Pinnacle State School

INFORMATION BOOKLET

Celebrating 100 years of ‘Educating Children for Living’

2014
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Dental Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacts</td>
<td>Excursions and sport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staffing</td>
<td>Head lice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Purpose</td>
<td>Jewellery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values and beliefs</td>
<td>Keeping in touch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education rationale</td>
<td>Leaving grounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behaviour management</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School profile -</td>
<td>Lost property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School community and location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Make up and nail polish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparatory year</td>
<td>Medication at school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>15/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum programs and delivery</td>
<td>School uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Religious education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School planning and accountability</td>
<td>School routine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School funding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>18/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School information -</td>
<td>Sunsmart policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointments</td>
<td>Volunteers/visitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrival/departure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and absence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>20/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book list</td>
<td>2012 calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conveyance allowance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court orders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Welcome to Pinnacle State School. You are invited to become a part of our school community by getting to know your child’s teacher, members of the school staff and joining in some of the many facets of school life listed in this Information Booklet.

This booklet is available to provide information concerning the facilities, procedures, organisations and activities relating to this school. It will be of particular interest to families enrolling their children for the first time. However, parents of older students may also peruse the booklet and so keep up to date with school requirements.

Contacts

Address: 2 Pinnacle Street
Pinnacle Qld 4741
Telephone: 07 4958 5223
Fax: 07 4958 5338
Email: bgood35@eq.edu.au

The school welcomes communication from the wider community and encourages calls that relate to School business to be made between the hours of 8.00am and 3.30pm, school days. If the Office is unattended, please leave a message and the school will endeavour to return your call as soon as possible.

Staffing

Principal: Mrs Dianne Hinder Years 3-7
Teachers: Mrs Irena Carlaw Years Prep-2
Mrs Tracey Stanieg Physical Education/L.S.
Mr Evan Reece LOTE (Japanese)
Mrs Cheryl Mitchell Music
Teacher Aides: Ms Beryl Fitzharding-Jones
Mrs Colleen Delaney
Administrative Assistant: Mrs Bernadette Goodale
Cleaner: Mrs Beverly Webster
Groundsperson:
Our Purpose

To achieve the best educational outcomes for all students at Pinnacle State School

Values and Beliefs

At Pinnacle State School we are committed to ensuring that:

♦ all people at our school have the right to work together in an environment which is safe, caring, stimulating and supportive
♦ our actions promote the best interests of students
♦ our actions are the very best quality we can achieve

Education Rationale

To immerse our students in a warm, supportive environment that fosters and develops learning, risk taking, critical thinking and independence to become life-long learners through a distinctive and integrated approach to the Australian curriculum and its Outcomes.

The Pinnacle community believes that it is essential to provide a RESPONSIVE curriculum that is relevant, flexible and dynamic.

To achieve this, school and classroom planning focus on providing learning experiences’ that are interest based, topical, challenging, fun and have strong links with parents and the wider community.

Behaviour Management

A Whole School Behaviour Management Plan has been developed to support our expectations.

We believe that student learning and the management of student behaviours is most effective when all significant adults - teachers, parents/guardians, and other professionals - support students in consistent and cooperative ways.

Children who perform inappropriate behaviour have supervised time-out during break times and are required to complete ‘Behaviour Report’ forms which are held in the child’s portfolio.

The Behaviour Management Policy is available from the school office.
School Community and Location

Pinnacle State School is located in the picturesque Pioneer Valley, 53km west of Mackay. The school has been established for 100 years and serves a mainly rural community. The school has an active Parents and Citizens Association and Student Project Club.

Pinnacle State School is part of the Pioneer Valley Cluster. This cluster was formed to support each other in developing our schools so that we can maximise resources, both human and physical, share and develop curriculum, provide professional development opportunities, and provide students with greater interaction opportunities.

Students

There are approximately 30 students enrolled from Prep to Year 7. Over the past 10 years student enrolment has remained stable.

Students with special needs are catered for, through provision of Support Personnel, Teacher Aide time, and the physical structure of the school.

The students enjoy a wide variety of sporting activities, and all year levels play well together. As part of the cluster initiative, the cluster schools meet to participate in academic, sport and cultural activities.
Preparatory Year

The Prep year is a full day program for five days a week. **Children enrolling in Prep have to be 5 years of age by the 30 June in the year of attendance.**

The Prep class is part of the whole school campus where children can continue on from their learning at home, kindergarten or childcare. The Prep year is designed to provide the foundation that children need for success in later school.

The Prep year at Pinnacle is part of the lower school class Prep-2. The Prep year is where the children can learn through investigations and play in a range of structured and unstructured learning environments. Children attending Prep will also have access to lessons with the Music and P.E. specialists, library borrowing, kids’ kitchen, and the technology lab. Each day the children will be involved in indoor and outdoor play (including art and craft activities), morning tea and lunch, quiet time, language and numeracy activities, music and games. As the Prep-2 classroom is a multi-age environment Preps are included in a wide range of activities and are supported by the older children in the classroom.

- Please encourage your child to be self reliant e.g. toilet trained, dressing and undressing (in the event of a toileting accident and for Term 4 swimming), responsible for belongings, and ready for their school day (packing and carrying their own school bag).

- Children attending the Prep year will need: stationery needs (to be left at school after first day), school lunch (consisting of morning tea, drink and lunch), sun safe hat, water bottle, and a zip lock bag with a change of clothes and underwear.
Curriculum Programs and Delivery

Currently the school has two multi-age teaching classes.

- Years Prep - 2
- Years 3 - 7

The school offers quality curriculum programs across the eight key learning areas. Pinnacle staff are committed to implementing the Australian Curriculum planned around the Essential Learnings and Standards.

These include:
1. English
2. Languages Other Than English (Japanese Yr6-7)
3. Maths
4. The Arts (including visual and performing arts, music, etc.)
5. Studies of Society and the Environment (including Social Studies, Outdoor and Environmental Education, and Active and Informed Citizenship)
6. Science
7. Technology
8. Health and Personal Development (including PE, Health, HRE and RE)

Many of these are taught incidentally, as the need arises, and are discussed in the whole class or small group situation.

The school is also committed to Middle Phase Schooling and as such the school plans activities and programs to address this.

Our school is part of the Pioneer Valley Small Schools’ Cluster. As part of the cluster, Pinnacle is responsible for HPE and as such coordinates most of the activities and curriculum development that relate to this Key Learning Area.

Teachers integrate learning technology into the school curriculum and classroom. There is a 1 to 2 ratio of computers to students. All teaching staff at Pinnacle have been accredited with their Level 1 Competency Technology Certificate. We are continuing to develop technology within the school. The Computer Lab incorporates 12 computers with internet connections, plus 1 Lab in a Box (11 laptops), Interactive Whiteboards and Data Projectors.

A number of visiting Specialist teachers service the school including LOTE, Music, Lower School support Key Teacher, Learning Support, and Physical Education.
Staff

The school is staffed by:

- a teaching principal (Yrs 3-7)
- 1 classroom teacher (Prep-2)
- 1 support teacher (library, NCT (non contact time), CCT (curriculum coordination time) & teaching principal time.
- 0.2 PE Teacher
- 1 full time primary teacher aide (30hrs/wk)
- Prep teacher aide (5hrs/wk)
- 1 part time teacher aide (10hrs/wk)
- 1 part time teacher aide (3hrs/wk – Election Commitment TA Hours)
- 1 administrative assistant (20hrs/wk)
- part time cleaner (22.5hrs/wk)
- casual groundsperson

School Planning and Accountability

Education Queensland’s schools operate within the public education system and their local school communities.

School planning and accountability is guided by a ‘School Improvement and Accountability Framework’. Using this document the school and its community must prepare:

1. A Partnership Agreement
2. An Annual Implementation Plan and Budget
3. A School Annual Report

Copies of these may be obtained by contacting the school office. Your input into these plans is always welcome.

School Funding

The major source of school funding is provided through Education Queensland’s Grant allocation.

The Parents & Citizens Association also provide additional funds through school initiatives and some local fundraising. Due to the cane crushing season affecting volunteer numbers, fundraising activities are organised with this in mind. The major fund raising activities are Big Boar Day and Father’s Day Car Club Breakfast.
Facilities

The school has two separate high set teaching blocks and a double classroom. All rooms are air conditioned. Block B consists of a Teacher/Resource room and a computer room. These blocks are joined by a built-in veranda which incorporates a small kitchenette. This block is used by students, staff and community members and is a valuable resource.

Under Block B there is a cleaner storeroom, and a screened food preparation room which is used by children and staff for their weekly Kids Kitchen. Fridges are provided for children's lunch storage. Picnic tables and benches are provided so children can eat their lunch in comfort.

Block A houses an office and reception area, Principal’s Office, Yrs 3-7 classroom and a staffroom.

Below Block A is the Prep-3 classroom. This classroom has a toilet block and storage room attached. Outside this room is a toilet that provides disabled person's access.

At the rear of the school is the Bendigo building. This building has 2 classrooms, one classroom for the Music & LOTE classes and a classroom that is used for work with individuals or small groups of students. There is also a small kitchen and office.

Also at the rear of the school is the new BER room. This is the Resource Centre and a small Computer Lab. Individual and small group sessions take place in this room. This area is also used by staff to develop resources for teachers and students.

The school has a large undercover area used for shelter during hot or rainy days. This area is used to play handball, volleyball, dance, hold discos, and a variety of other uses. Another smaller undercover area is situated near the multi purpose court. This area is used for social events where community members can use the tennis court and undercover area.

The groundsperson, staff and students take enormous pride in the maintenance of the grounds. Gardens and numerous trees have been planted to beautify the grounds. We have planted out an area as a rainforest with this area continuing to be developed further. The school has 2 fully covered adventure playgrounds, a cricket pitch, extensive flat play areas, and undercover areas.

The cemented multi purpose court is used for tennis, basketball and netball. The school has a large three-door garden shed where garden equipment, ride-on mower, etc. and some teaching resources are stored. The roller door on the building’s side provides easy access for large items of sporting equipment.

A 6x6 storage shed has been built near the lower years classroom. This stores the many pieces of play equipment used for Prep/early years program.
School Information

Appointments

We welcome the opportunity to meet with parents/carers to discuss any aspect of a child’s academic and social development as deemed necessary. However, as teaching and administration staff are not always readily available, it is important to first telephone the school office to arrange an appointment that is mutually convenient.

Generally speaking, parents should talk with their child’s teacher first regarding any concern or query.

Arrival/Departure

Children should arrive at school at a reasonable hour, definitely not before 8am, as there may not be staff here before that time. If there are no staff present, please remain with your child to ensure their safety until a staff member arrives. After school, children should be collected or make their way home as soon as possible. Staff are on duty to supervise until the last bus child leaves the school (usually by 3.40pm).
If, in an emergency, children cannot be collected before 3.15pm, the school should be contacted so that arrangements can be made.

Attendance and Absence

Regular attendance by each student is necessary for satisfactory results and is required by law. Parents and school, therefore, must assume the responsibility of regular attendance. In the event of absence, parents need to inform the school with either a phone call on the day or written explanation on the day of return. As well, this should give the date of absence/s and must be signed by the parent/guardian. If no notification is received this will count as an unexplained absence and the school has to report on these absences to Central office in Brisbane.

If you anticipate a prolonged absence of your child, we would welcome a telephone call to advise us. After 3 days of absence without notice, our office will contact you.
If your child/children are transferring to another school, please notify the office staff as soon as possible.
**Book List**

All items needed for each year level are on the corresponding book list. This will be sent home towards the end of each year so families have time over Christmas holidays to collect, cover and name the relevant items. The book list is also available at any time from the office.

Items that are still in good condition from the previous year can be re-used. It is strongly recommended that good quality pencils, rubbers, books etc. are purchased, as some cheap items are very poor quality and don’t last.

If you have difficulty finding some things, please phone the office and we’ll help out. It is imperative that each student has all of the required equipment by the start of school.

Children should have books neatly covered, and should ensure they have 2 sharpened pencils (HB) before starting classes each day. All items must be named.

**Bus Service**

Trans North provide a service to school in the morning and from school in the afternoon. Any complaints and enquiries need to be directed to:

Trans North - Ph.4959 1207

**Complaints**

If you have a complaint, the Complaint Handling Procedure documents are available from the school office.

**Concrete**

We have a movement rule for the concrete walkways of our school...

**WALK - DON’T RUN!!**

**Conveyance Allowance**

Children who live more than 4.5 kilometres from the nearest school or from a school bus run may be eligible for a Conveyance Allowance from the Transport Department. Please contact Queensland Transport for relevant forms.

**Court Orders**

The school office should be informed of any relevant court orders as a copy needs to be kept in the student’s file. Any change to court orders should be immediately communicated to school staff.
Dental Clinic

Queensland Health provides free dental treatment to school children from 4 years of age until the completion of Year 10. Medical history/Consent forms are issued to each child and must be completed and returned prior to children receiving an examination. After the examination parents/carers will receive a statement of treatment needs, which must be signed prior to treatment commencing. A team providing this service consists of a dentist, school dental therapists and dental assistants. Dental therapists working under the direction of a dentist will carry out most of the dental procedures. Routine regular services are provided by a mobile Dental Clinic. Parents will be notified when this service is available in our area.

Excursions and Sport

These are a vital part of each child’s education. They are seen as a means of broadening the child’s experiences and interests. Arts Council visits, interschool sport, and educational visits are encouraged. No child will be excluded from excursions because of economic circumstances, however parents are expected to contribute to the cost.

If families are experiencing some difficulties, please contact the school so that we can assist. All matters will be handled confidentially.

Children will be exempt, for health reasons, from physical education if parents notify teachers, or if the teacher considers it best.

Head lice

Please check your child’s hair regularly. If we find lice in a student’s hair we will contact parents immediately to ask them if they would like to collect their child and commence treatment. Students can then return to school.

A head lice information package is available at the school office if the need arises.

Homework

This activity helps develop good study habits. A regular time should be set each day. Homework will be set to a minimum - children should not be expected to sit for more than 30 minutes. Homework will usually follow up any school work covered. At times, when no work is set, children should do their own activities. Each night children should have -

- reading (10-15 minutes)
- spelling to write and/or learn
- number facts to learn.

From time to time children may have maths or other assignments/projects to do.
Jewellery

Jewellery must not be worn to school for safety reasons. Exceptions may include - signet rings, medical identification bracelets, plain sleepers/studs and watches.

Keeping in Touch

A half-yearly report will be prepared in June and December. Parents will be invited to make an appointment with the teacher to discuss their child's progress at these times. Informal interviews are encouraged at any time throughout the year - just phone the office for an appointment.

Evaluation of each child is made by teacher’s observations of the child in the day to day situation, supported by tests, work samples, book work and projects.

Teaching methods have changed immensely in the past decade, so it is essential for parents to keep in touch in order to help their children. Please do not hesitate to ask if there is anything you don’t understand or would like to know. From time to time teachers run information sessions for parents. These are a very useful means of keeping up to date with teaching methods at school.

Leaving Grounds

Under no circumstances do children leave the school grounds unless notification has been received from parents, or the principal has granted special permission.

Library

Children may borrow books as regularly as they are read. Older children may change their own books. Encouraging children to read regularly is important. Year P-3 borrow for 1 week. Year 4-7 borrow for 2 weeks. Parents should make sure their child/ren are reading a library book, or any other book, every day at home.

Lost Property

Please name all of your children’s belongings, especially clothes, and check through the lost property box (located under the school) regularly. All clothing not claimed at the end of each term will be donated to charity.
Make-up and Nail Polish

No make-up, nail polish or lip gloss should be worn to school.

Medication at School

If your child needs to take medicine at school, it must be kept at the office. A medication form giving dosage information will be kept on file while the medication is required. Please note that staff cannot administer medication which is sold over the counter, i.e. paracetamol, eye/ear drops, cough mixture. It MUST be prescribed by a doctor and the pharmacy label must be clearly visible.

The office must be notified if children bring any medication to school. Education Department regulations require that, before medication is administered:

1. the parent has completed a permission form available from the office.
2. the label on the medication clearly states
   - the name of the child and
   - the dosage and times for it.

PLEASE ASK YOUR PHARMACIST FOR THIS INFORMATION WHEN S/HE ISSUES THE MEDICATION.

N.B. Analgesics, cough mixtures, and the like will NOT be administered. Children are forbidden to keep any medication in their bag. All medication must be handed to the teacher or office.

Seriously ill children will be treated as per serious accidents. Parents will be informed of their child’s illness and First Aid measures put in place. The Ambulance will be called to incidents that are deemed serious. The School Policy for a child who needs to rest on the ‘sick bed’ for illness is—the school will try to contact parents/carers and inform them of the situation and have the parent decide what action needs to be taken.

No child should be sent to school sick. In the case of a student having an infectious disease, please contact the school so that we are aware of the situation. The office can provide you with up-to-date information about infectious diseases procedure for exclusion and the time frame. For other conditions or if in doubt please contact the office.

Mobile Phones etc.

Mobile phones, portable CD and MP3 players, Gameboys, ipods, and similar electronic devices are NOT to be brought to school.
Newsletter

The Newsletter goes home every **Monday** (Tuesday, when Monday is a holiday) to the **oldest family member**. It includes a calendar of current events to keep families informed. **Please read your newsletter** - it is the best communication between school and home. We suggest you keep it handy so you know what’s on and when.

No Smoking Policy

Education Queensland has a **total ban** on smoking in all school facilities including toilets and undercover areas. The policy also very clearly states that smoking is not to occur in the presence of students, be it on school grounds, excursions, camps or other school activities. We would ask that people respect this policy and not act outside the Legislation. *(Cabinet Decision Number 55017, Workplace Health & Safety Act 1995)*

Parking

In the interests of safety, vehicular entrance to school grounds is restricted to staff and deliveries only. **No parking is allowed in the grounds**, unless prior permission has been granted by the principal. **Unauthorised parking in the school grounds endangers the lives of your child/ren.**

P & C Association

A Parents and Citizens Association is formed under the **Education (General Provisions Act) 1989** to represent a school community - parents, carers and interested community members.

The objectives of the P&C are to:

- promote the interests of the school and
- assist with the school’s development and improvement.

Functions of the P&C are:

- fostering general community interest in educational issues
- providing advice and recommendations to the Principal on issues which affect students and the general operation of the school
- providing financial or other resources for the benefit of students.

The P&C Association meet at the school on the second Monday of each month. Meetings are held in the afternoon commencing at 3.30pm.
Religious Education

This is offered to all children for 30 minutes each week. Accredited volunteer teachers take each class for an ecumenical lesson. Parents choose at the time of enrolment if their child is to attend these classes. Children who do not attend these classes are supervised by their classroom teacher. If you decide at a later date that you do/do not want your child to attend these classes, a note must be sent from home so this information can be amended on the school database.

School Routine

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td>8.55am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morning recess</td>
<td>11.00—11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 10.30—11.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch break</td>
<td>1.00—1.45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finish</td>
<td>3.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids Kitchen</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPE &amp; Music</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE (Yr.6/7)</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious education</td>
<td>1/2 hour weekly by church volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Term 4</td>
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School Uniform

Pinnacle is a ‘uniform’ school. We take pride in our uniform and it is expected that all students will wear it. We would appreciate your support by having your child dressed in uniform at all times. Students are expected to wear full uniform when representing the school on excursions, in sporting teams and in cultural events unless otherwise advised in writing.

Students in Year 7 have the opportunity to purchase a specifically designed polo shirt, to be worn during their final year.

Boys shirts are required to be tucked in. Thongs are not part of uniform. Socks must be worn with shoes. Both shoes and socks will be worn when the children are dismissed in the afternoon. Children should always have a hat (and a handkerchief).

If students arrive at school wearing inappropriate clothing, the school will provide them with shirt or shorts or both from our second hand supply to conform with the School Uniform Policy.

To assist us to protect children from the sun, parents should:

- apply sunscreen before children leave home
- dress children sensibly (wide brimmed hat, collars and sleeves - not visors, singlets, or tank tops).

**Caps are not part of the uniform and children wearing them will not be allowed to play.**
Day Uniform:

Boys:  Check shirt                  Pattern: Itz Cool Wear No.1003
       Brown shorts                available from school
       White socks
       Shoes
       Hat                        wide brim

Girls: Check over blouse          Pattern: Itz Cool Wear No.1001P
       Brown skirt/shorts         Pattern: Itz Cool Wear No.1006P
       (Dress optional)
       White socks
       Shoes
       Hat                        wide brim

Material is available for purchase from the P&C Association. Patterns are available from Needleworx.
Debbie Weinert-Richters—Ph. 0427 585053 will make up boys and girls shirts on request.
Material code nos.:  Check - Young Apparel 8204    Brown - Caesar Fabric 6316

Sports Uniform:

Brown shorts or skirt as for day uniform (available from school)
Royal blue polo shirt with brown collar (available from school)
Royal blue hat
White socks
Sports shoes

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<th>6-8-10-12-14-16</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$26.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports shorts</td>
<td></td>
<td>$16.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badges</td>
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<td>$2.40</td>
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Standards

An important aim of this school is to foster awareness of acceptable standards. Children need guidance to develop high standards of personal neatness, tidiness, grooming and good taste. Parents are requested to see that personal hygiene such as cleaning and trimming fingernails, cleaning teeth, combing and brushing hair, washing hands, and carrying a handkerchief is being exercised. Hair must be kept neat, tidy, and tied back if it is long.

A wholesome school lunch will help your child to maintain concentration in the afternoon. A regular check will ensure that good food is not being stored or wasted. Students are encouraged to drink lots of water, so water bottles are allowed in the classroom. This practice will continue unless the way they are being used is abused.

SunSmart Policy

Our school is endorsed as a SunSmart School.
The policy aims to:
- provide ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection
- provide environments that support SunSmart practices
- create an awareness of the need to reschedule outdoor activities to support SunSmart practices.
The complete policy is available from the school office.
Our Sun Smart Policy stipulates NO HAR = NO PLAY.

Volunteers/Visitors

Parents have a tremendous amount to offer us.
Assistance with such activities as listening to children read, making charts and resources, typing, reading stories to students, covering books, supervising small group activities and accompanying children on excursions is always welcome.
As you can imagine we are always looking for volunteers to help at the school.
If you would like to be a voluntary helper please contact your child’s teacher, or the office.
It is a requirement that all visitors to the school sign in at the office.
Volunteers who are not the parent/guardian of an enrolled child are required to hold a Blue Card.
Pinnacle State School Rules

‘DISCIPLINE is not something you do TO a child; 
it’s something you do FOR a child’

1. Learn all you can
   - Pay attention in class
   - Be involved in school activities
   - Try to develop your skills with the help of your teachers
   - Come to school regularly
   - Ask for help

2. Look after our school
   - Take care of the buildings, furniture, grounds, and all our property as well as your own belongings
   - Help keep everything clean and tidy

3. Earn our school a good name
   - Take pride in your appearance
   - Behave well at school and on excursions
   - Show respect to visitors and visiting teachers
   - Play sport fairly
   - Participate in as many school activities as possible
   - Aim at excellence

4. Be in the right place at the right time
   - Be on time to class and all other school activities
   - Play in the proper areas

5. Bring the correct equipment to school
   - Bring the necessary equipment for every lesson
   - Leave prohibited materials at home

6. Respect all members of the school community
   - Be courteous and considerate
   - Avoid anything which might cause injury and embarrassment
   - Always be honest and truthful
   - Encourage and help others

7. Respect the property of others
   - Leave other people’s property alone
   - Be sure to hand in all lost property
Other specific rules:
Shoes must be worn unless there are special circumstances. 
Shirts must be tucked in at all times except when participating in sporting activities. 
No hat, no play. 
Do not throw objects, except balls. 
No helmet, no bike. 
Sit quietly to eat lunch. 
Walk quietly on stairs, verandas and cement.

The following classroom rules will be common in all classrooms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class rule</th>
<th>How to keep it</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BE PUNCTUAL</td>
<td>- move quickly to classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COME PREPARED FOR THE LESSON</td>
<td>- have the necessary equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- bring tasks completed for homework</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONSIDER OTHERS and BE CO OPERATIVE</td>
<td>- be courteous and considerate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- avoid anything which might cause injury and embarrassment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- leave other people’s property alone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- be tolerant of other class members</td>
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<tr>
<td>BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN LEARNING and ACTIONS</td>
<td>- develop your skills with the help of the teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- pay attention in class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- participate fully in class activities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- ask for help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- complete homework tasks and assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DO YOUR VERY BEST</td>
<td>- strive to excel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All children should be helped to understand the following:

I choose how I behave. 
I choose to be disturbed or annoyed by others. 
I am responsible for my own behaviour. 
I cannot blame other people for the way I choose to behave. 
I must accept the consequences of my actions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
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<td>26 27 28 29 30 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER</td>
<td>JAN 2015</td>
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</table>

- **School holidays**
- **Public holidays**
- **Staff professional development days (student free days)**
- **Flexible staff professional development days**
- **School terms**

There are 194 school days in 2014. Semester 1 2014 commences for teachers on January 23 and for students on January 28.

**STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS**
Staff professional development days (student free days) for teachers are January 23 and 24, and October 20. Schools are able to decide when their three flexible staff professional development days will be held, as long as they are in the school holidays or out-of-school hours.

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**
Public holidays are set by the Industrial Relations Minister. Public holidays for a local show are not shown due to diversity of dates across the state.

**FINAL DATES FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE**
November 21 is the final date for Year 12 attendance for receipt of a Senior Statement. November 28 is the final date for student attendance in Years 10 and 11.

Some schools in regional, rural and remote areas will close for the Summer holidays on December 5.

All other state primary, secondary and special schools will close on December 12.

In 2015, all state schools will re-open for students on January 27.

The information in this calendar was correct at the time of publication (July 2013) but may be subject to change.