



Homebush West Public School Excellence in Public Education

Empowering every student to be active, informed, creative and successful

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Special Points of Interest

- Welcome
- Arrival times
- Continuing Covid context
- Contacting the school
- School fees and learning expenses payments
- Covid Information and current updates
- Procedure for students who are sick/ absent
- Drop off and pick up arrangements for parents
- New staff
- School Leaders 2021
- Sports update
- Healthy choices at HWPS
- Children's Birthdays at HWPS
- Resources and support for parents

Right: Bounce Back 2021

Coming Up From the Principal Term 1, Week 3

Kindergarten finish at 3pm

Monday

Code Club 3.00pm

French classes 3.15pm

Wednesday

Spanish classes 3.15pm

Chess classes 3pm

Thursday

International Day of Women and Girls Science

Year 6 Cooking

Scripture begins 9.30-10.30

Chess 3pm

Friday

Lunar New Year

From The Principal



We warmly welcome our students, parents and community members to the 2021 school year. Students started the school year energised and mindful as they "Bounced Back" into learning, starting with a day of physical challenges including an inflatable course and variety of engaging Science investigations with external experts leading the learning.

This week Kindergarten students have had a very successful start to their schooling. Our Kindergarten parents are to be congratulated for the outstanding way they have partnered with the school and supported their children to successfully separate through "drop and go".

Students from Year 1 to Year 6 are currently engaging with our '**Learning 2 Learn**' program across the school, rotating through different groups, mastering the core skills of independent, agile, resilient learners. All students in every stage complete a common, core program and syllabus and our teachers deliver the learning as a collaborative team. We're proud to see our students settled, connected, challenged and getting to know their stage teachers and each other.

Reminder about Arrival Times at school 8.30am

- Students can enter the school grounds from 8.30am.
- Students are at risk of being unsupervised before 8.30am.
- Students should not be onsite prior to 8.30am.

Continuing Covid Context

Since returning from the holiday break, our staff, students and families are continuing to support us with **safe arrival and departure practices** each day. School restrictions continue to be enacted due to ongoing COVID-19 health risks in NSW and across Australia.

Despite the ongoing pandemic challenges we are in a position to recommence many extra circular activities in the coming weeks *including; Music Tuition, Chess, Coding and Language classes*. We envisage our community users will resume their weekend lessons and programs shortly. Be assured that we are **constantly reviewing** the suitability of each of all our programs against the latest COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

We're pleased to see our whole school community adhere to effective hygiene practices with flexibility and commitment. We look forward to continued success and safety. **Children should not attend school if they are unwell**, see below for further details. Any child or staff member, with even mild symptoms must remain home from school and seek medical advice. Testing requirements for flu-like symptoms remain a requirement. We thank you for your commitment to best practice.

Contacting the School

We are very proud to have almost 600 students, from diverse language and cultural backgrounds including so many new families recommence school successfully.

-
- Uniforms have been ordered successfully online with issues and errors all resolved effectively
 - Parents have arrived from other schools, and overseas and successfully enrolled
 - Families have contacted the school to resolve questions/issues/concerns from those that are minor to more complicated issues

*We value
Quality in all that
we do*

All of this has been achieved remotely, with our **key communication channels being Skoolbag, phone and email, with these details easily found on our website**. We field more than 40 phone calls per day on average at our busiest times, and numerous emails, some in first languages, connecting parents/carers and staff.

School Fees and Learning Expenses Payments

This week, students received a notice pack which includes information about School Fees and Learning Expenses for each stage group. Parents **can also find this notification in the Skoolbag App** and are encouraged utilise the **Pay Online** feature of the school's website.

Families are reminded that there a **number of components included in the payment notice** including school fees, program levies, voluntary contributions, homework and text book/resources and if desired, payment for the majority of excursions and activities.

If you would like support to understand these payments further, please contact the school.

Regards,

E Southall, Principal
R Picoaga, Deputy Principal

Coming Up

- 19 February** Summer PSSA Competition commences
- 19 February** Lunar New Year Celebrations at HWPS – Lion Dance
- 2 March** Swimming Carnival

COVID Information and Current Updates

Too Sick for School

Please find below the procedure for students who **present sick at school and are sent home**, and the procedure for parents when **students are too sick to come to school**. These procedures are in line with the NSW Departments of Health & Education, Covid guidelines.

HWPS Procedure Students Sick/Absent

Student with flu like symptoms (including minor symptoms) is sent home;

1. Student experiences flu like symptoms.
2. Student is sent to the school office and is assessed by admin team.
3. A) At the office, student is not observed to have ongoing symptoms and is returned to class.
 - Teacher monitors and seeks supervisor support if concerns persist.
 - Principal is contacted and makes a final decision regarding student status.B) Office advises parents/carer and arranges for leave for student to be picked up/removed from school.
4. Student takes leave and seeks medical advice.
5. Student must have a Covid test.
6. Student must report the test and result to the principal, office will update the HWPS google form to record testing details.
7. Student **cannot return to work until** they have;
⇒Returned a negative Covid test ... **And** they are also symptom free... **And** they have logged their Covid testing details into the google link. **Principal authorises their return to school.**

*We value
Respect for others*

HWPS Procedure Students Sick/Absent

Student is absent from school.

1. Families will be advised of the requirement to provide absence information daily to the school.
2. Each day the admin team will contact students absent from school who have not made contact with the school and provided reason/medical certificate and update records.
3. Any student who returns to school after an unexplained absence is immediately referred to the office each morning to ensure that their absence is reviewed.
4. If a student has been absent due to flu like symptoms, or due to concerns for someone with whom they are in close contact, they are to leave the school until they provide Covid test results, refer to the procedure above.

*** All parents and carers will be required to wait outside the school gates along the footpath, physically distanced*

Thank you, your diligence in supporting the safety of our school community is most appreciated.

New Staff

We welcome the following new staff to Homebush West who form part of the teaching team in Stage One.



Ms Horsfall



Ms Dinh

Drop off and Pick up Organisation for Parents

Please see the arrangements for Term 1 drop off and pick up, in accordance with DoE COVID guidelines and recommendations;

Drop off

Students can be dropped off at the following various locations, non-stage specific;

8.30am - Exeter Road gate

8.45am - Eastbourne Road gate

8.45am - Tavistock Road gate

Pick up

3.00pm - **Kindergarten** - Exeter Rd gate (*from Week 3, Kindergarten will finish at 3pm*)

3.00pm - **Stage 1** - Tavistock Rd gate

3.00pm - **Stage 2** - Eastbourne Rd gate

3.00pm - **Stage 3** - can exit from any gate. Please have a conversation with your child about where to meet you (parents/carers)

**Older siblings will forward to the youngest sibling/s dismissal area and wait there until they see their parent/carer at that gate*

HWPS Sports Update 2021

Homebush West Public School will be offering a variety of fitness and sporting programs this year. Below is a summary of the Sport programs running in 2021.

Kindergarten

A Gymnastics program will be on offer

Stage 1

Stage 1 (Year 1 & Year 2) will all participate in a Swimming Program (Fridays, Terms 2, 3)

Stage 2 and 3 Programs

Students in Year 3 to Year 6 will have the opportunity to participate in school sport programs, interschool sport programs or extracurricular sporting programs, see below.

Summer PSSA Sport (Fridays 12-3pm, Terms 1, 3, 4)

Junior and Senior Cricket

Junior Boys and Girls Tee-ball

Senior Boys and Girls Softball

- Summer PSSA tryouts will be held Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th February, Week 3.

Winter PSSA Sport (Fridays 12-3pm, Terms 2, 3)

Junior and Senior Girls Soccer

Junior and Senior Boys Soccer

Junior and Senior Netball

- Winter PSSA tryouts will be held towards the end of Term 1.

Tennis Program at Croydon Tennis Centre (Fridays 12-3pm, Terms 1, 2, 3)

If your child is not involved in any PSSA sport, students have the opportunity to participate in the Tennis Sports Program at Croydon Tennis Centre run by qualified tennis coaches. All participants will be registered by Tennis Australia.

*We value
Success for all*

School Leaders 2021

Our School Leaders are very proud to lead our school in 2021. They have dynamic roles and responsibilities and are already demonstrating excellent leadership capacity as various programs commence. All our Stage 3 leaders are role models for our whole school community, and they consistently reflect the attributes of HWPS STARS. We wish them all the best for the coming year and look forward to supporting their leadership journey.



Celina W*



Tanushree C*



Aki H



Joanne L



Nilukshan K



Marc P



Jojo O



Yathodsajan S

*Music Captain

**Emerald
House Captains**

**Ruby
House Captains**

**Sapphire
House Captains**

**Topaz
House Captains**



Sushen J



Aanav P



Alexander W



Vandhan K



Laura T



Sadhika T



Harrison P



Donnell C

**Emerald
Vice Captains**

**Ruby
Vice Captains**

**Sapphire
Vice Captains**

**Topaz
Vice Captains**



Ewan D



Jerra WS



Ritika P



Abrar M



Renisha T



Melanie L



Michelle G



Kobina K

*We value
Community
involvement*



Healthy Choices at Homebush West Public School

HWPS encourages a Healthy Lifestyle;

- Breakfast - nutritious, include fruit
- Crunch & Sip – fruit or vegetable and water
- Recess & Lunch - healthy food, snacks and water
- Physical Activity – Three lessons weekly (2 x fitness, 1 x sport)
- Wear a hat in the sun or play in the shade
- Uniform – yellow shirt, green pants, white socks and black shoes

Crunch & Sip, Recess and Lunch

Students are asked to bring three items of food for school each day packed in separate containers or zip lock bags for easy access. Suggestions are listed below.

Crunch and Sip	Recess	Lunch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit or vegetables cut into small pieces • Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoghurt, crackers, popcorn, fruit, cheese, egg, etc • Water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandwiches, salads, sushi, pasta, noodles, rice etc. • Water

* Please supply a fork or spoon for your child if necessary.

** Please **DO NOT** send glassware to school (bottles, cups, cutlery) – plastic or aluminium only

*We value
A caring and safe
environment*

Waste Free Lunches

We encourage students to use waste free options for their lunches. These include avoiding single use packaging such as plastic bags and cling film, using reusable containers for lunches and a reusable water bottle.



Children's Birthdays at HWPS

Sending food, cakes, lolly bags or gifts to school for other students for your child's birthday **is not allowed** particularly under NSW Dept for Health COVID Guidelines.



Resources and Support for Parents

Proactive Parents - Teaching Resilience

Research shows that good resilience skills help students perform better at school and avoid risky behaviour. It is important for your child to know how to turn things around when the going gets tough.

- Children with good resilience perform better at school.
- Children with good resilience are less likely to take part in risky behaviour.
- NSW public schools teach resilience skills to children from Kindergarten to High School.
- Helping a child feel successful is an important aspect of resilience.

See the links, articles and useful websites in the Parents and Carers sections of the Department of Education's website for more reading and support here; <https://education.nsw.gov.au/parents-and-carers/wellbeing?q=>

Starting Primary School Support for Parents

Education expert and author of 'Your Child's First Year at School', published by Early Childhood Australia, Jenni Connor has some valuable tips for parents to ensure the road into school is as bump-free as possible. Tips include;

- Think about emotional wellbeing
- Build a sense of security
- Manage social adjustment
- Consider physical health and nutrition
- Support early learning
- Keep in touch and work with the school

<https://education.abc.net.au/newsandarticles/blog/-/b/1627643/tips-for-settling-in-to-school?sf51509313=1>

Quick Guide for Parents

This NSW Department of Education link provides an alphabetical index of common topics of inquiry as identified by parents. From attendance, to disability and learning support, to curriculum and wellbeing, this guide provides key information for parents and suggestions for further reading and support. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/practical-help-for-parents-and-carers/quick-guide-for-parents>

Exclusive Real Estate supporting Homebush West Public School

Exclusive Real Estate is very keen to help our school and community and is a top Real Estate Agent in the area. They have offered an extra incentive that you can pass on to friends and family. If you take advantage of Exclusive Real Estate's great service you can benefit the school at the same time, Exclusive will donate:

\$500 from any sale referral

\$250 for any property management referral

\$500 for any strata building

Just mention Homebush West Public School!! www.exclusivere.com.au Andrew Bova m: 0414 614 256 e: <mailto:andrew@exclusivere.com.au>

The Walking Bus is proudly sponsored by Exclusive Real Estate

*We value
Quality in all that
we do*

Bounce Back 2021!







Stay informed with the SkoolBag App

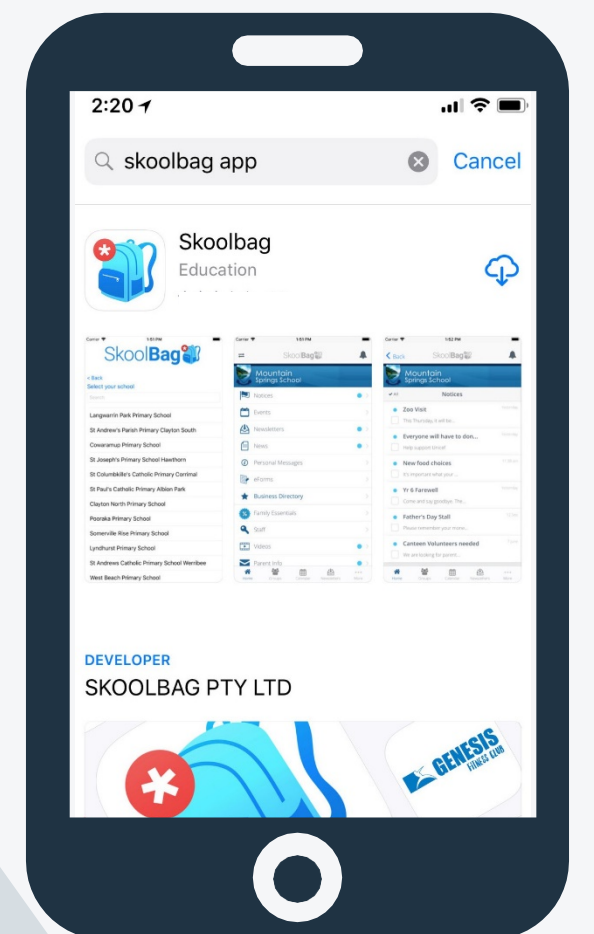


The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and **all** school communications.

1

Download the app

Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google PlayStore



2

Create an account

Sign up in seconds with your email address

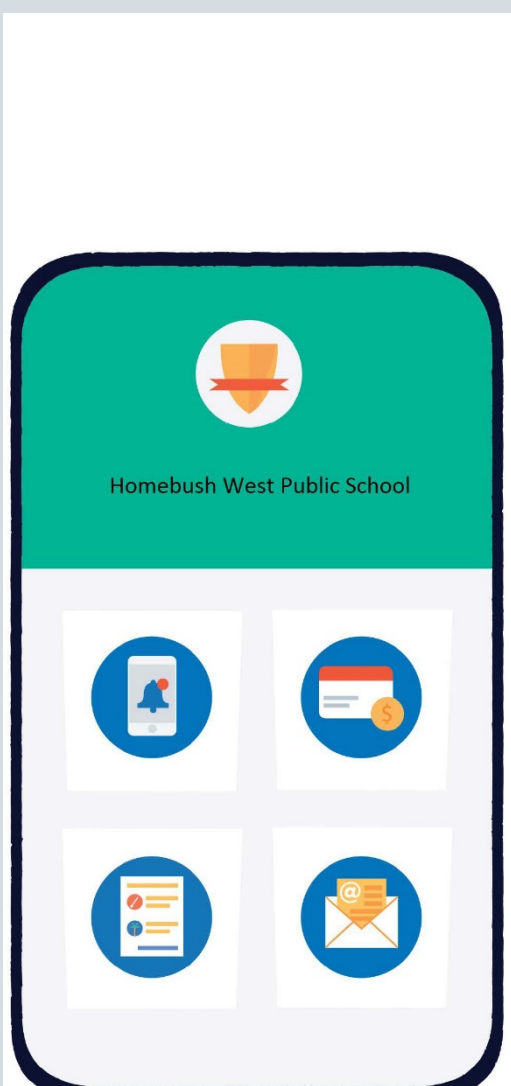
3

Add your school

Search for:

Homebush West Public School

and add your subscription groups



SkoolBag 

CHESS!!

Learn to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Homebush West Public School is held on:

Intermediate: Thursdays from 3:00pm to 4:00pm, starting on 4 February 2021

Beginners: Thursdays from 3:00pm to 4:00pm, starting on 4 February 2021

Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment. Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.



Symphonia Jubilate will be back in 2021!

We are delighted to welcome all interested Years 3 - 12 student instrumentalists from public schools for our 2021 season of Symphonia Jubilate. Rehearsals will be held at Homebush West PS from 4-6.15pm for 3 Saturdays every term.

In line with Department of Education COVID-19 health advice*, we anticipate forming SIX musical ensembles:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Sul Ponticello Primo Strings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Spiccato Secondo Strings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Pizzicato Strings
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Tutti Concert Band	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Flauto Dolce Recorder Ensemble 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SJ Fipple Flutes Recorder Ensemble 2

Enrolment online from Feb 6th 2021 at:
www.symphoniajubilate.com

All Enquiries

Margaret Coote | Orchestra Manager
mob: 0438 100 554



Education

* All rehearsals and concerts will be in compliance with ongoing Department of Education COVID-19 health and safety advice, including use of appropriate physical distancing, enhanced cleaning and hygiene and any special conditions required for performing arts activities.



Register
Now!

AFTER SCHOOL

DIGITAL PROGRAM 2021



**Mobile App
Development**



**Game Dev
with Unity 3D**



Python3



**Code
Foundation**



**Web
Designing**



**JAVA
(J2SE)**

TERM 1 - 2021

Monday	Code foundation with Robotics	3.10 to 4.00pm	K to Yr 2	\$220
	Web Designing	4.00 to 5.00pm	Yr 3 to Yr 6	\$250

Homebush West Public School
20 Exeter Rd, Homebush West NSW 2140

Please visit our website to register
www.icodenext.com.au

**We are also offering advanced courses for High School students*



Exciting new hockey programme for young boys and girls.
Learn the basic skills in a safe and fun environment.
Finish each session with a small-sided game.
Have some fun and make new friends. Beginner friendly.

MINI STIX



FUN

FITNESS

FRIENDS

www.utshockey.org



Suitable for
boys & girls
aged 4 - 7
years

DATES: Thursdays: 5:45pm – 6:30pm
18th March – 19th August, 2021
(excluding school holidays)

WHERE: PITCH 2, Sydney Olympic Park
Hockey Centre, Shirley Strickland Ave
(Free car parking available in P4 car park.)

REGISTER ONLINE: \$70 - \$100
[https://www.revolutionise.com.au/utshockey/
registration/](https://www.revolutionise.com.au/utshockey/registration/)

Free Registration using Active kids voucher

(Player's Kit available \$40 – Stick, shin pads, mouth guard, ball, stick bag)

ONLINE Soccer
Registrations NOW OPEN!

Lidcombe CSC



Est 1939

"Once a Congo ALWAYS A CONGO!"

We are a family orientated club with opportunities for male and female participants aged from 3 years through to Seniors.

All skill levels welcome

****COMPETITIVELY PRICED****

Starting March come to training Wednesday's from 5pm - 6:30pm@ Phillips Park, Nicholas St Lidcombe

REGISTER ONLINE NOW



lidcombecsc.com



0478 148 081



lidcongs@gmail.com

Congo Kickers

Preschool Soccer Skills Clinic

Congo Kickers is a fun exciting program for boys and girls aged 3 to 6 years.





Every session is played at Phillips Park, Nicholas St, Lidcombe on Saturday's @ 10am

Commencing April

The program introduces children to soccer in a fun environment by specialising in activities which encourage young children to develop their physical and social skills in a team environment.

Trophy and Jersey included

Girls ONLY Saturday Comp

 Do you have a Daughter /  Granddaughter that really wants to play soccer BUT you can't commit to the Sunday playing  times?? We are now looking for girls to form Lidcombe CSC ALL Girls teams! to play SATURDAYS 

For more information

 www.lidcombecsc.com

 0478 148 081  lidcongs@gmail.com



Dear Parents, Carers and Students.

The Conservatorium High School would like to inform your talented music students that:

AUDITIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR 2022

Application to AUDITION for Con High entering 2022 are now open.

Go to <https://conhigh.nsw.edu.au/2022-entry-application/>

ADMISSIONS tab then 2022 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Closing date for registration is 25th June 2021.

Auditions begin 9th August 2021.

