5.45pm

Saturday: 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm
(for 3 different levels)

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sarah@mandarinstars.com.au

www.mandarinstarsonline.com

www.mandarinstarsonline.com ★ enrol@mandarinstars.com.au ★ Ph: 1800 18 11 18