

Tuesday 21 January 2025

## 2025 Start of Year Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're excited to welcome you and your child to a year filled with learning, growth, and fun!

We understand that a new school year can bring a mix of emotions. Rest assured, our dedicated team is committed to creating a warm, supportive, and inclusive environment where every child feels valued. We've carefully crafted a stimulating curriculum designed to spark curiosity, nurture creativity, and celebrate each child's unique talents.

We're thrilled to introduce our new staff members: Mrs Nadia Esterhuysen, Miss Stephanie McEwan, Mrs Lisa Parker, and Mrs Kirrilee Brancht. Together with our experienced team, we're eager to work with you to support your child's academic and personal development.

Please see the below start of year information for both new and current families.

### **Prep Three Day students: Monday 3 February, 9am to 11am.**

Park in the main car park or in the 9 parking bays designated for Prep. Walk your child to the Prep room, say farewell and you are welcome to come to a morning tea in the area next to Admin from 9.00am. Information and what to bring on the first day will be sent to you by Mrs Lundberg. **Prep Uniform and morning tea required for students.**

### **Kindergarten: Monday 3 February, 9am to 11am.**

Park in the main car park and walk together to meet outside the classroom. The Kindergarten teachers will be there to meet you. Parents can visit the room for the first 30 minutes then move to the morning tea at 9.30am and collect children at 11 am. **Formal School Uniform and morning tea required for students.** A letter with the class teacher for Kindergarten will be sent to parents prior to school commencing.

### **New Students Year 1 to Year 6: Monday 3 February, 9.30 am to 11 am.**

Please park in the car park and meet the teaching staff in the amphitheatre. You will meet your child's teacher on the day and parents and carers will visit the classroom. Parents will then attend the morning tea at 10.15am. **Formal School Uniform and morning tea are required for students.**

### **Prep Two Day students: Thursday 6 February, 9am to 11am.**

Park in the main car park or in the 9 parking bays designated for Prep. Walk your child to the Prep room, say farewell and you are welcome to join us for Morning Tea at Georgia Rose at the Shell Cove Marina. Information and what to bring on the first day will be sent to you by Mrs Lundberg. **Prep Uniform and morning tea required for students.**

### **All Students return on Tuesday 4 February 2025**

We are thrilled to welcome all students from Prep 3 to Year 6 back to the College on Tuesday 4 February 2025 for their first full day. All students come to school on Tuesday 4 February in **full formal school uniform**. Please refer to the Parent Information Manual for uniform, hair, jewellery and footwear requirements.

Ensuring everyone's safety remains our top priority. To maintain a smooth and secure environment, we kindly request the following:

- **Driver Patience:** Please be patient and courteous when navigating our campus, particularly around drop-off and pick-up zones.
- **Road Safety:** Strictly adhere to posted speed limits and traffic regulations. Always be mindful of pedestrians, especially children.

By working together and prioritising everyone's wellbeing, we can create a safe and welcoming environment for the

entire College community.

### Start and Finish times for 2025:

- **Prep:** Arrival from 8.30am to 8.55am, departure from 2.45pm to 3.00pm
- **K-2:** Arrival from 8.30am to 8.55am, departure as per the schedule below
- **3-6:** Arrival from 8.30am to 8.55am, departure as per the schedule below

### Departure and Collection information:

#### Prep Drop off and Pick up:

Park in the main car park and walk around the footpath to the Prep gate. You are to drop your child off at their Prep classroom from 8.30am to 8.55am. Thank you for always holding your child's hand.

Students are to be collected at the Prep area from 2.45pm to 3pm.

#### Kindergarten Drop off and Pick up:

Parents may walk their child to put their bag on their hook at their classroom and then take them to the Kindergarten grassed area at B block where there will be a teacher on duty from 8.30am. Kindergarten students are to be collected at 3.00pm. Parents may wait at the top of the stairs outside B block where Kindergarten staff will bring their classes to meet you. Please do not go to your child's classroom.

#### Drop Off Options:

1. **Kiss and Drop:** This flows from the main entrance and is based on available spaces. Students should have bags ready at their feet ready to exit the car without parent help. Parents are required to stay in the car and to drive away safely and promptly to the exit.
2. **Park and Drop:** This is in the main car park and is accessed by turning immediately left after the entrance. There are about 100 spaces only, so these should be used only for a quick park (nose in or tail in), student exit and departure.
3. **Collection by Car:** There are two collection times when staff will bring students to the main car park and deliver them to your vehicle. Please talk with your child/children about what time is collection and where you will attempt to park (front zone, second or back). **3.00pm Stage One Students** and **3.15pm for Stage Two and Stage Three Students**. If you want your younger child/children to be picked up at 3.15pm they will be supervised in a JS classroom until collected by their sibling.
4. **Park Offsite and Walk:** This can be a planned routine or a response to significant traffic on Dunmore Rd. Enter Shell Cove and park in an appropriate place then walk with or direct your child to walk to school. Students can be farewelled at the pedestrian gate or if necessary, walked to the end of the car park near Kiss and Drop.
5. **Bike Riding:** all safety equipment is mandatory for students. Please train your child to obey all traffic lights, road rules and general safety. Students must **walk** their bike to the bike racks once on school grounds. Entry is through the top gate near Dunmore Rd. Should your Junior School child be travelling with an older sibling then they will wait in the amphitheatre for SS students to meet them.
6. **Pedestrian Access:** Students should be of a responsible age and obey all traffic signs, lights and rules. Dunmore Rd is particularly busy with car, bus and truck traffic. Students are not to cross the driveways at the front entrance gates.
7. **Bus Access: The bus timetable can be found [here](#).** All students are supervised until the bus arrives and the line is called by the teacher on duty. Should your Junior School child be travelling with an older sibling then they will wait in the amphitheatre for SS students to meet them.

Please note there are still some spots on the Private Buses that run to Gerringong /Jamberoo/ and areas of Kiama. For enquiries contact Gavin on 0414 377 505.

**Communication:**

You will receive a Seesaw parent QR code which will allow you to receive and send general information to the class teacher. Please be looking for Edumate Broadcasts and emails for letters home. You are welcome to call the school if needed.

**Upcoming events:**

**Junior School Swimming Carnival Tuesday 11 February.** This event is for all Year 3–6 students and competent 8-year-olds in Year 2. All parents are welcome. More information will be sent home during Week 1.

**Meet and Greet Afternoon** – a chance to meet the class teacher, catch up with other parents and carers in the class.

- **Kindergarten and Stage 3:** Tuesday 18 February, 4pm to 5pm in the amphitheatre
- **Stage 1 and Stage 2:** Wednesday 19 February, 4pm to 5pm in the amphitheatre

**Teacher and Class Allocation:**

Kindergarten students will receive another letter prior to school commencing, detailing their class teacher for 2025. All other families will be able to view their child's class teacher on Edumate prior to school commencing. This will be activated during the final week of the break.

At Shellharbour Anglican College, we foster a nurturing environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and spiritually. We are committed to partnering with you to ensure your child's journey is filled with joy and success. We value open communication and encourage your involvement. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Kind Regards

Mr Brian Host

Head of Junior School

Faith | Wisdom | Compassion | Respect