Exceptional Learning Opportunities For All

TERM 3, WEEK 7

2nd September, 2019

#### Principal's Message

We are approaching the end of term! Yes, time is flying! That being said, a lot has transpired at Bates Drive School in the past few months.



We have celebrated Science Week with a tribute to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Neil Armstrong walking on the moon. It was a brilliant day and the students were extremely engaged in structured space themed activities and as always, the Bates Drive staff and student dress up for the day was totally over the top and truly a sight to behold.

I would like to personally thank Genevieve and Renee and to be honest, all the staff for the tireless work that they put into these and other special days. It really is teaching and learning at its best!

This leads me nicely into Education Week, traditionally Bates Drive bucks the schedule and celebrates it in week 9 of term 3. We already have a full week of activities and programs ready to go, capped off by a formal High School and Primary School assembly which will be complete with student performances. You will be impressed by the commitment shown by all of the students during Education Week through art and craft activities as well as live music performances at each assembly. You will all be invited to attend via the Skoolbag app in the next week. It will be wonderful to see many Parents/Carers and Grandparents joining us for the "showcase" assemblies, however all of us at Bates Drive understand that it's not always possible to attend due to work commitments. The Bates Drive Facebook Page, Website and Twitter will have many photos of the week's activities so please try and jump online to check out the wonderful activities.

I encourage you to regularly visit the Skoolbag App for the most updated information on upcoming school events. If you have any questions regarding our activities, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Save the date: "Carols in the Park" - Friday 6th December. Everyone is welcome - this truly is a community event. Chris and Stacey Feros and their family (The Prince Hotel and Feros Group of Hotels) have again generously offered to do the catering, how lucky are we?

One final request, please support the P&C Trivia night at Kareela Golf Club on Saturday 7th September.

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#### **Transition Clinics**

Kogarah Diagnostics have been in contact to allocate dates for Transition Clinics in Term 4, 2019 for current year 11 students, along with dates in 2020 for year 11 and 12 students next year. We will be in contact with Year 11 families soon to organise a Transition Clinic on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. Please see below some more information about the clinics and their purpose.





Cnr Railway Parade & Belgrave St PO Box 99, Kegarah, NSW 1485 Tel: 8566 1222 Fac 9588 3136

#### Transition Clinic Fact Sheet

#### What is Transition?

Moving from paediatric health and school services to adult health services and post-school options is a major transition point in the life of a young person with intellectual disability or complex illness, and their family.

Young people with disabilities often have a number of health care providers and services, who may not be involved into adulthood. The clinic can be a useful introduction to adult health and disability services.

#### Why have a Transition Clinic?

The most important thing about Transition Clinics is that everything revolves around the young person and their family. Everyone else brings their knowledge and expertise to a clinic but the best way forward will always be decided by what the young person and family/carers want and need to improve wellbeing and quality of life.

Holding a Transition Clinic in the school can be useful as teachers have usually known a young person for a number of years and can be an invaluable resource to provide information on their abilities and challenges.

#### What will be covered in a Transition Clinic?

A 'whole of life' approach is used, where information on the young person's progress is shared and reviewed and different options discussed. Before you come to the clinic we suggest parents/carers look through the Transition Checklist (over page) and consider discussing it with your young person (where possible), and people involved in their care, to identify issues they would like to address

#### Who attends the clinic?

A number of people attend the clinic. School representatives might include the principal, teacher and school counsellor. Health professionals usually include adult and paediatric doctors and allied health professionals (speech pathologist, social worker). Exactly how the health team is made up varies from clinic to clinic, depending on the issues being discussed. This will be an opportunity to meet our Adult Disability Team who may continue to provide medical care in the adult years.

#### What happens after the clinic?

A Transition Clinic report will be developed during the clinic, with recommendations, that will be distributed to relevant parties. A follow-up appointment may be organised if required.

IMPORTANT: You need to bring a GP referral for Dr Asma Taskin (Rehabilitation consultant) with you to the Transition Clinic

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#### **Education Week**



Education Week at Bates Drive School will take place in Week 9:  $16^{th}$  –  $20^{th}$  September. We have chosen to focus more attention on this event rather than Book Week due to the theme: 'Every student, every voice.'

During Week 9, classes will be participating in a range of special activities including a Kindifarm visit on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Parents and Carers will be welcomed to attend a special assembly for Primary School and High School at separate times on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September. More information including times for the assemblies will be sent home in the next week.

We are looking forward to seeing you all then!

#### **Music Room and School Hall**

During this year, we have been gradually remodelling the School Hall and the adjoining storeroom to utilise the spaces more efficiently—creating a supportive learning environment for all of our students.

The School Hall has had quite the face lift - it has been given a fresh coat of paint and will have carpet laid before the Education Week assemblies in week 9.

The adjoining storeroom has had a huge clear out and it is now a Music Room! This room has also been painted, will be carpeted along with the School Hall and it has a thumping PA, microphones, a couple of drum kits, a stage, piano, keyboards and guitars! Thank you to Terry, our school's GA, for building a stage for us to rock on!

Matt and Lee have been having regular jams with the kids to rehearse for our annual Carols in the Park which will be held on 6th December. It is

wonderful to have a functional space for the kids to enjoy music and enjoy performing.

Once both rooms are finished, the whole space will become known as a VAST - Visual Audio Sensory Theatre, as it will cater for a range of sensory needs of our students. A big thank you to our amazing Principal, David Toogood for being supportive of this project.



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#### Schools Plus Project

We are now in the final year of funding for this project and it is time to reflect on what has been achieved with this project. In the past month, the University of Technology Sydney has reviewed this project and results show that we have effected positive outcomes for students at Bates Drive School. These findings are going to be presented at conferences and hopefully they will have a positive impact in lobbying for additional therapy services within schools. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the review.

Word has already spread to other schools about what a great job everyone is doing. We have schools from across Sydney and NSW requesting to come and have a look at how we are managing things from a sensory and emotional regulation perspective. This is due to the hard work of staff in implementing this project and they should be congratulated on this.

The Zones of Regulation has become a fluid whole school program and a natural part of class daily routines, as evidenced by each classroom's interactive display.



Each student now has a Zones of Regulation profile with tools that they may require to remain in or return to the Green Zone, ready for learning. I am more than happy to discuss the program with Parents/Carers, so please feel free to contact the office and I can make a time to contact you the next day that I am in.

As mentioned on the previous page, changes are starting to happen for the School Hall. Staff have been organising the transformation into the VAST (Visual Auditory Sensory Theatre). It has had a lick of paint and we will soon have carpet laid to assist with the acoustics and movement activities, making it a bit more sensory friendly.

Our professional development in the use of movement has continued with each classroom now having access to rocking chairs or spinning chairs. Staff have had training on how to safely use the new acrobat swing that is located within the Sensory Room.

We have been introduced to a new resource on the concept of 'Interoception'. This will be a great addition to what we have been doing in this project: <a href="https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/health-support-planning/managing-health-education-and-care/neurodiversity/interoception">https://www.education.sa.gov.au/supporting-students/health-e-safety-and-wellbeing/health-support-planning/managing-health-education-and-care/neurodiversity/interoception</a>. It may be a useful reference for home.

Until next time, Susan

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#### P & C

Our Bates Drive Trivia Night is happening in the next week and we are really excited for a fun night! We have had some generous donations for prizes, including vouchers from the Prince Hotel, Endota Spa, Gymea Smart phones and Sutherland Shire Laundrette. For a bonus chance of winning a prize, dress up in fancy dress either individually or as a team. Fancy dress is not



compulsory and we will be excited to see everyone at the event. There will be plenty of fun games, as well as being hosted by one of Sydney's leading trivia companies, Trivia Magic. So grab your friends and bring your gold coins! Tickets can be purchased by calling the school on (02) 95216049. Hope to see you all there!



## BATES DRIVE FANCY DRESS TRIVIA NIGHT

Come and support Bates Drive Special Needs School, in their annual fund-raising event, with a night of fun, laughs and TRIVIA!

Prizes for best dressed as well as dinner vouchers for The Prince Hotel for our overall winning trivia team.

Tables of 10

Get your friends together or we can sit you on a table and you can make new friends.

To book contact to school on 9521 6049



Saturday September 7th, 7.30pm Tickets: \$10 KAREELA GOLF CLUB



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#### **RFF Science**

To celebrate National Science Week, we had a 'Moon Discovery Day'. Students and Teachers dressed as astronauts and used their senses to explore and make discoveries about the moon. Activities focused on the appearance and surface of the moon through hands on, sensory based activities. The 'moon sand', 'galaxy dough' and black sensory beads were by far the favourite sensory activities of the day, which helped students to explore some representations of the moon. There was an opportunity for students to dress up as astronauts by dressing in white suits, a helmet, black boots and a jet pack, which made for great photos in the photo booth!

The day was a great success with students being highly engaged. The Science Team look forward to next year's Science Week event!



































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#### **Sports Ready**

This term, students at Bates Drive have continued to participate in our weekly Sports Ready program each Thursday. The Sports Ready program is supported by Michael and Cheri from the Disability Trust. Classes combine to practice sport skills such as throwing, passing, catching and aiming. Team work, cooperation, interacting with others and following our PBL values are also important aspects that are integrated into our sport programs. This term, students have played modified games such as soccer, football, Frisbee and target throwing.

Students are active and having great fun during sport.

Keep up the good work!





















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#### **Pool**

Our school will be hosting Garry Morris OAM from St. George Children with Disabilities Fund, Mayor Carmelo Pesce of the Sutherland Shire Council, Chris and Stacey Feros of the Feros Group and Shantelle Tagg as a representative of the P&C Committee on Friday 6th September to celebrate the grand opening of our enclosed and heated pool. Thanks to our sponsors and their support, the students at Bates Drive now get to enjoy year round access to warm water. Swimming is an important life skill and is an essential tool for many students when learning how to self regulate through the Zones of Regulation Program. We as a school community are grateful for this upgrade and cannot show enough appreciation to all the people and businesses involved in making this dream a reality—thank you all!

#### **Rhythm Village**

Each second week on a Friday, classes team up in the School Hall to participate in the Rhythm Village music program. Students interact with different instruments to explore sounds, rhythms and beats. Recently, classes have been becoming familiar with music and songs from the Lion King. One of our favourite activities during the Rhythm Village sessions is when everyone gets to do the 'rumble' together, which is a loud and fun way to play the bongo drums. Each student and staff have access to their own bongo drum and is encouraged to play along with Chris, the



























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#### **CROCODILES**

We have been exploring a range of short, modified stories such as 'Where is the Green Sheep?' and 'The Rainbow Fish'. It has been lots of fun trying to find the green (toy) sheep in our classroom as he often hides himself somewhere different in the room. The Crocodiles have also been enjoying participating in a range of individual and grouped activities during literacy lessons. They are consistently engaged and focused during these lessons, which is great to see.





'It is time to go onto the bus." The Crocodiles get extremely excited when it is time for Community Access. During this time, we focus on many aspects including:

- Life skills: such as being a safe passenger and pedestrian when leaving the school gates to move onto the bus and when returning to school.
- Mathematics: we often discuss concepts of time and distance.
- PDHPE: we focus on particular buildings such as hospitals, fire stations, police stations and so on and discuss safe places and people who can help us in the community.

Mathematics has also been exciting for the Crocodiles. We have been using the Coles' minis to explore concepts of money this term. This has also supported our cooking program each Monday as the Crocodiles are supported to create links between money and the food we eat!



As usual, we have been working hard on our fitness and ball skills during the weekly Sports Ready program and swimming. We look forward to continuing our hard work in this program as the weather starts to get warmer. Bring it on!

Finally, the Crocodiles have had a fun time learning to play a variety of instruments with the Music Teacher, Chris during Rhythm Village—we always look forward to seeing him!





That's all for now, stay tuned for more exciting adventures in term 4! Catherine, Rebecca and the Crocodiles

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#### **COCKATOOS**

Hello, from the Cockatoo class!

Term 3 has been so much fun! We have had lots of exciting events this term, with more to come at the end of the term. In week 2, we celebrated NAIDOC week, where we focused on the book – 'How the Birds Got Their Colours'. We were able to use our beautiful school garden area to move around and learn about this wonderful Aboriginal story. We also had the opportunity to become astronauts during Science Week, where we took a trip to the Moon! Thanks to the Science Team for all the wonderful effort you put in—we loved it!

This term, we have been learning about our amazing families through our History unit of work. Being able to see photos of our families displayed in class has put a smile on our faces. We have been able to use our mathematical enquiry skills to count the number of people in our family and compare it to others. Our conclusion with comparing classes was that all our families are awesome! We have continued cooking each week, which has fast become our favourite part of the week (almost more than swimming!). We are loving making muffins of all different flavours (chocolate is a winner so far). We have been able to take turns at using the oven in the kitchen to cook our muffins. This has helped us to learn about safety in the kitchen and the importance of asking an adult for help.

Here's to more fun learning for the rest of the term!

Ciara, Belinda and the Cockatoos









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#### **SEAHORSES**

The Seahorses class is making steady progress in all areas. We are practising our PBL value of staying with the group during daily transitions and all students are requiring less staff assistance. We have limited our outdoor activities at the moment, due to the cold weather, however when it warms up we'll get back to visiting the new swings on a more regular basis. We are visiting the sensory room on a weekly basis and using Zones of Regulation to find ways to help us calm down if we are frustrated.

In our History unit of work, we are looking at 'Personal and Family History'. Thanks to all parents that sent photos of family in – the students loved finding them in sensory boxes and enjoyed finding other students' family photos too! The Seahorses have also participated in amazing theme days this term – NAIDOC week activities in the garden and a Science 'Moon Discovery' Day. We love dressing up and enjoying hands on tasks that get us out into the school community!

We've had two birthdays this term – Mackenzie and Emily!

See you next term!

Shinead, Jo, Tracy and the Seahorses













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#### **KOOKABURRAS**

The Kookaburras have had a busy and fun term 3. We have focussed on our literacy program which has seen all of the students engaging and focused. The students have been practicing following text in their readers and are learning how to identify words/ read the sentences of their book. They are also identifying their sight words on the 'Word Wall'. We have been loving the whole school programs with Sports Ready and Rhythm Village this term. The Kookaburras have been participating in theme days which have been a huge success. For NAIDOC Week, the Kookaburras discovered how the birds got their colours through a variety of activities including listening to a sensory story, playing with feather boas and painting sticks and birds to create artworks. We also participated in the Science Week-'Moon Discovery Day' where students had access to sensory themed activities, photo booth outfits and games including 'Pin the Astronaut on the Moon'. We all enjoy dressing up in our class, so being Astronauts for the day was lots of fun. We had a family themed week in Week 5, where we read stories about families and spoke about the people we live with being our immediate family. Students took turns matching photos and labels and listened to stories about how families lived in different decades by reading, 'My Place'. The pool is almost as warm as a hot tub since the new heater has been installed and we have been loving being able to swim all year round.

Keltie, Deb and the Kookaburras











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#### **KANGAROOS**

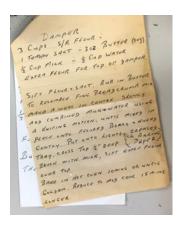
The Kangaroos have been busy using the Bates Drive Literacy program that supports differentiated learning for our individual skills and abilities. All our students are improving in their literacy goals.

We have continued visiting the Library fortnightly to borrow books and work on regulating our emotions and behaviour whilst out in the community. Our Positive Behaviour for Learning goals whilst in the community include: staying with the group, listening to the teacher and following directions. We continue to practice key skills from our unit of work on 'Safety' whilst walking to the Library and the entire class are excelling at using these skills.

Our Primary School aged students are learning about family history through the literary work of Nadia Wheatly's 'My Place'. It has been fun tasting food that different families over the decades have eaten and the sausages and damper were a hit! Spaghetti and meatballs were also enjoyed and next on the list is some Chinese food. Our High School students are learning about Australian Rainforests.

The whole class have enjoyed the literary work of Jeannie Baker - 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea'. Following this, we created a collage for the Sensory Room that spans from floor to ceiling—this was made using bark, leaves, dirt, paper and cardboard. We have rainforest smells and sounds surrounding us in the classroom; it is a full sensory experience in there! With all the media related to what's happening in the Amazon, it has enhanced our ability to find information through various media sources and seek data on the importance of these significant places. We are flat out having fun with this unit of work!

Kirrily, Narelle and the Kangaroos









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#### **MINNAMURRA**

#### **Community Learning Programs**

We have been continuing our focus on community learning with weekly shopping trips and lunches at a variety of venues. Hot chips are still a favourite menu choice! We have been focusing on following a visual shopping list and staying with the group when moving through the aisles at the supermarket. Everyone helps out with the various roles of the shopping process.



#### **Unit of Work**

The Minnamurra Class has been learning about the Daintree Rainforest for their Geography Unit of Work. As a part of this learning experience, the students have been helping to construct their own rainforest in the quiet room within our classroom. We have been creating different plants and animals that live in the Daintree and arranging them within the different layers that make up a rainforest. This project has supported our understanding of rainforest layers whilst giving us opportunities to work on our fine motor skills and encourage our creativity.















#### **Cooking Program**

We have been trying out some new recipes in our Cooking program, including omelettes, Mexican rice and fried rice. It's been wonderful to see the students apply their skills to new recipes and trying new ingredients. They have been able to indicate their preferences for ingredients and whether they liked the dish or not. Fried Rice has been a big hit with some of the members in the Minnamurra Class!













#### Music

The Minnamurra Class have been making good use of the new Music Room with regular jam sessions with the Lennard Class. Lee and Matt have been the backing band for some charismatic vocal performances of Wiggles and Queen songs. The students have also had turns taking drum lessons with Lee.

Matt, Cassandra and the Minnamurra Class

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#### **ANNAN**

With so much happening at Bates Drive, term 3 has certainly been a busy term. Events at our school this term have included NADOIC Week celebrations, Science Week activities, the Father's Day Stall, Footy Mufti Day and in week 9 - Education Week. This past week, students had the opportunity to purchase a gift at our Father's Day Stall. Happy Father's Day to all our Dads! Along with these whole school special activities, the Annan class has continued to participate in programs such as Sports Ready, Rhythm Village, life skills programs and our weekly community learning outings. We have also continued visiting Earn and Return collection centres. We participate in a cooking program each Tuesday and so far our favourite recipes include pizzas and pancakes—yum!

This term in Geography Life skills, High School students have focused on learning all about Australian Rainforests. We have explored where rainforests are in Australia and the world, listened to songs about rainforests and learned about the inhabitants of some rainforests. Recently, we had a class party and celebrated Joel's Birthday - Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday to you, Joel.

Annemarie, Carmen and the Annan Class





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#### **VALE**

Term 3 has been just as busy as Terms 1 and 2 for all of us in the Vale class.

In Mathematics Life Skills, we have continued to order our lunch once a week from a local takeaway restaurant, Dora's Kitchen. We use photographs and a visual menu to support us in communicating a clear choice for our lunch order and each student hands their own money envelope to staff. We have continued to collect data and observe graphs as a part of the Vale Footy Tipping program—this is in full swing. Our 2019 ladder shows how successful we have been with our weekly tips, as well as the NRL ladder.

In History Life Skills, we finally completed a huge unit of work on 'Bush Rangers and the Gold Rush'. We certainly enjoyed learning about some infamous bushrangers such as Ned and the Kelly Gang. We listened to songs about bushrangers and music from that era. We completed a range of visual and creative arts activities that ensured that our theme work display wall was looking pretty spectacular. We also all enjoyed contributing to a whole class 'major work' where we used mixed media to construct a bush dwelling that resembled Ned's home. Terry, our school's GA helped us to make traditional bush musical instruments made from wood, nails and bottle top lids—they make lots of noise and are fun to play when listening to bush ballads.

In our daily Reading Circle program and as part of our Literacy and English Life Skills program this term, we have been reading the book, 'Underpants, Thunderpants!'. We enjoy reading this humorous tale with some adaptations that assist us all to participate and also that add to the enjoyment of the book. We match the visuals from the story and also use lots of special props!

Vanessa, Kelly, Teresa and the Vale Class













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#### **NEPEAN**

Hello dear families! Term 3 has been extremely busy with regular programs and special events. The Nepean class has continued to cook a variety of different recipes each week in the hospitality kitchen, picnic outside when the sun's out, swim in our lovely and warm pool water, walk at the Joseph Banks Reserve next door, attend Sports Ready weekly and make beats in the Rhythm Village program each fortnight. In addition to programs within the classroom, we have also had some special events this term, including Science Week in week 4 and Book Week in week 5. Soon enough, we will be welcoming you into a special assembly for our school's Education Week event in week 9! We have so many photos to show you about what we've been doing, so we will take up as much space as we can with them below!

We have a new student – she is not new anymore! Kayla joined the Nepean class towards the end of Term 2 and she is a perfect addition to our class. Students in the class have welcomed Kayla with open arms and we are very lucky to have such caring students in the Nepean class.

Upcoming birthdays include Jayden, Kayla and Cristian – all in the next few weeks, so we would love to take this opportunity to wish them all a very Happy Birthday!

Take care and we look forward to seeing you in Week 9 – more information to follow on the Skoolbag App soon,

Victoria, Nicole, Jen and the Nepean class



















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#### **LENNARD**

Welcome to term 3.

This term and year has flown by and there have been lots of fun things happening in the Lennard Class.

The Lennard Class has been working diligently with our cognitive rehabilitation exercises, listening skills, reading and writing activities, money skills and our other key learning areas.

The boys have been practicing wellbeing and have been completing some boot camp exercises as a part of our weekly routines, along with some bush walking at the Joseph Banks Reserve next door to our school and meditation each morning. All of the boys have been very calm and engaged in their learning this term—well done, everyone!

In addition to our regular class programs, a few of the boys have been cruising Kogarah bay as participants in the Sailability program. This has been a fantastic program and all of the participating students have enjoyed being out on the water and soaking up the sun. The whole class has been practicing identifying and exchanging money in addition to other skills while shopping at Coles, dining out at the Kareela Golf Club and also at The Prince Hotel.

Not long now until the next school holidays! In term 4, we will be gearing up for Carols in the Park and the year 12 Graduation. We will be saying, "Farewell." to our year 12 students - Lachlan Rowney, Michael Severino, Luke Matthew and Jackson Orlic. It will be sad to see the boys go, however it is time to move on to bigger and better things and we can't wait to hear about them.

Have a great school holiday break and we will see you again soon.

Lee, Nat, Donna and the Lennard Class



#### RETURN AND EARN CAMPAIGN

# SUPPORT BATES **DRIVE SPECIAL** SCHOOL

Bates Drive is now a registered charity for Return and Earn Containers.

#### HOW CAN I HELP?

- Collect eligible containers.
- 2) Take them to the reverse vending machines at Southgate Sylvania or Menai Marketplace between 26th August and 24th November 2019.
- 3) Select Bates Drive School PnC as the charity for the money to be allocated.

#### Which containers can be returned for a refund?

# HIBI

Most 150ml to three litre drink containers will be eligible for a 10 cent refund at an approved NSW collection point. Container materials that may be eligible for a refund include:

- Plastic
- Aluminium
- Liquid paperboard (cartons)

#### Which containers aren't eligible for a refund?



Containers that can't be deposited for a refund include:

- Plain milk (or milk substitute) containers
- Flavoured milk containers of one litre or more
- Pure fruit or vegetable juice containers of one litre
- Glass containers for wine and spirits
- Casks (plastic bladders in boxes) for wine or water of one litre or more
- Sachets for wine of 250ml or more

# September 2019

sun	MON	TUE	WED	тни	FRI	SAT
	2 P & C Meeting	3	4	5 Medical Clinics	6	7 Trivia Night
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Education Week Assemblies	19 Funathon	20 KindiFarm	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Last day of term	28 School Holidays
29 School Holidays	30 School Holidays					

# October 2019

sun	MON	TUE	WED	тни	FRI	SAT
		1 School Holidays	2 School Holidays	3 School Holidays	4 School Holidays	5 School Holidays
6	7 School Holidays	8 School Holidays	9 School Holidays	10 School Holidays	11 School Holidays	12 School Holidays
13 School Holidays	14 First day of term -Staff & Students	15	16	17 Transition Clinic	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Medical Clinic; Halloween		