

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 2 – Week 4

Tuesday 21 May 2013

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all students and teachers on a most wonderful athletics carnival on Friday. The participation and enthusiasm was outstanding with all students really 'having a go' and enjoying the physical activities of the occasion. It was great to see the large numbers of parents present – supporting their children and the school.

I would like to sincerely thank all teachers who made it such a successful day – working all day without any breaks – and cheering on the students. A huge thank you as well to teacher Jody Cooper for her yet again – stunning organisation - everything running smoothly to make the day a wonderful success! We will be holding an assembly this Friday at 11.20am in the new hall to present ribbons and recognise some of the outstanding records for the day.

The winning house for the carnival was **Edmunds!** Congratulations to all students in Edmunds house for your enthusiastic participation.



Stranger Danger – 'Safe People Safe Places'

Unfortunately it's time again to talk to our students about this topic. There have been some reported 'incidents' at nearby schools. So, frequently at school we speak to all students about staying 'safe' and not talking to strangers on the way to or from school. We talk about strategies to use if a stranger approaches them or wants to talk to them. We tell them that a stranger is a person who they do not know or is not known to their family. For very young students we simplify this message, trying not to alarm or frighten them about strangers, but also trying to

keep them safe. It is preferable that students walking to or from school, do so with other students.

The NSW Police Force are now promoting a different strategy called 'Safe People Safe Places'. Detective Superintendent John Kerlatec, of the NSW Police Sex Crimes Squad, says that the NSW police focus has moved away from "stranger danger" and more to talking to kids about "safe people, safe places".

"Parents need to ensure their children are aware of things like not getting into cars with strangers, but we would also like parents to talk to their children about what to do when they're in situations which make them feel uncomfortable." Warren Cann, a psychologist and director of the Raising Children Network, a parenting website, says it is important mums and dads find a balance between instilling protective behaviours and creating a fear of all strangers. "Making kids scared of all strangers is not good for anyone and breaks down community connectedness," he says. "Instead, we need to teach kids how to keep themselves safe – and not just with strangers."

Advice for parents:

Even if the risk is minimal, parents need to ensure their children have an understanding of "protective behaviours", Cann says. Here are his key tips.

- Talk about staying safe when you are not around. Rather than banning kids from getting into a stranger's car, make it a rule that they can't make changes to plans or get into anyone's car unless they have run it past you.
- Encourage a "no secrets" policy, so if something happens to make them feel uncomfortable they can talk to you – or have other people they can confide in.

Could I ask also that all parents talk to their children as well, about how to be safe and what to do if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable in any situation, at any time? Thanks. Please contact me if you need further clarification. The following link will provide you with further information. www.bodyandsoul.com.au › [Parenting](#) › [Parenthood](#)

Wendy Cheek
Principal

CALENDAR - TERM 2 – 2013

Week 4	Event
Wednesday, May 22	Year 1 gymnastics
Thursday, May 23	Pink Stumps Day – Out of uniform – gold coin donation
Friday, May 24	Last day to order Pizza Day Meal Deal
Friday, May 24	Walk to School Safely Day
Week 5	Event
Friday, May 31	Pizza Day Meal Deal - No other lunch orders on this day
Saturday, June 1	Olive Tree Markets – 9am-3pm
Week 6	Event
Tuesday, June 4	P & C Meeting 7pm - Staffroom
Wednesday, June 5	ICAS Science Test
Week 7	Event
Monday, June 10	Public Holiday – School closed
Wednesday, June 12	Parent information session 3.15pm – Year 4 GAB Camp

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS**Term 2 Week 3 Kinder to Year 2 ASSEMBLY**

KK	Noah A	Ruby K
KDG	Patrick J	Bella S
KH	Lachlan C	Natalia B
KR	Millie B	Cameron A
1J	Lily D	Sammy D
1CR	Vincent M	Yorygi F
1L	Lily B	Samuel C
1C	Esther H	Zenon C
1/2H	Michael M	Joshua D
2B	Archie J	
2D	Jada D	Jessie F Ethan M
2W	Ethan A	Charlie T

**WALK TO SCHOOL SAFELY
WE'RE TAKING IT IN OUR STRIDE ON FRIDAY, 24 MAY 2013**

Well it's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely To School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. And although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- Walking with them the whole way to school
- If they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- If you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes, it also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

For more information, visit www.walk.com.au

If you would like to discuss this with your child visit the website above. We have stickers at school that will be given out by the class teachers on the day.

PINK STUMPS DAY - This Thursday!!

This Thursday 23rd May, The Junction Public School will be turning pink! The students can come out of uniform in 'PINK' for a gold coin donation.

K-2 NEWS

Exciting news!! KH were the winners of last week's assembly award and will be the first kindergarten class to sit on the chairs!!

This week we will be having a shared assembly with some children from Year 2 sharing their work.

Next week (Week 5) 1J will be leading the assembly.

Assemblies are held on Wednesdays 2:00pm in the new hall. See you there!

Thanks to all the parents who helped make our athletics carnival such a success. We are sure you will agree it was a fantastic day and a good time was had by all!

Angie King and Lisa Hughes

Assemblies: New hall

K – 2 Assembly - Wednesday 2pm

Year 3 – 6 Assembly – Friday 11.20am

Technology News

Kindergarten students are logging into the computers and navigating their way onto selected internet sites independently. The sites booked marked for students develop mouse manipulation skills and letter recognition on keyboards.

Stage 1 students are working through their Internet Safety unit. Students are also developing their word processing skills by creating a poster in Microsoft Word. They designed an avatar and inserted this image into a document and created a list of people they can trust with their personal details.

Stage 2 are busy working on their animations, be sure to check out their wikipages.

Stage 3 will be looking at a range of infographs and learning how to develop their own unique way of representing data.

Wiki of the Week

Wiki of the week goes to Alexandra M of 3W. Alex designed a great odosketch to welcome guests to her animation page.

Website of the Week

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>

This site was created by the the Australian Government for schools to use as a resource for cyber safety lessons. We are using this for the basis of our internet safety unit.

CANTEEN NEWS

Pizza day meal deal: Friday 31st May

The "Bright Yellow" Pizza Day Meal Deal order form for **Friday 31st May** is due this week. There will be no other lunch orders available on Friday 31st May.

Any orders for this special meal day must be at the canteen by this: Friday 24th May. The cost of the meal is \$7.00 – please take your orders to the canteen.

Also this Thursday (Pink Stumps Day) the canteen will be selling PINK CUPCAKES - \$1.50 and Strawberry Milk for \$1.60 at recess and lunch. Proceeds from these sales will go to the McGrath Foundation



UNIFORM SHOP

Wanted: Racks and coat hangers for 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.**

EARN & LEARN PROGRAM

We are halfway through the Earn and Learn program already! If you shop at Woolworths don't forget to collect your stickers from the checkout and place in The Junction Public School box at Marketown or send them into school – there is a box in the foyer. The program ends on Sunday 9th June!

Last year the school was able to recoup books and arts & craft materials which was distributed across the whole school.

P & C NEWS

Our **next P&C meeting** will be **Tuesday 4th June 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. The meeting will be held in the staff room, down the hall from the front office.

*****SAVE THE DATES - UPCOMING P&C EVENTS*****

1: Movie Night, Friday 21st June, 2013.

Be the first in Newcastle to see one of the latest new release movies coming for the July school holidays! The P&C will be holding a movie night on Friday 21st June at Events Cinemas in Newcastle. Come along and test your knowledge of movie trivia.

Stay tuned for details of the movie!

2: Holiday Raffle: On the movie night we will also be launching details of our holiday raffle. We will be raffling a holiday to the Gold Coast for a family of 4. More details to come.

3: Oktoberfest, Saturday 26th October, 2013:

This promises to be a fantastic evening of German food, beer, music and entertainment! Stay tuned as more details are finalised.

Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 1st June – 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. 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 Liz Ginters on 0411 487 713 or elizabeth-g@bigpond.com. Shifts are:

- 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 if you would like to be on the P&C email contact list. Bronwyn Geerarts, TJPS P&C President

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL PHOTOS

Some great photos of the carnival taken by parent Sven Johnson and teacher Miss Chaffey!

