



Head of Junior School Start of Year Letter

24th January 2022

Dear Junior School Students, Families and Staff,

It is with great pleasure that I have joined the team at Blue Mountains Grammar School. I look forward to leading the outstanding staff of the Junior School and helping your children thrive in 2022. Our School has a long and proud history and an excellent reputation for fostering the learning of every individual in our school. I look forward to meeting all of the children and families in the Junior School, across both of our campuses this term.

We have faced a couple of years of challenge with Covid-19, and we aren't through this yet. However schools have shown that they are flexible and resilient and when working in partnerships with families, students continue to learn and grow. The teaching and support staff of the Junior School look forward to working with our students over the coming year.

Welcome to New Staff

The Junior School staff wish Mrs. Suzie Goodlet all the very best for her future. In 2022 we welcome a number of new teachers to the Junior School. Please join me in making the following teachers welcome.

- Mrs. Catherine Ratcliffe – Pre-K Teacher (Springwood)
- Mr. Luke Carr – Stage 2 Teacher (Wentworth Falls)
- Mrs. Amy Spohr – Stage 3 Teacher (Wentworth Falls)
- Dr. Elissa Drew – Stage 1 Teacher (Wentworth Falls)
- Mr. Brad Konemann – Teacher-in-Training (Wentworth Falls)

Commencement Term 1 2022

Our 2022 School year will commence on Thursday, 27th January at 8:30am. Parking is available in the Junior School car parks and, at the Wentworth Falls campus, across Matcham Avenue adjacent to Pitt Park.

Parents of new students commencing at Blue Mountains Grammar School in 2022 (including all Pre-K and Kindergarten students) are asked to meet their class teachers as follows:

- All Years at Springwood - Main Reception (first building on your left)
- Early Learning (Pre-Kindergarten to Year 2) at Wentworth Falls - Early Learning Centre
- Primary (Years 3 to 6) at Wentworth Falls - Junior School Reception (please use main entrance)

Returning students should take their bags to their relevant classrooms and then move to the playground. Teachers will be circulating to welcome students.

I look forward to welcoming all students to school at the Wentworth Falls Campus on the first day and we will hold a short assembly in Coote Hall. I will travel to the Springwood Campus later in the day to meet with the students for an end of day assembly, and to farewell them.

Bus and Train Information

The School's own Bus services will commence on Thursday 27th January.

Lithgow Buslines will commence service on the 28th January. Students who usually use this service will need to make alternative travel arrangements on Thursday 27th January.

All other buses and trains will run as normal.

COVID-19 Regulations

Regrettably, under current guidelines, parents are not permitted in classrooms at the present time, however we hope to invite parents to some school events this term. Where required, in the first few days parents are welcome on campus to assist in orienting and settling their children. Masks must be worn at all times on the School site and social distancing and hand sanitising practises are also to be maintained until further notice. Please refer to further communication from the Headmaster regarding current COVID-19 protocols and how these apply across the School.

School Hours

Our school day is 8:30am to 3:00pm



Outside School Hours Care

Junior School (Springwood) - Before School Care operates in the Junior School (Springwood) from 7:30am to 8:30am and After School Care operates from 3:15pm to 6:00pm

Junior School (Wentworth Falls) - After School Care operates in the Junior School (Wentworth Falls) from 2:50pm to 5:30pm. Please note that there is no Before School Care service at the Wentworth Falls campus.

School Uniform and Personal Items

Please also note that although it is optional for students to wear their blazers in Term 1, students in all Year groups are to be in full School uniform (including blazers, with the exception of Pre-Kindergarten students) for Commencement.

Students will also be required to wear their blazers for the Junior School Photo Day on Monday 14th March (Springwood) and Wednesday 16th March (Wentworth Falls) as applicable. Further information regarding Photo Day will be provided nearer the date.

All stationery items that students will need for learning will be supplied by the School. If students wish to supplement these with items such as pencil cases, they are welcome to do so. We ask that all such items are clearly labelled, along with all uniform items, especially blazers and hats!

Communication and the School Portal

Good communication between School and home is vital and so it is imperative that if you alter your email address or your contact details, you advise the School promptly of these changes so that your records can be amended. A key resource in this communication is the School's Parents' Portal, Mezzo. Mezzo contains regular practical information, the School calendar, excursion notes/details, academic reports etc. Parents are encouraged to regularly check the Portal for updates and to check the family information contained therein.

Recently you were forwarded an email containing activation and log in details for your Mezzo account. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Mrs Arrell on karell@bmgns.nsw.edu.au (Wentworth Falls) or Mrs Boros at eboros@bmgns.nsw.edu.au (Springwood) who will be able to assist you.

2022 Terms and Events

The 2022 Term Dates are available on the School website and the dates of planned events for Term 1 are enclosed with this communication. Further information will be sent as the term progresses and please be aware that these might change.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Rachael Newton
Head of Junior School



Term 1 Information

Please note these events and dates are correct at the time of printing and are subject to change.

Further details will be provided closer to the event date.

Key:	JSS	Junior School Springwood
	JSW	Junior School Wentworth Falls
	SS	Senior School

Campus			Date(s)	Event Details
JSS	JSW	SS		
✓	✓		27-Jan	Start of Term - Years PK - 6
		✓	27-Jan	Start of Term - Years 7,11,12 only
✓	✓	✓	28-Jan	Start of Term - All Students
		✓	27, 28, 29 Jan	Year 7 Orientation Days
		✓	28-Jan	SS Commencement Assembly
		✓	1-Feb	Year 7 Swim and Survive
		✓	2-Feb	SS Pink Day Assembly
✓	✓		7-Feb	Junior School Parent Information Evening
		✓	14-18 Feb	Year 7 Camp
		✓	19-Feb	Pink Sports Day
		✓	22-Feb	Year 12 Parent Evening
✓	✓		23-Feb	Junior School Swimming Carnival
✓			24-Feb	JSS Parent Teacher Interviews
		✓	25-Feb	Senior School Swimming Carnival
		✓	28-Feb to 4-Mar	Year 9 Camp
		✓	1-Mar	Ad Altiora Parent Seminar TBC
		✓	2-Mar	SS Harassment and Bullying Assembly
	✓		2-Mar	JSW Parent Teacher Interviews
		✓	3-Mar	Year 7 and Year 10 Vaccination Day
✓	✓		7-Mar	HICES Swimming @ SOPAC
		✓	8-Mar	SS Music Soiree Benvenuto
			8-Mar	<i>International Women's Day (To be confirmed)</i>
		✓	9-Mar	ISA Swimming @ SOPAC
		✓	12-Mar	Summer Sport Finals
✓			14-Mar	JSS Photo Day
	✓		16-Mar	JSW Photo Day
		✓	16-Mar	SS Duke of Ed Information Evening
		✓	16-Mar	SS Harmony Day Assembly
		✓	18-Mar	ISA Girls & Boys Touch Footy Trials
		✓	21-30 March	Year 12 Assessment Block
		✓	25-Mar	SS Cricket Presentation Night
		✓	30-Mar	SS Basketball Presentation Night
✓	✓		31-Mar	Junior School Cross Country Carnival
		✓	31-Mar	Senior School Cross Country Carnival
		✓	1-Apr	Senior School Photo Day
		✓	5-Apr	SS Touch Football Presentation Night
✓	✓		6-Apr	<i>Junior School Cross Country Carnival (Backup date)</i>
		✓	6-Apr	<i>Senior School Cross Country Carnival (Backup date)</i>
		✓	6-Apr	SS Sports Celebrations Assembly
	✓		7-Apr	Years 5/6 Performing Arts Soiree
		✓	7-Apr	NSW CIS Individual Triathlon
	✓		8-Apr	Grandparents' Day
		✓	8-Apr	NSW CIS Teams Triathlon
		✓	8-Apr	Easter Service
✓	✓	✓	8-Apr	End of Term