

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 4

Tuesday 18 February 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We have another eventful week in front of us with school photographs taking place today, Tuesday and Wednesday and the Swimming Carnival taking place on Friday.

School Photographs

The school photographs for 2014 commenced today with photos for stage 3, school leaders and family groups being taken. More family groups will be taken tomorrow as well as the rest of the class photos. Students are asked to bring their envelopes with correct money to each photo session.

It has been great to see students in absolute perfect uniform - ties being optional for students who wish to wear them.

Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival is quickly upon us taking place this Friday 21st February at The Forum at Newcastle University. All students from Years 3 to 6 are expected to attend the carnival as well students from Year 2 who are strong swimmers. **The buses are leaving for the pool earlier this year- so that we can get our full carnival finished. We are asking that students be at school by 8.30am this Friday as buses will leave sharply at 9.00am.**

We also ask that parents leave the Union Street side of the school free for the buses to load the students – thanks. Parents are warmly invited to attend the carnival. All students are to travel to the carnival by bus. Thanks to all families who have returned permission notes and money for the carnival – this needs to be finalised immediately.

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.

Anaphylaxis Information

Information on Anaphylaxis

This year at The Junction Public School we have a significant number of students throughout the school who have a range of allergies including nut allergies, seafood allergies, egg allergies, fish allergies and grass allergies. Some of these students may have a slight reaction such as skin irritation etc while others may have a more serious allergic reaction which affects their breathing and respiratory system and requires the use of an Epi-pen. This is a device which is used to inject adrenalin into the mid-thigh of a student. For some

students, without this intervention a severe allergic reaction could be life threatening.

I have been in contact with Hunter Health and their advice is to keep the community informed as I am doing now, to work towards making our school an "allergy friendly" school. This will involve having class teachers talk to all students about the allergies in our school, how we need to be mindful of the foods we have present near these students and how we will work together to make the school environment safe for everyone. Students in some classes may be asked to wash their hands regularly if they have a child who has allergic reactions.

Class teachers may send notes home to inform all parents in a particular class of the specific information relating to allergies in that class. **While we cannot ensure that we have, a 'nut-free' environment we can certainly attempt to make all environments at school 'allergy friendly' by being thoughtful about what food or allergens are brought to school or are near these children at school. It would be very helpful if nuts were not sent to school at all for example.** If you require further clarification – please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your support.

Girls Sport Shorts – Fridays

Just a reminder to all families that the black girls' sports shorts worn on Fridays are to be mid length shorts – mid-way between the thigh and the knee - not 'short' shorts. Your attention to this part of our uniform will be appreciated. Thanks.

Thank you

Thank you to the parents who are paying for resource books and other general commitments for the year. It is greatly appreciated to have these costs paid quickly so that we can pay our suppliers.

Today with the newsletter you will receive a separate 'Purple' note itemising fees due for each grade. All these resources have now been invoiced and can be paid at the office. Thank you.

Wendy Cheek,
Principal

BAND NEWS

Last week, band members elected their captains for 2014. Congratulations to these students:

Senior Band Captains: Niamh L, Ethan S

Senior Band Vice Captains: Kushi P, Gabe B

Intermediate Band Captains: Sylvia K, Will De

Intermediate Band Vice Captains: Maya H, Angus W

Junior Band Captains: Ella S, Jack D

Junior Band Vice Captains: Monica L, Bailey Fa'

Percussion Ensemble Captain: Finnian G

Percussion Ensemble Vice Captain: Alan S

As mentioned in a previous note, these students will be presented with their badges at a Monday morning assembly when the badges arrive. Parents will be notified so they can pin on their child's badge. Mrs Fitzgibbon

Technology News

This term Stage 3 students will be creating their own blog and website using the website builder Weebly. Their blog is designed to display and share their work with a global audience. This week students will be posting their first comments and changing the layout of their page.

This week in technology Stage 2 students will be learning about cyber safety. Having a strong, safe password is important to keeping your personal details safe. Through the DET portal students will change their password and create secret questions.

Stage 1 students will be using Microsoft Word this week. They will be inserting page borders, WordArt titles and images, while using different formatting tools to add overall presentation to their work.

Kindergartens will be busy improving their mouse manipulation skills in Toy theatre. Some kindergarten students have had the opportunity to practice their skills on the schools ipads.

Website of the Week

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids>

National Geographic Little Kids – National Geographic Kids features games, crafts and recipes, science, videos and animal information.

Student Portal Link

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

Students can change their password and access their student email and saved links at home from this link.

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2014

Week 4

Event

Tuesday, Feb 18	(Year 1 & 2) - Parent info session – 5.30pm
Wednesday, Feb 19	School Photos – Day two
Wednesday, Feb 19	(Year 3 & 4) Parent information session – 3.30pm
Wednesday, Feb 19	Class 2/3B Parent information
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
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Week 9

Event

Wednesday, March 26	Zone Cross Country
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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.

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.

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.

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS**Term 1 Week 3****YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY**

3MC	Ella W	Barnaby Y
3W	Bailey Fa' Monica L	Ella S Max H
3/4CR	Daniel B	Asha T
4A	Alan S	Angus W
4F	Benjamin D	Talara B
4L	Tallen McM	Michelle J
5C	Leela B	Patrick P
5S	Millie S	Oliver A
5/6B	Archie C	Tom J
6B	Guy H	Matilda D
6C	Sam N	Echoe C

Year 3 – 6 Assembly

Friday – 11.30am in the new hall.

Year K - 2 Assembly

The first assembly for the year will be Wednesday 26 February at 2pm in the new hall.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Newcastle School Portraits have been at school today and will be here tomorrow to finish up taking school photos. Every student received an envelope with the packages outlined on the front. **Some family photos were taken today – catch up family photos will be done on Wednesday – if you would like a family photo taken tomorrow 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 CAN STILL BE HANDED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHER TOMORROW

TAP DANCING

Tap dancing is once again being offered to students in Year 3 to Year 6 this year. Notes were handed out to interested students last week. Lessons are held from 8am to 9am in the old hall. Boys lessons will be on Tuesdays and girls are on Thursdays. If your child did not bring a note home and they would like to participate, please collect a note from the office.

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

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.

Girls Summer tunics \$ 43 and School Band Shirts \$35 are now available at the school Uniform Shop.

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

P&C Activities and Class Contact List for 2014

Thank you to those parents who have already returned their P&C activities and Class contact list forms sent out last week.

We still need volunteers for a number of activities including the art calendars, welcome bush dance BBQ and cross country BBQ. Please volunteer a couple of hours in 2014. 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.

If you haven't already returned these, **please return all notes by Friday 21st February**. This will allow us to prepare and distribute the class lists as soon as possible.

For those parents who have already volunteered, thank you! Your activity co-coordinator will contact you as the start date gets closer to discuss what needs to be done.

Welcome Morning Tea for Parents

Thank you to Belinda Parke and Eithne Healy for helping with the Welcome Morning Tea and providing yummy goodies to eat. I would also like to thank those new parents who helped clean up at the end. A number of new and old parents stayed for a cup of tea and chat.

When is the next P&C meeting?

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

At the AGM, all office bearer positions will be declared vacant. Office bearers hold their position for a maximum of 2 years. Current P&C Office bearer's are:

President: Bronwyn Geerarts
Vice President: Sophie Williams
Vice President: Vacant
Minutes Secretary: Ruth Conroy
Correspondence Secretary: Barb Doonan
Treasurer: Michael Jonker

At present all office bearers except our vice president have held office for one year. We will be electing two new vice presidents at the AGM. If you are interested in more information about office bearer positions and duties, please contact Bronwyn at junctionpandc@hotmail.com, or have a look at the NSW Federations P And C Fact Sheets at <http://www.pandc.org.au/faq.seo>

Who can be an office bearer? Any financial member of the P&C can stand for office bearers.

Who is a financial member of the P&C? Any person who has attended a general meeting and paid their

membership (annual membership fee is \$1) at that meeting is eligible to vote at the following P&C meeting. Membership list is updated at the close of each general meeting, meaning that members who join at one P&C are not eligible to vote until the following meeting.

Can I come to the AGM, pay my membership fee and vote at the following general meeting on the same night? Yes you can. However, you cannot vote at the AGM. Membership fees paid by the end of the AGM will allow a P&C member to vote at the general meeting held immediately after the AGM. However, you will not be able to vote at the AGM. For more information please see the NSW Federations P And C website for information at <http://www.pandc.org.au>

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

Upcoming P&C Events

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

2: Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 1st March, 9am 'til 3pm – Kindergarten

Thank you to all the Kindy parents who returned their notes. Almost all shifts have been filled. We still need helpers for the 1pm-2:30pm shift. 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 parents!

3: AGM Meeting – Tuesday, 4th March, 7pm, School Staff room.

4: Cross Country BBQ – Friday 14th March, 10am – 2pm, Nesca Park

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