

# The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 2

Tuesday 4 February 2014

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

A very warm welcome back to all families of The Junction Public School. A special welcome to the many new families who have joined us for the first time. It was wonderful to meet all the new parents as well as the Kindergarten parents last week. So many smiling faces! I was really proud of the groups of children who have welcomed all the new students into our school last week and their genuine caring approach. That's what makes our school so special.

Kindergarten students have all settled in extremely well and appear really to be enjoying their first days at school. They are so settled and confident. Thanks to all parents who have prepared them for 'big school' so well. Thank-you as well to the Year 6 buddies who are doing a great job in looking after their new young friends.

### Classes 2014

At the end of last week we formed classes for 2014. These class structures are fairly settled at this point. I know that you would acknowledge that this can be a very complex process when we are considering the best educational placement for all the students in our school. We do consider friendship groups, gender balances, ability groups, special needs and try sincerely to do the best that we can, when we are working to a formula of recommended numbers per grade and the number of teachers we have. Sometimes this works out perfectly and at other times you are not always able to put every student exactly where they want to be. If your child is a little anxious about their placement this year, I urge you to leave it for a few weeks and you may find that the friendship groups will establish and their anxieties will lessen considerably. Change is always a little difficult at times and once the 'unknown' disappears students become settled and happy.

Your child's class teacher will be holding a parent teacher information session in the coming weeks to explain to you, class organisation for the year, curriculum content, upcoming events for the term and year and to answer any general questions that you may have.

### Classes for this year are:

KK- Angie King (AP)  
KD – Ruth Dewar  
KE – Claire Edwards  
KH – Maxine Hainsworth / Gillian Neat  
1C – Louise Cooper / Rochelle Cromarty  
1CF – Phillipa Campbell / Nicole Fuller

1J - Bryce Jackel  
1/2L – Lisa Hughes (AP)  
2H – Robyn Hargreaves  
2R – Jacqui Russell  
2W – Judith Whitaker  
2/3B – Holly Burgin  
3Mc – Nina McLeod  
3W - Chris Ware  
3/4CR – Karen Corbett / Karen Read  
4L – Sharon Ladkin / Aleisha Ladkin  
4A – Mark Alcock  
4F – Sue Freeman  
5/6B – Brenda Briggs (AP)  
5S – Erin Smith  
5C – Laura Chaffey  
6C – Jody Cooper  
6B – Greg Bryant

Music RFF – Lesley Fitzgibbon –( AP)  
Library/Technology – Sharelle Land  
Technology RFF – Louise Tilse  
Reading Recovery – Iain Gunter / Phillipa Campbell  
Learning Assistance – Sally Swain and Megan Dowler

Deputy Principal – Anne Keating  
Office Admin Manager – Kerry Patterson  
Admin Officers – Amanda Brake, Angela Bowen, Kath McInnes  
Learning Support Officer – Di Edwards  
General Assistant – Tom Jervis

### Thank you

Thank you to our admin staff who worked through a great deal of their January holidays in order to prepare for the 2014 school year. DEC has implemented new administration systems which has required extra preparation from schools to ensure a smooth start to the school year. I really appreciate the efforts of Kerry Patterson, Amanda Brake and Angela Bowen – thank you!

### General School Contributions

Many families have been asking to pay the voluntary school contribution over the last week. The office is happy to accept those contributions now – which are \$50 per child for the year. The school will receipt your contribution at the time of payment.

Next Tuesday – we will send home with the newsletter a financial payments overview for the year for each grade. This will include costs of maths resource materials, a grammar resource book as well as other specific

resources per grade. It will also include indications of costs for targeted grade excursions for the year.

### A Message from our Neighbours

With the return to the 2014 school year comes the volume of traffic into the residential streets again – our local neighbourhood is asking for parents to not park across private driveways, blocking in householders. I realise that parking is at a premium but that is the nature of an inner city school and we need to be aware of the needs of our neighbours.

Last week while on afternoon bus duty, I saw a parent park in the bus zone in Union Street, leaving their car to go in and collect a child. In the meantime the bus arrived and had great difficulty in picking up the students. It became a dangerous situation.

Lastly on another safety matter I again appeal to parents and students not to access or leave the school via the gates nearest the old hall – where staff cars enter and leave - for obvious safety reasons. There are two gates a few metres further along. Thank-you.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

### BAND NEWS

Our Bands are commencing rehearsals this week. All students have taken home notes with rehearsal days and times. All tutorials should be starting this week. Parents, please ensure that you have contacted your child's tutor to arrange suitable times. Junior Band students will receive their instruments when they have their first individual tutorial. At present we have 142 students in our 3 bands. New instruments have been ordered and should arrive this week.

Band captains and Vice captains will be elected next week and will be presented with their badges at a Monday morning assembly. Parents will be advised.

Please note that Band fees are due now:

**Hiring and using the school's instrument:** \$110 per term; \$220 per semester; \$440 per year.

**Using your own instrument:** \$100 per term; \$200 per semester; \$400 per year.

**Band T-Shirts** Band T-shirts have arrived and are available for purchase from The Uniform Shop. They are \$35 – Cash/Chq only.

We are looking forward to another very successful year!

### MUSIC INFORMATION YEAR 2 - 6

All students from Year 2 to Year 6 need to bring a recorder for their music lessons each week. These can be purchased from Muso's Corner or Lathams Music store.

Year 1 students will commence recorder in Term 3.

Mrs Fitzgibbon

## CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2014

### Week 2

### Event

Tuesday, Feb 4

P & C Meeting – 7pm

Thursday, Feb 6

Kinder Parent information sessions at 4pm

### Week 3

### Event

Friday, Feb 14

P & C Welcome morning tea

### Week 4

### Event

Tuesday, Feb 18

School Photos

Wednesday, Feb 19

School Photos

Friday, Feb 21

School Swimming Carnival – The Forum (Year 3 – Year 6) + Competent 8 year old swimmers in Year 2

### Week 5

### Event

Wednesday, Feb 26

Zone Swimming Carnival

Saturday, March 1

Olive Tree Markets – 9am-3pm

### Week 6

### Event

Tuesday, March 4

P & C Meeting & AGM

Thursday, March 6

Regional Swimming Carnival

### Week 7

### Event

Friday, March 14

School Cross Country – Nesca Park

### Week 8

### Event

Friday, March 21

Harmony Day

### Week 9

### Event

Wednesday, March 26

Zone Cross Country

## SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Date: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Last week all students in Year 3 to Year 6 received a 'White' Swimming Carnival note. Notes were also given to students in Year 2 who are turning (8 years old) this year and are strong swimmers who can swim 50m. Please send the permission note and money in promptly. Don't forget to post the money/note in the 'Red Box' in the office foyer. IF THERE ARE ANY PARENTS WHO CAN HELP WITH TIMEKEEPING ON THE DAY COULD YOU PLEASE SEE MRS COOPER (CLASS 6C).

**FROM THE OFFICE.....**  
**Office Hours - 8.30AM TO 3.15PM**

**Money collection for excursions & events**

All money will come straight to the office, this includes:- Dance fees, Band fees, School books, Excursion money etc.

There is a 'Red' Payment Box in the school foyer as you walk in the door – please post payments in this box.

For this to work successfully, we ask that any money that is sent into school be in a sealed envelope with your **"Child's name and class"** on the front and details of what event you are paying. Permission notes will be stamped paid and given to the teacher. A receipt will be issued and handed back to the child by the teacher.

Please remember if you use envelopes to send in money that you sticky tape the ends to avoid coins sliding out. Plastic lunch bags that seal are ideal. The school accepts cash (exact amount is appreciated), cheque or we have Eftpos facilities in the office. Please note that the Eftpos facility is only available for school payments and not P & C – such as the Uniform Shop.

School lunch orders should still be given to the class teacher first thing in the morning.

**Absences**

If your child is absent from school, whether it be sick leave or holiday leave you need to notify the teacher/school in writing. If you know your child will be away for any reason, you may send the note in prior to the leave. You are only required to phone the school for sickness if your child is away over 3 days in succession. A note on your child's return to school is required.

If you are going away and the leave is over 5 school days, you must pick up an "Exemption Leave Form" from the office prior to your leave.

**Late Arrivals / Early Leavers**

School hours are from 9am to 3pm. First assembly is at 8.55am. If children arrive later than 9am, parents are requested to accompany them to the office to provide late arrivals information to office staff. A 'Purple Partial Slip' is then taken to the class teacher. An occasional late absence is understandable, but continual late absences impact upon the learning of children and you will be contacted about these. Similarly, if children leave early for the day, parents are required to go to the office first and a 'Purple Partial slip' is then given to the class teacher when children are collected from the classroom. The 'Purple Partial Slip' indicates to the teacher you have been to the office to have the partial leave processed on the computer.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Newcastle School Portraits will be taking the School Photos on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Every student will receive an envelope today with the packages outlined on the front. **If you would like family photos you will need to call in to the school office to collect a family photo envelope.**

All money is processed by Newcastle School Portraits – please note Credit Card payments will incur a \$1 surcharge.

**ENVELOPES AND MONEY ARE NOT TO BE SENT INTO SCHOOL UNTIL PHOTO DAY (18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY).**  
**THESE ARE HANDED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHERS ON THE DAY**

**COMPUTER/GENERAL EXCURSION NOTES**

With today's newsletter, all students Kindergarten to Year 6 will receive a "Blue General Permission Note" and a "Bright Yellow Technology Note". All these notes need to be completed on both sides and returned to the class teacher by this week!

Please return these forms promptly. Thank you.

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Welcome back everyone! There are some price changes on the new Summer menu. We currently have no slushie machine – we will get another one very soon!

Last week a new 'YELLOW' 2014 Summer menu went home, please throw out the 'Pink' 2013 menu. Thanks.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform shop is open on Mondays from 8.45am to about 9.15am in the Old School Hall.

**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.**

The school Band Shirts are now available from the Uniform Shop. The cost will be \$35.00 per shirt.

**SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking will commence again next week! Newcastle Permanent Building Society and Commonwealth Bank offer banking to our students. Parent volunteers process the money on the banks' behalf in our school library immediately after roll call on Mondays. Information on this service will be given to Kinder parents at the Kinder Information Session this Thursday at 4pm. For any new students to the school, you may open an account at either bank and start Monday banking.

## P & C NEWS

Welcome back, and a big welcome to all the new parents at the school!

Our **first P&C meeting** for the year will be held tonight, **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm.**

**Everyone is welcome** – particularly new parents (Kindergarten and others) to the school. The meeting will be held in the Staff Room, down the hall from the Front office.

### What's on the agenda?

- 1: Principals Report
- 2: Results of the fundraising survey conducted at the end of 2013, and
- 2: Discussion about our fundraising events, and timings, for the year.

Please come and along and share your ideas, or just sit and listen! If you are unable to attend, but have an idea for fundraising, or would like to help out (in any capacity), please e-mail Bronwyn, prior to 5pm Tuesday, at [junctionpandc@hotmail.com](mailto:junctionpandc@hotmail.com)

The next meeting will be the AGM held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

### Upcoming P&C Events

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- 1: P&C Meeting – Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm.**
- 2: Welcome Morning Tea for Parents – Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February.**
- 3: Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 1st March, 9am 'til 3pm - Kindergarten**

This is the first OTM BBQ the year. We are asking any parents/carer's of Kindergarten children to help on the BBQ. If you have an hour and a half to spare please, call Liz Ginters on 0411 487 713 or [elizabeth-g@bigpond.com](mailto:elizabeth-g@bigpond.com) to place your name on the roster. Four (4) people per shift are needed. Shifts are:

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



Not sure what you need to do? Don't worry, there will be other experienced parents to show you the ropes! Come and enjoy the fantastic atmosphere of the OTM and help raise funds for the school, and meet other parent's!

Many thanks to Suzanne Taylor who is now sharing the role of OTM BBQ co-ordinator with Liz. Suzanne has volunteered make sure that the food for the BBQ is ordered, whilst Liz is in charge of the roster.

**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

## COMMUNITY REGISTRATIONS.....

### Souths Netball - Registrations still open

Registrations are still open for – 7, 8 & 14 year olds  
Get online ASAP as registrations are closing very soon, don't miss out!

**Email: [snlnetball@hotmail.com](mailto:snlnetball@hotmail.com)**

Grading is on this week for some so check out the web site information.

### NEWCASTLE CITY BLUES JUNIOR AFL CLUB

**Newcastle No.1 Sportsground, Newcastle West**

2014 Registration Dates at No.1 Sportsground

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 9am - Noon**

**Sunday 23<sup>th</sup> February 9am – Noon**

*For further information please contact Simon McCauley on 0408474847*

### COOKS HILL UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

#### REGISTRATIONS 2014 SEASON

New player registrations will be held at National Park Clubhouse (Union St, Cooks Hill)

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb (2-4pm) or Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb (5-7pm)

Please pre-register on line ([www.myfootballclub.com.au](http://www.myfootballclub.com.au)) and bring along payment (Cash or cheque) and passport or birth certificate (proof of age) to registration day. (Enquiries to Wendy 0407 525 949) Club website:

[www.cookshillfc/juniors](http://www.cookshillfc/juniors)

Registration cards are also available in the school foyer.

### SOUTH NEWCASTLE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

Registrations are now open for all new and returning players. In 2014, registrations will be 100% completed on-line. Registration links can be found on the South's Facebook page or website.

On-line registration assistance days will be held at South Newcastle Leagues Club (Llewellyn Street, Merewether) on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 from 1pm – 4pm and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013 from 6pm – 8pm for those who may not have access to "on-line".

On Sunday 16th February 2014, a meet the team/coach day will be held at South's Leagues for final registrations from 1pm – 4pm

Enquiries: Please contact Scott Hallett at [scotthlitt@yahoo.com.au](mailto:scotthlitt@yahoo.com.au) or Graeme Fitzgerald on 0407 093 662.

### UNLOAD: WORDPLAY WORKSHOPS (YEARS 3-6)

**UNLOAD** is a writing programme with an emphasis on fun and creativity. Each week students play with language through word games, writing activities and story-telling. Everything supplied - kids just bring imagination!

Where: classroom 6C, The Junction Public School

When: 3.20-4.20 Tuesday

Cost: 9 weeks @ \$115 per child (Commencing Week 2 Tues 4 Feb)

Numbers limited to 15 per class

For further information contact Suzie Galwey -

[sgalwey@bigpond.com](mailto:sgalwey@bigpond.com) ph 0409 409 141