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Education



*Great opportunities—personal attention*

TERM 4 WEEK 7 29th November 2019

## FROM THE OFFICE

**ABSENT NOTES:** Please ring the school when your child is sick or provide a note or Doctor's certificate if your child has been away for an extensive length of time. Sick notes can also be emailed to the school.

**HATS:** All students need to wear a school hat. Many children are coming to school without their hats and this can't be happening. Hats are \$13 each and are available from the office. We follow a NO HAT NO PLAY policy.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:** Please make sure that all students are in full school Uniform we have second hand jumpers and jackets that you are welcome to come and look through. Uniform needs to be paid for on the day of purchase either with cash or a parent online payment.



## BUSHFIRES

The last few weeks have been quite stressful due to the fire that managed to impact Putty to the north and Colo Heights to the south. I would like to thank all the parents for being so understanding at this time. As I said to many of you, in the many phone calls, your peace of mind is paramount at these times. Knowing that your children are with you and safe was an essential ingredient in lowering a little piece of stress.

If you didn't hear last Tuesday night (19<sup>th</sup> November), the fire came quite close to burning the school. Without the bravery and tenacity of the RFS, most notably the Colo Heights RFS crew who literally performed a miracle, Colo Heights Public School would no longer be the beautiful school we all know.

This week the students have been writing thank you letters to each member of the Colo Heights Crew and to the other RFS crews who attended that night.

It is at these times, as Principal, I believe I am part of the most amazing community. Colo Heights stands as truly the strongest group of individuals who will always support each other at times of need.



## BASKETBALL GALA DAY

Before all the fire action our Primary students took part in the Hawkesbury Small Schools Basketball gala day. We had three teams, two senior and one junior. Some games were won and some were lost but all three teams had a great time and learnt skills. Well done everybody.



## Year 3 and 4 Longneck Lagoon Visit

Again, before the fires our junior primary group of Years Three and Four students attended The Longneck Lagoon Environmental Educational Centre. We attended with four students from another school. The students took part in a program called 'Who Killed Kermit?' which looks at the climate/pollution environmental impact on frogs that has occurred.

The students enjoyed doing a number of experiments, dip netting and using microscopes. I would like to congratulate the students on their behaviour and their inquisitive minds as each student learnt a great deal while also having fun.

I would also like to thank Ms Joseph and Mrs Kassis for transporting the students to and from the centre.

It was a great day.



## New Playground Equipment

Our new playground equipment was installed this week. It is a climbing system and outdoor xylophone. We hope it will provide the students with many happy and fun memories.



*Congratulations  
to our  
"Stars of the Week"  
Chamarelle and Hunter*

*Every week we will announce new winners.*

This award represents the best qualities of

**RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and PERSONAL BEST.**

We hope all students can strive to achieve this award throughout the year and continue demonstrate these fine skills.

*"At Colo Heights Public School, we are Responsible and Respectful students, who strive to do our Personal Best".*



## Colo Heights Writing

Each newsletter we will be showcasing one student's wonderful writing by publishing it in the newsletter.

This piece of work is a newspaper designed and created by Zoey during the bush fire events. I believe Zoey really captured the whole week wonderfully well. Great work Zoey!

Monday 25<sup>th</sup>  
November, 2019

# ZOEY'S SCOOP

Everything you  
need to know.

## COLO HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL - CLOSED

Colo Heights Public School has now been closed for two weeks, but to the students it seems like forever. There are only a couple of students left in Colo Heights, all the others have been evacuated and the Putty Road is closed. On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of November the fire came right behind the school. The fire around the school is now out thanks to the RFS. The students will go back to school on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of November because the school has been checked and is now safe.



RFS and local volunteer fire fighters at Colo Heights Public School putting out the fire.

## The Fire

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of November the fire had burnt over 185,000 hectares and is getting bigger every day. The fire started at Gosper's Mountain and has now reached to Wollemi National Park, Parr State Recreation area and Yengo National Park. In Colo Heights one home has been lost. There are a few towns still in trouble from the fire like Colo Heights, Putty Valley, Higher MacDonal, Webbs Creek, Newnes and Glen Alice.



Have a look on Fires Near Me to find out how big the fire is and how close it is to you ([rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au)).

## WEATHER

This is the weather for Colo Heights for the next week. Please check the weather to make sure your family stays safe.



Monday 25<sup>th</sup>  
November, 2019

# ZOEY'S SCOOP

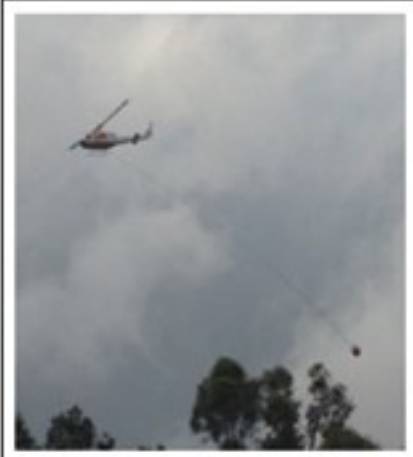
Everything you  
need to know.



A half empty dam in Colo Heights.

## We need more water...

Colo Heights is already in a drought and there is not much rain expected. The firemen are praying for the rain to come and put out the fires. Helicopters have needed to use 1,000's of litres of water from peoples' dams, leaving them with not much water to protect their own houses or for their animals.



The RFS racing to the out of control backburn on Wheelbarrow Ridge Rd

## All Hands on Deck

Some locals have been helping put out the fires. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of November local volunteers stepped up to put out the fire at Colo Heights Public School. Even the little kids are helping out, they are wanting to learn how to use the fire hoses to protect their houses in the future. The locals have been cooking for those who are staying to fight the fire and sending the food to the 'Pop Up Shop' which has been started at the service station every day at 6pm.



Seven year old Jackson is learning how to use the fire hose from the Commander of the Paynesville Fire Brigade, Victoria.



Thank you to the RFS  
and all the local  
volunteer fire fighters  
from everyone in  
Colo Heights!

## Mini Fair

Our Mini Fair was supposed to be over now but due to the fires the students missed the day. To compensate we will be holding a fun fair for the kids **next Monday afternoon**. This afternoon will just be the games and fun activities that would have been available by the SRC just for the students to enjoy. We won't be having a cake or white elephant stall, just the activities. **There will be no cost to the students.**

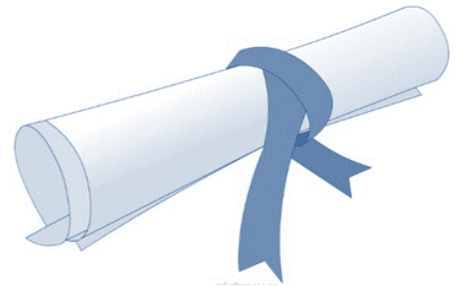


On **Thursday** the Talent Quest that was to be held on Mini Fair will be held in the afternoon.

**It is MUFTI for both Monday and Thursday. Students must have a hat and wear sensible shoes.**

## Presentation Assembly

We will be holding the school's annual Presentation Assembly on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at the Community Hall. The Assembly will start at 9:45am. After the Assembly we will move back to the school for a morning tea. It is earlier this year due to Swim School being on the last two weeks of the year.



If you are attending we ask you to bring a plate of food for the morning tea please.

## Swim School

It is that time of the year again when we venture to Richmond Pool for swimming lessons. Notes were distributed this week and will need to be signed and returned by next Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> December.

This year the program will start on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December and go to Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December (the last day of the year). This program is at no cost to families. The school funds both the pool entry and the bus travel.



## Crunch and Sip

Thank you to all those families who have sent in fruit and vegetables during the year for Crunch and Sip.

After next week no further donations are required as we will be attending Swim School. We look forward to continuing this program with your assistance again in the new year.



### IMPORTANT

- **Monday 2nd December 2019—Mini Fun Fair Activities**
  - **Thursday 5th December 2019—Talent Quest**
  - **Friday 6th December 2019—Presentation Day**
- **Monday 9th — Wednesday 18th December 2019 —Swim Scheme**
  - **Monday 16th December—Year 6 Dinner**
- **Wednesday 18th December 2019—Final Day of 2019 for Students**



**Thank you,**  
Glenn Ellis  
Principal