

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 7

Tuesday 10 March 2015

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It's hard to believe we are already past the halfway mark for this term! I hope you're all enjoying this beautiful Autumn weather that's upon us now – although still warm I know.

Skoolbag is Here!!

We are going to begin using Skoolbag! What is Skoolbag?

Skoolbag is a mobile App for our school to communicate directly to parents. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android tablets). It provides schools with an easy way to tell parents/carers everything they need to know and it provides parents with the most convenient way to receive school notifications.

We will be able to send school free push notifications, information about school events, school newsletters, school documents – permission notes, alerts, events, links to websites, school social media – Facebook, Twitter etc.

Today with this newsletter you will receive a flyer with information on how to install Skoolbag on your iPhone or Android device. In this fast paced world in which we live - we know this is going to be of great use to our parents and community and further improve communication.

Invoices

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. Some parents have requested we send out invoices for outstanding amounts. These invoices will go out with today's newsletter. Payment for band, band instrument hire, dance, dance ensemble and tap for Term 1 are due now! Thank you for your assistance.

School Photographs

The school photographs for 2015 commenced today with most classes and family groups being taken. The rest of Stage 3 photos, Student Executive and Band Photos will be taken tomorrow as well as a 'catch-up' of the remaining family photos.

Band students need to wear normal school uniform not their band shirts. They are also required to bring their instruments. Students are asked to bring their envelopes with correct money to each photo session however if you have paid online you are not required to bring in the photo envelope.

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

Swimming Champions

Again we are very proud of all the students who attended the Regional Swimming Championships at Maitland last Thursday. A very strong team of students represented our school.

Great achievements took place for all swimmers - with the outcome now being that 16 of those competing at Region are now going to the State Swimming Championships at Homebush at the end of this term. This is an outstanding achievement again – and of particular note is the participation of all four relay teams – boys and girls, senior and junior. Amazing stuff!

Congratulations: Kelsey V, Ayesha L, Noah J, Saxon C, Flynn H, Marc C, Indah Joshua-N, Monica L, Natasha N, Xavier C, Nate R, Sidney F, Jorjia V, Maya L, Michelle J and Travis H.

We are proud of all of you and wish you all the best at the State Championships.

Cross Country

We are looking forward to our Cross Country Carnival to be run at Nesca Park this Friday – 13th March.

This year we will be doing things a little differently. Students will be leaving school at 9.30am, walking up to Nesca Park accompanied by their teachers and return to school by 1.00pm. The P&C will be cooking a BBQ back at school when the students return – which will be much better organisation for us. Students will need to take sunscreen, hats and water bottles up to Nesca Park for the event.

This is always a very enjoyable day for all students from Years 3 to 6 as well as strong 8 year old Year 2 runners – who can competently run the 2km course. See the 'Orange Cross Country note' with full details. Please ensure the permission slip is returned by this Thursday!

New Classrooms

Planning is progressing for our new classrooms with the expectation that construction may start at the end of May. We have formally signed off on the planning documents and we are very pleased with the design and layout for the school. Many thanks to the parent representatives on the Reference Group – Julie Wharton, Rob Kane and James Garvey for their tireless efforts over the last few months.

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.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2015

Week 7	Event
Wednesday, March 11	School Photos
Thursday, March 12	K-2 Sushi orders close
Thursday, March 12	Selective High School 2016 Test
Friday, March 13	School Cross Country – Nesca Park - (Year 3 – Year 6) + Competent 8 year old runners in Year 2
Friday, March 13	National Ride2School day
Week 8	Event
Wednesday, March 18	K-2 SUSHI DAY (you must have pre-ordered)
Friday, March 20	Year 3-6 Sushi orders close
Week 9	Event
Wednesday, March 25	YEAR 3-6 SUSHI DAY (you must have pre-ordered)
Friday, March 27	Zone Cross Country
Saturday, March 28	Election Day – P & C Cake stall & Book Fair

K-2 ASSEMBLIES

There will be an assembly this week for K-2. This will be Kindergarten's first combined assembly. Miss Chaffey

Assembly times:

Kinder to Year 2 – Wed (New Hall) 2pm (odd weeks)
Year 3 to 6 – Friday (New Hall) 11.20am

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Newcastle School Portraits are here today and tomorrow taking school photos. Every student received an envelope 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.**

Payment is by two options:

1. Cash (correct amount) placed in the envelope and to be brought in on Photo Day.
2. Payment by Credit Card. This has to be done online – details on the front of the Newcastle School Portraits envelope. (You do not need to return the envelope if you order online).

ENVELOPES AND MONEY ARE SENT INTO SCHOOL
on PHOTO DAYS
(10TH AND 11TH MARCH).

THESE ARE HANDED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHERS ON
THE DAY
SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

TERM 1 WEEK 6**KINDER ASSEMBLY**

KK	Ashley C Ollie D	Amelie D Zavier A
KD	Amelie D Benjamin D	Eden N Jack W
KH	Maya H Zaac C	Ella Tom L
KE	Thomas P Kahlia F	Noah R

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

2/3W	Bailey H	Mia V
3H	Max B Imogen W	Niamh H
3MC	Seren R Lily B	Matilda A
3K	Ella B Astrid M	Charlie T
4A	Jack W Charlie T	Angus W Amy M
4L	Lily F Connor F	Imogen C Sarah B
4F	Archie J Lulu S	Jada D
5T	Curtis F Arkadiya H	Max W Yvonne M
5S	Travis H Talara B	Emily N Jesse S
5W	Quinn P Molly M Axel H	Cormac M Noah F Rylee F
5/6B	Lara B Michelle J Freya K	Louka P Harry B Angus W
6C	Indhia K Patrick P	Saxon C Lily L
6S	Jack W Charlotte M Jake H	Cameron S Cooper J
Choir	Sarah B Lily F	Jada D York N

Congratulations to our wonderful swimming team on a very successful Regional carnival. We have a number of students that have qualified for State on the 25th and 26th March, including all four of our school relay teams. These students will be lucky enough to swim in the Sydney Olympic Pool. We wish the following students the greatest of success in their events.

Individual Events - Kelsey V - Jnr medley, Jnr Butterfly, Jnr backstroke, Jnr breaststroke, age race

Ayesha L - Snr butterfly, Snr backstroke, Snr medley, 100m open, age race

Noah J - Jnr medley

Saxon C - 100m open, Snr medley, Snr breaststroke

Flynn H - 11yr backstroke

Marc C - Snr butterfly, Snr backstroke

Relay Teams

Junior Girls - Kelsey V Indah J, Monica L, Natasha N

Junior Boys - Xavier C, Noah J, Nate R, Sidney F

Senior Girls - Ayesha L, Jorjia V, Maya L, Michelle J

Senior Boys - Saxon C, Flynn H, Marc C, Travis H

Good luck to all students at the State Carnival!

Mrs Cooper

POPPIES FOR ANZAC DAY

Thank you to the many families who have already been busy knitting poppies for a display to mark the 100th Anniversary of ANZAC day this year.

Please come to the foyer and pick up a copy of the pattern or go to our website!

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

CANTEEN NEWS – Sushi Days

Year 3 to Year 6 students will receive their Sushi order forms today – details below:

Yr 3 – Yr 6 SUSHI DAY – WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH

(Peach Order Form) (Going home today)

The orders/payment need to be at the canteen by this Friday 20th March.

K-2 SUSHI DAY – WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH

(Yellow Order Form) (These went out last week)

The K-2 orders/payment need to be at the canteen by this Thursday 12th March.

REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL REPORT**TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION**

Digital citizenship & safety online – Posting images of children online

There are Commonwealth privacy laws relevant to the unauthorised production and publication of a person's image through the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

National Ride2School Day takes place this year on Friday 13th March. On this day we are encouraging as many children as possible from Years 3 to 6, to either ride or walk to school, and to discover the benefits of regular physical activity. Please support this national initiative, if you are able to, and allow your child to participate in National Ride2School Day.

For more information, visit the website

www.ride2school.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP

There is still a delay with the supplier of the white school shirts. Once they have arrived they will be distributed to those who have orders in.

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.

Donna Reay, Co-ordinator

HEALTH TIPS.....

Be healthy – be active



Children and adults need physical activity every day. Activity helps build better bones, muscles, joints and helps maintain a healthy weight. Physical activity can also reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. Get active anyway you can - walking, riding, swimming, and playing active games such as Duck, Duck, Goose or Bull Rush.

SCHOOL BANKING

Our School Banking day is Monday! 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.

Camp Australia operating hours:

6:30am – 9am

3pm – 6pm

Families, if you know that your child is **NOT** going to attend their session please phone the co-ordinator on 0450 267 282 to let them know in advance. If your child has gone home sick from school please also notify us. This will prevent staff from being taken away from supervising other children.

Please note that on the parent portal when booking your child in for care, Monday 27th April has been closed. If you wish to book your child in for care on this day please contact Felicity and book in at the centre for either morning care or the afternoon session.

Camp Australia are looking for any donations of any recycled craft that the children may be able to use, if you have any recyclable items please feel free to drop them into the centre's recycled box.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Junction Camp Australia Team

0450 267 282

Program Details

To find out more about our program, view fees and to register visit www.campaustalia.com.au

P & C NEWS

P & C AGM

Last week the P&C held their AGM. We had a great turn out, and the following people were elected to positions for 2015:

President – Julie Wharton

Vice President – Rob Kane

Vice President – Sarah Cook

Treasurer - Dipesh Lakhani

Secretary – Sarah Harden

Executive Officer Assisting the Treasurer – Michael Jonker

Executive Officer Assisting the Secretary – Ruth Conroy

Executive Officer (Spring Fair) – Suki Kwon

Thank you to everyone who took on a position, and also to those who have made offers of help for the coming year. It's going to be an exciting year – with our building works, and Spring Fair significant items on our calendar this year.

There will be plenty of opportunity to get involved in the school community, and I look forward to working with everyone along the way.

CROSS COUNTRY BBQ – This Friday 13TH March

Many thanks to the people who have offered to help with the cross country BBQ this Friday. We are arranging for a few of you to sell bottles of water at Nesca Park. For everyone else – if you haven't heard from us directly, we will be setting up to cook sausages back at school from about 11.30am – so please meet at school at this time. We'll likely be set up somewhere under the COLA / near the staff room. BYO apron!

The infants children will have the opportunity to buy a sausage sandwich from the BBQ, as well as the older primary kids when they return from the cross country. Sausage sandwiches will be \$2, and drinks (water and juice) will be \$1.

CLASS LISTS 2015

The Class Lists are in a final draft format. We have emailed drafts out to everyone who provided an email address. We are trying to troubleshoot typos in the data entry – so if you provided an email address, and didn't receive a draft list to look over, please drop us an email at junctionpandc@hotmail.com and we can try and resolve.

We will finalise the class lists this week, and distribute via hard copy with next week's newsletter. Please remember that you only get a class list if you chose to include your details. Once the lists are finalised, we will also email to those who have provided email addresses.

CLASS PARENTS 2015

The Class Lists will indicate who has volunteered as a class parent for each class. If there is more than one of you – that's great – get together and share the load around. If your class does not have a class parent, please let me know if you'd like to volunteer for your class.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS

We now welcome donations for our annual easter raffle. Donations of easter eggs etc can be dropped to the office, and our lovely volunteers will wrap them into prizes closer to easter. Raffle tickets will come home in a week or two. Many thanks to Johanna Anderson who is coordinating.

ELECTION DAY – Book Fair, Cake Stall and BBQ

Many thanks to those who got back to me last week following a bit of a plea for a Cake Stall Coordinator.

The coordinators for the big Election Day extravaganza are:

- Book Fair: Donna Reay & Suzanne Taylor
- BBQ: Liz Ginters
- Cake Stall: Patricia Kinney (Fri) & Vera Moore (Sat)

We have a great flyer coming out soon – thanks to Kelly Freeman who has put together a great looking poster which we will get out amongst our local community. If you can help take some posters and put them up in local shops or other places to help get the word out, please drop me an email and we'll get some posters to you. A separate flyer will provide information to our school families regarding donations being requested for the book and cake stalls. We have also organised a coffee stand for the day. It will be a great day!

ELECTION DAY BOOK FAIR & CAKE STALL – DONATIONS NEEDED

We will gratefully receive donations for the second hand book fair from Mon 16th March onwards. We are organising a space in the old hall, where donations can be delivered.

Donations for the cake stall can be left at the staff room on Friday 27th March, preferably in the morning, if possible. We have previously found that items like biscuits and slices sell much better than larger cakes. So, have a think about whether you can make something that can be easily sliced into smaller servings (eg banana bread), or – if you have time – package slices into smaller bundles.

If possible, we'd prefer to avoid items that will require refrigeration. And also, if warm weather can be very unforgiving on some cupcake toppings / icings. As with last time, we'll also be asking if anyone has any cupcake stands we might be able to borrow on the day. Please don't bring in anything too delicate / breakable, and make sure you include your name and a class somewhere on there. Masking tape can be great to wrap around the base of a cupcake stand to use as a label.

CANTEEN

Just a note for families that are new to our school. The P&C does not run our school canteen. We are very fortunate to have Response, who are a registered disability support / training organisation running one of the healthiest canteens in the Hunter here at our school. We are one of only a very small number of schools in the whole region who have no "red" items in our school canteen. If parents have specific ideas / suggestions for the canteen – you are welcome to mention them to Kath in the canteen, and she can let you know whether there might be capacity to include these ideas or not. We are also happy to hear these ideas at the P&C, but we can only pass them on to Response, as we do not actually run the canteen.

P&C MEETING DATES THIS YEAR:

- Friday 1st May 2015 at 1.30pm

- Tues 2nd June 2015 at 7.00pm
- Fri 7th August at 1.30pm
- Tues 1st Sept at 7pm
- Fri 9th Oct at 1.30pm
- Tues 3rd Nov at 7pm
- Fri 4th Dec at 1.30pm

Other meetings may be held as required, and notice will be given accordingly.

THANK YOU:

Special thanks this week to Darragh O'Hagan who took on the mammoth job of collating the class lists. While we had a great number of families use the online forms, there were still a significant amount of paper submissions, which required manual input. In a school our size, this is a huge job, and many thanks to Darragh for her help, and attention to detail.

Thanks also to Kelly Freeman who has put together some great looking flyers and posters for the upcoming Election Day book fair, cake stall and BBQ. These posters will go out into the local community, and will do a great job of attracting the local community to our school to support these events, regardless of whether those people were coming here to vote or not.

Subscribing to the P&C Email List

The new method of managing the P&C email list is going well, and we will continue with this for the foreseeable future. Therefore, you can now subscribe through the following link and QR code: <http://eepurl.com/bfuMIX>



This method will also allow people to unsubscribe through links in each email. We are hoping this will make management of the P&C email list a little easier, as it had become a little cumbersome due to the limitations of Hotmail and the numbers of people on our list. This is a great way to keep up with the P&C and stay involved in school.

You can still contact the P&C at junctionpandc@hotmail.com – this won't change, but we'd prefer you subscribe / unsubscribe using the links above.

UPCOMING P&C EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event
13 March	12pm onwards	BBQ at school for Cross-Country
28 March	8am – 2pm	State Election: The P&C will run a BBQ, Cake Stall, and 2 nd Hand Book Fair.
1 May (Fri)	1.30 pm	P&C Meeting
2 June	7.00pm	P&C Meeting

(Tues)		
19 June	Evening	Family Movie Night – Tower Cinema
31 Oct	TBC	Spring Fair 2015

Julie Wharton
P&C President

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

If you would like to become involved, please contact:

Mark Harden via tjpsethics@gmail.com
Ethics Co-ordinator for The Junction Public School

COMMUNITY NOTICE.....

National Parks ... Celebrate Parks Week!

Sunday 15th March 2015 (10am to 2pm)

Where: Glenrock State Conservation Area
(Meet at Gun Club Road Entrance) – Free of Charge!

For more information visit:

www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or
call: 1300 72757