



HOLGATE NEWS

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holgate-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Wednesday 19 March 2025

Principal's Report

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is this Friday 21 March. On Friday, students will work in peer support groups with Year 6 leaders running Harmony Day activities. The students are creating a "Come Sit With Me" bench for the oval and can come dressed in orange or National Dress. Thank you, Mrs Nash, for your organisation; it's going to be a great day.

Cross Country

The annual Cross Country is on Thursday 10 April. The Cross Country will start at 9am and parents and carers are welcome to attend and cheer our students on. The P&C will be holding a BBQ fundraiser.

Well Done Year 3 and 5 on NAPLAN!

Congratulations to Year 3 and Year 5 students on completing their NAPLAN assessments! A special thank you to Mrs Burke and Mrs Kerri for their efforts in organising the assessments. We would also like to extend our gratitude to Mrs King for her invaluable technology support. Well done, everyone!

ANZAC Day Ceremony

Our school leaders will be undertaking an ANZAC Service on Wednesday 9 April 2pm in our school hall. David Ferry and Peter White from Terrigal RSL will be attending the event. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Easter Egg Raffle School Fundraiser

Friday 28 March is our annual Easter Egg collection. Students are encouraged to bring in an Easter egg to contribute to our prizes and wear mufti. The school will use the funds raised from this fundraiser to offset the cost of sporting equipment.

Year 6 Sports Day Erina High School

Wednesday 2 April is Year 6 Sports Day at Erina High School as part of high school transition. Permission notes and details will come through School bytes.

Easter Hat Parade - Information for Parents

We are happy to share that our Easter Hat Parade will be on 11 April at 8:45 am. This is a fun event where students can show off their creative hats!

What to Bring:

- Please help your child make a special Easter hat at home. You can use things like paper, fabric, and decorations.
- Make sure the hat is safe and comfortable for your child to wear.

Event Details:

- The parade starts at 8:45 am on the school basketball court. We invite families to come and cheer for the students!
- If it rains, we will hold the parade inside the school hall.

We are excited to celebrate this day with everyone!

Have fun making hats!

Staff leave and planning days

Mrs Nguyen will be on leave from Week 8, Term 1, starting on Monday 17 March, until Week 9, Term 1, ending on Monday 31 March. During her absence, she will be replaced by Mrs Lawson.

Additionally, collaborative planning days for explicit teaching in Numeracy, as well as data days for case management and learning walks, will take place in Weeks 10 and 11. We have employed consistent casual staff to ensure continuity. For part-time teachers, we have arranged schedules to avoid consecutive days off, ensuring that routines remain stable.

Term 2 Staff Development Day

We are excited to announce our upcoming Staff Development Days on Monday 28 April and Tuesday 29 April. These days will focus on the High Potential and Gifted Education (HPGE) policy and practices, providing our staff with essential training to support the diverse needs of our gifted and high potential students.

During these professional development days, teachers and support staff will participate in workshops that explore the NSW Department of Education's HPGE policies, effective teaching strategies, and best practices for identifying and supporting HPGE learners. This is a fantastic opportunity for our staff to collaborate and enhance their skills in creating inclusive and stimulating learning environments. Students return to school Wednesday 30 April.

Annual Report

We are pleased to announce that our Annual Report is now available on the school website. You can find it by visiting [Holgate Public School - Annual Report](#).

This report provides valuable insights into our achievements, goals, and plans for the future. We encourage all parents and community members to take a moment to read it.

Attendance

The Importance of Regular Attendance and How Parents Can Help

Regular attendance at school plays a crucial role in your child's learning and development. It not only enhances their academic performance but also fosters social connections and contributes to their overall wellbeing. As parents, you play a vital role in ensuring that your child attends school consistently and arrives on time each day.

Building Positive Attendance Habits

Here are some effective strategies to help build positive attendance habits:

- **Emphasise Punctuality and Routine:** Help your child understand the importance of being on time and establishing a daily routine.
- **Plan Appointments Wisely:** Schedule medical appointments and other commitments outside of school hours to minimise disruptions to your child's learning.
- **Communicate Absences:** If your child is absent, please contact the school within 7 days to explain the reason for their absence.

- **Notify the School of Late Arrivals or Early Departures:** If your child needs to arrive late or leave early, inform the school in advance.
- **Encourage School Support:** Work collaboratively with the school to promote and support regular attendance.

Understanding Reasons for Missing School

There can be various reasons why a child might miss school, including anxiety. It's essential to be aware of the signs that may indicate your child is struggling with attendance:

- Expressing fears or worries about going to school
- Regularly requesting to stay home
- A history of school refusal

School refusal, also known as 'school avoidance,' differs from skipping school, as it often stems from anxiety. This issue can affect children and young people from all backgrounds.

Talking to Your Child

If you notice your child is reluctant to attend school, engage in an open dialogue to understand their feelings and experiences. It's important to create a supportive environment where they can express their concerns.

Collaborating with the School

Reach out to your child's teacher if you are concerned about their school attendance. The school is here to support both you and your child, and working together can help alleviate their anxieties.

Seeking Professional Help

If your child's reluctance to attend school persists, consider making an appointment with your GP. They may refer you to a mental health professional, such as a counsellor or psychologist, who can provide your child with tools to manage their anxiety effectively.

Conclusion

Every parent faces challenges when it comes to getting their child to school, but it is essential to address any ongoing issues. Fostering positive attendance habits and maintaining open communication with both your child and school, can help create a structured and supportive environment that encourages regular attendance. Together, we can ensure that every child can thrive academically and socially.



Warm regards

Vanessa Gordon Proud Principal

School News

Event	Year	Date	Note Due/Cost
Harmony Day	K - 6	Friday 21 March	Orange/national dress
Easter Mufti Day	K - 6	Friday 28 March	Wear mufti bring in an egg
EHS Year 6 Sports Day	Yr 6	Wednesday 2 April	TBA
ANZAC Day Ceremony	K - 6	Wednesday 9 April	2pm in school hall
Cross Country Carnival	K - 6	Thursday 10 April	9am / P&C BBQ
Easter Hat Parade	K - 6	Friday 11 April 8:45am	8.45am on basketball court
2 nd Hand Uniform Sale		Friday 11 April 9:30am	
Easter Raffle Drawn	K - 6	Friday 11 April	
Term 2			
SDD 5		Monday 28 April	
SDD 6		Tuesday 29 April	
Students return for Term 2	K - 6	Wednesday 30 April	
P&C Meeting 7pm	All Welcome	Monday 5 May	

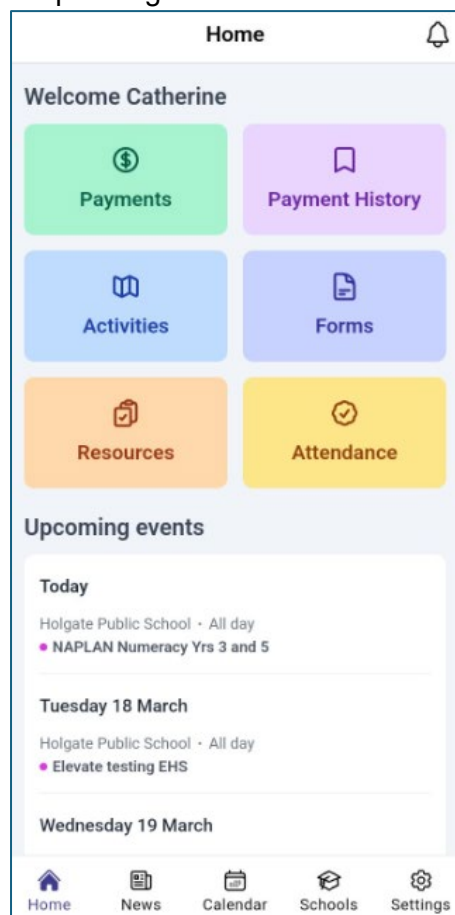
This newsletter is published in Weeks 2, 5 and 8. The next on Wednesday 7 May 2025

The next assembly is on Friday 28 March 2025 at 2pm in the school hall.

Administration

Enrolment Cards

We still have many student enrolment cards outstanding. These were sent home at the beginning of the term. They are on A5 size grey card and are a necessary way to contact parents when computers are not cooperating. Please return to school immediately. If you have misplaced the card more are available from the office.



School Bytes Parent Calendar

A parent calendar is available on the School Bytes Parent Portal. This is updated regularly and contains relevant dates including start and finish term dates. The calendar is attached to the app so on your welcome page it will show you upcoming events. You can use the calendar icon to search for dates.

Easter Raffle

We will be holding our very popular Easter Raffle commencing with a **Mufti day next Friday 28 March** when the cost to participate is an Easter egg for the raffle. Raffle tickets will cost 50c each.



Payments can be made using the School Bytes app on this link <https://portal.schoolbytes.education/other-payment/30>

You will need to alter the amount to the payment that you are making.

Raffle tickets are being sent home today, one to each student and will be drawn on Friday 11 April. Extra tickets are available from the office. Tickets are to be returned to school Thursday 10 April. If you are selling tickets to people outside the school community could you please include your child's name on the ticket as it becomes a logistical nightmare trying to contact winners who we do not know and who don't answer their

phones. Last year's Easter raffle had many prizes. The money raised will go towards offsetting the cost of sporting equipment. We again ask for donations of baskets for our first five or so prizes. We will not be wrapping the rest of the prizes to save on excess packaging. Thank you in advance for the support of this extremely popular fundraiser.

School Anzac Day Ceremony

Our school Anzac assembly will be held at school the last week of term on Wednesday 9 April at 2pm in the school hall. Special guests from the Terrigal-Wamberal RSL Sub-Branch will be in attendance. Parents are welcome to attend. We ask families to donate flowers from your gardens for a wreath for the service. We have been able to make some beautiful wreaths in previous years.



Attendance in School Bytes

As per DoE policy guidelines we must have an explanation for your child if they have a partial day absence (eg late for school) or a full day absence. You will continue to receive emails from us until the absence is explained. There are a few ways to explain a student absence. You may indicate the reason in the parent portal of School Bytes, email or phone the school.

School Student Travel

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass but have not yet applied need to [apply](#) or [update](#) their details as soon as possible.

In the Opal network, students should travel with a Child/Youth Opal card until they receive their valid School Opal card. If outside Greater Sydney, parents should contact their [local bus operator](#) to discuss their travel needs.



Students living in rural and regional areas will receive their travel pass from their nominated transport operator. It may be issued via their school or be sent directly to them at home. Note: some rural and regional operators do not issue travel passes. Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Holgate P & C News

Thank you to all those who attended our AGM this month, we are excited to welcome many new members. Thank you to the amazing 2024 P&C committee who worked very hard to coordinate events, to help raise funds and put in tireless hours for our school.

A big thank you to David Gurr, our P&C President of three years. Dave, thank you for your commitment, dedication, time and hours you have put into our P&C over these years. We appreciate all that you have done for Holgate in this time. We are also thankful that you are able to stay on as Vice President this year.

Congratulations and welcome to the following Executives and Office Bearers:

President - Alecia Nealon

Vice President - David Gurr

Secretary - Imke Pearce

Treasurer - Laura Butler

Fundraising Committee - Colleen Birch, Cathi Vassilev, Peta O'Neil, Anna Van Drempt, Jodie Vigar and Briana Henderson

Social Media - Cathi Vassilev

Book Club - Cathi Vassilev and Lizzie McPherson

2nd Hand Clothing - Lizzie McPherson

Music and Instrument Coordinator - Sharyn Styman

Grants Committee - Colleen Birch, David Gurr and Ben Fitzpatrick

P&C Newsletter - Briana Henderson

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR FOR 2025

We have a full year of exciting events planned and we always love to welcome any volunteers to help on these special days. Before each event we will send a note home to help rally up these volunteers. So keep an eye out!



Please also make sure you join the Holgate Public School P&C Facebook page to keep you up to date on all of these events (this is different to the school Facebook page).

At these events we endeavour to help raise funds for resources for our children to help their educational growth.

Please see below for the scheduled dates to pop into your calendar:

Jan	Feb	March Friday 21st Harmony Day Canteen Special	April Thursday 10th Cross Country P&C BBQ	May Friday 9th Mothers Day Stall and P&C Canteen Special Lunch Meal Deal TBA Election Day Cake/BBQ Stall	June
July	August TBA School Disco	September Wednesday 3rd Father's Day Breakfast and Raffle	October	November TBA Trivia Night	December

CANTEEN

Did you know the canteen is run by the P&C?

Unfortunately, with the rising cost of food we have had to make a small cost increase to some items over the coming weeks. We have been lucky enough to hold off on rising any costs for three years.

We have also added hash browns back onto our recess menu for \$2 each.

Each week we are after volunteers to help in the canteen. If you can help out please reach out via Facebook or holgate.pandc@gmail.com. Thanks Imke.



HARMONY DAY

This Friday 21 March we will be celebrating Harmony day in the canteen. We will be offering a special meal deal for this **Friday Only** as well as the normal menu:

- Fried Rice + 1 Spring Roll & Drink \$8
- Cheesy Noodles + Drink \$8
- Spring Rolls 2 for \$3

There will also be orange cupcakes and lolly bags at recess so don't forget to bring your gold coins.



Delicious
HARMONY DAY

MEAL DEALS- ADDED ADDITIONS TO THE CANTEEN THIS WEEK ONLY

- RIED RICE +1 SPRING ROLL AND DRINK** \$8
- CHESSY NOODLES + DRINK** \$8
- SPRING ROLLS** 2 for \$3.00

ORDER THROUGH SPRIGGY OR LUNCH ORDER BAG

CUPCAKES & TREATS BRING GOLD COINS

A reminder on how to order.

Clearly write your child's name, class, and order on a brown paper bag and your child will place it in the lunch tub in the morning.

Alternatively order over the spriggy app before 8.30 am Friday.

<https://www.spriggyschools.com.au/get-the-spriggy-schools-app>

Thank you

Holgate P&C



Harmony Day

Friday 21st March 2025



**you can
sit with me**

Holgate Public School Activities

- Students come dressed in orange clothes or national dress.
- Year 6 leaders will be running Harmony Day activities at school.
- Harmony Day school canteen meal deal.



SCHOOLWEAR

HOLGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL

FLEECE ZIP JACKET - 89890

WAS ~~\$56.95~~
EACH

NOW
\$36.95
EACH

ZERO CARD PRICE \$35.10

INSTORE AT ERINA & ONLINE

While stocks last. Not in conjunction with any other offer.



Holgate Primary School
Before and After School Care
Subject to regulatory approval*

Coastwide Child and Family Services are thrilled to be the new Outside of School Hours onsite Provider for Holgate Primary School.

School Terms - Monday to Friday:
Morning - 6.30am - 8.30am
Afternoon - 2.30pm - 6.00pm

The Coastwide team look forward to meeting our Holgate families as at Term 1 - 2025

From as little as \$3 per session with Child Care Subsidy (CCS) approval



admin@coastwideoosh.com.au | 02 4340 1111 | 1300 COASTWIDE | W: www.ccfhc.com.au



SCHOOLWEAR

HOLGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL

TARTAN SKIRT - 92089

WAS ~~\$63.95~~
EACH

NOW
\$34.95
EACH

ZERO CARD PRICE \$33.20



Sales & Leasing

61 Victoria St, East Gosford NSW 2250 gittoes.com.au 4323 3811



P: 0400 242 320

W: www.tvcplumbing.com.au

E: tvcplumbing@outlook.com

All plumbing repairs, installs & maintenance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Blocked Drains
- Burst Pipes
- Stormwater & Drainage
- Hot Water Systems
- Renovations
- Pumps & Pressure
- Leaks & Inspection

- ☑ PLUMBER
- ☑ GASFITTER
- ☑ DRAINER
- ☑ LP GASFITTER

Licence number: 323330C



Triple P - Positive Parenting Program has recently made available their *Stepping Stones* program online for parents at no cost.

Stepping Stones Triple P Online is an evidenced-based parenting program for parents and carers to support their children under 12 years with developmental disability, neurodiversity, or additional needs with key life skills such as daily routines, communicating, and building relationships.

The program is self-paced. Further information and registration can be found [here](#).

8 | motivesports
SUPER CAMP
SPORTS FESTIVAL

EXPERIENCE A MULTI-SPORTS CAMP WHERE EVERY CHILD FEELS LIKE A ROCKSTAR
 USING SPORT AS A TOOL TO MOTIVATE, INSPIRE & ENTERTAIN CHILDREN IN A SAFE SPORTS DREAMLAND

Dear Parent/s
 WE WOULD LOVE TO INVITE YOUR CHILD TO BE PART OF AUSTRALIA'S NO. 1 MULTI-SPORTS CAMP THESE HOLIDAYS.

Campers will experience non-contact sports including 4-ball Soccer, Big Dog Cricket, Flagball and Street Hockey just to name a few! Plus we have dance-offs, coaches challenges and dress-up day on Day 2. Our coaching staff are energetic, happy and inspiring! Campers are put into groups of 16-20 campers based on their age. Events run from 8:30am - 3:30pm DAILY. New campers receive a Rookie jersey as part of their rego. \$110 for 2-days or \$60 if you have an Active Kids Voucher!

SUPER CAMP DETAILS
 CAMP 1: 14 - 15 APRIL @ CENTRAL COAST GRAMMAR SCHOOL
 CAMP 2: 16 - 17 APRIL @ TERRIGAL HIGH SCHOOL
 CAMP 3: 23 - 24 APRIL @ LAKES GRAMMAR WARNERVALE

Book now @ www.motiv8sports.com.au/locations/central-coast/ or use the QR code to visit our event pages for more details.

motivesports.com.au

Tap on and tap off every time

because it tells us how many people are using public transport. This allows us to better plan services for you.

As a condition of the School Plus Service and the Student Code of Conduct when travelling, all students in possession of the School Opal card must tap on and tap off every time when using public transport to travel to and from school. The section 32 of the Opal Privacy Policy, Transport for NSW collects information from tap on and tap off to support coordination, planning and policy development for transport, transport services and transport infrastructure.



Tap on and tap off your School Opal card every time

COME TRY HOCKEY!
 Erina Hockey Club

TUESDAY 11TH MARCH
 CENTRAL COAST GRAMMAR SCHOOL 6PM
 ALL AGES WELCOME TO OUR LOCAL CLUB FOR THE 2025 SEASON!

PREMIERS

Following an absence from school you must ensure that, within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences
- You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.
- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.



Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

The Importance of arriving on time

- Arriving at school and class on time:
- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
 - Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
 - Gives students time to greet their friends before class
 - Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



More information

Further Information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's Policy Library AND The Department's Attendance Matters Website

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's Wellbeing and Learning website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **131 450**. You will not be charged for this service.



HOLGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL CANTEEN MENU 2025

Recess (available at recess over the counter or online)	
• Snack pack (cheese, crackers, carrot sticks)	\$1.50
• Half a toast (cheese or ham and cheese)	\$1.50
• Hash Brown	\$2.00
• lamingtons, biscuits or cakes	\$0.50
• Red Rock chips (salt or honey soy chicken)	\$2.00
• Popcorn	\$1.00
• Drinks	
○ Chill J (orange passio, lemon, watermelon or grape)	\$2.50
○ Chocolate milk, strawberry milk	\$2.50
○ Juice popper (apple, ABC, orange)	\$2.00
Lunch (orders only, online or in a paper bag)	
• Penne Bolognaise homemade	\$5.00
• Nachos (beef) homemade	\$5.50
• Sushi (Teriyaki chicken, tuna, vegetarian)	\$4.00
• Pie (lean beef)	\$4.50
• Sausage Roll (180grams large)	\$4.00
• Chicken tender wrap (w/ lettuce & mayo)	\$4.00
• Chicken tender only	\$2.50
○ 3 chicken tenders	\$7.00
○ 4 chicken tenders	\$8.00
• Ham and Pineapple Pizza	\$4.00
• Ham and Cheese Pizza	\$4.00
• Cheese Pizza	\$3.50
• Cheese Sandwich	\$3.50
• Ham and Cheese Sandwich	\$4.00
• Ham Cheese and Tomato Sandwich	\$4.00
• Vegemite Sandwich	\$3.50
• Cheese Toast	\$4.00



• Ham and Cheese Toast	\$4.00
• Ham Cheese and Tomato Toast	\$4.00
Drinks	
○ Chill J (orange passio, lemon, watermelon or grape)	\$2.50
○ Chocolate milk, strawberry milk	\$2.50
○ Juice popper (apple, ABC, orange)	\$2.00
Icy Treats (available over the counter at lunch)	
• Bevco frozen juice cups	\$1.00
• Quelch 100% juice iceblocks	\$1.00
• Juice tubes (100% juice)	\$1.50
• Frozen mango yogurt	\$2.00

How to order: online under <https://app.spriggyschools.com.au/> or send your child to school with a brown lunch bag with name, class and order written clearly and money inside.

Volunteers always required, please contact us on 044 7020823 if you would like to help out. Thank you!