

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 3

Tuesday 11 February 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It has been a very successful start to the school year with students settling in very well. I would like to thank parents and teachers for the great job they have been doing in this regard.

Parent Information Sessions

By now you will have either attended or have received notification of parent class information sessions from your child's teacher. These are very useful meetings for parents to receive an overview from the class teacher of the grade programs and organisation. It's a time to meet your child's teacher and hear what the expectations will be for the year. Days and times for these sessions are in Important Dates on page 2 of this newsletter. We hope you are able to attend.

Yearly Financial Overview

We are providing to parents this week, an overview for potential financial commitment for all grades for the year. Some costings still need to be finalized but we hope that this overview will give parents an indication of upcoming events for the grades and the costs involved. We have included an indication of excursions per grade as well. We appreciate the support of our parent community in the timely payment for these events as they occur. All children in all grades will soon be in possession of our new maths resource program which will support the implementation of the new maths syllabus. There will also be a grammar resource book for students in Years 2 to 6. We need parents to forward payment for these as soon as possible. Thanks.

The voluntary school contribution fees - \$50 per child are also vital to our school organization and programs and we are very grateful for the payment of these fees. These funds are integral to providing the best possible resources we can to assist your children.

Last year we had the best response ever from our parent community in payment of these contributions – from more than 75% of families. Contributions can be paid at the office. Thank you.

School Photos

A reminder that school photos will be taken next week on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th February. This is always a really busy day - so it is helpful if the envelopes which we have now provided to you from the photographers are brought to school on Tuesday – **NOT** brought to the office - but are given to the photographers when your child's class is called to have their photo taken

- with the exact amount in them for payment – depending on what package you have ordered. Other than that family groups and sports and school group photos will be taken on the Wednesday. Envelopes for these specialist groups are available from the front office if desired.

Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival is quickly upon us taking place next Friday 21st February at The Forum at Newcastle University. All students from Years 3 to 6 are expected to attend the carnival as well as students from Year 2 who are strong swimmers. Parents are warmly invited to attend the carnival. All students are to travel to the carnival by bus. The students at The Junction are wonderful competitors and I'm sure it will be a very successful day. The zone swimming carnival is scheduled for Wednesday 26th February.

Vehicle Entry Gates

Could I again ask parents to refrain from using the vehicle entry gates at the front of the school near the old hall and also through the staff car-park.

These access points are for vehicles only and I worry that there will be an accident as parents continually enter and leave the school this way.

Work Health and Safety

It is a requirement of all persons who come to the school throughout the day to report to the school office and 'sign' in and state the purpose of their visit. By this I mean people, who come to 'work' in classrooms, canteen, with sporting teams, help in the library, etc etc. The new Work Health and Safety Guidelines which came into effect nation-wide last year require all persons entering onto a site such as ours to be issued with the new guidelines and sign to say that they understand and will comply with them. The guidelines provided will include information on our emergency evacuation procedures, safety guidelines and general information for our school site. Thanks for your co-operation.

Selective High Schools Placement Test 2015 13 March

The selective high schools test is held annually for Year 6 students wishing to enter a selective government high school. For key dates, online applications and more information for parents, see

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php

Wendy Cheek, Principal

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YEAR 3 & 4 PARENT INFORMATION AFTERNOON

Parents of Year 3 and 4 students are invited to an information afternoon in your child's classroom on Wednesday, 19th February, at 3:30pm. Meetings should last 30 minutes. Mrs Fitzgibbon

BAND NEWS

All students should have started individual lessons by now with assigned tutors. Please see Mrs Fitzgibbon if this hasn't been done.

Our Senior Band is performing at our school tomorrow for the launch of the new Hunter Life Education van. Band T-shirts are now available at the uniform shop for \$35. Black pants are also available.

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

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Date: Friday 21st February

All students in Year 3 to Year 6 received a 'White' Swimming Carnival note recently. 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).

LIBRARY NEWS

The library has taken delivery of new books for the Lexile Reading program. If there are any parents who could take some books home for covering, could you please see Mrs Land in the library.

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2014

| Week 3 | Event |
|---------------------|--|
| Wednesday, Feb 12 | (Year 5 & 6) Parent information session – 3.30pm |
| Friday, Feb 14 | P & C Welcome morning tea |
| Week 4 | Event |
| Tuesday, Feb 18 | School Photos |
| Tuesday, Feb 18 | (Year 1 & 2) - Parent info session – 5.30pm |
| Wednesday, Feb 19 | School Photos |
| Wednesday, Feb 19 | (Year 3 & 4) Parent information session – 3.30pm |
| 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 – 7pm |
| Thursday, March 6 | Regional Swimming Carnival |
| Week 7 | Event |
| Thursday, March 13 | Selective High School test |
| 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 |

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.

Medication at School

The office is only able to administer prescribed medication to students. This means medication that has been prescribed by a doctor must be left in the package provided with the child's name and dosage. If medication is required, a parent will need to come to the office and complete a Medical Deed of Indemnity form. We are not able to administer Panadol or non-prescription medications.

Have you moved? Do you have new phone numbers?

If you have a new address or have new home, work or mobile numbers – please see the office. Thank you.

TAP DANCING

Tap dancing is once again being offered to students this year. Notes were handed out to interested students yesterday with lessons commencing next Tuesday 18th February for boys and Thursday, 20th February for girls. Lessons are held from 8am to 9am in the old hall. If your child did not bring a note home and they would like to participate, please collect a note from the office.

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

Term 1 Week 2

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

| | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| 3MC | Angus W | Lily F |
| 3/4CR | Amy M | Alexander S |
| 4F | Jordan D | Kiani C |
| 4L | Maya H | Joe P |
| 5C | Oliver P | Georgia S |
| 5S | Sunny W | Charlotte M |
| 5/6B | Molly H | Darcy H |
| 6B | Isabelle D | Billy B |
| 6C | Jonathan O | Khushi P |

Year 3 – 6 Assembly

Friday – 11.30am in the new hall.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Newcastle School Portraits will be taking the School Photos on Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th February. Every student received an envelope last week 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
 (18TH AND 19TH FEBRUARY).
 THESE ARE HANDED TO THE
 PHOTOGRAPHERS ON THE DAY**

COMPUTER/GENERAL EXCURSION NOTES

All students, Kindergarten to Year 6 received a "Blue General Permission Note" and a "Bright Yellow Technology Note". These notes need to be completed on both sides and returned to the class teacher by this Friday! Thank you.

Technology News

Kindergartens are hard at work learning the names of the computer components and improving their mouse manipulation skills in Tux Paint. Stage 1 is busily navigating their way around Microsoft Word learning how to insert, move and format clip art images.

This week in technology Stage 2 are using the digital art program ArtRage. Each student will create personalised name buttons to be used as a link to their own webpage.

This term Stage 3 students will have their own blog where they will share work samples, post comments, upload images and share anything else interesting we are working on during technology. This week students are creating avatars to be used as their profile picture.

Wiki News

A reminder to all students to return the 'yellow online publishing and code of conduct note' so we can start working on our wiki site.

www.tjps.wikispaces.com

Student Portal Link

<https://student.det.nsw.edu.au>

[Students can access their student email and saved links at home from this link.](#)

KINDERGARTEN ARE HAVING FUN HERE AT TJPS.....



CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome back everyone! There are some price changes on the new Summer menu.

New 'YELLOW' 2014 Summer menus have gone home, please throw out the 'Pink' 2013 menu.

The Canteen has asked that you ensure you are writing the correct 2014 class on your child's order. 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 has commenced for 2014! 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.

For any new students to the school, you may open an account at either bank and start Monday banking.



P & C NEWS

Here we are in Week 3 already. Time certainly flies at the start of the year!

Last Tuesday evening we held our first P&C meeting of the year. It was lovely to see a few new faces.

What's happened at the last P&C meeting?

Results of the fundraising survey conducted at the end of 2013 were discussed. As a result of this discussion, the fundraising events, and their timings for this year were finalised. Please see the P&C activities note sent home with today's newsletter for details of these activities.

P&C Activities and Class Contact List for 2014

Please volunteer a couple of hours in 2014. With today's newsletter, you will have received a couple of notes from the P&C - one note lists the proposed P&C activities for 2014 and the other is the class contact list form.

It is these activities and the necessary voluntary help from parents and carers which raises the money needed for many of the resources that help to give our children the best possible education. We appreciate the help we get from all parents and carers at the school.

We are asking each family if they can volunteer a couple of hours for one of these activities and the Olive Tree Market BBQ – the more helpers we get, the lighter the load for everyone. Please have a look at the activities for this year and see if you are able to volunteer – it is very social and a great way of meeting new people (or you may want to ask a few friends to join you!). I understand it can get very busy with sporting and other commitments during the year and hope that having a list of P&C activities at the start of the year will help everyone.

What are we fundraising for this year?

In a decision made in conjunction with the school and their needs, the P&C is targeting their fundraising this year to help fund the purchase of more playground equipment and technology resources for our children.

P&C Class Contact List

Each year the P&C compile class contact lists. These are useful when planning catch-ups, parties and school holiday activities. Only parents who choose to be included on the list will receive a copy and the details are not otherwise published or distributed. We ask that you do not share the information on the lists or use it for any business purposes.

The lists will be compiled into classes and given to all contacts in the same year or stage where there are multi-year classes, e.g. the combined 3 and 4 class.

These forms must be returned by Friday 21st February.

Welcome Morning Tea for Parents

The P&C will be holding a welcome morning tea for parents and carers on **Friday morning, 14th February, 2014 from 9:15am** under the COLA. Everyone is

welcome. Come and along and catch up with friends after the school drop off.

If you are able to help at the morning tea, or can donate something yummy, please contact Bronwyn at junctionpandc@hotmail.com.

When is the next P&C meeting?

Our **next P&C meeting** for the year will be held, **Tuesday 4th March at 7pm**. The AGM will be followed by a general meeting.

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.

Please come and along and share your ideas, or just sit and listen!

Upcoming P&C Events

1: Welcome Morning Tea for Parents – 9:15am, Friday, 14th February.

2: P&C Social Evening – Parent's only – Friday 28th February from 7pm. Venue TBA.

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 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!

4: AGM Meeting – Tuesday, 4th March, 7pm.

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

Want to keep up with P&C news “on the go”? You can:



“Like”
The Junction Public School
P&C
on Facebook

AND



“Follow”
@TJPS_PandC
on Twitter

FRENCH LESSONS

Here at The Junction Public School.

Classes: Monday – 3.20pm to 4.20pm

Tuesday – 3.20pm to 4.20pm

Lessons in Class 6B.

Call Sandra: 0402 818034

Visit the website: www.lcfclubs.com.au

Email: Sandra.peachey@lcfclubs.com.au

..... SOME WORDS FROM 5C

“100 Word Challenge”

“This is so fun!” Alice screamed, laughing and Brian leaned further over the rail. Cold water sprayed on the twins. I pulled my thin coat tighter around me, trying to dodge the freezing, chilly and unstoppable water. The mundane scene was almost killing me. At least the annoying, energetic and irrational twins were having fun. But all I could see was blue. I will never understand them. They were being cheerful and happy but all we could see was water. I walked into my cabin, bored, wet and depressed. “When are we going to get to the island?” I groaned. “Soon!” mum sighed “soon!”
Kepei

“Surviving Sydney Cove”

Wednesday 7th April 1790

All morning Sarah had me fetching pails of water from the river. The water kept jumping out of the pail like a rabbit leaping out of its hole. Ever since I told her about the onions I gave to Winston, Sarah has been giving me the hardest jobs. As I walked back for the tenth time, the pails hurting my red and puffy hands, I saw Sarah being pinned against the door by old Tom the gardener. He was growling at her. Winston stood next to him looking guilty. “Who stole them? Who stole the onions?” Was it you? Growled ‘Old Tom’. ‘Run’ mouthed Sarah. ‘YOU’ Tom yelled pointing at me. I ran as fast as I could – Crack! I heard the whip being pulled in the distance. I’m now in a small cove in the middle of nowhere! I hope you’re better off than me.
Ruby