

# The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 4

Tuesday 17 February 2015

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival is quickly upon us taking place this Friday 20th 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 8.40am this Friday as buses will leave sharply at 9.00am.**

### Note for Junior / Intermediate Band

Due to the Swimming Carnival, there will be no Junior Band rehearsal before school this Friday and no afternoon rehearsal for Intermediate band. (A separate note is going home to band members today)

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 25<sup>th</sup> February.

### New Classroom Building Program

We continue to work with our Asset Management Unit and Public Works to oversee the planning and detail for our new classroom block. Now that the demountables are re-located to behind the new hall, we are able to fully realise the potential for the new spaces that are left. We are looking to build (5) modern classrooms as well as an internal COLA - with long verandah access on both sides. The rooms will have raked ceilings, withdrawal areas behind sliding walls, operable walls between classrooms and will be quality learning environments. We are hoping that the building works will commence in May this year – with a view to completion at the end of the year and be ready for use at the beginning of 2016. Schematics may be available within the next month for viewing by our parent community. It is an exciting time for our school community.

### 5 Minute Drop Off Zone

I would like to remind parents that the '5 Minute Drop Off Zone' in Union Street alongside the old hall – is just that – a quick pull up and assist children from cars and to the gates at school so that they safely enter. This space is to assist all families for a quick drop off and pick up etc. However there are many families who are parking here for 20- 30 minutes making it very hard for others to use this space. I have been told that the traffic police will be patrolling these areas in the next few weeks to issue fines to drivers who disregard the signage and overstay in these spaces.

### Selective High Schools Placement Test 2016

#### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March (Correction from last week)

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](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php)

### 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.

### Pedestrian Access – Union Street

I would like to urge parents to refrain from accessing or leaving the school grounds via the double gates nearest the old hall - this driveway is for vehicular access only. I am concerned for the safety of students using this driveway access when cars are potentially moving around. This includes band students arriving for band practice early in the morning. There are two gates further along which are opened each day for students and parents.

### Hunter Sports High Open Night

Hunter Sports High will be holding an Open Night on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February from 6.30pm in the Bini Shell at the school. This evening is to provide information about their programs for talented sports students looking to enrol at the school in 2016. Sports being offered include – AFL, Athletics, Baseball, Basketball, Boys Cricket, Girls Cricket, Football, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Swimming, Tennis and Touch Football.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

**CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2015****Week 4****Event**

<b>Tuesday, Feb 17</b>	Year 3 & 4 parent class information sessions-3.30pm –  (Class 2/3W information session to be in Week 6 – note to follow)  Year 5 & 6 parent class information sessions-4pm
<b>Wednesday, Feb 18</b>	Year 1 & 2 parent class information sessions-5.30pm  (Class 2/3W information session to be in Week 6 – note to follow)
<b>Friday, Feb 20</b>	School Swimming Carnival – The Forum (Year 3 – Year 6) + Competent 8 year old swimmers in Year 2

**Week 5****Event**

<b>Wednesday, Feb 25</b>	Zone Swimming Carnival
<b>Friday, Feb 27</b>	Last day for 2.30pm finish Kindergarten
<b>Saturday, March 7</b>	Olive Tree Markets at <u>Civic Park</u> 9am-3pm

**Week 6****Event**

<b>Monday, March 2</b>	Kinder finish 3pm from today
<b>Tuesday, March 3</b>	P & C Meeting & AGM – 7pm
<b>Thursday, March 5</b>	Regional Swimming Carnival

**Week 7****Event**

<b>Tuesday, March 10</b>	School Photos
<b>Wednesday, March 11</b>	School Photos
<b>Thursday, March 12</b>	Selected High School 2016 Test
<b>Friday, March 13</b>	School Cross Country – Nesca Park - (Year 3 – Year 6) + Competent 8 year old runners in Year 2

**Week 9****Event**

<b>Friday, March 27</b>	Zone Cross Country
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**SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL****Date: This Friday 20th February!!**

**Please send the permission note and money in by tomorrow as bus seat allocation needs to be finalised.**  
Don't forget to post the money/note in the 'Red Box' in the office foyer.

**SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS****TERM 1 WEEK 3****YEARS 1 & 2 ASSEMBLY**

<b>1W</b>	Tamara L	Jarvis S
<b>1CF</b>	Felix B	Abby R
<b>1J</b>	Kahn W	Zoe C
<b>1C</b>	Noah C	Ava B
<b>2B</b>	Amelia L	Albert F
<b>2R</b>	Zack M	Cody M
<b>2W</b>	Harry B	Lucille H
<b>2C</b>	Mako L	Stella S

**YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY**

<b>3H</b>	Connie B Owen D'A	Nate D Josie H
<b>3MC</b>	Lily B	Millin B
<b>3K</b>	Ned R	Luke P
<b>4A</b>	Jack D Kelsey V	Monica L Hugo W
<b>4F</b>	Adele B	Ava L
<b>5T</b>	Finnlay F Chloe P	Thomas P
<b>5S</b>	Declan F Jonty S	Gus A
<b>5/6B</b>	Hana G Kelvin W	Joseph P
<b>6C</b>	Annika S Sunny W	Peter S Caitlin K

**Assembly times:****Year 1 & 2 – Wed (New Hall) 2pm****Year 3 to 6 – Friday (New Hall) 11.20am****PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR CLASS 2/3W**

As Mrs Ware is away this week, a note will go home shortly advising the Parent sessions will be held in Week 6.

**BAND NEWS**

I'm pleased to announce our Band Captains and Vice Captains for 2015.

**Senior Band:** Captains: Caitlin Kroef, Oliver Pearson  
Vice Captains: Lucy Ulph, Finn McIntyre

**Intermediate Band:** Captains: Ava Ledlin, Ned Manning-Lourey  
Vice Captains: Kelsey Van Eldik, Ethan Anderson

**Junior Band:** Captains: Amber Brown, Jasper Carlin  
Vice Captains: Lucia Parkes, Angus Wills

**Percussion Ensemble:** Captain : Aiden Ferguson-Tait  
Vice Captain: Bailey Fa'alogo

The students will be presented with their badges at next Monday morning's assembly 9am.

I am also very pleased to inform all parents that all bands are making great progress this year. Please keep encouraging your child to practise his/her instrument every day. A big thank you to our conductors and tutors for your dedication to our band program.

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.

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. Year 1 students will commence recorder in Term 3. Mr Jobson

**POPPIES FOR ANZAC DAY**

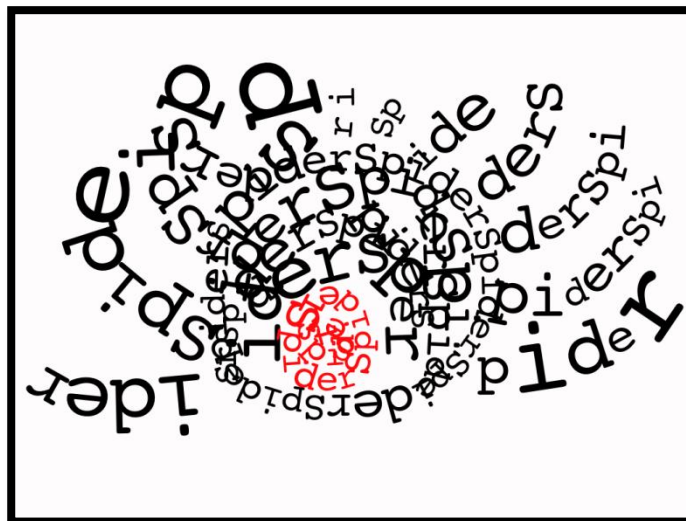
Last week a 'Poppy knitting pattern note' went out to families to assist in knitting poppies for a display to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ANZAC day this year. This week we have been given another 'Poppy Pattern' which may be easier to follow. Please come to the foyer and pick up a copy!

We are hoping students, parents and even maybe some grandparents can get involved to create a wall display of these poppies.

Thank you, Mrs Briggs

**LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YEAR 2!**

Last week Year 2 commenced CAPA groups. This term students will rotate around three different activities. Mrs Russell will be teaching drama. Miss Chaffey will be teaching digital art and Miss Burgin will be doing an artist study. This week some 2R students created pieces of typography art. Below are some samples. If you would like to see more, please visit our class blog <http://junction2r.weebly.com> Be sure to leave us a comment! Mrs Russell

**COMPUTER/GENERAL EXCURSION NOTES and TECHNOLOGY NOTE – All Students**

The "Blue General Permission Note" and "Beige" Technology Note" need to be completed on both sides and returned to the class teacher by this week!

Please return these forms promptly. 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, 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.

The school accepts cash (exact amount), 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.

**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 (2) days in succession. A note on your child's return to school is necessary.

If you are going away and the leave is over (5) school days, you must complete an "Extended 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.

**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.

**UNIFORM SHOP**

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

**Payment for Uniform 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.  
Donna Reay, Co-ordinator

**SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking will commence again next week! Newcastle Permanent Building Society and Commonwealth Bank offer banking to our students. Parent volunteers, Tanya Fitzgerald and Jackie Murnain 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 Sessions or you may open an account at either bank and start Monday banking!

**P & C NEWS****VOLUNTEER LISTS & CLASS LISTS 2015**

The class list and volunteer list forms went home with last week's newsletter. We're hoping people can return the class list forms by this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb, and the Volunteer lists by 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. If you would like to complete these via an online form rather than paper form, please use the following links:

**Class Lists:** <http://goo.gl/forms/TYjWGjKG0z>

**Volunteer Lists:** <http://goo.gl/forms/Si8hr5dWD7>

Only people who put their own details on the class lists will receive the class lists for their class (ie if you don't sign yourself up to the class lists, then you unfortunately do not receive one with everyone else's details).

We understand that some of the events on the volunteer forms are a long way off. If you want to just indicate your interest in being involved in some of these events, we won't hold you to it, but it just gives us a pool of people to approach if and when these events happen.

Big thanks to Johanna Anderson for volunteering to co-ordinate the Easter Raffle, and also to Donna Reay and Suzanne Taylor for offering to co-ordinate the Book Fair. We still need a cake stall co-ordinator for the Election Day (28<sup>th</sup> March). We have some great notes taken by the last co-ordinator, so will happily provide you with some good information to make it happen. Please contact me at the P&C email if you can help out.



**P&C AGM – 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm**

Our next P&C meeting is **Tuesday 3rd March at 7pm** in the staff room. This will also be our AGM. Please start thinking about where you might like to help out this coming year. Positions that will be available include President, Vice-President (there are two VP positions), Treasurer and Secretary. We can also have up to about six executive officers. Other roles where people can help are in social media / web communications, school gardens, uniform shop, and anywhere else that you think you have something to offer. With such a big school, it takes a tribe to make things happen behind the scenes, and any assistance, big or small, is always welcome.

**CROSS COUNTRY BBQ – 13<sup>TH</sup> March**

The P&C will run a BBQ back at school at 1pm after the Cross Country. Both (K-2) and (Years 3-6) children will have the opportunity to purchase a sausage sandwich (\$2) and drink (\$1). We will need someone to please co-ordinate and also people to help on the day. Please let me know how you can help.

**ELECTION DAY – 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH (TBC) – BBQ, Cake Stall & Book Fair**

We are expecting to be a polling place again for the state election, which we think will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> March (TBC). As mentioned above, we still need a coordinator for the cake stall. We will also need a deep roster of people to help out across the day on the Saturday, and also on the Friday to set up the book fair. Please let me know how you can help.

**P&C CONTRIBUTION TO BUILDING WORKS**

As mentioned last week, it's looking increasingly likely that the P&C may need to make a significant financial contribution to the building works programme in order to get a sixth classroom to completion. The current concept design is a clever one, and provides five classrooms, plus a "cola" which has the potential to be converted to a sixth classroom, once funding permits (draft plans are likely to be made available for viewing at school in the coming weeks).

At the moment, completion of the sixth classroom is just out of reach under the allocated funding. The P&C will be looking at ways that we can make this once in a generation opportunity get across the line, but the funds we would need to raise are more ambitious than anything we've ever set our sights on. We are investigating the capacity of using our tax deductible building fund to be able to contribute to the works, along with other fundraising ideas, but we would need to be seeking support from the wider business community.

It's important to note that even with such an ambitious goal, we still need to provide our usual annual support to the school, which often includes things like reading books, maths kits, playground equipment, ambulance cover, financial support to students representing the school at state level and above, and many other classroom based resources. In other words, a commitment to the building program needs to be "over and above" the

support that we currently provide to the school, and not a replacement.

The P&C and whole school community needs to reflect on whether we are willing to make this opportunity a reality. If so, there will be a very strong push this year for people to pitch in and help out with all range of fundraising ideas. If you think you can help, please let me know. If you have ideas on how we can raise significant funds, including businesses which may be interested in providing financial support, then please let me know.

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**

Save the date – we have tentatively booked Tower Cinema for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June for this year's family movie night.

**UPCOMING P&C EVENTS:**

Date	Time	Event
3 March 2015	7.00pm	P&C Meeting & AGM – all welcome
13 March	(1pm)	Cross-Country (Yrs 3-6): The usual P&C bbq will be held back at school at 1pm, rather than at Nesca Park. Volunteers needed
28 March (TBC)	All Day	State Election: The P&C will run a BBQ, Cake Stall, and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Hand Book Fair.
19 June (TBC)	Evening	Family Movie Night – Tower Cinema
31 Oct 2015	TBC	Spring Fair 2015

**P&C EMAIL LIST** - 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. You will receive general notices of P&C activities, as well as meeting agendas and minutes. This is a great way to keep up with the P&C and stay involved in school.

Julie Wharton  
Acting 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



"Follow"  
@TJPS\_PandC  
on Twitter

### Become an Ethics Teacher at The Junction Public School

Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don't attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical Ethics Classes. The classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgement, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives.

This year we have our biggest enrolment in Ethics at The Junction since the program started in 2011. However, to provide weekly Ethics Classes to all of the children who would like to attend we need more Volunteer Ethics Teachers. We would be especially keen to recruit Ethics Teachers from our new kindergarten parents as currently only one third of the kindergarten children who have registered for ethics are able to participate as class sizes are limited.

Volunteer Ethics Teachers are trained to deliver our age-appropriate curriculum every week and to use the accompanying learning and teaching materials. More information on what is required to become an Ethics Teachers can be found at [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au)

If you would like to become involved, please contact:

**Mark Harden** via [tjpsethics@gmail.com](mailto:tjpsethics@gmail.com)  
Ethics Co-ordinator for The Junction Public School

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### French Classes – (5 - 12 year olds)

Fun after school program here at The Junction Public School on Monday and Tuesday from 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Classroom 5W. Register your interest by phone or email: Phone: 0402 818034 or [sandra.peachey@lcclubs.com.au](mailto:sandra.peachey@lcclubs.com.au)

#### Unload Creative Writing Workshops - limited spots still available

Unload is back and looking forward to a story-full 2015! Our writing and storytelling workshops cater for all levels with a focus on having FUN and building confidence with language.

Who: Students from Years 3-6

Where: Classroom 6S at The Junction Public School

When: Tuesdays, 3.20 - 4.20pm

Cost: \$135 for the term or come and try a class for \$15

Numbers limited to 15 students

For further information [www.unload.org.au](http://www.unload.org.au) or contact Suzie

Email [suzie@unload.org.au](mailto:suzie@unload.org.au)

Suzie Galwey: Mob 0409 409 141

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