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Term 2 – Week 2

Tuesday 28 April 2015

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Storm Clean Up

After last week's challenging weather events we have worked hard to clean up the school grounds to make our school a safe and secure environment. Again, thank you to our school community for your wonderful support during this time.

School Plan 2015-2017

Parents and community members can now view our School Plan for 2015-2017 on our school website. The plan outlines the focus and future directions for the school over the next three years. It articulates the explicit teaching and learning focus for students, the emphasis for differentiation, and the great importance of providing feedback to students about their learning. We now refer to these areas as our purpose, processes and practice.

We have developed frameworks for teaching within our Key Learning Areas which will be 'driving' our practices. Next week's Maths workshops for parents (see below) will provide a clear insight into the practices and processes in the Maths area. For example you will hear how we will 'track' student learning over time.

I will elaborate on our School Plan at our P&C Meeting this coming Friday afternoon at 1.30pm and at ongoing P&C meetings throughout the year. If you would like to discuss any aspects of our School Plan, please feel free to make contact.

Maths Workshops for Parents

On Tuesday 5th May at 5.15pm we will running two workshops for parents in the area of Maths – one focussing on Kindergarten content and the other looking at content for Years 1 and 2. On Wednesday 6th May we will then hold two workshops again at 5.15pm – one for Years 3 and 4 content and another for Years 5 and 6 content. Parents can move between the workshops on the night.

We would like to provide all parents with an overview of the K-6 Maths syllabus, how we teach maths, how we assess student's understanding of Maths - both formative and summative, how we group students, activities that parents can do with their children to support them in the learning of mathematical concepts etc. We can show you work samples and give you an insight into the strategies we teach students. Last week we sent home a 'green expression of interest note' for parents to indicate which sessions they would like to attend. This will assist us with our planning. If you did

not receive the EOI – there are more available in the front office.

Use of Toilets in the Admin Area

As we have a student at school this year who needs to use the disabled toilet facilities in the front office area, we are kindly requesting that parents and visitors refrain from using these facilities or any other in the admin area and instead make use of the toilets at the back of the canteen or over in the old hall. Your assistance here would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy for Years 3 and 5 students will take place on Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th May. This diagnostic assessment program is a very useful tool for demonstrating the strengths and areas for development of students. Tuesday will be Language, Wednesday is Reading and Thursday is the Numeracy Assessment. These assessments give us valuable diagnostic data of students learning and give a snapshot of student achievement at this time of the year.

Save the Date – Grandparents Day / Harmony Day / Education Day – 19th May

Please save the date of **Tuesday 19th May at 9.30am** and come and have a wonderful time at school with your children!

Anzac Services

Last Friday we held our annual Anzac commemorative service, which included a wonderful presentation from our guest speaker Wing Commander Tim Alsop from Williamtown RAAF Base.

Congratulations to our choir, band, Year 6 students who participated in a dramatic performance and our Year 6 buglers: Marc and Finn. It was a very moving ceremony. Thank you to all families who donated flowers for wreaths.



Wendy Cheek, Principal

CALENDAR - TERM 2 – 2015

Week 2 Event

Thursday, April 30	Year 1 Gymnastics Starts – Sport Uniform to be worn
Friday, May 1	P & C Meeting 1.30pm
Saturday, May 2	Olive Tree Market – Civic Park

Week 3 Event

Tuesday, May 5	Maths Workshops for Parents (K-2) – 5.15pm
Wednesday, May 6	Maths Workshops for Parents (3-6) – 5.15pm
Thursday, May 7	Year 1 Gymnastics
Thursday, May 7	Mothers' Day Stall
Friday, May 8	Regional Cross Country
Friday, May 8	Mothers' Day Stall

Week 4 Event

Tuesday, May 12	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN
Wednesday, May 13	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN
Thursday, May 14	Years 3 & 5 NAPLAN
Thursday, May 14	Year 1 Gymnastics

Week 5 Event

Tuesday, May 19	Grandparents Day/Harmony Day/Education Day – 9.30am
Thursday, May 21	Year 1 Gymnastics

Week 6 Event

Monday, May 25	Whole school – Athletics Carnival – Glendale (Note home today to all students)
Thursday, May 28	Year 1 Gymnastics

K - 2 ASSEMBLY

Kinder to Year 2 assembly will be on this Wednesday (Week 2) and the following Wednesday (Week 3) from 2pm. Class 2W (Mrs Ware) students will host the assembly next week!

Assembly times:

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

YEAR 1 GYMNASTICS-Starts this Thursday!

Gymnastics starts this Thursday for all Year 1 students. A purple note was sent out last term. The cost for this is \$36.00 and we would appreciate all permission notes and money be handed to the office by tomorrow. Year 1 students will wear their Sports Uniform on a Thursday for Gymnastics!

BAND NEWS – Entertainment Books!

For those people who have already paid for this year's book – the school should receive the books next week! The books will again be available in printed (book form) or digital form. These fantastic books are still only \$60! Information on pre-ordering entertainment books is available from the front office. We still have some extra early bird offers valued at over \$175. The school only have a limited number of these offers so be sure to get your orders in early!

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

A 'Blue' Athletics Carnival note has gone out today to all students. The Athletics Carnival will be held at Glendale Athletics Track on Monday 25th May. Please return the Permission Slip and money (Cost: \$11) to the office as soon as possible please. As this is a whole school event your co-operation with payment and return of Permission notes assists the school office. Thank you.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Newcastle School Portraits have delivered the school photos to school. These were handed out today by the class teachers. For any enquiries or problems with the photos please contact Newcastle School Portraits on: Phone: 4965 4114.

CANTEEN NEWS – New Winter Menu

A new 'Yellow' Winter Menu has gone out today! There are some new winter food items included and some price changes – please destroy your 'Hot Pink' Summer menu!

UNIFORM SHOP

The 'White Long Sleeve Shirts' have now arrived! Please see the P & C section of this newsletter regarding the new ordering system for the Uniform Shop.

THE UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN ON MONDAYS – 8.45AM TO 9.15AM

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

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 Monday mornings.

HEALTH TIPS.....

Environmentally friendly snack foods

Choose an apple, mandarin, orange, pear, banana, plum, pieces of melons, nectarines, peaches or other fresh seasonal fruit for a quick, easy, environmentally-friendly snack. No packaging, full of nutrients and antioxidants, plus it tastes delicious!

P & C NEWS

Wow! Wasn't that an epic week last week!! We know that many of our school families struggled through most of last week without power, and the uncertainty associated with the storm was very unsettling for all – especially kids who were keen to get back to school. Fingers crossed no one is suffering much by way of storm damage.

At the time of writing, while most people that I was aware of had power returned, I know that there were still some families waiting patiently. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are families within our community who are in need of support as we have had many kind offers of assistance, particularly with respect to providing hot showers and meals.

On that note, a big thank you to Angie Hillcoat who came down to school last Wednesday afternoon after we put out a late callout, to help clear debris from the playground. Thank you also to Vicki Brown who made the kind offer for use of hot showers at her dance studio for TJPS families without power.

Please continue to keep an ear and eye out for school families who may not have extended family support locally – they may need an extra hand getting back on track after the events of last week.

On another note, it has been a good time to reflect on how we were able to communicate with families when so many were without power. Access to power affected school being able to get notifications out on the App to a certain extent, and the phones at school were repeatedly affected. Facebook and twitter were by far the easiest and quickest methods to get news out due to simple access from mobile devices. The P&C email was a good back up, but is not something that can be accessed from a mobile device, so while effective, was complicated to access without power.

We also did our best to notify ABC1233 radio as soon as we could, and they in turn would include us in their updates, although naturally there was sometimes a time delay from us notifying to when they could broadcast. For people who aren't aware, ABC radio is the official

local emergency broadcaster, and whenever there are emergency situations, they are well equipped to switch to emergency broadcast mode. You will however need an AM radio, or the ABC radio app to access them.

So, please keep all of this in mind if there ever is a "next time". While the P&C uses social media for many things, disseminating information during the height of the storm last week was without a doubt easiest to do via the two social media platforms. Even if you don't choose to follow on a regular basis (links are at end of this column), keep in mind to search for us on FB and twitter if you ever needed urgent information like last week.

We will likely hold a working bee in the coming weeks to help with storm tidy up, once professionals have removed the larger trees.

P&C Meeting – Friday 1st May at 1.30pm

The next P&C meeting will be held this Friday 1st May at 1.30pm at school. All parents / carers are welcome to join us at any P&C meeting. It's a great opportunity to come along and hear what is going on in our school, and to meet other members of our school community.

MOTHERS DAY STALL

Donations of gifts for the stall are now welcome. Please leave them in the box at the front office by next Monday 4th May.

The stall will be held on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 May, and is put together using gifts donated by school families. Children will be able to choose a gift from one of the \$2, \$4 or \$6 tables. Visits to the stall on these days will be organised for each class through the school.

If you can volunteer to help at the stall on either Thursday or Friday, please contact the P&C on the email: junctionpandc@hotmail.com

Uniform Shop – FlexiSchools

We are very close to going live with online ordering for our Uniform Shop through www.flexischools.com.au. This will not replace the face to face uniform shop of a Monday, but will supplement it. Orders placed via FlexiSchools will be processed at the next Monday that the uniform shop is open, provided that the order is placed by Sunday evening. Please be patient as our volunteers get used to the new system. If you have any concerns, please contact us at the P&C email.

P&C Donations – Maths & Science Kits

The P&C recently donated around \$3000 towards maths and science kits for the school. The school has put together kits for each class, jam packed with maths and science resources to enhance classroom learning. The P&C thanks our school community for their continued support, which allows us to in turn support school projects like these.

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 be sent out in the coming weeks – but pop the date in your diary.

Subscribing to the P&C Email List

To subscribe to the P&C email list, please visit <http://eepurl.com/bfuMIX> or use the following QR code:



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
1 May (Fri)	1.30 pm	P&C Meeting
7 & 8 May	School Hours	Mother's Day Stall (Help Needed)
2 June (Tues)	7.00pm	P&C Meeting
19 June	Evening	Family Movie Night – Tower Cinema
31 Oct	12pm-4pm	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

School Anzac Day service.....



Family Fun Day...supporting Type 1 Diabetes

Sunday 3rd May – from 12 noon at Bar Beach Bowling Club. \$20 Adults / \$5 Children (includes bowls, entertainment and lunch). More details on facebook – Pools for Prevention.