

NEWSLETTER

SASS RECOGNITION WEEK

Last week was School Administrative and Support Staff Recognition Week, a time to acknowledge and thank the often-unsung heroes in our school.

Our SAS staff play an important role in the school community. They are often the first people you see when you enter the school and are essential to maintaining positive relationships with students, parents and the community.

Our SAS staff work in school offices, in classrooms and libraries and maintaining and caring for school grounds and buildings. They are often the ones to tend to students when they unwell and they ensure the efficient management of school financial and administration functions.

We are delighted to recognise our SAS staff for the valuable work they perform and their contribution to supporting great teaching and learning outcomes in our school.

THANKYOU to our wonderful school administration staff: Mrs Babela, Mrs Chen, Mrs Coleiro, Mrs Jones, Mrs Klajic, Mrs Laborte, Mrs Milosevic and Mrs Milostic.

THANKYOU to our amazing school learning and support officers: Mrs Bonsall, Miss Bradley, Mrs Byrne, Mrs Dabit, Mrs Hulewicz, Miss Jenkins, and Mrs Tollis.

THANKYOU to our amazing general assistant Mr Boyce.



RETIREMENT

Mrs Vera Stojanovic



It is with sadness that we announce the retirement of Mrs Stojanovic this month. Mrs Stojanovic has a long and proud history at QHPS, having been a valuable member of our school teaching staff for 20 years. Her contribution to not only QHPS, but public education has been enormous throughout the many roles she has held. Mrs Stojanovic has worked as a classroom teacher, for school services and as a Learning and Support teacher, where she delivered Reading Recovery, ESL support and targeted intervention programs to students.

Mrs Stojanovic has had a positive impact on the lives on many young people throughout her career and she will be greatly missed by our staff and students alike. We sincerely thank Mrs Stojanovic for all that she has done for the school, staff, students and our community over the years. We look forward to when we have the opportunity to celebrate with Mrs Stojanovic and give her the farewell she deserves. In the meantime, we wish Mrs Stojanovic all the very best for her future endeavours and hope she enjoys a healthy and happy retirement.

STAFFING

It is with great pleasure, we announce that Mrs Kristine Belista and Mrs Amal Wahhab have been appointed to the position of permanent Assistant Principal through the merit selection process.

Mrs Kristine Belista



Mrs Belista has been a valuable member of our teaching staff for the past eight years and has relieved in the role of assistant principal since 2019. Mrs Belista has worked tirelessly as a passionate and dedicated classroom teacher, stage coordinator and relieving assistant principal to ensure innovative future focused practices are at the fore of teaching and learning at QHPS. Mrs Belista is committed to promoting equity and excellence, so each and every student in her class and stage are provided with the very best education and the opportunity to reach their full potential. She possesses strong educational leadership qualities and supports and fosters a positive school culture; coaching and mentoring teachers to ensure there is a high-quality teacher in every classroom, every day, improving student learning outcomes.

Mrs Amal Wahhab



Mrs Wahhab is a motivated and enthusiastic member of our teaching staff. She is a highly-organised and reflective classroom teacher who has fulfilled roles such as a stage coordinator and relieving assistant principal at QHPS. Mrs Wahhab ensures each and every child in her class and stage are known, valued and cared for; ensuring the cognitive, emotional, social, physical and spiritual wellbeing of students is supported. Mrs Wahhab is committed to providing for all students' growth, holistic development and success in school. Mrs Wahhab possesses all of the leadership qualities of an excellent educational leader, with a strong foundation built on empathy, trust and respectful relationships with all members of the school community.

EARLY STAGE 1 NEWS

Buzzing with Beebots!

Students in K Orange and K Red were buzzing with excitement when given the opportunity to use Beebots! They engaged in hands on tasks that enabled them to learn the basics of coding during maths groups. Our Kindergarten students loved programming the Bee Bots which taught them positional language, commands, sequencing and problem solving with a partner. K Orange and Red are excited to continue using beebots throughout the rest of the year.



STAFF SHOUT OUT: MS JACKSON



A huge thank you and a job well done to Ms Jackson for creating the 'Day in the life of Kindy' video for Education Week 2020. She has a creative flair and innovatively captured the unique learning environments in each classroom across Kindergarten. The staff and the parents appreciate all the hard work and dedication you put in at Quakers Hill Public School!

STAGE 1 NEWS

Stage 1 have had a busy and exciting term of learning so far. We have been enjoying our Living World Science unit and have been learning about the life cycles of plants, how plants grow and what they need to survive. Each classroom now has two mini greenhouses, and children will be able to watch the plants inside the greenhouses grow throughout the term. Some classes have also been watching how seeds germinate inside plastic cups or bags, and it has been fun watching them grow roots, stems and leaves.

We have been doing lots of physical activity, running laps of the field and adding up our kilometres as part of the Quakers Hill marathon. We have also been learning about cooperation and team-building skills during our sports lessons.



Although we are not able to have stage assemblies at the moment, we have been able to hand out Merit and Wonderful Work awards during our morning assemblies. It has been wonderful to be able to recognise those hard-working students in Year 1 who always try their best. Well done on a great start to Term 3 Stage 1- we are looking forward to a great rest of the term!



STAGE 3 NEWS



STAGE 2 NEWS

Somehow we already find ourselves more than halfway through Term 3. I have been so proud of the Stage 2 students, as well as the wonderful work of their amazing teachers. Their passion and excellent teaching practice ensures that all students are making valuable progress. This progress may look different in each child but is still important to recognise.

An essential skill for all students to learn is collaboration. Having the ability to work with others will help our students thrive when they enter the workforce one day. This term the Stage 2 teachers have designed lessons that allow students to practice important collaboration skills. These images show how our students have been working together in many different learning areas to achieve success in the lesson.

Stage 3 have enjoyed a busy month! We recently held our Multicultural Speaking Competition which was held virtually over Microsoft Teams. Congratulations to Ronit and Aaron for winning the stage competition! A huge thanks goes to Mrs Sutton and her team for putting it all together.



Students are currently busy planning their Mini Fete stalls, ensuring the rest of the school will have a wonderful time, raise



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money for the school AND be COVID safe. Mini Fete is currently scheduled for the last Friday of Term 3 and will deliver a wonderful day for everyone. Education Week enabled Stage 3 to show off their achievements and invite parents into the classroom virtually. Since parents weren't able to come into the classroom we were so excited to bring the classroom to them!

On Friday in Week 5, Year 5 and 6 were fortunate enough to experience a webcast of an excursion they missed out on earlier in the year. Students were meant to visit The Rocks and explore historic artefacts from early colonies in Sydney. Students got to view a live experience and participate in a range of activities and learning experiences from the comfort of the classroom!

Stage 3 students have been enjoying their initiative games and team challenge unit in PDHPE and we are all very grateful for Miss Morley and all her efforts to ensure the stage gets a fun and exciting sports lesson each week.



APPROACHING OTHER CHILDREN

NO parent/carer should directly approach another person's child. If you do need to discuss issues concerning your child, please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance and then to the Stage Assistant Principal who has direct responsibility for supporting and supervising the classes, students and staff. The school will deal with issues between students in line with the Pastoral Care Policy, Anti Bullying Policy and Behaviour Management Plan.

In very rare cases, where people wishing to express concerns, do so in an aggressive, threatening or violent manner, the Principal (or nominee) has the legal authority under the *Inclosed Lands Act* to:

- Direct the person to immediately leave the grounds.
- Call the police to remove the person should he/she refuse.
- Withdraw future permission (by letter) for the person to enter the grounds without permission of the principal.
- Seek further legal avenues.

CHECK-IN ASSESSMENT

This year, Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in a new reading and numeracy check-in assessment in Term 3, 2020.

The *check-in assessment* is a NSW Department of Education online reading and numeracy assessment available to support schools to assess and monitor Year 3 and Year 5 student learning following the period of learning from home.

The *check-in assessments* can supplement existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

- The assessment will be scheduled for our Year 5 students from 24 August to 4 September 2020.
- The assessment will be scheduled for our Year 3 students from 21 September to 23 October 2020.

SUPERHEROES...ASSEMBLE!

Unfortunately, due to the situation with COVID-19 we were required to postpone our 2020 Major Fundraiser, *Superheroes...Assemble!* Whilst this is extremely disappointing news, the decision was made with the health and safety of our students, staff and community in mind. If you have paid for *Superheroes...Assemble!* a credit will automatically be applied to your student account and can be used to pay for the event in Term 1, 2021.



HIGH POTENTIAL AND GIFTED STUDENTS

All students need to have learning experiences that they find engaging and challenging. Schools provide a range of extended learning and enrichment opportunities so that their high potential and gifted students engage with learning that challenges their thinking, further develops their knowledge or skills and advances their understanding.

What do we mean by high potential and gifted?

Professor François Gagné suggests that potential exists along a continuum, where given optimal conditions, high potential can lead to high performance and achievement. Gagné outlines that students may exhibit potential in one or more domains including intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical. High potential and gifted students are found across diverse family, socio-economic, language, cultural backgrounds and different geographic locations.

What's the difference between high potential and gifted, or even highly gifted students?

High potential students are those whose potential exceeds that of students of the same age in one or more domains: intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical. They may benefit from an enriched or extended curriculum and learning opportunities beyond the typical level of their age peers.

Gifted students are those whose potential significantly exceeds that of students of the same age in one or more domains: intellectual, creative, social-emotional, and physical. They typically develop talent and achieve mastery notably faster than their age peers.

Highly gifted students are those whose potential vastly exceeds that of their age peers in one or more domains. Highly gifted students have potential assessed in the top 1% or less of age peers.

The characteristics listed below may be found in many learners but are strongly evident in high potential and gifted learners. Conversely, not all high potential and gifted learners will display all of these characteristics due to lack of opportunity, disability or disadvantage. High potential and gifted children tend to:

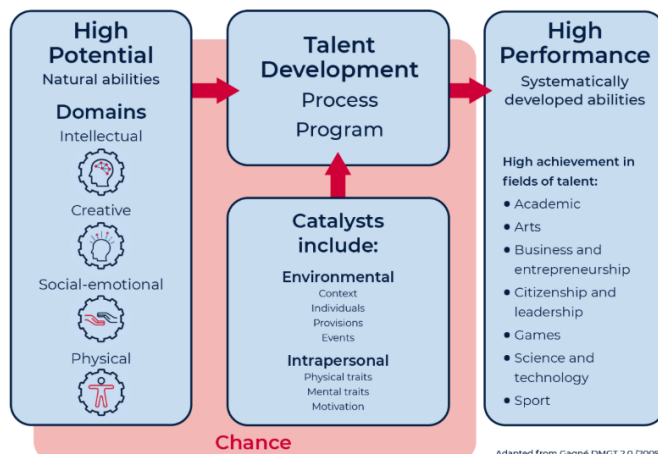
- be intensely curious
- learn new ideas or skills quickly and easily
- be intrinsically motivated and goal driven, particularly in their area of interest
- display a good memory
- demonstrate a strong sense of moral reasoning and justice
- ask complex questions
- be creative
- enjoy thinking in complex ways
- require fewer repetitions when learning new things
- become intensely focused in their area of interest or passion.

A rapid rate of learning means these children may enjoy opportunities beyond the typical level of other children their age.

Supporting potential at home

Support your child according to their age, and the availability of resources. Some ideas include:

- provide explorative activities in your child's areas of interest
- engage in discussions and conversations about the world around them
- encourage questioning, exploration and curiosity
- place value on learning
- monitor play activities to ensure a healthy balance, particularly when younger
- discuss how learning is about making mistakes, struggling at times, and not always about being the best at everything all the time. Try using role model examples in their area of interest, so they understand that life doesn't always give them what they expect
- praise and celebrate effort – working together to understand that effort and achieving one's personal best are important in maintaining a healthy perspective. Try discussing characters from the books they are reading to highlight the types of behaviours that return positive outcomes
- champion your child's successes and coach them through their setbacks – point out that mistakes are evidence of learning and experiencing struggle often encourages resilience, persistence and eventual success. Try discussing the great inventions we experience in life today, which are thanks to those who paved the way in making mistakes and yet persisting despite initial failures
- work on areas of strength without ignoring those areas which also need support
- access extra-curricular opportunities (the [Active Kids](#) and [Creative Kids](#) vouchers are available to help fund some activities)
- advocate for your child's unique needs and seek support where you can
- if you suspect disability contact organisations such as [Gifted Learners with Disability Australia](#).



Adapted from Gagné DMGT 2.0 (2009)

KINDERGARTEN 2021

Quakers Hill Public School prides itself in delivering quality programs to students in a warm, caring learning environment. Our teachers are professional, caring and committed to teaching students a broad and balanced curriculum across the key learning areas. We pride ourselves on catering for the individual learning needs of all children.

If you have a sibling who will be commencing Kindergarten in 2021 (turning 5 before 31 July 2021), please start the enrolment process as soon as possible. Applications can be obtained either from the school office or from the school website.



ONLINE ENROLMENT SYSTEM

We are excited to announce we will be rolling out the new Online Enrolment System from Monday, 10 August 2020.

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for our parents to submit an enrolment application online and at the time that best suits you. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android.

The online application process is currently restricted to:

- Enrolments into local schools only
- Children who are Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Children who live in NSW.

We offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If, however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy will be available for collection from the front office or can be downloaded from the Department's going to a public school site <https://education.nsw.gov.au/.../going-to-a-public-.../enrolment>

Further information about online enrolment can be found on our website here:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/.../online-enrolment-for-nsw-pub...>

SCHOOL UNIFORM

All students are expected to wear their full school uniform and that it is neat, clean, well-maintained and clearly labelled with the student's name. Students are to wear the long sleeve polo shirt or a jacket, instead of long sleeve non-school uniform tops under their short sleeve polo shirt. Similarly, girls are to wear the royal blue slacks or navy stockings and not leggings under their uniform.

WINTER UNIFORM

Unisex

Jacket	Royal blue microfibre jacket with yellow trim and school logo
Jumper	Royal blue fleece bomber style jacket with school logo
Beanie	Royal blue QHPS beanie

Boys

Shirt	Long or short sleeve royal blue polo shirt with yellow trim and school logo
Pants	Plain grey shorts or pants Socks Plain white above ankle socks

Girls

Option 1	
Dress	A blue, yellow and white checked dress
Stockings	Navy stockings

Option 2

Culottes	Two tone blue check with fine yellow stripe dress shorts
Shirt	Long or short sleeve royal blue polo shirt with yellow trim and school logo
Stockings	Navy stockings

Option 3

Tunic	Two tone blue check tunic with fine yellow stripe
Skivvy	Royal blue skivvy
Stockings	Navy stockings

Option 4

Shirt	Long or short sleeve royal blue polo shirt with yellow trim and school logo
Pants	Royal blue slacks
Socks	Plain white above ankle socks

For more information about the QHPS uniform please see the [School Uniform Implementation Statement](#).

UNIFORM SHOP

The school uniform shop has returned to normal operations. Physical distancing is required while waiting in queue. Download and view [Quakers Hill Public School uniform price list](#).

SCHOOL GROUNDS - ARRIVALS & DISMISSALS

It is very important that parents follow our clear advice not to congregate at school. Teachers supervise students from 8:40 am each morning in the playground. While normally it is okay



for parents to wait for class to start, at the moment parents and other visitors are not permitted into the school grounds of a morning. This decision has been made in line with health and Department of Education advice.

In order to help with this, **it is vital that parents follow the physical distancing requirements.** In the morning, parents are to drop their children at the gate and not enter the school grounds. We have considered applying this same instruction to the afternoon pick-ups, but we have a number of concerns including parents congregating at gates and the safety of children, particularly those in younger grades, leaving the school grounds unaccompanied. As such, we are relying on our parents to do the right thing. Parents of students in Years 3 to 6 are encouraged to meet their children at a designated location outside of the school grounds. For parents of younger children who cannot do this, please maintain physical distancing while waiting for your children and then leave the school promptly upon collecting them.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Schools continue to be safe, and operations are in line with Australian Health Protection Principal Committee and NSW Health advice. The advice and guidelines have been updated as of 17 August 2020. Please see [COVID 19 UPDATE 180820](https://quakershil-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/) for more information.

Please note, **any adult who enters the school office is required to sign in with their name and phone number** regardless of the amount of time spent on site.

For late arrivals, parents/carers are strongly encouraged to ring the buzzer at school gate 3 on Medlow Dr (near the admin block) and *kiss and drop* their child.



COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

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.

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, or, are registered for home-schooling. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

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

You should contact the classroom teacher 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 school may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. 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

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.

Working in Partnership

The 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.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

SLEEP

- 5–13 year olds need 9–11 hours per night.
- 14–17 year olds need 8–10 hours per night.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Aim for 60 minutes or more per day – the more you huff & puff the better!

INACTIVITY

Move more & sit less in your spare time.

Find out more at www.health.gov.au

Children and young people (aged 5–17 years) should achieve the recommended balance of high levels of physical activity, low levels of sedentary behaviour, and sufficient sleep each day.

Australian 24-Hour Movement Guidelines for Children and Young People (5 to 17 years): An Integration of Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour, and Sleep

**UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS**

To ensure there is clear communication between school and home it is extremely important that parents/carers notify the school of any changes to their contact details. The most common reason for school staff to contact parents/carers is to discuss a matter concerning your child. However, there are a number of emergency situations when we may need to contact a parent/carer, including when a child is ill/injured and needs to be collected from school. Please notify the school office of changes to your contact details, including mailing and email addresses, phone numbers and emergency contacts.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

With our morning kiss and drop procedures, please remember online lunch orders must be submitted prior to 9 am. Students are able to place lunch orders at the canteen before the 9:07 bell, however parents/carers are asked not to enter the school grounds of a morning.



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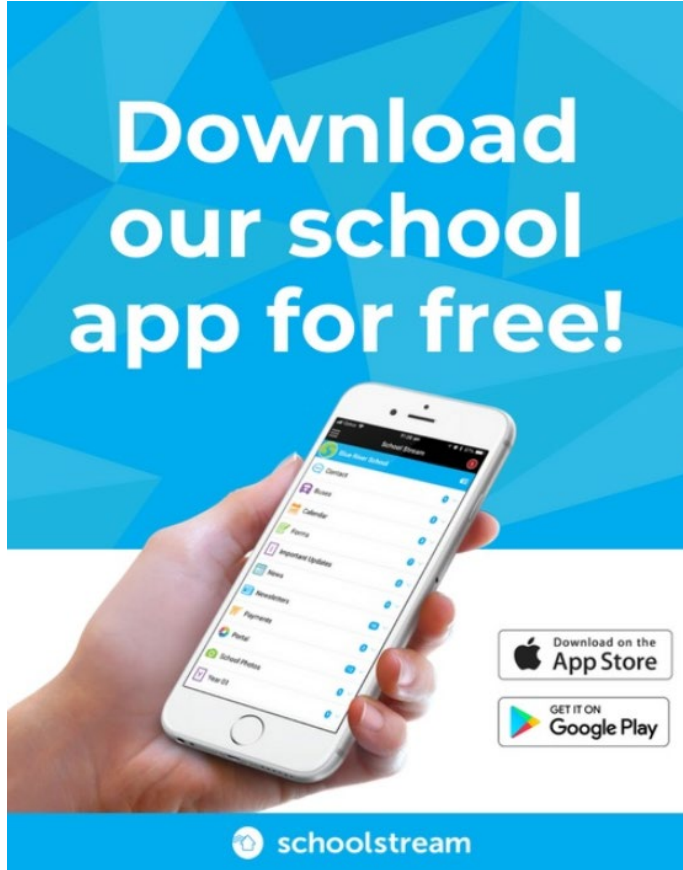
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SCHOOL STREAM

FREE SCHOOL STREAM app can be downloaded onto your mobile phone. This will enable our school to send out important notifications at a much faster rate, all at the convenience of your mobile device. School Stream is available via each platform's App Store.



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PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OPTION FROM
EACH SECTION BELOW

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HOT DOG SAUCE TOMATO BBQ NONE



NOODLES CHICKEN OR BEEF FLAVOUR



JUICE POPPER



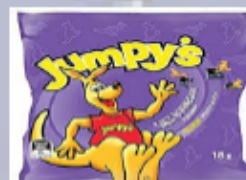
BOTTLED WATER 600ML

Also comes with Jumpys



Random selection

OR



Name :

Class :

PLACE YOUR FLEXI SCHOOLS ORDER
BEFORE THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER
FOR THE DAY OF YOUR CHOICE





School Opal Cards for bus travel

As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare.

Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear under utilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

www.busways.com.au



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- Part of a dance family
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