

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 5

Tuesday 25 February 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Swimming Carnival

I'm always very proud of the students of our school in all they do – and again this was the case at the swimming carnival at The Forum, last Friday. The level of student participation was outstanding and their enthusiasm in cheering and congratulating others was really wonderful to see. It was a very enjoyable carnival which ran very successfully. Many thanks to teacher Jody Cooper for the organisation and to the hard work of teachers on the day. A big thanks also to the parents who volunteered to assist with timekeeping and in running the carnival - your help was very much appreciated. Congratulations to Edmunds house in winning the overall point-score and the carnival!

Best wishes to the students who will be attending the Zone Carnival on Wednesday.



Resource Payments

Thank you to the many families who have paid for their children's resource books and other payments last week. It is really appreciated to have such a great response to the notes we have sent out. It helps us out financially so that we can then pay our suppliers.

Attendance

A reminder about students who are arriving late for school each morning on a regular basis. The school bell rings at 8.55am for students to gather in lines and receive any morning messages. The best time for students to arrive at school is from 8.30am onwards – playground duty officially commences from 8.40am. Your help with this matter would be appreciated. Thanks.

Stranger Danger – Safe People / Safe Places

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'

"We now advise parents to talk to their kids about knowing where the 'safe places' are in their area – like neighbours or shops – as well as who the 'safe people' are in their lives. Of course 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 1 – 2014

Week 5	Event
Wednesday, Feb 26	Zone Swimming Carnival
Friday, Feb 28	School as normal – (no Show Holiday)
Saturday, March 1	Olive Tree Markets – 9am-3pm
Week 6	Event
Monday, March 3	Band captain/vice captain badges handed out at morning assembly
Tuesday, March 4	P & C Meeting & AGM – 7pm
Thursday, March 6	Regional Swimming Carnival
Week 7	Event
Thursday, March 13	2015 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

BAND NEWS

The Captain and Vice Captain badges for all of our bands have arrived and will be presented at our Monday morning assembly next Monday 3rd March at 9:00am. Parents are invited to pin badges on your children at this assembly.

Captains and Vice Captains for 2014 are as follows:

Junior Band: Ella S, Jack D (Captains)

Monica L, Bailey Fa' (Vice Captains)

Intermediate Band: Sylvia K, Will De (Captains)

Maya H, Angus W (Vice Captains)

Senior Band: Niamh L, Ethan S (Captains)

Kushi P, Gabe B (Vice Captains)

Percussion Ensemble: Finnian G (Captain)

Alan S (Vice Captain)

Thank you, Lesley Fitzgibbon

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all students who participated in our annual school swimming carnival. We had wonderful participation from all age groups, with some exceptional individual results. The behaviour from our students was of the highest standard and we were complimented on how well we left the facilities. A special thank you goes out to all parents that helped on the day but particularly Mr and Mrs Van Eldik, Mrs Castaldi and Mr Jackson. They worked tirelessly alongside our wonderful staff to make the day a huge success. This Friday students will receive their ribbons and the winning house will be presented with the shield. All school record breakers and swimming champions will be announced during the assembly. We openly invite all parents wishing to attend the assembly at 11.30 on Friday. If any students are away on that day they will receive their ribbons when they return to school. We would like to wish our Zone Swimming Team good luck for Wednesday. This year we are sending a strong team of 28 students accompanied by Mr Alcock. The students are: Ned R, Xavier C, Noah J, Nate R, Travis H, Flynn H, Marc C, Saxon C, Lachlan B, Billy B, Guy H, Declan F, Jorjia V, Kelsey V, Annabel F, Monica L, Jordan D, Ayesha Le R, Ava R, Charlotte C, Susanna B, Chloe P, Maya L, Haylie S, Eloise K, Indah J, Michelle J and Coco D. Well done! Mrs Cooper



Technology News

Wiki News

Stage 1 students are combining their knowledge and skills in internet use and Microsoft Word to create a word cloud on the topic of transport.

Stage 2 students are busy creating their own wikispaces. This week they will be adding animated text title and editing the layout of their page to make it more visually appealing to visitors.

Stage 3 blogs are looking great! Students this week are adding flare to their page by embedding widgets to track the number of visitors to their page. Revolvermaps.com displays where on the globe visitors are logging in from and flagcounter.com adds the flag of the visitor's country.

www.tips.wikispaces.com

Websites of the Week

www.revolvermaps.com

www.flagcounter.com

Student Portal Link

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

Year 3 – 6 Assembly

Friday – 11.30am in the new hall.

Year 1 - 2 Assembly

Our first formal Wednesday afternoon assembly will be this Wednesday 26th February at 2:00pm in the new hall. Class 2H are leading the first assembly for the year. Only Year 1 and Year 2 classes will be attending as Kindergarten are still finishing at 2:30pm. We hope to see you all there. Mrs Hughes

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. If anyone has spare coathangers at home, the uniform shop is needing some. Thanks

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.

THE JUNCTION PUBLIC SCHOOL 'ENVIRO-SKILLS SOCIETY PROGRAM'

The Enviro-Skills Program at The Junction School is an attempt to allow students to own and run their own society. Through their participation, students will encounter the dilemmas and constraints that are associated with a democratic society.

Participation in the program is voluntary. A student can withdraw from the program at any time without consequence.

Their participation will enhance their knowledge and understanding of;

- # Environmental Issues
- # Financial and Banking Systems
- # Charitable Works
- # Employment
- # Leisure and Recreation
- # Interpersonal Relationships

Activities include jobs, recycling and environmental awareness tasks/actions for which the children are paid Eco-Junction Dollars. Children also apply for Society jobs (banker, teller, etc.) for which they earn a "wage". These "dollars" are entered into a savings type Junction Bankbook.

This is done by the children so that they have an understanding of the banking process.

The children can then use their Eco-Junction dollars to participate in auctions for items bought from the money collected from funds collected from the recycling of cans. The money is then deducted from the child's Junction Bank Account.

Each Friday morning the Enviro-skills room, outside 5/6B classroom is open between 8.30am and 8.55 am for students to bring in their recyclable items.

These items are:

Aluminium Cans - Cash for auction items
Cork - Veterans in Sydney
A, C, D, AA, and AAA batteries – Newcastle Council recycling program.
Stamps - Red Cross
Used prescription Glasses – Lions Club

WE ARE NO LONGER COLLECTING MOBILE PHONES.

Junction dollars can also be earned by;

Washing the family car on the lawn
Picking up after taking the dog for a walk
Using the energy rating stickers off whitegoods (per star)

Kinder and Year 1 have class bankbooks. Students from Year 2 to 6 have their own bankbook. If students have lost their bankbook they can apply in a letter for a new one.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE IS THROUGH THE LETTER BOX OUTSIDE 5/6B Classroom.

Thank you, Mrs Briggs

SWIMMING CARNIVAL PHOTOS.....





P & C NEWS

P&C Activities and Class Contact List for 2014

Thank you to those parents who returned their P&C activities and class contact list forms. 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.

Class lists are almost prepared – if you forgot to return your forms last week, don't worry, just make sure your form is returned by this **Friday, 28th February**. Class lists will be distributed with next week's newsletter.

P&C Social Evening – Parent's only – Friday 28th February from 7pm. The Junction Hotel, Cnr Kenrick and Corlette St.

Our first Parent's only P&C Social evening will be held this Friday, at The Junction Hotel, starting from 7pm. Reservations have been made for the P&C at tables near the fountain. Come along and have a night out without the kids! There is no need to RSVP – just turn up and enjoy the great food and atmosphere at The Junction Hotel! Want to know what's on the menu? Here is the link:

http://www.junctionhotel.com.au/SiteFiles/junctionhotelcmau/Menu_Feb2014.pdf

Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 1st March, 9am -3pm – Kindergarten

Thank you to all the Kindy parents who have volunteered for the OTM BBQ. We still need 3 helpers for the 1pm-2:30pm shift. If you have an hour and a half to spare please contact Liz Ginters on 0411 487 713 or at elizabeth-g@bigpond.com or junctionpandc@hotmail.com, to place your name on the roster.

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 Donnan

Treasurer: Michael Jonker

Are you interested in becoming an office bearer? For 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 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 and 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. The Junction Hotel, Cnr Kenrick and Corlette St.

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

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

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



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P&C
on Facebook

AND



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on Twitter