

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



Union Street, Merewether. NSW 2291 Ph: 49 631343 Fax: 49 63 3501 E: thejunctio-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 – Week 8

Tuesday 18 March 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Cross Country Carnival

I would like to sincerely congratulate all the students who attended the Cross Country Carnival at Nesca Park last Friday. The weather was superb, the participation by all students was wonderful to see, the attendance and support by parents was greatly appreciated and the work and organisation by teachers was again outstanding. Many individual records were again set – we have a lot of very fit children in our school which is good to see. Many thanks to teacher Jody Cooper for again organising a superb carnival for all. See the results further in the newsletter.

There were three other noticeable events on this day – two of which I mentioned to the morning assembly yesterday. It was reported to me that three students from Year 6 each were involved in helping three other students on the day (separate instances) – in a most caring and heart-warming way. I am so proud of these students and have spoken to them personally and congratulated them. What wonderful leadership from our seniors! Our school values are alive and working well! Happy to relay these stories to you – if you want to catch up with me.



Enrichment and Engagement Framework

We are currently implementing a three tiered whole school model of enrichment and engagement activities to effectively meet the learning needs of students. This is taking place in the following ways:

Class differentiation practices are in place in all classes through programming. Teachers are catering for the

needs of students through groupings, differentiated teaching and assessment.

Design Challenge Days per grade are being implemented at end of each term. This is a task or challenge that is set for each grade and students to demonstrate their understandings of a topic by participating in a challenge. Parents are warmly invited to attend these.

Enrichment Days will be provided across grades 1 to 6 for large cohorts of students with a particular focus: eg Science/Art /Drama/ Writing for students with a particular talent, skill or interest in this area. This model will cater for a greater inclusion of students.

You will be receiving information about the Design Challenge Days or Enrichment Days in the very near future.

Welcome Bush Dance!

On Friday night 28th March we will be having a 'Welcome to new Families' Bush Dance at our school in the COLA area. We are hoping for fine weather to produce a fantastic evening of great music, great dancing and great company. We will be fortunate again to enjoy the high quality music from Bush Band 'Celtic Beat' who always give us such an enjoyable night. The P&C will be offering a delicious BBQ and we ask for a \$5 Family 'door entry' to help us pay for the band. The night will begin at 6pm and finish by 8.30pm. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

School Satisfaction Survey

Coming home with the newsletter today is a 'School Satisfaction' Survey to groups of children in each class. If you receive this survey, it would be greatly appreciated if it is returned to the school by Wednesday of next week so we can collate information and analyse the results. We are always keen to receive feedback about school organisation, educational programs and leadership. We will report on the outcomes from this survey in the next couple of weeks. Thank you.

Payments for Resource Books and Programs

It would be greatly appreciated if all payments for resource programs and books – Mathletics, Grammar and Handwriting books – are finalised as soon as possible. We have provided all families with the costs of these items and now need to pay our suppliers who also need to pay their own costs in their businesses. Many thanks to the families who have already forwarded payments – it is greatly

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appreciated. If you have misplaced the information on the costs for these items - there are additional notes available in the foyer of the office. Thank you.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they'll sit NAPLAN tests this May 13-15th in Reading, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation and Numeracy.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/all-about-naplan>

High School Forms

All Year 6 students need to return their high school enrolment forms by the end of this week. If parents need further clarification of this process, please contact Anne Keating – Deputy Principal.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

Term 1 Week 7

KINDER, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY

KK	Audrey R	Lalita F
KD	Hamish B	Elka D'A
KH	Louis H	Clodagh M
KE	Harmony B	Lillie S
1J	Josie D	Boston B
1C	Isabella S Guilherme K	Lucille H Albert F
1CF	Dhanya R	Joshua M
1/2L	Sydney A	Cameron A
2H	Lily B	Manning G
2R	Oscar F	Jessica P
2W	Sophie H Ned R	Jasper C Maeve T
2/3B	Benjy C	

Year 3 – 6 Assembly

Friday – 11.30am in the new hall.

Year K - 2 Assembly

This week will be a shared assembly lead by Year 1 and Year 2 students. Class 1CF had the best manners last week and will be sitting on the chairs this week – well done 1CF! Everyone welcome in the new hall at 2pm this Wednesday.

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2014

Week 8

Event

Friday, March 21	Harmony Day – All students may wear Orange today!
Friday, March 21	Year 6 cake stall – Cakes priced from 20c to \$1

Week 9

Event

Wednesday, March 26	Zone Cross Country
Friday, March 28	P & C Bush dance 6pm-8.30pm

Week 10

Event

Tuesday, April 1	P & C Meeting – 7pm – Staffroom
Tuesday, April 1	Parent information Technology session 6pm – 7pm
Saturday, April 5	Olive Tree Markets – 9am-3pm

Week 11

Event

Wednesday, April 9	State Swimming
Thursday, April 10	State Swimming
Thursday, April 10	K-2 Easter Hat Parade (Note home soon!)
Thursday, April 10	Easter Raffle draw
Friday, April 11	Last day of Term 1

CALENDAR - TERM 2 – 2014

Week 1

Event

Monday, April 28	STAFF ONLY Return
Tuesday, April 29	Students return for Term 2

Look what Kindergarten found in our school garden.....



HARMONY DAY – This Friday 21st March

'Everyone Belongs' - 21 March is Harmony Day!

STUDENTS CAN COME DRESSED IN ORANGE CLOTHING FOR THE DAY AS ORANGE IS THE COLOUR OF HARMONY.

Did you know:

- Around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was born overseas.
- People from over 200 countries make up the Australian community.
- More than 300 languages are spoken in Australian homes.
- Apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi.
- More than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.

The message of Harmony Day is 'Everyone Belongs'. It is a day to celebrate Australia's diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. There are many ways Harmony Day can be celebrated – through sport, dance, art, film, music, storytelling, cooking and sharing cultural meals. By participating in Harmony Day activities we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and make it a better place. Harmony Day is an Australian Government program and coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Since 1999 Harmony Day has been widely celebrated across schools, childcare centres, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies.

The Junction Public School will have classroom activities for the students to participate in. They will be discussing many aspects associated with Harmony Day and learning how important it is to understand and respect one another.

Year 6 will be having a cake stall – hopefully with lots of orange icing!

Remember... you can play a big role in helping to make Australia a great place to live where everyone belongs!

CROSS COUNTRY

Last Friday we held our school cross country at Nesca Park, the sun was out and it was a beautiful day. Due to council constructions we modified our course and it was a challenging day for all athletes. Congratulations to everyone that participated and made the day a great success. We would like to thank all the parents that helped with the BBQ and organisation on the day. A huge thank you to all of the staff who worked tirelessly to

ensure the day went smoothly and to our students who uphold our school values on all occasions.

We wish the best for our athletes heading off to Zone on the 26th March: Charlie G, Jack D, Ethan A, Nell H, Monica L, Natasha N, Flynn H, Daniel Byrne, Sam Spratt, Charlotte H, Ebony D, Evie T, Josh T, Saxon C, Cooper J, Madi S, Emily D, Millie S, Henry K, Angus M, Joe L, Ava R, Jade D and Charli C. Mrs Cooper



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.

Hair accessories are now available from the Uniform Shop: Hair Bands (2 for 50c), Clips (8 for \$5), Alice Plain Headbands (\$2) or Alice Bow Headbands (\$5).

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.

P & C NEWS

Thank you to our helpers at the Cross Country BBQ on Friday 14th March!

What a wonderful day Friday was for the Cross Country carnival. Thank you to the following parent's and carer's for volunteering their time to run the BBQ: Yvette Anscombe, Mat Dixon, Fiona Roberts, Renee Brown, Jane Hamson, Candie Fong, Donna Reay, Suzie Galway, Aleeta Cliff, Sarah Cook, Leone Cook, Paul Newman, Sarah Knights, Angela Dyball, Ariane Neale and Paul Farrell. We made \$750 dollars that will be put towards technology and playground equipment.

I'd also like to thank Tom for all his help before, during and after school and Suzanne Taylor for superbly organising the Cross Country BBQ.

It's that time of the year again.....Easter is getting closer and so is the Easter Chocolate Raffle!!!

The ever popular **Easter Chocolate Raffle** is coming!

We are asking for **donations of eggs** to be left at the front office.

The **Easter Raffle** raises approximately \$1400 for the school, plus there are lots of prizes with yummy eggs and chocolate- last year there were over 80 prizes to be won!

Donate an egg, sell some raffle tickets, and help raise some money for the school.

The Easter raffle will be drawn on Thursday, April 10th. All funds raised will be put towards purchasing more iPads and playground equipment for the school.

Raffle ticket books will be sent home with next week's newsletter.

Welcome Bush Dance BBQ – Friday, 28th March, at the school.

Come along and enjoy the great music of 'Celtic Beat' at the Welcome Bush Dance BBQ! Meet new parents, or just catch up with those you haven't seen in a while!

Can you help for ½ hr at the Welcome Bush Dance BBQ? We have some lovely parent volunteers already, however we still need a few more. If you can spare ½ hour on the night, please contact Bronwyn at junctionpandc@hotmail.com

Parent Information Evening – Technology at the School – Tuesday 1st April, 6 - 7pm

On **Tuesday, 1st April** there will be a parent information session run by Mrs Tilse on how technology is used in the curriculum at the school. The information session will start at 6pm and will run for 1 hour.

Olive Tree Market BBQ – Saturday, 5th April, 9am until 3pm – Year 1

For the April OTM BBQ we are asking any parents/carers of **Year 1** 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).



Come and enjoy the fantastic atmosphere of the OTM and help raise funds for the school, and meet other parent's!

Upcoming P&C Events

1: Welcome Bush Dance BBQ – Friday, 28th March, at the school.

2: Parent Information Evening – Technology in the School – Tuesday 1st April 6 – 7pm.

3: P&C Meeting – Tuesday 1st April, 7pm, Staff room.

4: OTM BBQ Year 1 – Saturday, 5th April, 9am – 3pm.

5: Last Day to return Easter Raffle tickets – Tuesday 8th April.

6: Easter Egg Raffle drawn – Thursday, 10th April.

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

25 YEARS AND 3 GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS LATER – AND STILL WAITING!!!

(You will receive this today in a blank envelope)

A survey from the P+C is being sent home this week to find out what you all want done about the "temporary" classrooms at TJPS. Please fill in the survey and drop it back into the P+C box in the front office by Friday 28 March.

It has been nearly 25 years since the 1989 Newcastle earthquake when a two-story brick classroom block, housing 18 classrooms, was demolished. More than three generations of students have had to put up with "temporary" inadequate classrooms over this time. Seven "temporary" classrooms at TJPS need to be replaced – and we need to keep reminding our politicians about their pre-election promise to TJPS. *Premier, Barry O'Farrell stated "I think that would be a good idea ... (to replace the demolished brick classrooms with new brick classrooms)....we put money aside for school rebuild for like and I will talk to the Minister for Education when announced, particularly about that school"* (1233 ABC Radio 29 March 2011)

If you have any queries or thoughts please call Janet (TJPS P+C) on 0438 008 697.