

The Junction News

Newsletter of The Junction Public School



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Term 1 – Week 8

Tuesday 17 March 2015

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Cross Country Postponed

Due to the inclement weather last Friday the Cross Country was postponed and will now take place tomorrow (Wednesday 18th) at Nesca Park. All other arrangements will be the same – however there will be no barbecue tomorrow – as this took place last Friday at school. For any Year 2 students attending if they had pre-ordered Sushi for the K-2 Sushi day, students will be back by 1pm for lunch.

Again we are looking forward to a great day with hopefully kinder weather conditions. Thanks

Skoolbag – Mobile Device 'App'

It was so useful last week to be able to send messages out to families via our new 'App' – Skoolbag.

A reminder again – what this is: 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.

For installation – click the 'App Store' icon on your mobile phone, type 'The Junction Public School' in the search, click 'Free', then 'install'. When installed click 'Open', select 'OK' to receive push notifications. There are more copies of how to install Skoolbag in the office foyer.

Hunter Sports High 2016

Any students considering enrolment at Hunter Sports High for 2016 – need to fill out a Talented Sports Program Application on the school's web-site.

In 2016, Hunter Sports High will offer 14 sports – AFL, Athletics, Baseball, Basketball, Boys Cricket, Girls Cricket, Football, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby League, Boys Rugby Union, Girls Rugby Union, Swimming, Tennis and Touch Football.

Applications for 2016 close on 1st May, 2015.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they will sit NAPLAN tests this May 12-14th 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>

Application for Extended Leave Travel

There is a new form from the Department for parents wishing to withdraw their children from school for extended leave due to travel. The form must be completed and returned to school if a child is being withdrawn from school for the purposes of travel involving more than 5 school days. If students are away for under 5 school days a 'Green Slip or note from home' is required.

The forms are available in the front admin area – or on our school website – [via our new Skoolbag App.](#)

Book Fair

Thanks to all the families who have brought in books for our Book Fair being held at school on the State Election Day 28th March. If you are happy to 'donate' please leave books in the old hall, in the tubs provided – thanks. The P&C will also be running a cake stall on the day as well.

Easter Hat Parade – Kinder to Year 2

Just giving you advance notice that our Easter Hat Parade for students in Kinder to Year 2 will take place on Thursday 2nd April from 9.15am in the new hall. Students in Kinder to Year 2 wear wonderful Easter Hat creations – brought from home and students may be out of uniform on this day. This is always a really happy, enjoyable and colourful event and is a great one to bring along grandparents / aunties and uncles. The parade will conclude before recess at 11.00am. We will also be drawing the Easter raffle prizes on this day – after recess at 11.30am, so you may be going home with some wonderful chocolate goodies. Looking forward to seeing you then!

High School Forms

All Year 6 students need to return their high school enrolment forms for 2016, [by the end of this week.](#) If parents need further clarification of this process, please contact Anne Keating – Deputy Principal.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

-----CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2015

Week 8 **Event**

Wednesday, March 18	Yr 3-6 Cross country – Nesca Park (rescheduled date)
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)
Wednesday, March 25	State Swimming
Thursday, March 26	State Swimming
Friday, March 27	Zone Cross Country
Saturday, March 28	Election Day – P & C Cake stall & Book Fair (8am to 2pm)

Week 10 **Event**

Thursday, April 2	K – 2 Easter Hat Parade – 9.15am
Thursday, April 2	Last day of school – Term 1

CALENDAR - TERM 2 – 2015

Week 1 **Event**

Monday, April 20	STAFF ONLY RETURN
Tuesday, April 21	Students return

Assembly times:**Kinder to Year 2 – Wed (New Hall) 2pm (odd weeks)****Year 3 to 6 – Friday (New Hall) 11.20am****SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS****TERM 1 WEEK 7****KINDER TO YEAR 2 ASSEMBLY**

KK	Jasper M Timothy P	Aja P Mia G
KD	Clancy M Zadie A	Archie J Coco P
KH	Eddie L Leighon G	Jacob L Ruby S
KE	Max M Angus S	Fin H Phoebe H

1J	Keely H Nicola D	Charlie F Ryder Le
1C	Luka M Edie W	Luka K Samantha A
1CF	Maggie B Ocean L	Maya L Louis H
1W	Ellington W Daisy M	Thomas M Campbell J
2C	Madeline P Myles M	Isaac H Lan P
2B	Charlotte A Koby S	Andrew F James J
2R	Shai-Scott H Dhanya R	Sadie S Paige B
2W	Joshua M	Isabella S

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

3W	Jasper Ca	Harry C
3H	Yorgyi Jada N	Rayshai H Xavier C
3MC	Ella W	Max L
3K	Ashton M	Timothy P
4A	Brianna D Sid F	Teddy P Max H
4L	Bridget H Marly S	Toby S
4F	Sophie C	Michael M
5T	Daisy B Coco D	James H
5S	Joshua R Ronan E	Gus C Hunter A
5W	Daniel B Sylvia K Nell H Oliver S	Oscar W Max F Trinity B
5/6B	Charlotte K Justin T Harry B Evie T Leila F	Ebony D Brayden K Louka P Logan R Shanika B
6C	Finnian G Maya L	Nick W
6S	Ruby Z	Tom J
Choir	Ethan A Sydney A	Jonah R Ella W
Student of the month	Lily B Alexandra M	Monica L

MESSAGES FROM TECHNOLOGY....

Digital citizenship & safety online – Geotagging

When you take a photo with almost any smart device (smartphones, tablets, iPods, camera, etc.), your location and the time the photo was taken are automatically saved as metadata inside the image. If you upload a photo to a website or social network, this information is often published and can be used to search for your photos. If you have a public profile or even if you *friend* people that you don't know in person or can't rely on, you are giving **everyone** on the internet access to:

- who you are
- what you look like
- where you live
- where you go
- when you are in or out

Check the settings of your device and your online accounts. You can turn geotagging off for both. Check your other privacy settings while you're at it! Remember, 13 is the minimum user age required by Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Tumblr, Twitter and many other social networks.

For more specific information, search for **turn off geotagging on [enter your device or social network]**; e.g. *turn off geotagging on Instagram* and *turn off geotagging on iPhone 5*.

PERMISSION SLIPS FOR BEBRAS

The Bebras Australia Computational Thinking Challenge starts next week for students in Years 3-6. **Please return permission notes as soon as possible.** Bebras is a (1 hour) challenge with short questions related to computational thinking. It is funded by the Federal Government and run by NICTA and Digital Careers. Bebras is completed by students during their weekly technology classes with Mr McTaggart. Each question will require students to think in and about information, discrete structures, computation, data processing, and algorithmic concepts but doesn't require prior knowledge of these concepts. These concepts are part of the Digital Technologies National Curriculum that is awaiting endorsement by the States. Participants can work alone or in teams. If you require another permission note, please ask for one at the office. Mr McTaggart



HEALTH TIPS.....

Water

Tap water makes the best drink!

Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here's what water has to offer:



- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn't contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

PSSA AFL Congratulations Josh!

After making it through the first round of trials two weeks ago, last Tuesday my Mum drove me to Maitland to try out for the Hunter PSSA AFL team. When we arrived I saw some of my mates from my club team and we immediately started kicking a footy and were having fun.

There were about 80 boys and a girl trying out for the squad of 22 with another 2 reserves to be selected. We were all given a number that was written on our arms and legs. The coaches tested us on our speed and we did lots of sprint tests as well as our stamina with us having to do a 800m run. We also did a lot of skills testing and were split into small teams to play games against each other.

At about 1pm the coaches called us all in and they sort listed the squad to about 40. We were then split into two teams and played a game. At the end of the game the head coach called out the names of the players who made the team. I was selected! I will now travel to Blacktown International Sports Park for the AFL PSSA State Carnival in May. By Josh T

CANTEEN NEWS – Sushi Days

K-2 SUSHI DAY – (Tomorrow) WED 18TH MARCH

You must of Pre-ordered! For any Year 2 students going to Cross Country – students will be back by 1pm.

Yr 3 – Yr 6 SUSHI DAY – WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH (Peach Order Form) (Home last week)

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

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.

Donna Reay, Co-ordinator

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

CROSS COUNTRY – Tomorrow Wed 17th March

Thanks to everyone who helped with the BBQ at school last Friday, despite the Cross Country being called off. The P&C will **not** be running a second BBQ at the rescheduled cross country tomorrow, however we will be selling drinks at the park – water and juice for \$1.

We have a couple of parents who have offered to help get tables, drinks and eskies to the park – but if you are going to be there, can you please check in with them to see if they need a hand / break from drink selling.

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. Many thanks to Johanna Anderson who is co-ordinating.

EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS

Every family should have received a book of raffle tickets last week. Please make sure money and tickets are returned to the school office by Monday 30 March. If you'd like additional books of tickets, please check at the office. The raffle will be drawn after the Easter hat parade on Thursday 2 April.

ELECTION DAY – Book Fair, Cake Stall and BBQ – Sat 28th March

We need to get the rosters sorted for the Book Fair / Cake Stall / BBQ on Saturday 28 March. Some people will have already been contacted. If you can help out on the day, our rosters will be:

7.30am-9am (set up)
9-10.30
10.30-Noon
Noon-2.00pm (pack up)

We will need about four people per stall per shift, plus possibly some extras for set up and pack up shifts.

If you can help out, please get in contact with Liz Ginters via the P&C at junctionpandc@hotmail.com.

This will be a fun day, and a great way to raise money for resources at our school.

BOOK FAIR DONATIONS

We are now receiving donations of second hand books for our book fair. Please deliver to the old hall between now and Friday 27 March.

MOTHERS DAY STALL – CO-ORDINATOR(S) NEEDED

We are now planning for our Mother's Day stall, which will be held over two days in early May, and are looking for a co-ordinator or two. Dates are not yet fixed, and can be chosen to suit our co-ordinator(s). If you can help with this, please contact me at the P&C email.

CLASS LISTS 2015

The final class lists were emailed out last week to everyone who provided an email address. If you didn't provide an email list, you will receive a hard copy today. On review, we realised how much paper (and time) would be required to distribute all of the class lists via hard copy, and that the majority of parents had provided email addresses, so we are hoping that everyone is happy enough receiving them via email. Any subsequent revisions to 'Class contact lists' will only be issued via email. So, if you haven't provided an email and would like to be included in updates, if there are any, then please drop us a line, including your children's names and classes.

If you absolutely need a hard copy, please drop me a line at the P&C email and I'll see what we can arrange. If by chance you don't think you received your class list via email, then please check your junk email folder and make sure you've added junctionpandc@hotmail.com as an approved sender / not spam address.

CLASS PARENTS 2015

The Class Contact Lists have indicated 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.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT – Friday 19th June

Save the date – we have again booked Tower Cinema for a TJPS Family Movie night on Friday 19th June. Details will come next term – but pop the date in your diary.

P&C Finance Committee Meeting / Budget Meeting

The P&C is looking to hold a budget meeting, possibly on Tuesday 31 March either in the afternoon or evening. If you are interested in coming along, please contact me at the P&C email and I will make sure you are advised of the meeting time and location.

THANK YOU:

Special thanks this week to everyone who helped with the BBQ at school on Friday last week. Many thanks to Drew Ferguson-Tait and Suzanne Taylor who co-ordinated the BBQ, with Suzanne making sure we had enough food and drinks for everyone, and Drew for getting all of the equipment set up. Thanks also to Candie Fong, Olivia Ryan, Suki Kwon, Sarah Cook, Bronwyn Geerarts, Kate, Daniel Bishop, Tim Alsop, Yolanda Coleman, Karen, Kelsey Barrett, Kalpna Mathur, and anyone else that I am very sorry for missing on this list. These parents got in and served a huge amount of kids in a very short period of time, and we thank them for their time.

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
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 (Tues)	7.00pm	P&C Meeting
19 June	Evening	Family Movie Night – Tower Cinema
31 Oct	TBC	Spring Fair 2015

Other P&C MEETING DATES THIS YEAR:

- 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.

Julie Wharton
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

If you would like to become involved, please contact:

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

NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL – TRIVIA NIGHT

When: Monday March 23, (Week 9)

Time: BBQ from 6pm; Trivia 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Where: NHS Cultural Centre

Why? To raise funds for the four Year 12's representing NHS and CHS to South Africa and England in 2015!

Cost: \$10/head

Teams of 8-10 people

Register: christian.carswell@det.nsw.edu.au

KEY ASSETS NSW – Foster Care provider

Key Assets NSW is a dynamic not-for-profit foster care provider seeking to provide high quality and innovative family placements for children & young people with varying needs. We are a part of the international children's services organisation, Core Assets, with over 20 years' experience of meeting the needs of children and young people in Out of Home Care.

Currently there is a shortage of foster carers in the Hunter and Central Coast Region and we are looking for people to provide safe and stable homes to children who need love and care.

Becky Senior - Recruitment Officer

T: (02) 8336 5700

www.keyassets.com.au

HUNTER SPORTS CENTRE – Glendale

School Holiday Program (4 – 12 years)

Tuesday 7th April to Monday 20th April

7.30am to 6pm (Meals included)

Bookings essential: 4953 6366

Or go to the website for details information:

www.hsc.org.au

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.....

MYUNA BAY SPORT & RECREATION CENTRE

April Holiday Programs 2015

PHONE enquiries / bookings : 131302

Program	Dates	Ages	Cost
Adventurer Camp	13 – 17 th April 2015	7 – 12 years	\$336.00 / person

The program includes: all meals, accommodation and activities.

Activities could include any or all of the following: low & high ropes challenge course, rock climbing, abseiling, archery, giant swing, canoeing, kayaking, flying fox and much more.

GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP.....

Pacific Highway, Tea Gardens 2324

Holiday Camp for Kids

When: 15th to 17th April

Call: 1800 887717

www.bushcamp.com.au

email: holidaycamp@bushcamp.com.au