

# The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 10

Tuesday 2 April 2013

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Two Staff Development Days – Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th April

I need to inform parents that immediately after these holidays which begin on 12th April, we will be having two staff development days. **Staff will return to schools on Monday 29th April but all students do not return to school until Wednesday 1st May.** The Department of Education is providing these two staff development days to all teachers in NSW to enable them to effectively implement the new English syllabus for the Australian Curriculum which comes into effect in 2014. Parents may need to make special arrangements for their children for these two dates.

### Payment for Resources

A reminder to please check if you have paid for your child's resource books issued in the last three weeks. If you would like another financial overview sheet for your child's class - please contact the office. Many thanks to the parents who have helped us out with payments so far.

### Congratulations - Soccer

Congratulations to Daniel Ball-McKinnon and Sasha Montefiore on their selection in the Newcastle Zone PSSA Soccer Trials last week.

### State Swimming – Homebush

Best wishes to the following students who will be competing at the State Swimming Carnival at Homebush this week. A very strong team representing The Junction Public School and the Newcastle Region! Saxon C, Marc C, Claude i, Chiara V, Ayesha L, Kelsey V, Ethan C, Karl F, Joshua T, Jorjia V, Emily D. Congratulations to all students for making the State finals in swimming and we hope you all have a great swimming meet!

### Enrichment Days

Last week we held the first of our grade enrichment days for Years 5 and 6 in the area of Visual Arts. Nominated students from both years 5 and 6 participated in a whole day visual arts experience co-ordinated by talented art teacher Karen Read. Students studied the form of leaves, sketched, used pastels, looked at texture, light and shade, used water-colours and photo light paper to produce some stunning art works. This experience is

part of our 'Enrichment and Engagement Framework' to provide high engagement experiences across the school for all students. Next Monday students from Year 3 and next Wednesday students from Year 4 will participate in similar experiences.

Previously only three or four students a year, would get such an opportunity as this from DEC organised programs. This is why we have put this structure into our whole school organisation and this term, will have provided a visual arts experience for over 100 students in Years 3 to 6. Next term we will look to organise another specialised day for additional students - in another curriculum area either science or maths.

### Design Challenges

This Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April will be the first sharing session of our grade design challenges.

The design challenges are grade based and structured to complement curriculum areas for the term. Years 3 and 4 will demonstrate the outcomes of their challenges to parents tomorrow with Year 3 beginning at 11.30am and Year 4 at 12.15pm – for parents who can attend. These grade design challenges are again part of our whole school 'Enrichment and Engagement Framework' to provide high engagement experiences across the school for all students.

Year 3 and 4 were given the challenge of designing wind powered sailing craft as part of their studies on the discovery of Australia.

This Thursday will be the Year 5 design challenge day beginning at 2pm in the new hall for parents. The challenge for Year 5 was to create a marble track, one metre long with a right angle turn and one drop. The marble must land and be caught in a container at the end of the track.

Year 6 will present the outcomes of their challenge on Thursday of next week – 11<sup>th</sup> April – parents are welcome along to all design challenge presentations. Year 6 are creating a protective casing for a balloon filled with water. The casing must prevent the balloon from bursting when it is dropped from 3 metres. Parents are welcome from 2pm in the new hall.

**Wendy Cheek**  
Principal

**CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2013**

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Week 10	Event
Tuesday, April 2	State Swimming-Homebush
Tuesday, April 2	P & C Meeting – 7pm
Wednesday, April 3	State Swimming-Homebush
Wednesday, April 3	Design challenge Sailing Craft – Yr 3 at 11.30am Yr 4 at 12.15pm
Thursday, April 4	Last pay't day for ICAS Tests
Thursday, April 4	Yr 6 holding a cake stall-recess
Thursday, April 4	Yr 5 Design Challenge – New Hall at 2pm
Saturday, April 6	Olive Tree Market – 9am to 3pm

Week 11	Event
Tuesday, April 9	Zone Cross country
Thursday, April 11	Yr 6 Design Challenge – New Hall at 2pm
Friday, April 12	School Anzac Day Service
Friday, April 12	LAST DAY FOR TERM 1

## CALENDAR - TERM 2 – 2013

Week 1	Event
Monday, April 29	Staff Development Day – Staff only
Tuesday, April 30	Staff Development Day – Staff only
Wednesday, May 1	STUDENTS RETURN – TERM 2

Week 2	Event
Tuesday, May 7	P & C Mother's Day Stall
Wednesday, May 8	P & C Mother's Day Stall

Week 3	Event
Friday, May 17	School Athletics Carnival – Whole School

### KINDER to YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY

Thank you 1CR for a great assembly last week and to all the parents who attended. This week's assembly will be shared by Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Congratulations to 1J for winning the assembly award - you will enjoy assembly sitting on a chair this week!

We look forward to seeing you there 2pm Wednesday in the new hall.

### Assembly Times:

Kinder to Year 2: Wednesday at 2.00pm in new hall.  
Year 3 to Year 6: Friday at 11.30am in new hall.

## SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

### Term 1 Week 9

#### Kinder to Year 2 ASSEMBLY

KK	Isaac H	Myles M
KDG	Stanley M	Rebecca H
KH	Kai H Lucy R	Paige B Phoebe L
KR	Adisyn L	Isla H
1J	Riley B	Sophia L
1CR	Breanna S	Amber B
1L	Kristian R	Liam C
1C	Jonah R	Trinity M
1/2H	Niamh H	Brooklyn B
2B	Ella S	
2W	Charlie G	Amy M

### YEAR 1 GYMNASTICS

All Year 1 students received a 'Blue Note' last week for the Gymnastics program which starts on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May (Week 2 of Term 2). The cost of this program is \$36.00.

### ICAS TESTS

Students from Year 3 to Year 6 received a 'Purple Note' advising of the dates and costs of the ICAS tests. These tests are optional for students. Payment must be received by this **Thursday 4 April** – payments cannot be accepted after this date.

### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

I would like to encourage all Year 3-6 students to record the books that they are reading on the PRC website <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>. Students can log onto the website using their school username and password.

K-2 students will have their record completed for the reading challenge as part of their library lesson. Congratulations to Dimitri Filactos 4A and Kepei Tan 3/4L for completing their PRC challenge.

Mrs Land

## LIBRARY

Thank you to the mums who have been covering books for the Lexile reading program. There are still more books to be covered over the next few weeks, if you are able to assist please see Mrs Land.

There are **two Book Club orders with no names on the orders** – if your child has not received their order please see Mrs Land in the library.

## SCIENCE CLUB

Apologies to the parents who turned up last Thursday – it was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. Free lunch-time sessions are held each term with the help of volunteer parents and the support of the P&C. We are starting off the year investigating surface tension with bubbles! Sessions start after the eating bell at 1.10pm in the old hall.

Week 10 - (Thurs 4 April) will be for K-2 students.

As we have many eager young scientists at The Junction, we are always appreciative of parent helpers, no experience necessary!

Please contact Robyn on 0414 240198 or just meet at 12:50 at the Old Hall on the day.

## 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.**

**THERE ARE NO EFTPOS FACILITIES FOR THE UNIFORM SHOP.**

### \*\*\*\*\* HELP NEEDED! Uniform Shop \*\*\*\*\*

The Uniform Shop is operated by a group of wonderful mums who volunteer their time to run the shop. They are hoping to draw up a roster – (maybe you will only be required once a month!) Many hands make light work – if you can spare 30min to 45min from 8.45am on a Monday, please call Donna Coates on: Mob: 0428 443817. Thank you.

## P & C NEWS

Our **next P&C meeting** will be held tonight - **Tuesday 2 April at 7pm.** Everyone is welcome, and it would be great to see some new faces. Come and find out what is happening at the school. Do you have a fundraising idea? The meeting will be held in the staff room, down the hall from the front office.

**Vacant P&C position:** We still require someone to take on the role of second vice president. Are you the person we are looking for to fill this position? If you would like to know more about the position, please send me an e-mail at [junctionpandc@hotmail.com](mailto:junctionpandc@hotmail.com), or come along to the next P&C meeting.

The **Mother's Day Stall** will be on during school time on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Students are asked to donate a small gift item to put in the stall. Donations can be dropped to the front office before the end of term – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

### \*\*\*\*\*HELP NEEDED – URGENT \*\*\*\*\*

## Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 6 April – YEAR 5

It's the turn of **YEAR 5** parents and carers, so recruit a friend and book a shift to help the P&C raise some money for the school. At the moment we only have **2 volunteers**. This is not enough to run the BBQ, and if we don't get enough volunteers, we will have to cancel the BBQ. The BBQ's are a great way for the P&C to fund everything from Science Club to new equipment for the school. All you have to do is turn up, cook a few sausages and enjoy the fantastic atmosphere at the Olive Tree Markets. So, if you have an hour and a half to spare please call Bronwyn Geerarts on Ph 0422 965631 or email P & C (address below)

- 8:30-10am (open)
- 10-11:30am
- 11:30-1pm
- 1pm – 2:30 (close).



**P&C EMAIL 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. Please send me a note at [junctionpandc@hotmail.com](mailto:junctionpandc@hotmail.com) if you would like to be on the P&C email contact list. Bronwyn Geerarts, TJPS P&C President

## KEEP THE LETTERS COMING! WE NEED THE CLASSROOMS! WE NEED TO REMIND OUR POLITICIANS!

**We have 41 letters from TJPS community so far – let's make it 141 – please drop your signed letters in to the front office ASAP. (You can pick up a letter to sign from the front office if you need another one.)**

"The Junction Public School (TJPS) P+C requests that the Liberal State Government advise when our school community can expect to see eight (8) brick classrooms built to replace a classroom block demolished over 22 years ago in the 1989 Newcastle earthquake."

Our (now) Premier, Barry O'Farrell stated that it was "a disgrace that two decades after the earthquake, with growing enrolments, that this school's been neglected" (Ch 7, 8 Nov 2010). He went on to say "I think that would be a good idea ... (to replace the demolished brick classrooms with new brick classrooms)....we put money aside for school rebuild for like and I will talk to the Minister for Education when announced, particularly about that school" (1233 ABC Radio 29 March 2011) "Adrian Piccoli, Minister for Education, stated "This will be one of the priorities" (Ch 9, 8 Feb 2011). And Newcastle MP Tim Owen declared "a Liberal Government would make a new building the top education infrastructure priority for the region" (Newcastle Herald, 28 Feb 2011) and again in 2012 "The Junction is



*my highest priority for Newcastle schools,”* (Newcastle Herald May 15, 2012).

If you would like to help encourage the State government to do something for our children at TJPS, put your name, address and signature on one of the letters sent out previously (or write your own) and drop it in to the front desk. The P+C we will post it to the Minister for Education Hon Adrian Piccoli, and cc copies to the Leader of the Opposition John Robertson, Member for Newcastle Tim Owen, and other influential people

We need to keep reminding our politicians what they promised. **Twenty-three years is a long time to wait – TJPS community needs to speak out. Send a letter today!**

If you have any queries please call Janet on Mob: 0438 008 697.

## K – 2 EASTER HAT EGGSTRAVAGANZA.....



## SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES.....



### Blackbutt bush rangers!

The Newcastle Permanent Junior Ranger program brings kids back to nature. This school holidays kids will build a shelter, paint a boomerang, hunt for animals, and have a photo with a reptile for a take home bookmark!

**Dates:** 15 - 19 April 2013

**Time:** 9:30 - 11:30am

**Location:** Richley Reserve

*Fees apply and bookings are essential.*

For further information please contact:  
Blackbutt Reserve Office - 4904 3344 or visit  
[www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au](http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au)



## YWCA VACATION CARE:

Bookings essential: [yncle@bigpond.com.au](mailto:yncle@bigpond.com.au) or  
Phone: 4929 2954

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April.**  
(24 Dawson Street, Cooks Hill)

**Hours: 8am to 6pm**