

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 4 – Week 10

Tuesday 11 December 2012

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It's really hard to believe that we are in Week 10 and there is only just over a week of school left. The last day for students is Wednesday of next week. The school will be officially closed after Wednesday.

This week is an extremely important week with our Presentation Days being the culmination and celebration of learning for all students.

Below is the outline of the program over those two days.

Presentation Day – this Thursday 13th December

We will begin our 2012 Presentation Day program with a whole school assembly from **Kinder to Year 6 at 9.00am** under the COLA, to present the major awards and prizes as well as invest and present the school captains, prefects, sports house captains and vice captains with their badges. This assembly should take no more than 30 minutes. After this at the following assemblies, in the new school hall **every single child in every class** will be called forward to receive a certificate.

At 9.40am on Thursday 13th December in the new school hall, we will continue with the stage 3 assembly (Years 5 and 6) – and present the class awards and some special stage awards.

At 11.00am on Thursday 13th December there will be a morning tea supplied for parents staying on for the next assembly.

At 11.30am on Thursday 13th December we will continue with stage 2 assembly (Years 3 and 4) and present the class awards and some special stage awards. This assembly should conclude by 1.00pm.

Presentation Day – this Friday 14th December

At 9.15am on Friday 14th December in the new school hall we will hold the Early Stage 1 assembly – (Kindergarten) and present the class awards and some special stage awards.

At 10.45am (approx) on Friday 14th December there will be a morning tea supplied for parents staying on for the next assembly.

At 11.00am (approx) on Friday 14th December we will continue with stage 1 assembly (Years 1 and 2) and present the class awards and some special stage awards. This assembly should conclude by 1.00pm. Presentation Day will be focussed on celebrating the achievements of **all students** and recognising their

efforts over the whole year. There will be entertainment from some class groups during the Presentation Days. **All parents are warmly invited to attend.**

Carols Night – Friday 14th December

Bring your picnic blankets and good cheer to our community carols night this Friday night 14th December under the COLA area. Hoping for beautiful fine weather, where you will be able to enjoy a great sing-a-long as well as be entertained by some talented groups. The event begins at 6.00pm with a delicious BBQ available and singing starting from after 6.30pm. Electric candles will be for sale as well as glow products. We hope to finish up by about 8.30pm – and I have ordered beautiful fine weather! Come and enjoy!

Retirement - Kath Sipple Assistant Principal

I wish to inform you (reluctantly) of the retirement at the end of this term of Kath Sipple – Assistant Principal in Early Stage 1. Kath has been at The Junction for 12 years having transferred here from Edgeworth Public School. Kath is an outstanding teacher, and a most wonderful and caring professional who has warmly and sincerely looked after many hundreds of children over the years and especially at that most important time of beginning their school years in Kindergarten.

She has always impressed me with her dedication to the children and their educational progress and has had an outstanding career with the Department of Education and Communities. She has been a wonderful colleague and friend to all staff and we will all miss her bright smile every day. She is happily retiring to spend more time with her family and begin that next phase of exciting opportunities to come.

Please take the time to wish Kath well over this next week – I'm sure she will appreciate that.

Class Reports

These will be coming home to families this week and will reflect the academic and social progress of all students in the second semester of this year. I would like to congratulate all students for the very fine efforts they have put into their studies this year.

The students of our school are an outstanding group of children and I am very proud of all of them.

Farewell Year 6 2012

It is almost time again to farewell our Year 6 for 2012. They have been a fantastic group of students who have led this school with great dedication and respect. We all thank them for their contribution to the school over the last seven years

and though they will be going off in different directions next year – we hope they maintain their close friendships and continue to think fondly of their primary school years. We wish them all great success in their further education studies and hope they drop back at some point to let us know how they are travelling. Thank you - Year 6, 2012.

There will be a whole school 'clap-out' for Year 6 next Monday afternoon from 2.30pm after which they will all attend their school Farewell at South's Leagues Club at 6.00pm on Monday night.

Thanks

Many thanks to our wonderful P&C led by Karla Karinen, who have supported the school in many ways throughout the year – not just in the financial sector. It is really heartening to work with such a positive, innovative and purposeful group. The contribution from the P&C members has been significant and cannot be underestimated – we are indeed fortunate to have such a wonderful group working with us.

It's also been an incredible year across all facets of the school – with high academic achievements, extraordinary cultural achievements in band, choir, dance, public speaking, chess and environmental programs and memorable sporting achievements for many students. Our school are current state premiers in cricket, rugby union and reached the state semi- finals of the rugby league. We have several individual state representatives in different fields of sport as well. This school is a positive and vibrant learning environment - that will continue to grow in strength in 2013.

Many thanks to all staff of The Junction Public school for the caring and professional manner in which they have carried out their responsibilities this year.

Students from Years 1 to 6 return on Wednesday 30th January and new Kinders begin on Thursday 31st January.

Happy holidays everyone!

Wendy Cheek, Principal



CALENDAR - TERM 4 – 2012

Week 10

Event

Thursday, Dec 13	Whole School & Year 3 – 6 Presentation Day
Friday, Dec 14	Kinder – Year 2 Presentation Day
Friday, Dec 14	Xmas Carols evening – 6pm
Saturday, Dec 15	Olive Tree Market – 9am to 5pm

Week 11

Event

Monday, Dec 17	Year 6 Clap-out
Monday, Dec 17	Year 6 Farwell Dinner & Disco
Wednesday, Dec 19	LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2013

Week 1

Event

Tuesday, Jan 29	Staff only return
Wednesday, Jan 30	Students in YEAR 1–6 RETURN
Thursday, Jan 31	Kindergarten 2013 start school
Saturday, February 2	Olive Tree Markets – 9am - 3pm

Week 4

Event

Friday, February 22	Swimming Carnival-Year 3-6 + any Year 2 competent 8 year old swimmers
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Week 5

Event

Wednesday, Feb 27	Zone Swimming Carnival
Wednesday, Feb 27	School Photos
Thursday, Feb 28	School Photos

LIBRARY NEWS

Please search at home for Library books! There are many books still not returned to the school library.



Borrowing has ceased for the year as the annual stocktake is being undertaken.

Scholastic Book Fair

There are still six unclaimed books in the office from the Scholastic Book Fair which was held last month. We were not given names from Scholastic, so if you can identify which book you may be waiting on please see the office. Thank you

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

Term 4 Week 9

KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 2 ASSEMBLIES

KD	Marco B Xavier C	Mia J
KC	Max W Liam C	Hollie D
KK	Jasper C Mira P	Brodhi B
KH	Lily B Astrid M	Nicholas G
KS	Layla F Hunter M	Jessica P
1CR	Morgan S Bailey F Amy M	Hugo W Alex P
1L	Archie J Hayley R	Anthony U Braith H
1J	Gypsy R	
1/2H	Tyrelle L Ebony M	Luke S
2C	Felix M	Tilly R
2B	Eilidh M	Eloise K
2M	James H	Coco D
2W	Caitlin T	Junior T

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

3MC	Nathan F	Maya L
3W	Oliver K	Caitlin K
3/4C	Jet W	Joseph L
4A	Niamh L	Jasmine M
4L	Harrison W	Henry K
6/5B	Madeline C	Olivia Z
6/5S	Liam F	Finley B
6/5T	Chiara V	Brendan B
6/5C	Jye Van H	Tara V
6/5F	Eesha P	Ahmed B
Music Awards	Clara A Brayden K	Maya L
Band Awards	Eli S – Junior Erin G – Intermed.	Kahlee T – Senior
Monthly	Alice D - Senior	Oliver A - Junior

Band Award	James B -Intermed	
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NEWS FROM THE GARDEN

The Garden Stall is on Monday morning 8:40 to 9:00. Students will be selling; Spring onions, Thyme, Parsley and Beetroot. Lemons, corn, potatoes, grape tomatoes and zucchinis are starting to ripen, so there will be a limited amount of these vegetables available too. All money is used back in the garden and the students decide how they will spend it. Mr Agnew

ETHICS TEACHERS NEEDED FOR 2013

Special Education in Ethics is offered at The Junction Public School to pupils in Years 3-6 who opt out of Scripture (Special Religious Education). To be able to continue offering these classes across these years in 2013 more teachers are needed. The curriculum is inquiry based and full training and support is provided. Children in the classes use dialogue and discussion, learning how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument. If you (or friends or relatives you know) are interested in becoming an Ethics teacher or would like more information please contact me by emailing tipsethics@gmail.com. I am really keen to have the teacher numbers finalised before school starts back next year so would love to hear from anyone interested as soon as possible. Cathy McIntyre, Ethics Coordinator for TJPS

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Open Monday mornings only from 8.45am to about 9.15am in the Old School Hall. If you are unable to make it then, you may pre-order and make payment in an envelope and leave it at the office. Orders will be filled on the Monday and given to students. Payment for orders is by Cash or Cheque only – Cheques payable to: The Junction School P & C. Please note there are no EFTPOS facilities for purchases in the Uniform Shop. If you purchase second hand items please ensure you remove any other child's name from the clothing and clearly write your child's name on the item.

CANTEEN NEWS

As it is nearly the end of the year not all items on the menu are available in the last weeks of the school year as we do not place orders – we will endeavour to fill or replace similar menu items.

I would also like to thank Jenni, Jodie, Bec, all the clients, volunteers, P & C and staff in the school for your great work and support you have given this year in the canteen.

I hope we have another great year in 2013.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

P & C NEWS

Just over a week to go before the summer holidays! I hope you and your children are enjoying the end of the school year and are ready for our last event of the year: **Carols by Candlelight on this Friday 6-8:30pm.**

THANKS for a great year

This will be the last P&C News for the year, so I'd like to say **thanks** to all the parents, carers, grandparents, friends and relatives who have donated their valuable time & money toward making TJPS a better school for our children. It's been a great year, and besides having several lovely social events, the generosity of our community has meant we've been able to donate over \$30,000 to the school to buy resources that wouldn't otherwise be available. Have a great summer! – Karla Karinen, TJPS P&C President

P&C Meeting Dates for 2013

- First meeting – Tuesday 5 February, 7pm
- Annual general meeting – Tuesday 5 March, 7pm

Looking Ahead... Olive Tree Market BBQ – 2 February 2013 – YEAR 3

We did not get enough volunteers to run the December 15th BBQ, so our next date is **Saturday, 2 February**. It will be the turn of the **current Year 2** parents and carers – who will then be Year 3 parents and carers! Catch up with your friends after the summer holidays – chat and help out by raising some money for the school.... Since this will be the first BBQ of the year, and at the end of the first week of school, please feel free to volunteer even if your child(ren) is in a different year. Can you help out with an 1½ hour? Please contact our BBQ coordinator extraordinaire, Liz Ginter on 0411 487 713 or elizabeth-g@bigpond.com if you can work a shift.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

DATE: Friday 14 December

TIME: 6-8:30pm

ADMISSION: FREE

WHERE: Under the COLA

WHAT TO BRING: chairs, blankets, picnic tea and **fine singing voices.**

I know everyone's end of year calendar is getting full, but we had such a great time last year, we thought we'd do it again this year! We will run a BBQ from 6-7pm (sausage sandwich for \$2.50, drinks for \$2 or bring your own picnic tea).

BETTY ANDERSON AWARD

Congratulations to all the nominees for the Betty Anderson Award, which is given each year to an outstanding volunteer at the school. It is a pleasure to belong to such a great community with such dedicated people who volunteer their time for the benefit of all our children. Following are excerpts from this year's nominations:

Janet Ball: I realise that Janet may not fit strictly into the "quiet achiever" category, however she has such a

high profile because she has done, and continues to do, so much for the school. I think the years of volunteer work Janet has done for the school should be recognised. **Joy Connor** is a grandparent of current students who has dedicated many hours to helping children (unrelated to her own family) with reading and literacy. I observed that she continues her volunteering even when her own family is travelling overseas.

Kim Forbes is a very quiet worker who puts up her hand to run the Mother's Day Stall and various other events whilst still looking after her three young children. She is an inspiration to others of what we can achieve.

Elizabeth Ginters, to be successful the P&C BBQ at the Olive Tree Market relies on a dedicated co-ordinator. Liz has taken on the unenviable job of organising the OTM BBQ every month for the last 2 years. In doing so she has made both a huge contribution to the P+C finances as well as extended the number of parents who have ever volunteered to help at the school. Liz has put a lot of time and effort into this role – so much behind the scene work...and often being a volunteer on the BBQ when volunteer numbers are low – and all with a happy, smiling disposition. Whilst there are many volunteers at the school, taking on the monthly commitment and rising to the occasion repeatedly is really an outstanding contribution.

Karla Karinen will be missed at TJPS next year and has dedicated a lot of time to doing a wonderful job as the P & C President this year. Karla does much more than any one knows in regards to this role and is always there to help at every function.

Cathy McIntyre has worked tirelessly for the P&C for many years- since her daughter Ruby started at The Junction 7 years ago. She has been a long standing member of the P&C, and has helped out at the many BBQs that the P&C runs, including organising the Father's Day BBQ for a number of years, as a volunteer for the Reading Recovery program, and she has co-ordinated the ethics classes this year (which is fantastic and no small feat). Cathy is always willing to help if you ask her. **Julie Wharton** for all her hard work organising two fantastic high fund raising Trivia nights. Julie also runs all of the P&C's electronic presence (Twitter, Facebook, the P&C web page) – an ongoing and great contribution. As well as other efforts like organising the Election Day cake stall, she is always ready to support someone else who is running something, countless BBQ rosters etc.

Congratulations to this year's Betty Anderson Award winner, Liz Ginters.

The Junction Public School's Motto and Pledge Survey

Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out the survey. The full results and comments are available in hard copy on the newsletter rack in the Front Office lobby, or I can send you an electronic copy (send me an e-mail at junctionpandc@hotmail.com). We should have a copy posted on the P&C webpage this week. Meanwhile, you may be interested to know that 126 Parent/Student surveys (30%) were returned out of the 415 that were sent home. Here is the summary of those responses:

Do you think The Junction Public School needs a motto?

YES: 92% (116) NO: 8% (10)

If you think we need a motto, do you think we should develop a new motto, or keep the current motto?

Keep the current motto-61%, Develop new motto-34%, Don't know-2%, Answered "no" to previous question, so didn't answer-2%

Do you think The Junction Public School needs a pledge?

YES: 74% (93) NO: 21% (26) Don't know: 6% (7)

If you think we need a pledge, do you think we should develop a new pledge, or keep the current pledge?

Keep the current pledge-48%, Develop a new pledge-36%, Answered "no" to previous question, so didn't answer-14%, Don't know-2%

At the December P&C meeting we concluded that there is no further action required about the school motto, but the pledge will be discussed further in 2013.

P&C EMAIL LIST - Please send me a note at junctionpandc@hotmail.com if you would like to be on the P&C email contact list. You will receive notices of P&C meeting, as well as the agenda and minutes. This is a great way to keep up with the P&C and stay involved in school.

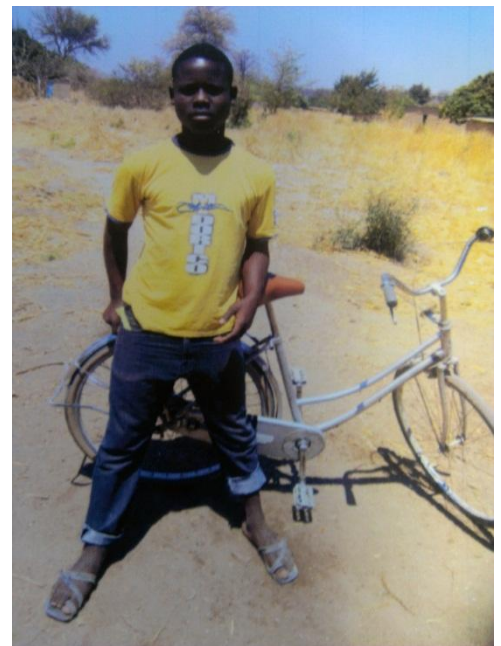
CHARITY DAY DONATIONS

On behalf of The Junction Public School a cheque for \$ 500 was handed over to LGS South Pacific. We have received a thank you letter for this significant contribution which will be of wonderful assistance to hundreds of school children in the South Pacific. Donated books are on their way to be distributed between five remote schools in Rakiraki.



WORLD VISION SPONSORSHIP

The students' of The Junction School have sponsored two children through the World Vision Organisation. Our first child for sponsorship was Bure Alios Michael. Bure is from Tanzania. Bure is 16 years old. Our second sponsor child is Mom Neavh. Mom is from Cambodia. Her birthday is in July and she is now 13 years old. Mom has now left school and works with her parents on their pig farm. She also helps a number of older members of her village. The recent Charity Day has provided funds for another year of sponsorship for Mom and Bure. These are the most recent photos of Mom and Bure.



JUNIOR CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Last Friday Mrs McLeod and the Junior Choir visited St Augustines Church in Merewether. This annual event is always enjoyed by the church community.



COMMUNITY NEWS

KidzCare – School Holiday Care

Newcastle PCYC KidzCare offers high quality accredited care to children from K – 6 inclusive. Our mission is to encourage children to participate in a variety of enjoyable activities within a safe and familiar environment. Our activities cater for children of a variety of ages and abilities, while encouraging maximum involvement. Regular activities include:

- Craft (painting, drawing, building, paper mache, designing)
- Cooking (fruit skewers, cookies, cupcakes, pizzas, biscuits, pasta)
- Sports (group games, relays, ball games, gymnastics, parachute games)

Bookings open four weeks prior to the holiday period. To avoid disappointment, early booking is recommended.

For enquiries, please contact the club on **49 614 493** or e-mail us at newcastle@pcycnsw.org.au

Alternatively you can get all the information you need at www.pcycnsw.org/newcastle

TIME: 8:00am – 6:00pm

COST: \$38* per day (plus excursions)

***CCB Approved**

YWCA Hunter Region Inc.
24 Dawson Street, COOKS HILL
CRN 555 010 881v
 Ph - (02) 4929 2954
 Email - admin.ywcahunter@bigpond.com or yncl@bigpond.com

Centre operating hours
 8.00am to 6.00pm
 Scheduled program runs from
 9.30am to 4.30pm

The YWCA Hunter Region Inc. will be conducting its regular vacation care program for children aged 5 to 12 years during the upcoming school holiday period commencing: Monday, 7th January 2013 until Friday, 25th January 2013. This program may be useful to some families of your school community for parents who have work commitments during the school holiday period as the YWCA centre is located at 24 Dawson Street, Cooks Hill which is within close proximity of the Newcastle CBD area.

HUNTER SPORTS CENTRE - Glendale

Phone: 49536366 www.hsc.org.au

Approved for Child Care Rebate & Benefit Vacation Care is an inexpensive way to keep the kids entertained these school holidays

Day's activities 7.30am to 6pm - Meals Included

Activities include: Craft, Science, Cooking, Sports Programs, Gymnastics, Mission Impossible, Foam Wars, Balance Basics kite flying and much more.

THURSDAY 20th DEC – TUESDAY 29th JAN
 Closed on Public Holidays

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FROM MONDAY 7TH JAN – FRIDAY 25TH JAN

CHESS COMPETITION

The 5th Annual

Mingara Summer Holiday Junior Chess Tournament

When: 11am to about 4.30pm
 Monday, January 21, 2012

Where: Mingara Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi (Central Coast, east of Wyong)

Must Pre-enter, but may pay entry fee of \$10 on the day

Pre-enter as soon as possible at glosh51@dodo.com.au or on phone: 4390 8176. The field will be limited (we have only so much equipment) and entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis.