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Term 1 – Week 3

Tuesday 9 February 2016

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Congratulations Newcastle East P.S.

Huge congratulations to John Beach, Principal and Newcastle East Public School on the occasion of the celebrations of their 'Bi-Centenary' last week. Newcastle East School is the oldest operating school in Australia, founded in 1816. The school community celebrated with many outstanding community events last week and should be justly proud of all their wonderful achievements.

Well done Kindergarten!

I have to say that I am really impressed with the confidence of our new Kindergarten students as they settle into their new school and all the routines and structures. They are now lining up at 'big assembly' of a morning and participating well. All students are also participating in the 'Best Start' assessments this week – these assessments are 1:1 individual sessions with your child's Kinder teacher to identify what will be the 'starting point' for their learning in literacy and numeracy. It is a very supportive process and parents will receive an overview of their child's participation in a few weeks time. This information will provide ways for parents to further support their children at home.

Parent Information Sessions for 2016

This week we are holding **Parent Class Information Sessions** from your child's teacher. These are very useful meetings for parents to receive an overview from the class teacher of the grade programs and organisation. It's a time to meet your child's teacher and hear what the expectations will be for the year. We hope you are able to attend.

Kindergarten: Wednesday 10th February 4pm – 4.50pm for all Kinder classes.

Early Stage 1 (Kinder) Parent Information Session will be in the NEW hall.

Years 1 and 2: Wednesday 10th February 5pm.

The Stage 1 meeting (Years 1 and 2) is in the new hall straight after Kindergarten on **Wednesday 10th February** beginning at 5pm. There will be a brief welcome and overview by Laura Chaffey - Assistant Principal, then parents will then go to classrooms for class specific information.

Years 3 and 4: Tuesday 9th February 4:30pm

The Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th February 4:30pm till 4:55pm**. This will also be the session time for classes 2/3W and 4/5R.

All meetings will take place in individual classrooms – which are the demountable buildings at the back of the new hall except for 4LW, this classroom is located in the library.

Years 5 and 6: Tuesday 9th February from 5pm.

The Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th February** from 5.00 – 5.30pm in individual classrooms.

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 was contacted by a parent today who drove around the block many times – hoping that the cars that were parked there would move – but they didn't. I have also 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. Please note it is also illegal to park up on the grassed median strip on the footpath area. I realise parking is very difficult around our school but your co-operation is greatly appreciated in this matter.

Swimming Carnival

Our School Swimming Carnival is quickly upon us, taking place next week on Friday 19th February at The Forum at Newcastle University. All students from Years 3 to 6 are expected to attend the carnival as well as students from Year 2 (turning 8 this year) and are strong swimmers. Parents are warmly invited to attend the carnival. All students are to travel to the carnival by bus. 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 24th February.

Yearly Financial Overview

Later this week we are providing an overview for potential financial commitment for all grades for the year to parents. Some costings may still need to be finalized completely – particularly excursions, but we hope that this overview will give parents an indication of upcoming events for each of the grades and the costs involved. We have included an indication of excursions per grade as well. We appreciate the support of our parent community in the timely payment for these events as they occur. All children in all grades will participate in our new Maths resource program which will further support the implementation of

the new maths syllabus. There will also be a grammar resource book for students in Years 1 to 6 and a subscription for all students to participate in Reading Eggs. We need parents to forward payment for these as soon as possible. Thanks.

The voluntary school contribution fees - \$50 per child or \$100 per family - are also vital to our school organization and programs and we are very grateful for the payment of these fees. These funds are integral to providing the best possible resources we can to assist your children.

Last year we had a great response ever from our parent community in payment of these contributions – from more than 70% of families. Contributions can be paid at the office from 8.30am to 3pm.

Vehicle Entry Gates

Could I again ask parents to refrain from using the vehicle entry gates at the front of the school near the old hall and also through the staff car-park? These access points are for vehicles only and I worry that there will be an accident as parents continually enter and leave the school with their children this way. Please do not park across the driveways. Thank you.

Wendy Cheek, Principal

CALENDAR - TERM 1 – 2016

Week 3 Event

Tuesday, Feb 9 Years 3 & 4 Parent information session– 4.30pm-4.55pm (In classrooms) This includes: 2/3W & 4/5R

Tuesday, Feb 9 Years 5 & 6 Parent information session - 5pm-5.30pm (In classrooms)

Wednesday, Feb 10 Kinder Parent information session 4pm-4.50pm New Hall

Wednesday, Feb 10 Years 1 & 2 Parent information session – 5pm New Hall

Week 4 Event

Friday, Feb 19 School Swimming Carnival – The Forum (Year 3 – Year 6) + Competent 8 year old swimmers in Year 2

Friday, Feb 19 Last day of Kinder finishing at 2.30pm.

Week 5 Event

Monday, Feb 22 Kinder finish at 3pm from today

Wednesday, Feb 24 Zone Swimming Carnival

Week 6 Event

Tuesday, March 1 P & C Meeting & AGM – 7pm

Week 7 Event

Monday, March 7 School Photos

Tuesday, March 8 School Photos

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Date: Friday 19th February

Last week all students in Year 3 to Year 6 received a 'Bright Blue' Swimming Carnival note. Notes were also given to students in Year 2 who are turning (8 years old) this year and are strong swimmers who can swim 50m. Please send the permission note and money in promptly. Don't forget to post the money/note in the 'Payment Box' in the office foyer.

IF THERE ARE ANY PARENTS WHO CAN HELP WITH TIMEKEEPING ON THE DAY COULD YOU PLEASE SEE MRS COOPER (CLASS 6C).

SPECIAL MENTION AWARDS

TERM 1 WEEK 2

YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 ASSEMBLY

3W	Mason	Ryland
3MC	Ronan Eva	Phoebe
3L	Sadie Isabella	Cameron
3/4H	Manning Luca	Patrick
4A	Timothy Nicholas Jasper	Sophia Astrid
4LW	Aisling Emily King	Luke
4/5R	Sid Connie	Charlie
5B	Max	Scoutt
5F	Shelby Finn	Alfie
5/6W	Mia Sophie	Joel Barnaby
6C	Oscar Grace	Kobi Matina
6J	Louka	Connor
6S	Grace	Matthew

ASSEMBLY TIMES

KINDER TO YEAR 2 Assemblies will start Week 6.
Next Thursday, there will be a YEAR 1 TO YEAR 2 assembly (Week 4) hosted by Class 2C. We look forward to Kindergarten joining the assembly on Thursday in Week 6.

For Term 1 assemblies will be held in the new School Hall at 2pm on even weeks on a **Thursday**.

YEAR 3 – YEAR 6 Assembly is held every Friday in the new School Hall at 11.20am.

Parents are welcome to attend these assemblies.

BAND NEWS – Change of Rehearsal Time for Junior and Intermediate Bands

From next week there is a change in Rehearsal times for the Junior and Intermediate bands. New times are:

JUNIOR BAND: Wednesday morning 8am - 9am
Friday afternoon 2pm – 3pm

INTERMEDIATE: Tuesday afternoons – 2pm-3pm
Friday morning – 8am – 9am

A note will go home this week.

SENIOR BAND – Times will remain the same.

Tuesday morning – 8am – 9am

Thursday afternoon - 2pm – 3pm

Thank you, Michael Jobson

WELCOME KINDERGARTEN

I am very happy to report that Kindergarten are settling in beautifully. We have begun learning our Jolly Phonics sounds and learning the many routines of school. We are already at assembly lines and handling recess and lunch times well, with the help of our fabulous buddies. We are meeting new friends and learning their names. This week, Kindergarten are participating in the Best Start Assessments. This process allows us to have a closer look at the skills that children bring to school and gives the teacher a better understanding of what needs to be taught next. I will talk more about this at our Information Session tomorrow afternoon, 4pm in the new hall. Hope to see you there.

These are the smiling faces of KK, ready to learn and happy to be at school.

Angie King



Office Hours - 8.30AM TO 3.15PM

Money collection for excursions & events

All money will come straight to the office, this includes:- Dance fees, Band fees, School books, Excursion money etc.

There is a "Payment Box at the front counter" in the school foyer – 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. Plastic lunch bags that seal are ideal. The school accepts cash (**exact amount is appreciated-we do not have a float-money is banked every day**), 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

You are only required to phone the school for sickness if you child is away for (3) 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.**

Skoolbag app is a great way to advise the school of student absences.

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. 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.**

Change of address/phone numbers

If you have moved house recently or have a new mobile phone number or perhaps a new work phone number – please call in to the office and we can update the details.

2C NEWS

What a fantastic start we've had to the year! All students have settled in nicely and we are beginning some weekly routines. We love using Class Dojo to recognise when we demonstrate our school values. Class Dojo have also released a series of videos about having a growth mindset. The students have enjoyed learning about how to exercise their brain through the magic of mistakes. We are all learning to use positive statements such as "I am still learning to..." rather than "I can't do it". Please pop by our class blog to see all the wonderfully, fun and interesting things we are doing and learning about in class. If you see something you like be sure to leave some feedback for the class. You can visit us at <http://tjps2c.weebly.com>



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.

Thank you to families who donate school uniforms to our School Uniform Shop. Please only send official TJPS uniforms, we cannot on-sell for example just plain red polos and/or sloppy joes etc. Thanks.
Donna Reay, Co-ordinator

ONLINE UNIFORM SHOP ORDERING!

Want to place your uniform shop order online? Simply go to www.flexischools.com.au and click "Register Now". You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration. Once registered, you can start placing orders immediately. The Uniform Shop will still open Monday mornings in the Old Hall from 8.45am-9.15am.



SCHOOL BANKING –

Volunteer needed for Commonwealth Bank School Banking!!!!

School Banking has commenced again this year! Newcastle Permanent Building Society and Commonwealth Bank offer banking to our students.

Parent volunteers are required for this service to operate. We thank Kim West for assisting with Commonwealth School Banking last year however, Kim is unable to assist this year, so in order for Commonwealth Banking to continue we need a volunteer! The volunteer will be given full training by a member of the Commonwealth Bank here at school and you would be required to count money etc on a Monday morning from 9am until about 10am. Tanya Fitzgerald processes Newcastle Permanent Building Society banking 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.

Commonwealth School Banking will not be operating here at school until a volunteer comes forward to assist. You will be advised in the newsletter when and if this service continues.

Newcastle Permanent Building Society will continue on a Monday morning.

P & C NEWS

CLASS LISTS 2016 – LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP

This year we are doing the class lists **via online forms only**. The class lists enable interested people to swap contact details with classmates. You will only get your class list if you have signed up your own details. Similarly, the list will only include those in your class who have chosen to sign on. The class lists can help people organising play dates or social activities within a class. We are also looking for people to volunteer to be class parents to help coordinate activities.

If you'd like to sign up to the class lists, please enter your details by **19th February** here:

- **Class Lists:** <http://bit.ly/2016ClassLists>

After the lists are finalised, updates will only be provided under special circumstances (eg someone new to the school).

EASTER RAFFLE: Thanks to Johanna Anderson for offering to coordinate the Easter Raffle again this year. We are now calling for donations for prizes. Each year we seek donations of easter-related goodies, which we then bundle into prizes. We're also looking for donations of baskets for our hampers. If you're able to help, please deliver donations to the front office.

We will need help next Monday 15th Feb bundling the tickets up, and have set up a roster for the processing of incoming tickets over a few weeks in March. The day for wrapping the hampers will be Wed 23rd March. If you can help with any element, please go to the signup roster here: <http://bit.ly/2016EasterTJPS>

VOLUNTEER LIST AND P&C NOMINATIONS: Nominations are now open for positions on the P&C for this year. These will be voted on at the AGM on 1st March. In addition, we are calling for co-ordinators for several of our activities this year, including Mother's Day Stall, Movie Night, Holiday Raffle and others. We'll do a more general call out for helpers as we get closer to each event. No previous experience is needed – we will provide you with support and help as the P&C organise an event. Please go to our sign up form to register interest in coordinator roles, or to nominate for a P&C role.

- **2016 Volunteer List and P&C Nomination Form:**
<http://bit.ly/2016VolunteerList>

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: Thanks to everyone who voted in our poll for the family movie night. Please set aside Friday 17 June for Finding Dory. We will look at the dates, and may organise a second movie night in Term 3, as Ice Age 5 was a strong second in the poll.

THANK YOU: A huge thank you to our awesome team of Uniform Shop volunteers who had very big days the first week of term. Thanks to Donna Reay, Kim Forbes, Jasmine Page, Bec Lucy, Kim Van Huisstede and Monique Berruex.

Thanks also to those who helped with our very well attended welcome morning tea for new families last Friday. Thanks to Kendall Long and Sharyn Kane for pulling it all together on the day. Thanks to those who dropped in delicious morning tea treats, including Pili Vasquez, Nicole D'Agostino, Ella Lewis and anyone else I have missed. It was wonderful to see so many new faces. We welcome all of our new families to TJPS.

Julie Wharton, P&C President
junctionpandc@hotmail.com

UPCOMING P&C EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event
15 Feb	9.00am	Prepare Easter Raffle Tickets for distribution (staff room)
1 March	7.00pm	P&C Meeting and AGM
March tbc	TBC	Cross Country BBQ
23 March	9.00am	Wrap Easter Raffle Prize Hampers (old hall)
24 March	TBC	Easter Raffle to be Drawn
1 April	1.30pm	P&C Meeting
17 June	tbc	Family Movie Night

Julie Wharton, P&C President
junctionpandc@hotmail.com

Would you like to be on the P&C Email list?
Use this weblink to enter your details, and you'll be included in regular P&C emails.
<http://eepurl.com/bfuMIX>

Want to keep up with P&C news "on the go"? You can:



"Like"
The Junction Public
P&C
on Facebook



"Follow"
@TJPS_PandC
on Twitter

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unload Creative Writing and Storytelling Workshops

Unload creative writing workshops start back today but it's not too late! Unload workshops are held weekly and cater for all levels with a focus on creativity, having FUN and building confidence with language and storytelling.

Who: Students from Years 3-6
When: Tuesdays 3.20pm-4.20pm, starting 9 February
Where: Classroom TBC
Cost: \$135 for the term or come and try a class for \$15
Numbers limited to (15) so get in quickly

To register online go to
<http://www.unload.org.au/registration/> or
email suzie@unload.org.au for more information.

French Classes – (5-12 year olds)

Fun after school program here at The Junction Public School on Monday and Tuesday from 3.10pm to 4.10pm. Register your interest by phone or email:
Phone: 0402 818034
or sandra.peachey@lcclubs.com.au

Would you like to be on the P&C Email list?
Use this weblink to enter your details, and you'll be included in regular P&C emails.
<http://eepurl.com/bfuMIX>

South Newcastle Junior Rugby League

On-line registration assistance days will be held at South Newcastle Leagues Club (Llewellyn Street, Merewether), Thursday 11th February 2016 from 6pm – 8pm for those who may not have access to “on-line” and Sunday 14th February 2016 (2pm – 4pm).

Mini League age groups from under 6's to Under 8's,
Mod League age groups from Under 9's to Under 12's
International from U13's to U17's

Enquiries: Please contact Scott Hallett at scotthlitt@yahoo.com.au or Graeme Fitzgerald on Mob: 0407 093 662.

Merewether Carlton Junior Rugby Club

Registrations are taking place at Gibbs Bros Oval, Rowan Crescent, Merewether on the following days:

Sunday 7th February at 4pm to 5.30pm

Wednesday 10th February at 5pm to 6.30pm

Sunday 14th February at 4pm to 5.30 pm

Please go to the Merewether Carlton Junior Rugby Club Facebook page for further details on information required for registration.

Merewether United Football Club registrations close on the 19th February.