

Welcome to Early Stage One (ES1)

February 12th, 2021

Welcome to Barnier PS. We hope you and your families had a lovely, relaxing break. We are excited to be back and are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. Mrs. Hayley Thompson (Early Stage One Assistant Principal) will oversee all Kindergarten. The 2021 classes are as follows:

Early Stage One Staff			
KB	Miss Stephanie Barnes	KN	Mrs Natasa Ristic
KI	Miss Hazal Izci	KR	Miss Rahana Rahmatullah
KM	Mr Daniel Mackay	KT	Mrs Hayley Thompson

The Kindergarten teachers are an enthusiastic team who are ready to get 2021 underway. Kindergarten is an important time for students to develop their basic literacy and numeracy skills, plus to develop their love of learning. We are excited to embark on this journey of growth with you and your child over the coming year.

Important Times

School Start:	8:45am (8:30am is a good time to arrive at school)
Recess Eating:	10:35am
Recess Play:	10:45 – 11:10am
Lunch Eating:	1:05 – 1:15pm
Lunch Play:	1:15 – 1:40pm
School Finish:	2:45pm

Drop off and pick up

Teachers are on duty from 8:15am. Students can be dropped at the school gate after this time and walk down to their classrooms. School finishes at 2:45pm. Students are required to be collected at 2:45pm. Any students not collected at this time will be taken to the office and parents or emergency contacts will be called. If you are unable to collect your child and make arrangements with another adult to collect, please contact the school office in a timely manner so the classroom teacher can be notified. The classroom teacher will not release your child without notification.

Absences

If your child is absent from school, please send a note to their classroom teacher upon their return. Please include your child's name, class, date of absence, reason for absence (sickness/leave) and your signature or alternatively fill out an absent form through the Parent Portal on Sentral app. If your child is ill or exhibiting signs of illness it is strongly encouraged they are kept home until all symptoms cease. If they are displaying any signs of a cold or flu they must be Covid tested and kept home until all symptoms have ceased to avoid the spread of illnesses. A clearance letter of a negative Covid test must be provided to the office before returning to school.

Weekly Stage Timetable

Assembly:	Even Week Wednesdays – 2:00pm (No parents)
Stage Sport:	Wednesday
Library:	Semester One: Friday

A copy of your child's classroom timetable will be published on your class SeeSaw or Dojo.

Sport Days

For stage sport children can wear sport runners and Barnier Public School sport uniform. Occasionally we have major sport functions such as Cross Country and Athletics. On those days' children are able to wear their house colour shirt. Rafter -Red, O'neil -Blue, Freeman – Yellow & Waugh–Green. We will send a note home closer to when these events are happening. The Barnier P&C have optional sport shirts available for purchase for these special events and they will send home a note when purchasing of these shirts is available.

Homework

Homework for ES1 will commence in Week 4. Homework for Semester One will consist of online literacy and mathematics activities on the SeeSaw platform and starting in term two a home reading card will be sent home in a document folder. Parents and students were given access to their SeeSaw profile in student's transition packs in 2020. If you have not used your login for a period of time you will require a new one and these Individual Seesaw invitations will be sent home shortly by your class teacher. Homework will be issued on Monday and marked online by the teachers at a convenient time.

Skoolbag App

This is Barnier Public School's digital platform for keeping parents updated with notes, events and more including absence notifications. It is available for download on both android and apple devices. Once downloaded you can connect to Barnier Public School and join the Early Stage One group to keep updated. All information is also published on our website and paper notes are also sent home frequently so it is recommended that you check your child's bag daily.

Stationery

The stationery requirements for ES1 are available to view online on the School Website and on Barnier Public School's 'SkoolBag' App. We ask for frequent donations of wet wipes and paper towels.

Crunch and Sip

Our school is a 'Crunch and Sip' school. Crunch and Sip is a short break in the morning where children can eat vegetables or fruit and drink water. In Kindergarten it can be difficult for your children to juggle their lunchboxes, so it is preferred that Crunch and Sip is packed in a separate container that is quick and easy to access.

Birthday Celebrations

In Kindergarten we love celebrating birthdays as much as the children! However, in 2021 due to COVID restrictions we are unable to accept edible class birthday gifts that have been made at home or are not individually packaged. This includes party bags that are made at home as items have been handled. To make things easier and equitable, if you plan on sending something in, we ask that it is an individually pre-packaged stationery item, Frozen Zooper Doopers, Pre-packaged store-bought lollies, lollipops etc. If you have any questions in regard to this, please see your child's teacher.

Digital Stories

In ES1 we use digital platforms to share some aspects of your child's journey in the classroom. This year your classroom teacher will be using one of two platforms to share photos and anecdotes with you. These will be ClassDojo or SeeSaw. Your teacher will send home a note outlining how to connect to your class platform.

Reporting and Progress

Barnier Public School formally reports on your child's progress three times a year. We have written reports at the end of each semester in Term 2 and Term 4 along with three-way face-to-face conferences in Term 1. If a need arises for you to discuss your child's progress, your classroom teacher is available for a formal appointment. Your classroom teacher's availability is dependent on their other school commitments and will be communicated to you.

Communicating with your class teacher

Our first priority is our duty of care to all students as they come into class for the day. **Please avoid catching the teacher on their way into class in the morning, as this can deter their attention from the safety of the children.** An informal conversation is best held at the end of the day after the children have been released. There are three ways to formally communicate with your classroom teacher.

1. Formal appointments for a face to face meeting can be made through the school office. Call **98371600**
2. Email contact can be made through the school office and maybe forwarded to your class teacher where appropriate. You are not able to email your classroom teacher directly.
Email: barnier-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
3. Phone conferences can be requested through the school office – A message will be forwarded to your classroom teacher and they will call you back at a convenient time.

If you wish to discuss anything with the stage Assistant Principal, you can follow the same processes outlined above with attention to: **Hayley Thompson**

How you can support your child's learning at home

One of the most important ways you can support your child at home is to read with them for 10 or more minutes a day. You can have them read to you, you read to them or you read the words together. Discuss the book with your child, ask them literal questions about the story and talk about the characters and beginning, middle and end of the story. You can play simple maths games such as snap, memory and go fish to help your child recognise numbers. Assist them with their homework and talk about their day. Encourage them to pack their own lunchbox, schoolbag and fill up their drink bottle. Play games where they are required to share and take turns and assist them in building their resilience for changes in routines.

Barnier Parent and Community

The Barnier P & C are always looking for enthusiastic parents to assist with school events and fundraising. If you are interested in helping, please email: barnierpublicschool-pres@pandcaffiliate.org.au

We hope that you have a wonderful year and look forward to working in partnership to develop your child's growth and progress in primary school. We look forward to an exciting and productive 2020.

Kindergarten Teachers

Mrs. Hayley Thompson
Relieving Assistant Principal

Mrs. Mandy Hollis
Principal