

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 4 – Week 2

Tuesday 14 October 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Before School Supervision

I need to remind all parents and carers that there is no formal supervision of students before 8.30am of a morning. It is preferred that students do not arrive at school before this time so that they are completely safe. If this provides difficulty for working parents and families, perhaps arrangements can be made with other families for assistance or enquiries be made to 'Before School Care' for that additional supervision. Please contact me if you would like to discuss this issue further – thanks.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Year 6 student Sam who has been selected to represent the Region as part of the Regional Debating Team. Sam will attend several workshops before the championships, and then attend the State championships from Sunday 23rd November until Wednesday 26th November.

Sam is a very articulate and thoughtful debater, praised highly for his very mature ability to define topics and extend arguments very effectively. Best wishes Sam – we hope it is a really great experience for you.



Road Safety

With several serious traffic incidents occurring around schools in the last few weeks, I thought it would be timely to draw attention to this and raise awareness of the need to observe the 40km/h speed limits around the school environs. Our two crossing supervisors do a wonderful job, before and after school each day – but they often report to me their concerns over drivers who do not slow down around the school streets. Dropping off and picking up children is always a time when the greatest degree of care should take place.

Some timely reminders for parents:

- Children up to eight year old should hold an adult's hand in the car park, on the footpath and when crossing the road.
- Children aged between eight and 10 should be closely supervised by an adult in the traffic environment, and should hold an adult's hand when crossing the road.
- Most 40km/h school zones operate on school days from 8am to 9.30am and from 2.30pm to 4pm in NSW. In the ACT, school zones operate from 8am to 4pm. Drivers must obey this speed limit even if children cannot be seen.
- You may have noticed dragon's teeth road markings near your school. These are triangular road markings which will alert drivers that conditions have changed and they are entering a school zone. Drivers must obey the 40km/h speed limit during the two periods.

Parent Survey – Parent School Planning Forum

Parents will be invited to participate in an online survey to provide feedback around school programs and organisation for 2014 and also to provide comment on the strategic directions which will be outlined for the next planning phase of 2015-2017.

There will be a parent and community school planning forum on Tuesday 28th October from 5.30pm at school.

I would like to present to parents an overview of our draft plan and discuss our proposed strategic directions. This will involve our planning for English, Maths, History and Science. I envisage the meeting would go till 6.30pm.

I will send home this week an 'Expression of Interest' form for parents to indicate their possible attendance. I look forward to seeing you all. For your current information the following have been our strategic directions for 2014.

School Focus Areas 2014

We have been working on the directions for our school plan for 2014 and have been able to summarise our targets into the following action areas. These action areas are on display in each classroom for reference by all.

Specifically for teachers:

Differentiate learning as needed for all students;

Provide learning experiences for students that are enriching and engaging;



Education &
Communities

Track the learning of students and adjust learning as needed;

Give feedback to students to assist them to self-monitor and set learning goals.

Teachers are looking to also set their own professional learning goals for their effective professional development.

Specifically for students we will assist them to:

To know and understand the learning intentions in their class;

To know what needs to be done to improve in learning in all subjects;

To discuss how they can improve learning and achievements with their teacher;

To track their own learning and know what comes next.

Specifically for parents and community members we are endeavouring to:

Outline the learning frameworks for each child;

Demonstrates how differentiation of content will take place to meet the needs of each child;

Provide a clear articulation of the focus areas for school improvement;

Provide a framework for clear communication across the school.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

YEAR 1 & 2 INTENSIVE SWIMMING

Swimming starts on Thursday this week. Please ensure all payment and permission notes are returned.

The first group: 2W, 1CF and Year 2 from 2/3B MUST be at school at 9am, ready to leave. They will be back by recess.

Children are to come to school with swimmers on under their sports uniforms. Boys will need to wear "speedo" style swimmers under sports shorts and if they want to wear board shorts they will need to put these over the top of the speedos at the pool. Please do not send boys in board shorts under their sport shorts.

It is VERY important that dry underwear is packed and names are on all items especially socks and shoes.

The second group - 1/2L (Year 2), 2H and 2R will leave around 9:50am. They will have fruit break and a small snack before leaving. They will return around 12pm and will have another small snack then, so some extra snacks for these classes will be good.

The third group, 1/2L (Year 1), 1J and 1C will leave just before recess. They will have fruit break and recess before they leave and lunch when they get back.

All classes will be back before lunch so children are still able to order lunches from the canteen.

If children need to purchase a cap on the first day, please send money in an envelope with name and class

and give to class teacher. We will organise this at the pool. Any question please see you class teacher.

CALENDAR - TERM 4 – 2014

Week 2	Event
Thursday, October 16	YEAR 1 & 2 INTENSIVE SWIMMING BEGINS (every Thursday up to Week 9 of Term 4)
Thursday, October 16	Intermediate Band at Bandfest – leave school at 7.30am
Thursday, October 16	Senior band & Percussion at Bandfest–leave school 11.30am
Week 3	Event
Thursday, October 23	Year 1 & 2 Intensive Swimming
Friday, October 24	Year 2 Wetlands Excursion (1/2L, 2H, 2R, 2W, 2B)
Week 4	Event
Monday, October 27	1 st Kinder 2015 Orientation
Monday, October 27	Camp Australia–OOSH meeting – 6pm
Tuesday, October 28	Parent planning forum – 5.30pm
Wednesday, Oct 29	1 st Kinder 2015 Orientation
Thursday, Oct 30	Year 1 & 2 Intensive Swimming
Friday, Oct 31	Charity Day – 11am
Saturday, November 1	Olive Tree Market – 9am to 3pm

RECENT NOTES HOME

YEAR 4 – GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP NOTE & FORMS (With today's newsletter)

Year 2 Wetlands Excursion – Friday 24th October – Cost: \$16 (Orange note)

New (Mustard Colour) Summer Canteen Menu – Please destroy the Winter Menu

White note – Whole school – Details about Charity Day

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS**TERM 4 WEEK 1****KINDER, YEAR 1 & 2 ASSEMBLY**

KK	Chloe H Audrey R	Yo Ha
KH	Jayden B	Khair S
KE	Lucy W Kimmika G	Rosie B
KD	Ryder L	Luka B
1J	Natalia B	Taj W
1C	Zack M Lucille H	James J
1CF	Mako Le R	Lucca S
1/2L	Luke G	Tess N
2R	Timothy P	Mia J
2W	Nate D	Holly D
2H	Hollie D	Lilly D
2/3B	Seren R	Aisling V

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

3B	Imogen C	Sidney F
3MC	Braith H Jessie F	Morgan S
3W	Kelsey V	Caden L
3/4CR	Alexandra M	Brianna D
4A	Mary-Jane R Matthew B	Junior T Ayden K
4L	Callum H Emma L	Neve H
4F	Coco D	Axel H
5S	Oliver A	Jorjia V
5/6B	Caitlin K	Darcy H
6B	Sebastian C	Ava R
6C	Jonathan O Alexandra H	Sam N
Choir awards	Gypsy R Pearl C	Teddy P Rhianon M
Dance	Caden L	Jonty S
Band Awards	Ethan A Leela B	Lulu S David M

Jordan D
Ellie C
Nell H
Charlotte M

Finn M
Jai M
Rory H
Pearl C

K - 2 Assembly

Wednesday 2pm – New hall.

Year 3 – 6 Assembly

Friday 11.20am – New hall.

K-2 ASSEMBLY

Congratulations Class 2H for winning last week's assembly award - you were listening beautifully. This week we will have another shared assembly with a mix of children from Year 1 and Year 2 classes running the assembly.

Some children are achieving 5 special mentions and are ready for a school merit. Please bring in 5 special mentions by the Monday of the week so teachers are able to organise the ribbons.

Look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 2pm at the new hall.

BAND NEWS

This week is a very important one for our bands. Our local competition, Bandfest, is happening at the Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre, Warners Bay.

All students have received notes with instructions so, parents please refer to them for departure, performing times etc. Here is a summary:

Thursday: Intermediate Band leave school at 7:30am (students must be at school at 7:15am), perform at 8:40am and return at 12:30pm.

Senior Band (with Junior Band percussionists) leave school at 11:30am, perform at 1:20pm and return at 3:30pm.

Percussion Ensemble performs at 2:00pm and return at 3:30pm.

Following the presentation on Thursday, parents of Senior and Percussion performers are able to take their children home but please see Mrs Fitzgibbon first.

We wish all these performers well in their various sections at Bandfest.

CRICKET

Congratulations to the Boys PSSA Knockout Cricket Team. Last Friday the boys travelled to Smith Park to take on Caves Beach PS and finally we had some great weather. It was a very low scoring and hard fought match. The team showed great courage to keep their heads and hold out for the win. Tom Sharpe kept well to the pace of our bowlers displaying amazing bravery to help his team despite injuring his fingers early in the game. Taj, Orlando, Oliver and Sam ran well between the wickets and created significant partnerships. Cooper and Angus spearheaded

the attack with great line bowling. They were well supported by Joe and Josh, and the team taking all their catches. Well done to the boys who are now one of the last two teams standing in the Hunter 3 zone. Mrs Cooper

CHARITY DAY 2014

Charity Day 2014 takes place on Friday 31st October. Your child should be bringing home a separate note today with details about this very special day. Below are the stalls and activities taking place on the day. If you are able to donate items, where specified, it would be greatly appreciated. Please deliver your donations to the classrooms not the office. Items can start to be brought in as of tomorrow. Thank you!

CLASS	STALL/ ACTIVITIES	DONATIONS
Kinder	Lolly Stall	Yes
1CF & 2H	Chocolate Walk	Yes
1J & 1C	Teacher Baby Guessing Competition	No
2R & 1/2L	Disco	No
2W	Cans of Drink	Yes
2/3B & 5S	Face Painting	No
3MC	Cake Stall	Yes
3W & 3/4CR	Lucky Dips	No
4A & 4F	Second Hand Books and Toys	Yes
4L & 5C	Nail Salon and Hair Colouring	Yes
5/6B	White Elephant Stall	Yes
Year 6	Games/ Guessing Competitions	No
Staff	Sausage Sizzle	No

CANTEEN NEWS

A new (MUSTARD COLOUR) 'Summer Canteen menu' went out with last week's newsletter. Please destroy your old (BRIGHT GREEN) WINTER MENU. Thank you.

UNIFORM SHOP

THERE ARE NO EFTPOS FACILITIES FOR THE UNIFORM SHOP.

Payment for orders is by Cash or Cheque only – Cheques payable to: The Junction School P & C.

There is a large supply of girl's summer second hand uniforms in the Uniform Shop at present.

The Uniform Shop is open on Mondays - 8.45am to 9.15am

If you are unable to make it at the above time, you may pick up an Order Form from the front office and place the order and leave payment (Cash/Cheque only) and your order will be filled. Thanks, Donna Reay

BOOK CLUB

Please return all Book Club orders to the library by Friday 17th October.

This is the last Book Club for 2014.

P & C NEWS

State By-Election – 25th October – Cake Stall & BBQ – HELP NEEDED

TJPS will be a polling booth location for the by-election to be held on Sat 25th October. The P&C will be running a cake stall and BBQ on the day, and we are seeking widespread help from our school community for this event.

What we need:

- Donations of cakes / slices / biscuits etc. See flyer that has gone home with newsletter today. Please deliver to the staff room on Friday 24th October, in the morning.
- People to help package and price the donated cakes / slices etc on the Friday.
- If anyone has any cupcake stands, or other stands / trays that might help with displaying the cakes, that we can borrow – can you please also deliver to the staff room on the Friday (label with your name so we can return them).
- People to help serve the cake stalls on the Saturday
- People to take a roster shift on the BBQ on the Saturday

We are aiming to start early, and finish mid-afternoon. The roster will be in two hour shifts (except for last shift), starting at 7.30am. We'd happily accept offers of help with the cake stall from older primary children, provided their parents are also there (possibly helping with the bbq).

The roster shifts will be:

7.30am – 9.30 am (set up)
9.30am – 11.30am
11.30am-1.30pm
1.30pm -3pm (close)

Ideally, we'd like to have around five people per shift (three on BBQ, two on cake stall). If you can help for a shift, please contact the P&C on junctionpandc@hotmail.com ASAP, as the event is next week – so we need to get organised. Many thanks for your help.

Expenditure of Holiday Raffle Funds

I'm pleased to report that at Friday's P&C meeting, we approved the expenditure of around \$7,500 for the upgrade to the PA system that the holiday raffle was

targeting. The proceeds from the raffle exceeded \$14,000, so in addition, the P&C also approved a further \$7000 expenditure for installation of a backlit smart-board type piece of equipment for the technology room, which currently only has an overhead projector. This is something that will benefit children across all grades. Once again, we thank the school community for their support of the holiday raffle, which exceeded our expectations, and has allowed the P&C to funnel all proceeds directly back into the school.

Kindy Orientation Morning Teas – 27 & 29 October

If you can help by providing a cake / slice for morning tea, and / or hang around after morning drop-off to help welcome new parents to our school, as they drop their 2015 kindy kids off for their first day of orientation, please contact Kim Forbes via the P&C email. We are particularly seeking current kindy parents for this event, but any school parents are welcome to help.

Betty Anderson Award 2014

Each year the P&C awards the Betty Anderson Award to a volunteer from within the school community who goes "above and beyond" helping at our school. The award is named for Betty Anderson, who ran our school canteen for over 40 years, on a voluntary basis.

Nominations are now open for the Betty Anderson Award. Please include with your nomination, an overview of why you are nominating the person (ie: what they have done for the school, and over what period). Please email your nominations to junctionpandc@hotmail.com or drop them to the school office in an envelope marked to the attention of the P&C President. Nominations are treated with confidence.

Nominations will close in early November (date to be confirmed), and financial members of the P&C can vote on the nominations at the November P&C meeting. Financial members who are not able to be present at the November meeting will be given the opportunity to vote by proxy (details to be advised). The award is usually announced in December.

Next Olive Tree Market BBQ dates – Sat 15th November & 6th December

Many of you may have heard that the Olive Tree Markets have been the successful tenderer for a monthly market in Civic Park from 2015, and due to the planned construction works, will be moving on from TJPS after their last market on 20th December. The P&C has reflected on our available resources, and have committed to run our BBQ at one of the two November markets, and one of the two December markets. Therefore, the next OTM BBQ that the P&C will attend is Saturday 15th November. And then Saturday 6th December will be our last OTM BBQ. The P&C feels that we can not commit the numbers required for the 20th Dec market, as school will have broken for the year.

We are keen to make sure that we can fully roster these last two BBQs to take advantage of the larger crowds that tend to attend the markets.

Please contact Liz Ginters via the P&C email or elizabeth-g@bigpond.com to place your name on the roster for either 15 Nov or 6 Dec. The roster slots are:

8.30-10am, 10-11.30am, 11.30-1pm and 1-2.30pm. Four people are needed for each shift.

Last year the December market was an incredibly busy market day, and was one of the busiest days ever for our BBQ. We will likely need five people per shift for this market, particularly the last two shifts.

Run Newcastle – 30th November

Run Newcastle is on again this year. This is a fun social morning out, with options including a 12 km or 6 km run, or a 6km walk. All funds raised go to JHH Adolescent Ward – something that any of the families at our school could, but hopefully won't, need to use at some point in time.

To register, go to www.runaustralia.com.au and click on the Newcastle event. Follow the instructions, and when you get to the part that says "Where did you hear about the event", please select "other – The Junction Public School".

Please also join the team "The Junction Public School – Official". Tell your friends and work colleagues to do the same – they do not need to be a part of the school to join our team.

This is a great cause, and a great event. Last year was very well supported by our school community, and we look forward to doing the same again this year – possibly even boosting our numbers. Any questions, please drop me a line at the P&C email, and I will put you in contact with Kim Forbes who is coordinating again this year.

Upcoming P&C Events

Date	Time	Event
24 Oct	Morning	Deliver cake stall donations to Staff Room
25 Oct	7.30am-3pm	By-Election – polling booth cake stall & BBQ
27 & 29 Oct	9.30am	Kindy Orientation Morning Teas
4 Nov	7.00pm	P&C Meeting – DATE MOVING – POSSIBLY TO 18/11
15 Nov	All day	OTM BBQ & Council By-Election (TJPS polling location)
18 Nov	7.00pm	P&C Meeting – TBC
30 Nov	Morning	Run Newcastle (fundraising opportunity)
5 Dec	11am	P&C Thank You Morning Tea for Teachers
6 Dec	All day	OTM BBQ
Nov / Dec	TBC	Mango Tray Fundraiser

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 general notices of P&C activities, as well as meeting agendas and minutes. This is a great way to keep up with the P&C and stay involved in school.

Julie Wharton
Acting P&C President

A LETTER FROM JOOLS AND VERN.....

Recently the students of 4A wrote letters to The School Magazine- Blast Off, describing to Jools and Vern (the magazine mascots) their most embarrassing moments! Soon after, the class received a thankyou letter from Jools and Vern, mentioning many of the class members by name, and we would like to share that letter with you. Below is a copy of the wonderful letter that the class received!



8 September 2014

Dear Friends in 4A

What a marvellous surprise to see all of your fabulous letters arrive at the *Airship Cumulus*. There is nothing we love more than hearing from you, our dear friends. We laughed so hard at all of your embarrassing moments that the feathers nearly flew right out of my hat! Freya and Tilly must have been shocked to find out that they had mistaken their mums for someone else!

Angus and William, we loved your fabulous drawings—they are really cool. Vern couldn't contain his laughter when he read about Junior, Oscar and Oliver splitting their pants. We can imagine how embarrassing that would be!

It sounds like you both have a very talented mum, Charlie and Emily. There is nothing more enjoyable than just bursting into song (with the odd dance move on the side). And Matthew, what a terribly awkward moment that must have been for you!

Goodness me, some of you have really had some embarrassing spills! I do hope you weren't hurt when you slipped over, Kayne, Sylvia, Charlotte and Charlie. And Max, hopefully your tooth grew back quickly. What a scary moment that must have been for you.

The School Magazine

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The School Magazine
A world of words since 1916

Apart from getting sand in your hair, how did the long jump go, Georgia? Getting up on stage is terrifying enough, but not being able to find your mum must have been really scary, Max. Even the most professional performers get as occasional case of stage fright!

The next time you're worried about having messy hair, Mary-Jane, just get a big hat like mine—it covers up all sorts of straggly hair! Lara, Vern is always walking into glass doors! I think he is too busy admiring himself to watch where he is going!

Ice-cream on dresses, bird poo on backs, and tissues stuck to your body, all sound really embarrassing. We do hope you're all OK now. I'm sure we all had embarrassing moments in kindergarten, Molly.

We loved reading about the soccer game, the origami swan, the little sister's nappy and the poor grandfather that must have got quite a scare when that vicious dog started barking at him.

We best be off. The clouds are starting to look a little dark and the wind is picking up. It's time to head below deck and start packing our bags. We've finished working on all of the *Blast Off* issues for 2014. But, never fear, we are about to take to the skies in search of new treasures to share with our readers next year.

Thanks again for your excellent letters. We've had a wonderful time reading them all and we'll be sure to treasure them forever.

Jools and Vern