

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



Union Street, Merewether. NSW 2291 Ph: 49 631343 Fax: 49 63 3501 E: thejunctio-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 3 – Week 8

Tuesday 4 September 2012

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to our Education Week /Book Week / Art Show Week!

This will take place tomorrow **Wednesday 5th September**. We will be holding an 'Open Day' classroom event as well as celebrating Book Week 2012 and the official opening of our whole school Art Exhibition.

Events will commence as follows:

- **9.30am** with a whole school assembly under the COLA area.
- **10.00am** we will have 'Open Classroom' visits until 10.30am.
- **10.40am** we will have the Official Opening of the Art Exhibitions at the back of the old school hall and outside the new school hall.
- **10.50am** parents and visitors will be invited to view the exhibitions in the old and new halls – (gold coin donation) – or enjoy a delicious morning tea from the canteen.
- **11.10am** - Morning tea break
- **11.10am until 12 noon** with some wonderful items of entertainment taking place.
- **12 noon** - students will return to class.
- **There will be NO Canteen Lunch Orders tomorrow!**

During the day you might like to purchase a book as a donation to our School Library. These books will be available on a stall near the canteen. Each book donated will have the child's name placed inside the book and they will have the opportunity to borrow this book first.

On Thursday night 6th September – from 5.30pm until 7.00pm - there will be further viewing of the Art Show – 'Art Under The Stars' – there will also be entertainment and 'nibbles'.

This showing will be available to all parents and to hopefully assist working parents who are unable to make it to school on the Wednesday. The Art Show will be open for viewing until Friday 3.00pm.

Due to the large numbers expected at school on this day and both halls being utilised - the normal Book Week Parade – where children dress up as book characters will take place at the end of this term on Friday 21st September – commencing at 9.30am followed by a morning tea.

A big week – hope to see you – the students have been working extremely hard on their art works and will be pleased to show you.

Wonderful Achievements!!

It has been another high achieving week for the students of The Junction Public School! Congratulations to the following students and teams:-

TJPS Rugby Union Team

Our school rugby union team travelled to Sylvania Waters last week to play in the final rounds of the NSW PSSA Rugby Union Competition. The boys had to play against Tamworth Public School in the final. The match was a very exciting one with the final score being 28 all – The Junction Public School and Tamworth Public School are now joint NSW Premiership Rugby Union Champions for 2012!! An outstanding result – huge thanks to teacher Brenda Briggs, coach Nick Attallah and all parents who have supported the boys throughout the competition. Congratulations to you all. See full report in the newsletter.

TJPS - Regional Athletics Team

Congratulations to everyone who competed at the Regional Carnival. Well done to Mia Austin, Ebony Dyball, Ellie Smailes, Jordan Parker, Finley Beasley and Joshua Turner....all competed well and represented their school admirably.

We have some amazing athletes at our school who have made it through to the State Carnival. Congratulations to our senior girls relay team - Bronte Anscombe, Amelia Latunin, Avalon Nadfalusi and Ejay Stokes. Amelia Latunin will also compete in the senior long jump, Reed Van Huisstede will compete in the 800m and Finn Carlin will compete in the senior shot put and the 12yrs 200m. We wish them all the best in the State Carnival Competition.

Father Day BBQ

Many thanks to all P&C members and staff members who organised a wonderful BBQ for all our dads, grand-dads, uncles and family friends last Friday morning. It was fantastic to see so many family members at school enjoying some quality time and breakfast together. It's great to see our dads at our school!

**Wendy Cheek,
Principal**

CALENDAR - TERM 3 – 2012**Week 8****Event**

Tuesday, September 4	P & C Meeting – 7pm
Wednesday, Sept 5	Art Show, Education Week, Book Week Open Day – NO LUNCH ORDERS TODAY!
Thursday, Sept 6	5.30pm to 7pm – Art Under The Stars
Friday, September 7	Out of Uniform (Black, White & Red) – <u>Year 1 and 2 only</u>
Saturday, Sept 8	Spring Winds Concert at Newcastle Conservatorium – Rehearsal - 6.15pm Concert - 7.30pm

Week 9**Event**

Friday, September 14	Year 1 Excursion to Blackbutt
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Week 10**Event**

Friday, September 21	Book Week Parade – 9.30am
Friday, September 21	Last day of Term 3

School Holidays**Event**

Saturday, October 6	Olive Tree Markets – 9am-3pm
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CALENDAR - TERM 4 – 2012**Week 1****Event**

Monday, October 8	STAFF & STUDENTS RETURN
Thursday, October 11	Year 1 & 2 students commence Intensive Swimming Program

YEAR 1 & 2 – Out of Uniform Day

This Friday September 7, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having an Out of Uniform Day to raise money to support “Devil Ark” in their research into the cause of facial tumours in Tasmanian Devils. Children are to wear (Black, White or Red) and bring in a gold coin donation. Thank you, Mrs Russell

YEAR 1 & 2 – INTENSIVE SWIMMING

A “Creme note” will come home today with all Year 1 and Year 2 students about the Intensive Swimming Program. Students will participate every Thursday commencing Week 1 of Term 4 through to Week 8 of Term 4. The cost of this program is \$65.00 for the swimming lessons and bus travel.

**SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS****Term 3 Week 7****YEARS 1 & 2 ASSEMBLY**

1CR	Hugo W	Morgan S
1J	Gypsy R	Rosie C
1L	Harri M	Archie J
1/2H	Freya K	Louise S
2C	Felix M	Lara B
2B	Nell H	Travis H
2M	Imogen W	David M
2W	Sam S	Malika K

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

3/4C	Max T	Hannah N
3W	Taj A	Dimitrios F
3MC	Myah R	Maya L
4A	Estelle S	Lachlan A
4L	Dante V	James B
6/5F	Sydney S	Toby B
6/5B	Ethan C	Erin G
6/5S	Maddie P	Jade C
6/5T	Tom B	Marlon M
6/5C	Phoebe R	Kye S
Student of the month	Noah J – 6/5T Karl F – 6/5C Kyriaki K – 6/5F Lachlan A – 4A James B – 4L	Aleksandr F – 6/5S Brittney R – 6/5B Jorjia V – 3/4C Logan R – 3MC Kepei T – 3W

TESSIE GOES TO THE OPERA HOUSE

The Opera House looked enormous as I sat on stage looking up at 2000 people in the audience. It was last week and I was playing at the Opera House with the 49 other members of the Junior State Wind Band. The band was made up of students in years 5 to 8 from public schools all over NSW. We had two full days of rehearsals at The Arts Unit in Sydney, then two afternoon rehearsals and two evening performances at the Opera House. I made some great friends, played great music, and had an excellent time. The Opera House was awesome! By Tessie O

Science Week A report from our Science Week activities held last week will be in next week's newsletter.

PSSA RUGBY UNION

On Wednesday, 29th August, The Junction School Rugby team played in the Final Series of the New South Wales PSSA Rugby Knockout.

To get to this point the team played in Gala Day competition that equalled the first 5 rounds of the knockout. From this point we then had to travel to individual games to keep proceeding through the competition. These schools were Balgowlah Heights Public and finally Edgeworth Public. This run gave us a top four placing in the state. This was our ticket to the finals.

Our first game was against John Warby Public School. A strong team in size and strength but we were the victors 42 to 16. This took us to the Grand Final. This game was against Tamworth Public School who had pipped us at the post the last three years stopping us from making the top 4.

It was an extremely tense game. Both myself and Mr Atallah (coach) were making a rather large path along the side line. Jack Johnson-Holmes and Mr Biddle were kept busy carting water and instructions out onto the field. After a fantastic effort, by both sides, we were declared joint winners. The final score was 28 all.

The boys played so well and all spectators were really impressed with the standard of play and sportsmanship. I'd like to take this opportunity to really thank Mr Atallah for his endless hours of training and attendances at games, Mrs Atallah and Mrs Smith for washing the jumpers and Mrs Atallah for her help with accommodation in Sydney. The water boys (men) at various games and all the parents for their help with transportation of the boys to the games.

Congratulations finally go to all students who have represented the school in Rugby this year. A great effort, one of which I'm proud of! Mrs Briggs



A Coach's Report

My name is Nicholas Atallah, I had the responsibility of coaching The Junction Public School Rugby Union team this year, as I have done for the past 4 years.

As in previous years we showed a great enthusiasm for the sport and progressed through the PSSA competition with some solid wins, but more importantly we started to play some good running rugby. The boys flourished with the added responsibility that was given them resulting in five boys being selected in the best PSSA team to represent the Hunter (Tobias A, Reed V, Finn C, Luca C, and Jack J), The Hunter came 3rd in the State wide

competition and our boys were vital to achieving that result. The school Rugby team made it to the State Titles where the best four school teams in the N.S.W. played off to decide a State Champion. The Junction Public School is now the N.S.W State Rugby Champions!

As I said I taught the boys to play Rugby but what we witnessed in Sydney was something that no one can teach. The courage, determination and tenacity shown by the team was only matched by their ability to keep picking themselves up and to keep going forward. The list of deeds on the field, as the boys were up against a bigger, faster and better experienced opposition, is long, but for me it starts at the front where the forwards lead by Tobias threw themselves in selflessly. This was complimented by a back line that dared to throw the ball around playing the width of the field. All wins like this are built on defence, where a team stands together as one and the desire to not let the rest of the team down is important. Our defence was outstanding each player determined to keep our line in tact.

Here are some of the contributions of each player, and there were many:

1. Joshua T: supporting to score a vital try and threw himself at the opposition in defence on the line.
2. Finley B: front on tackling stopping another raid on our line, not to mention the cool head under the pressure great kicking.
3. Angus F : trying all day and when he was beaten by an attacker chasing him and tackling him the second time.
4. Finn Carlin: was as you would expect, targeted, but was an inspiration to the team in his ability to keep getting up and giving us a focus.
5. Reed V: no better tackler and none more brave as he ran straight and gave us space out wide. A real game changer when he went off injured because of his ability to open up play.
6. Tom B: I have been waiting for you to 'have a crack yourself' and you really saved the best till last, a great link and tough in defence and attack. Great work.
7. Tyler B: was up against their dynamo but you kept him in check as they attacked our edges, superb defence and exceptional distribution gave us a momentum advantage.
8. Luca C: thank you for your versatility, started at lock finished at outside centre and you read the game like a book, right place right time, cleaned out with gusto.
9. Isaac T: starting to look like a rugby player your tackling and support play was excellent, you also took the ball forward playing well above your weight.
10. Toby B: so deceptive in attack and as brave as anyone in defence always around the ball looking for work, well done.
11. James K: coming back from injury, who could tell, you did not shirk your job and found more work, very strong on the ball and tackling around the rucks.
12. Dixon S: I asked you to support our bigger boys and you did so with great courage and determination. Another step up, should be proud of yourself.
13. Nicholas M: some of the best tackles of the day which stopped them flat, also took the ball forward into contact with determination and thought.
14. Tobias A : a real captain's game you lead by example and your strength on the ball and defence in close kept us in

the game at many crucial times.
 Congratulations and thank you boys the pleasure was all mine. Nicholas Atallah

KINDERGARTEN VISIT TO OAKVALE FARM

Last Friday Kindergarten went to Oakvale Farm and had a wonderful time. We saw lots of baby animals and fed them with bottles of milk and bags of pellets. Even the kangaroos and koalas had new babies for us to see! One duck had thirteen brand new ducklings and let us get up close to have a look. We walked around the farm after having a tractor ride to see Daisy the cow. Daisy wasn't all that happy but gave us a big MOO.....she is about to have a new baby too. We will have to have a look on the Oakvale Farm website to see when the baby calf arrives. The farm was great but the bus ride was great fun too!!!!



BAND NEWS

Intermediate Band Day

Our Intermediate Band had an enjoyable Band Day last Wednesday to practise for the Spring Winds Concert this Saturday evening. Thanks to Matthew Law all students are well prepared for this exciting event for our band. For the first time our Intermediate Band will join with our Senior Band and Percussion Ensemble to showcase the talents of our band students.

Spring Winds Concert

This event is on Saturday night at the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music. Intermediate and Senior Bands and Percussion Ensemble will all be performing along with the Crotchets and Quavers and University Wind Orchestra. All students must arrive there at 6:15pm for a rehearsal. The concert commences at 7:30pm.



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.

SCHOOL BANKING – Newcastle Permanent Building Society and Commonwealth Bank

Student Banking for Newcastle Permanent Building Society and the Commonwealth Bank is on a Monday. Students need to take their banking to the library immediately after roll call.

THE JUNCTION KIDS' PAGE

The Art Show

The art show is a major part of education week and 4A has based their artwork on two books: *The Red Bridge* and *The Littlest Refugee*.

The Red Bridge is set in Vietnam. We did beautiful paper fish kites and colourful paper mache bowls. *The Littlest Refugee* starts in Vietnam but moves into Sydney, Australia. We made friendship rainbows, sepia artwork and we coloured photo copied pages.

By Jasmine M 4A

Education week

On education week dance groups, bands and our choir will be performing for parents and visitors.

The Year Three dance groups will be dancing to *Black and White* by Michael Jackson and Year Four will be dancing to *Mango Tree* by Angus Stone.

The choir will be singing *Jubilee Jubilee*, (which is in another language), *Rabbit Rabbit* and *59th Street Groovy*.

Right now hardly anyone knows what the band will be playing so the band might be giving us a huge surprise!

All I know is there will be a great performance from all...If you want to know more why don't you come?

By Jasmine M 4A

Sorrowful garden of joy

At the front of our classroom sitting, waiting in the gold sun, the empty garden pushes on the dirty blue border. The soil turned black and moist, it waits for plants and new life. The ground is grey and lifeless scattered in the remains of old tree branches and crusty bark that is withered from sun and water. Leaves drift to the ground.

Overgrown trees tower over the walkways waiting to be invited in. The moisture left sinks down into its lifeless grey surrounds. The garden lies in silence but it is broken by the whisper of the cool winds. The blank canvas wall screams for paint and love.

The smell of fertilizer fills the air and drifts to the classroom walls lying on the blank mural. The garden waits for love and the hope of new life. This garden dreams of children laughing and enjoying life in the garden and one day the dream will come true.

By Alexandra Harrison 4A

Book Review - Anne of Green Gables

Anne is an orphan child. She has had a tough life but luckily Mathew and Marilla adopted Anne. They wanted a boy but instead they got Anne. Marilla gave Anne one chance to show her why she should stay. Anne did lots of jobs around the house and was a good girl.

When Anne started going to school, trouble was around the corner. She had a lot of drama with a boy called Gilbert, but she loved school.

When she was older she got selected to do a test so she could become a teacher. She took the tests and got the highest score of the girls. Gilbert got the highest score for boys. The bad thing was she tied with him in first place and poor Anne didn't like that one bit.

Anne of Green Gables is a lovely story and I would recommend it for any girl 8 to 15 years.

By Niamh L

Fort Scratchley

Last week, the Stage 2 students went on an excursion around Newcastle. One of the places they went to was Fort Scratchley. Here are some facts about it.

Why and When the Fort Scratchley is built?

Fort Scratchley was built 140 years ago. Peter Scratchley built it and when he died people named it after him - Fort Scratchley!

It was built to protect Australia. Australia was afraid that there would be an invasion.

Russians never invaded Australia. In 1942, the Japanese attacked Newcastle. Newcastle fired their guns and scared them away. The Japanese from a submarine tried to hit one of our guns but they couldn't do that. Luckily nobody was hurt.

They also built it to look at the ships in case anyone would invade. For years soldier's used to parade around the grounds from 1882-1992.

What are things in the Fort Scratchley?

Australia had only two guns that were on land so they could fire to the ocean. They have a gun that when they put a key in it, it fires and can go up to 700m in a second.

In Fort Scratchley, the soldiers have hooks where people clean their guns. A barbet would be about 45 tons. They would put holes in the bricks for the air circulation. A mortar was a 3-inched gun. The mortar is 70 years old now. The 9-inched muzzle is a big gun that has gunpowder and it weighs 23kg.

They put a roof on 100 years ago because when someone was invading they could just open up the roof and shoot. They hid the gun so it could not be seen from outside. The gun was a big one and they put all the shells in a room. Shells are things that are in the gun. A big shell weighs about 45kg and can fly up to 30km. A shell is round and it is

6 inches long. The cover is called muzzle, which makes it not rust. They have been storing shells for 100 years.

R.M.L. gun was 80 pounds and it still works. It had ropes and handles to aim. The people pulled back the gun to load, which weighed 500 tons. They had a 5kg gun too. They had a friction tube filled with gunpowder and when you pull the little key it makes a spark.

In Fort Scratchley there are long tunnels. There was a lamp room where they would put the candles in. You got a big job if you had to put candles all over the fort. The actual lamp would cost a thousand dollars just for one. They were very protective of the lamp. Everything was made out of copper because they were afraid that something was going to catch on fire because of the gunpowder. Originally the 80-pound gun was stored and cordite was stored too. Soldiers slept in a room called the barracks. The floor was made out of tar so it wouldn't catch on fire. At night they would use lamps to guide them. They would hang clothes and shoes and put special clothes and shoes on when they put gunpowder in. A gun called the disappearing gun is 500 tons and it was made in 1890-1911. To get it back working will cost 1 million dollars. A company called Armstrong built the disappearing gun.

For their light they used candles in a special lamp. The soldiers sit at tables and had a rest or played games like cards or they read a book or wrote to their family.

What happens now?

Today they still fire guns on a very special occasion - the 1st of October. Now Newcastle council owns Fort Scratchley. They don't fire shells anymore!

Stage 2 students had a wonderful learning experience about this spectacular place. I hope you learned something too!

By Hayley C

P & C NEWS

Next P&C Meeting – Tonight at 7pm. P&C meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month, except during school holidays. Everyone is welcome to attend. Meetings are held in the school's staff room, down the hall from the Front Office. It should be an interesting meeting, which will start out with an overview of the School Plan 2012-2014 by Mrs Cheek. Also on the agenda are the consideration of the School Motto and Pledge, as well as our final wrap up of Trivia Night 2012.

FATHER's DAY BBQ

Thanks to Wendy Donovan and Cathy McIntyre for (again) organising the Father's Day BBQ. Cathy sends in this report:

A beautiful sunny morning, lots of enthusiastic helpers and plenty of Dads, Grandfathers and Uncles with their kids made the Fathers' Day breakfast for 2012 a huge

success! 340 breakfasts were served between 7:45 and 9:00am - about 100 more than previous years. This increase in numbers did lead to the small problem of running out of food! However, thanks to the generosity of the Canteen and an emergency dash to Coles as well as the patience of the waiting men just about everyone managed to get something to eat. Special thanks to dad Paul Newman of Aldi's for the generous donation of the bread. It was really great to see so many people at the school having breakfast with their kids and catching up. Thank you to everyone involved - kids, Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles, staff and volunteers.

September Olive Tree Market BBQ

It was another great Saturday at the Olive Tree Market, with \$1,480 worth of food and drinks being sold: Thanks to our crew of parents and students: Ilona & Annika Leibbrandt, Shehenaaz Badat, Fay Purr, Chris Taylor, Suzanne Taylor, Chris Dempsey, Cathy McIntyre, Allan McKinnon, Janet Ball, Daniel & David Ball McKinnon, Yvette Anscombe, Sue & Will Lucas, Geoff Overmeyer, Steve Spencer, Max Spencer Karinen, and Liz Ginters who not only organised, but worked as well.

Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 6 October – Kindergarten

It's the turn of Kindergarten parents and carers, so recruit a friend and book a shift to help the P&C raise some money for the school. If you have an hour and a half to spare please call Liz Ginters on Ph 0411 487 713 or elizabeth.g@bigpond.com. Shifts are: (8:30-10am) to Open (10-11:30am) (11:30-1pm) (1pm – 2:30pm) to Close.

SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS

Our **Coles Sports for Schools** vouchers have now been sent in. We collected over 60,500 vouchers for the school: which means a great amount of sports gear. A huge **thanks to Lydia Miles** and her family, who co-ordinated & counted an astounding number of vouchers.

Kids Art - Calendars and iPhone covers for Christmas Fundraiser

We are still looking for an **organiser** (or co-organisers) for the kids' artwork Christmas Fundraiser. **What's needed?** Someone to schedule the fundraiser, communicate with the company, and co-ordinate volunteers to sort artwork and orders. All the kids at school would make their own art work which can then be made into a calendar, iPhone cover or a mousepad. The P&C will make a bit of money for the school, and parents will have some lovely personal gifts for Christmas giving. Does this sound like a challenge you'd like to take on? Questions? Please contact me via the P&C e-mail junctionpandc@hotmail.com if you're interested, or just want more information about what's involved. **This is the last call for an organiser (or co-organisers)...**we can't run this fundraiser without someone to co-ordinate.

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. Regards, Karla Karinen, TJPS P&C President