



2 Serpentine Road, Erina Heights NSW 2260
PHONE 02 4367 7608

erinahts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.erinahts-p.schools.nsw.gov.au



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 2020

- 3 Last Day of School for Term 2
- 20 Staff Development Day
- 21 First Day of School Term 3

PAYMENTS DUE

- \$50.00 Deposit for Stage 3 Camp
- \$302.00 Stage 3 Camp
- \$38.00 K-2 Education Pack
- \$35.00 3-6 Education Pack
- \$40.00 Voluntary School Contribution

Time Change - Afternoon Kiss and Go - Effective from Monday 22nd June.

The staggered pick up for Kiss and Go will continue for the remainder of Term 2. From Monday students in **Years 3-6** and siblings will be ready for pick up at **2:35pm** - 5 minutes later than the current process.



Principal Update

As the term speeds on we are setting well back to face-to-face learning and will soon be preparing for the holiday break. Our students are all very settled and it is great to see classrooms and our playground filled with happy children.

Reports

Our Semester 1 reports will be sent home at the end of Week 10. These will be a modified version of our reports. Teachers are reporting on Semester 1 learning with a focus on the learning that has occurred since returning to school in Term 2. These modified reports will consist of an English and Maths comment with an effort scale and a Wellbeing checklist.

Afternoon Kiss and Go

Thank you to everyone who uses Kiss and Go for supporting our new processes. These have seen some significant improvements in keeping traffic moving. Wet weather days do still cause issues and we will continue to work on solutions to this. Please be mindful of normal road rules and ensure you are not blocking access to intersections and crossings while waiting in the Kiss and Go line.



Do you have a child who will be starting school in 2021?

We are now accepting enrolments for in area students. If you know of anyone whose child will be attending Erina Heights Public School in 2021, please have them contact us.



Now Enrolling



Intention to apply for Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2021

A note went home to all Year 4 students regarding applications for Year 5 Opportunity Class in 2021. Testing and assessment Applications for opportunity class placement are considered on the results of the Opportunity Class Placement Test.

Students who wish to be considered for opportunity class placement will sit the Opportunity Class Placement Test on Wednesday 16 September 2020. If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2021, you need to apply between Tuesday 9 June 2020 and Friday 26 June 2020. You will need to access the online application at

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/publicschools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunityclasses/year-5>.

You must submit only ONE application for each student. Important notes – the school cannot apply on your behalf and there will be no considerations of late applications this year.

Canteen

There have been some changes to the operation of the school canteen.

- * Canteen CLOSED Monday and Tuesday
- * Canteen will be OPEN Wednesday- Friday
- * All lunch orders are to be placed through Flexischools
- * Canteen will now be open for recess and accepting cash sales
- * Canteen will open for ice blocks at lunch time and accepting cash sales for the ice blocks

Cleaning

To help keep schools safe during COVID-19, all NSW schools have extra cleaning in place during the day.

The cleaning contractors are seeking to recruit casual cleaners to support the enhanced and day-clean in schools. If you or someone you know may be interested in this work, please contact the Department of Education's contractor Broadsppectrum via email to karleeanne.davis@skoutsolutions.com for further information.

Principal Update

As the life slowly returns to normal post isolation, we kindly ask parents and/or carers to make themselves familiar with the attendance requirements of Erina Heights Public School.

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. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

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
- Give 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 is absent 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)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days from the first date of absence, 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 a reasonable timeframe, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Schools 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.

Need to travel?

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school Class Teacher or Assistant 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.

What can I do as a parent to support my child's attendance?

Encourage conversation about school at home with your child, reflecting on the positives and negatives and brainstorming problem-solving strategies for issues at school.

Be actively involved in your child's education, helping them complete assessment tasks at home or revise work they have completed in class that day. Your encouragement will help them realise the importance of school and education.

- Create regular routines around attending school each day that school is open
- Avoid allowing your child to have days off for holidays or events that could be planned for school holidays or weekends. Making this a habit teaches your child that missing school for more 'fun' activities is ok
- Be firm but kind about morning routines and attending school on time
- Listen to your child if they have concerns about attending school and seek support early
- If your child is complaining of illness, it is recommended that you visit your child's doctor to have this checked out
- Decrease rewards for remaining at home, find out which subjects they would be doing at school on a day they are absent and have them complete similar work at home
- Keep up with extra-curricular and family activities to support resilience and give your child the experience of enjoyment of success
- Seek help from school or from a medical professional if your child is refusing to attend school

Stage 3 Classroom Activities

After examining *The Watertower* by Gary Crew, S3F wrote a descriptive piece based on a picture from the book.

In the watertower there is a machine. It grumbles and rumbles. Any time an innocent child climbs down the water tower, the machine lets out an absurd acid. It sears through the child's skin and slowly moves into their blood.

- Luca G

The ladder creaked as he slowly crawled down it. His feet froze as they touched the frozen, icy water. He had shivers down his spine. The green algae was so slippery that his whole body fell into the green, dirty water.

- Ari S

The rickety, old tower was burning in the sun. The murky, green water was eddying and Bubba was scared to move or the tower would collapse.

- Asha C

It's dark, cold. The water is green and brown, I'm sitting on the bottom of the rusty, orange ladder. I refuse to touch the ground as it's mossy and slimy. "Is anyone there?" I yell.

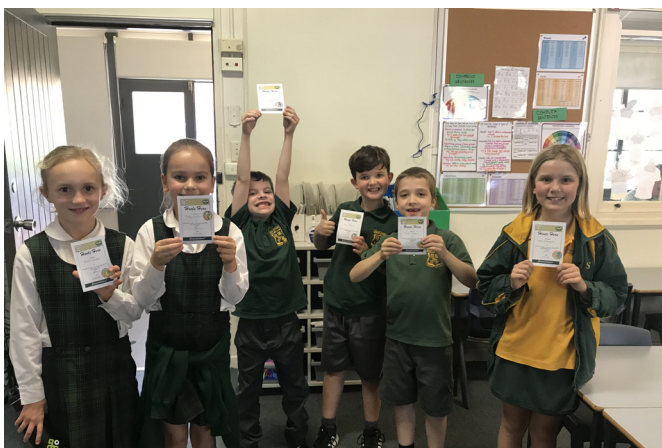
"I'm not ready to go in" my friend yells.

Oh no! There is something in the water... "AHHH!"

- Lacey C



School News



Stranger Danger

The school has become aware of unidentified adults who are encouraging young people to get in their car. The incidents have occurred as students are on their way home from school and police have been contacted. Fortunately the students involved were not harmed and were able to alert others who were close by.

Incidents such as this are a timely reminder of the importance of ensuring every student has arrangements in place for their journey to and from school and they go directly home or directly to school. It is also important students are aware of the dangers of getting in a car and have a plan in place. Please have a family conversation to consider the prevention tips below.

1. Don't walk to/from school alone. Always stick with a group.
2. Don't take shortcuts.
3. If a stranger approaches you say No, Walk away and Tell an adult (NO- GO- TELL).
4. Don't talk to strangers.
5. Don't accept rides from anyone without parent permission (establishing a family code word will help in emergency situations).
6. If something unusual happens to you or one of your friends, tell an adult immediately, or ring 000.
7. Identify a place that you can run to for safety if needed (i.e. a neighbour's house or a public place).

Student Permissions Form



ERINA HEIGHTS
PUBLIC SCHOOL

HAPPY, HEALTHY, SUCCESSFUL, LIFELONG LEARNERS

STUDENT PERMISSION FORM

Student Name: _____ Class: _____

Parent/Carer's are asked to complete this form and return it to the school. The permission form will be kept on file and remain valid for the duration of your child's enrolment at Erina Heights Public School. If wish to change your permissions in the future please notify the school in writing.

		I GIVE PERMISSION (PLEASE TICK):	I DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION (PLEASE TICK):
PUBLISH PHOTOS PRINT/DGITAL MEDIA	Permission for my child's photo to be published in all forms of print and digital media (including but not limited to the School Newsletter, School Website, Facebook, Dojo, Annual School Report, Electronic Sign)		
PUBLISH NAME PRINT/DIGITAL MEDIA	Permission for my child's first name to be published in all forms of print and digital media (including but not limited to the School Newsletter, School Website, Facebook, Dojo, Annual School Report, Electronic Sign)		
PG RATED PROGRAMS	Permission for my child to watch PG movies. During the school year students have the opportunity to watch programs or movies for various reasons, including being part of a literacy program, supporting classroom research, wet weather lunches and camps.		
SUNSCREEN	Permission for my child to apply sunscreen. We encourage students to be sun safe, which includes wearing a hat and applying sunscreen. Sunscreen will be kept in the school front office.		

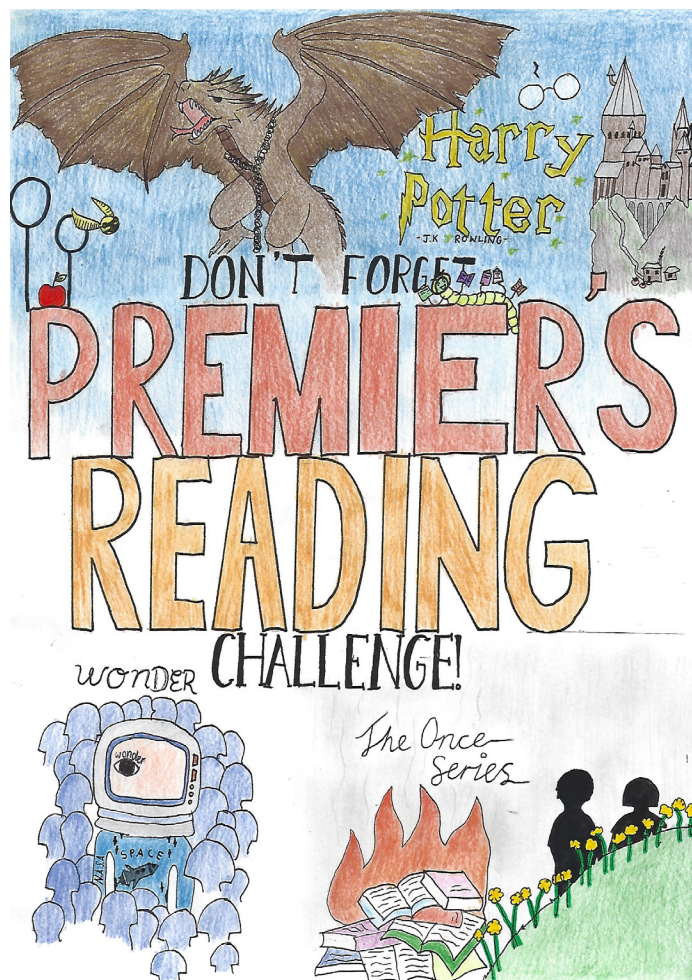
Parent/Carer Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer Signature: _____

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Principal: Mrs. Natalie MacDonald

Premiers Reading Challenge



Welcome to Term 2!

How quickly things change! You're probably all working quite differently to how you would have expected this time last term, but some things don't change. Connecting with stories and ideas is still as important as ever, and the Premier's Reading Challenge will continue to provide support for students to be able to discover great stories and experience quality literature.

We recently sent an email about updates to the Challenge Rules for 2020 to help support students as their learning environment is changed during COVID-19. If you missed that, please refer to the following links for more information, including some support articles with suggestions about ways to access books whilst learning from home. If you have any questions about any of this, please feel free to email us.

What changes have been made to the PRC rules for 2020?

How do students add their BONUS choice books?

How can coordinators support students in accessing books from home?

How can parents/ carers and students find books to read from home?

If you have any great projects or activities running at your school to help students engage with the PRC, we'd love to see them! Please tag @nswprc in any posts on Instagram, or send through photos and information to prc@det.nsw.edu.au.

KEY DATES

Monday March 2: Challenge opens for student entries

Friday August 28: Final date for entry of Student Reading Records by students

Friday September 11: Final date for validation of Student Reading Reading records by coordinators

Premiers Reading Challenge

How can we help students engage with stories and creativity?

The PRC Authors and Illustrators Showcase galleries from previous years are still available for viewing. You'll find over 50 videos featuring interviews and workshops with some of the best children's authors and illustrators from both Australia and overseas!

The 2020 Gallery will be coming soon, but in the meantime we've prepared some special clips with fantastic author and illustrator Mick Elliott, who is responsible for the great 2020 PRC poster artwork!

So far you can view:

Mick Elliott intro to the PRC 2020

Mick Elliott guided illustration: PRC Poster

Mick Elliott guided illustration: Squidge Dibley

Mick Elliott tips on writing

We will be asking students and schools to send us the illustrations they create as part of the guided illustration clips, so get drawing, and keep an eye out for information about how you can submit your illustrations to win some great prizes for your school. This info will be posted on the PRC website, the PRC Instagram account, and the Arts Unit Facebook page soon.

The Arts Unit@Home provides a series of Creative Classes and Art Bites videos designed to support students, parents and teachers with remote learning. Check out these incredible resources, from the Arts Unit digital archives and drawing on the expertise of arts professionals ... you won't want to miss them! Make sure you're following The Arts Unit on Facebook for updates on other great creative opportunities over the coming weeks.

Everyone's an author is a fantastic new project from the T4L team. Available to all students, it's a 10 week digital writing program featuring 10 great Aussie authors! It kicks off this Friday with a chapter on creating characters presented by author, teacher, and great friend to the Premier's Reading Challenge, Yvette Poshoglian (Ella and Olivia, Puppy Diary). We've seen a sneak peek of the list of authors that are involved in this exciting project- you're not going to want to miss it!

New Books

The latest update of new books on the PRC booklist was loaded to the website on April 27. You can find these on the BOOKLISTS page. There were over 130 new books added, including a number of classics that are easily accessible online, and free books from the Australian Children's Laureate Ursula Dubosarsky and the UK National Literary Trust. With a range of books available free online, and the increased number of choice books, all students should be able to access some great literature to complete the challenge this year!

We are constantly reviewing and evaluating new books for inclusion on the lists, and are planning a mid-term update of new books to the list this year to ensure that there are as wide a range as possible of easily accessible texts for students to read as part of their 2020 challenge. We would love to hear your suggestions either through our book suggestion form or by email.

PRC Student Site

The PRC student site is a great way for students to add books to their reading records from wherever they are! Students can search for books to read, add books to their reading logs, and track their progress throughout the challenge. You can find the site at <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/> and there is a useful help video available to demonstrate how the site works.

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO IS DEAF OR HAS HEARING LOSS?

***NSW Department of Education provides FREE
support for children from time of diagnosis
(including babies) through to primary and
secondary schooling.***

Want to know more?

***Contact an Assistant Principal Hearing to see if
your child meets criteria for this service.***



Education

***Assistant
Principal
Hearing can be
contacted at

Ourimbah Public
School

02 4362 1033

Or

Wyong Public
School

02 4352 2077***

Opportunity Class Year 5 2021

Changes to the opportunity class placement process for 2020 Year 4 students

The 2021 Year 5 opportunity class placement process was put on hold in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 situation.

We now have a revised and simplified timeline for the OC placement process to ensure that students and families can have certainty about their placement as soon as possible.

The changes include:

- A new date for online applications. Parents must apply between 9 June 2020 and 26 June 2020. Late applications cannot be accepted.
- A new test date- Wednesday 16 September 2020.

To ensure fair and consistent assessment of students across New South Wales, students will be offered places based only on their test results this year – there will be no school assessment scores.

There will also be no opportunity for appeals given the tight timeframes.

For further detailed information I encourage you to visit (<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>)

Intention to apply for Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Opportunity classes can provide intellectual stimulation by grouping together high potential and gifted students who may otherwise be isolated from a suitable peer group. Successful students will usually have to leave their current school to enrol in a school with an opportunity class for Years 5 and 6.

New for 2021 entry

A Year 5 virtual opportunity class has been established at Aurora College for students in rural and remote NSW. Further information is available at <http://www.aurora.nsw.edu.au/>

Testing and assessment

Applications for opportunity class placement are considered on the results of the Opportunity Class Placement Test. Students who wish to be considered for opportunity class placement will sit the Opportunity Class Placement Test on **Wednesday 16 September 2020**.

How to apply

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2021, you need to apply between **Tuesday 9 June 2020** and **Friday 26 June 2020**. You will need to access the online application at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>. You must **not** use the child's email address.

If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the High Performing Students Team for assistance after **9 June 2020**. Contact details can be found on the web site shown below.

You must submit only **ONE** application for each student.

Important – the school cannot apply on your behalf.

Yours sincerely

Principal

THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ENTRY TO AN OPPORTUNITY CLASS

You will need to register and then apply through the Department's website:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5>

Cut along the dotted line and return the completed slip below by next Friday.

Student's name: _____ Class: _____

I intend to apply for opportunity class placement in 2021.....Yes ☐ No ☐

If Yes

I have internet access and will be applying online ☐

OR

I do not have internet access and will use the public library to complete the application.... ☐

I understand that I need to register and then apply through the Department's website.

Signature of parent/carers: _____ Date: _____

| NSW Department of Education

Changes to the opportunity class placement process for Year 5 entry in 2021

Information for parents/carers and students

The department is committed to the continued education of all students across NSW, including advanced learning programs for high potential and gifted students.

The 2021 Year 5 opportunity class placement process was put on hold in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 situation.

We have now rescheduled and streamlined the application process. Please note the details of the changes below and assist parents and carers to understand these changes.

Why have changes been made to the 2020 opportunity class placement process?

Due to the shorter time frame available for the OC placement process, changes have been made to the process for this year. The department is committed to supporting the continuity of learning and transitions for each child, and the revised application and placement process will ensure students are placed in 2021 Year 5 opportunity classes as soon as possible.

What changes have been made?

The 2020 opportunity class placement process has been revised to accommodate the shorter timeline due to the postponement of the test.

To ensure the fair and consistent assessment of students across all schools and regions of NSW, this year students will be placed on test results only. Taking this approach reduces the effect of the disrupted start to the school year, which could compromise school assessment scores, and ensures that all students are placed using the same test performed under the same conditions. The test is created by an independent educational assessment provider and measures academic ability, not achievement, giving a reliable method for identifying highly gifted applicants which is not subject to the variable classroom conditions experienced this year.



education.nsw.gov.au



Opportunity Class Year 5 2021



What are the key dates I should be aware of?

The revised dates are listed below. Parents are advised to review the new dates carefully and ensure an application is submitted by the closing date for their child to be eligible to sit the placement test as, owing to the shorter timeline, late applications will not be accepted.

Action	Date
Applications open	9 June 2020
Applications close	26 June 2020
Opportunity Class Placement Test date	16 September 2020
Parents and schools advised of placement outcome information	From 1 December 2020
Parents accept or decline first round placement	By 15 December 2020
Principals arrange orientation day for successful candidates	December 2020
Reserve places offered	From mid-December 2020
Authority to attend an opportunity class letter sent to parents	Late January 2021
Successful candidates enrol in Year 5 at a school with an opportunity class	Late January 2021

A visual timeline showing the key dates is printed on the next page.

Further information

Visit the department's website

Opportunity classes – Year 5 updates available on the website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/updates>

Opportunity classes – key dates on the website at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/general-information>

Parents are encouraged to speak to the principal of their child's primary school for further information about the changes made to the opportunity class placement process this year.

Contact

For further information or assistance contact:

High Performing Students Team
ssu@det.nsw.edu.au
1300 880 367

Follow us on Facebook for updates on the current and opportunity class placement process.

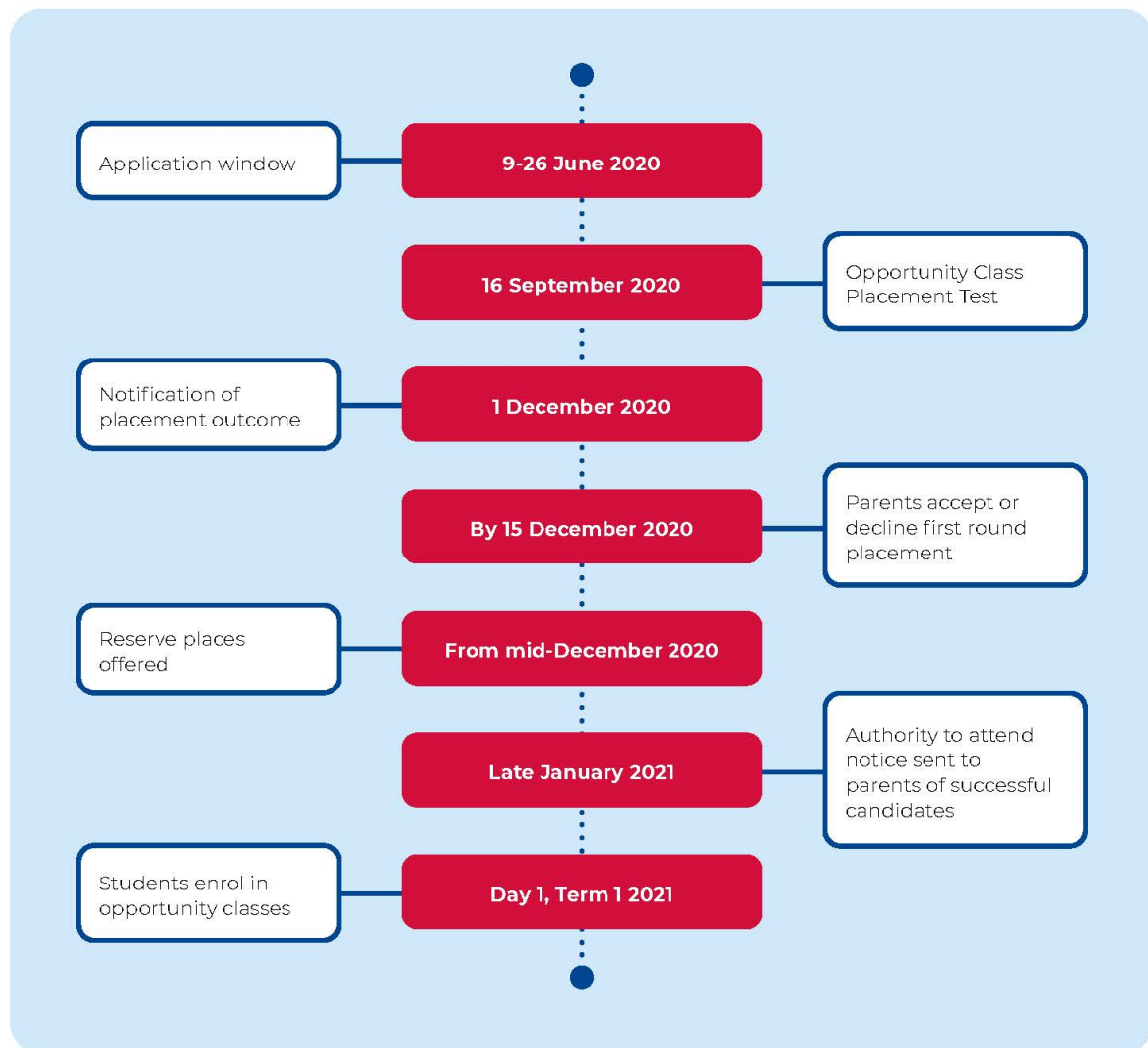
[Opportunity class placement](#)

education.nsw.gov.au



Opportunity Class Year 5 2021

2020 Opportunity class placement process - key dates



TaSK Vacation Care Program



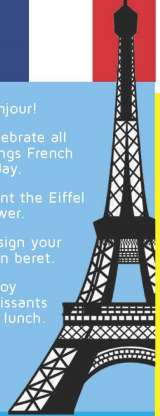
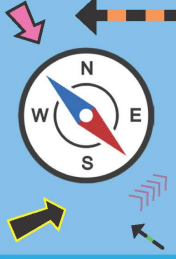

ERINA HEIGHTS HOLIDAY PROGRAM

JULY 2020 - WEEK 1

<p>MONDAY JULY 6</p> <p>NAIDOC Celebration Day</p> <p>This year's theme is <i>Always Was, Always Will Be.</i></p>  <p>Celebrate and acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culture and art.</p>	<p>TUESDAY JULY 7</p> <p>TASK Lego Masters</p> <p>Let the 'Bricks' tell the Story!</p> <p>All ideas encouraged. Be as creative as you can!</p> 	<p>WEDNESDAY JULY 8</p> <p>Christmas in July</p> <p>Wear Christmas gear, anything from Santa to Snow or even your best Christmas Jumper.</p> 	<p>THURSDAY JULY 9</p> <p>Disney VS Marvel</p>  <p>Dress as your favourite Disney or Marvel Character.</p> <p>Participate in group games, dance off's & a movie.</p> 	<p>FRIDAY JULY 10</p> <p>TASK has Talent</p> <p>Do you have a talent, maybe something cool you can do?</p> <p>Participate in TASK's Talent show!</p> <p>A day of music, performances and hidden talents.</p> 	<p>THE — AFTER SCHOOL KLUB—</p> <p>Hours: Mon - Fri 7:00am - 6pm</p> <p>BOOKING: enrol@task-kids.com.au task-kids.com.au 1300 827 500</p>
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ERINA HEIGHTS HOLIDAY PROGRAM

JULY 2020 - WEEK 2

<p>MONDAY JULY 13</p> <p>Recycle & Remake</p> <p>Recycle and learn what we can do to help our environment.</p>  <p>Time to put those recycled items to good use.</p> <p>Let your imagination run wild!</p>	<p>TUESDAY JULY 14</p> <p>Bastille Day</p>  <p>Bonjour!</p> <p>Celebrate all things French today.</p> <p>Paint the Eiffel Tower.</p> <p>Design your own beret.</p> <p>Enjoy croissants for lunch.</p> 	<p>WEDNESDAY JULY 15</p> <p>Rainforest Walk & Lunch at OPS</p>  <p>Bring your gumboots, today we will visit our friends at Ourimbah TASK for a rainforest walk.</p>	<p>THURSDAY JULY 16</p> <p>Scavenger Hunt Day</p> <p>We are off on a scavenger hunt!</p> <p>Will you be able to find all of the items on the lists?</p> 	<p>FRIDAY JULY 17</p> <p>Wheels Day 2.0</p> <p>It's wheels day again!</p> <p>Bring along a bike, scooter or skateboard for a day of wheelie good fun!</p> <p>Helmets MUST be worn.</p> 	<p>MONDAY JULY 20</p> <p>Crazy Hair & Disco</p> <p>Wear your <i>brightest colours</i> and <i>crazy hair</i> ready for a groovy day of <i>dance</i> and <i>colour</i>!</p> 
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• Afternoon tea provided • Daily fee: \$55 • All HP subject to change dependent on Government advice / direction. • Each day please bring: recess, lunch and water bottle, hat, raincoat, socks, covered shoes and jumper - all labeled.