

# The Junction Journal

The Junction Public School  
 Union Street Merewether 2291  
 Phone 4963 1343

Email: [thejunction-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thejunction-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Principal: Cath Larkman

18/11/2022

## From the desk of Mrs Larkman

Hello to our Parents and Carers,  
 Our newsletter is a little bit late this week due to the end of year priorities and staff illness. I am incredibly proud of how our staff have juggled flexible support across our team this year. We approach organisation in a totally different way since the lockdown years. We have also noticed increased flexibility across our student population as well as they learn to respect a number of class, stage and regular casual teachers due to day to day requirements.

### Site updates

We are already seeing community and students enjoying our Yarning Circle. 6R have been having their roll call and morning check-ins out in the sun and Mr Begnell had the Didge Group practising there on Wednesday. There is more work to be done in the new year, but we are just thrilled it is finally happening.

The ground was considered dry enough to remove the demountables today. I believe they are on their way to Gillieston Heights PS where the population is growing at a fast rate.

On another note, with changing birth-rates and enrolments in the Newcastle Network, we would love to know if you are either moving or have family or neighbours arriving for the 2023 school year, so we are able to work with our staffing entitlement. This ensures a more settled start to the year for us all.

### Professional Learning and planning for 2023

This is also a time where our executive team is finalising evaluation of the school improvement plan 2022 in order to tweak our 2023 initiatives. On Tuesday Mr Liles, Mr Sparksman and myself went to training for the High Potential and Gifted Education ongoing policy implementation. We were able to identify an area which we will focus on in 2023 to continue to improve our service to the students. I also attended the local network meeting of the Restorative Justice Community the same evening. This is also an area where our staff will brush up on our practice in the new year as part of our recent review of the Student Management Behaviour Plan which is found on our website. Please enjoy all the learning photos we are sharing with you in this newsletter.



Artwork by Aunty Michelle Earle  
 commissioned by TJPS in 2018

**We respectfully acknowledge that this newsletter comes to you from Awabakal land. In communicating how we learn, teach, and lead, we acknowledge and pay respect to elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of this land on which we are all privileged to live, work, and learn.**

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## Professional Learning and planning for 2023

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Cath Larkman,  
Principal

## From the desk of Ms Emmington

Dear Parents and Carers,

The CENTRAL Parent Portal is here.

Have you accessed it yet?

Parent letters with instructions for download including individual parent keys to access the system were sent out last term. Please contact the front office if you require your parent key reissued.



The portal, supported by the Department of Education will become the key online tool for communicating with our school. It will replace the variety of apps currently in use providing one application for all parent and carer needs.

The parent portal will enable you to access your child's current and past reports and monitor their attendance. In 2023 the portal will provide access to school procedures for Learning and Support, Wellbeing and Behaviour Management for reference as well as the yearly and termly school calendar. Notes and information on excursions, events and activities will also be issued via the portal. We anticipate that in 2023 parents will also be booking parent / teacher interviews through the portal.

At present we have a small range of features switched on as parents start familiarising themselves with it.

In 2023 CENTRAL parent portal will be fully functional and will be the only online platform for contacting the school. We will be phasing out other applications like Skoolbag and we will review all classroom third party applications like Class Dojo and Seesaw.

Connie Emmington  
Deputy Principal

## Upcoming Events

### TERM 4

#### Friday November 18

Year 5 Leadership Workshop 3  
Year 5/6 Train on Debating Gala Day

#### Wednesday November 23

Newcastle High School 7UP Program

#### Friday November 25

Year 5 student leadership nomination

#### Monday November 28

Student leadership speeches & voting

#### Tuesday November 29

NHS Orientation day Year 6

#### Thursday December 1

Music Presentation night

#### Monday December 5

2023 Leadership team announced

#### Tuesday December 6

Kinder 2023 Orientation session 2

#### Friday December 9

Charity Day

#### Monday December 12

Year 6 Farewell

#### Tuesday December 13

Presentation Day

#### Thursday December 15 (Date change)

Year 6 Party Day Movie & BBQ

#### Friday December 16

Year 6 Clapout

K-6 Students last day of term

(please note change of date)

#### Monday & Tuesday Dec 19 & 20

Staff Development days

### TERM 1 2023

#### Friday January 27 & Monday 30

Staff Development days

#### Tuesday January 31

Years 1-6 return

#### Wednesday February 1

Years 3-6 Swimming Carnival

#### Monday February 6

Kindergarten students Start

## Tell Them From Me Survey – Closes Today Friday 18/11/22

This Term, our school will be participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted in Term 4. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at:  
[education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm](http://education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm)

To access the survey for our school go to  
<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/v3574>

The survey is available in 23 languages and closes November 18 2022.

### Attendance Matters – see the important infographic on P 6

Contact details – are your contact details up to date? Sometimes we will need to contact you, including on the day that your child is absent and if you haven't notified the school with a reason for your child being away.

If your contact details are out of date or if you're not sure, please contact the school on phone 4963 1343 so we can update our records and can contact you quickly when we need to.

Please include parent/carers name, address, phone numbers, email address and emergency contact details. Please remember to contact the school if any of these details or your circumstances change. This is particularly important so we can work together to protect the wellbeing of our students through the reporting and monitoring of student absences.

### OUR STAFF

Principal – Cath Larkman  
Deputy – Connie Emmington

### Kindergarten

KC – Jody Cooper  
KG – Sarah Griffiths  
KB – Tess Barns / Louise Searant  
KH – Angie Harris - AP

### Stage 1

1L – Amy Lalic  
1 /2A – Alison Smoother  
2MC – Nina McLeod/ Nicole Jones  
2S – Nicholas Savage  
1C – Laura Chaffey - AP

### Stage 2

3S – Olivia Smith  
3A – Mark Alcock  
3L – Aleisha Ladkin  
3 /4B – Lucy Bourne  
4LC – Phillipa Campbell/ Holly Lynch  
4G – Katrina Gardoll

Jo-Anne Ellis - AP

### Stage 3

5C – Lisa Campey  
5S – Kate Spring  
5FW – Kate Farrell / Sarah Wilson  
6R – Michael Radnidge  
6M – Josh Pidutti  
6L – Matthew Liles - AP

### Learning and Support

Connie Emmington – LST Coordinator  
Luke Sparksman - Maths  
Claire Edwards – Yrs 4-6  
Lauren Audsley – Yrs K-3  
Michelle Morrison – CILSP  
Sara Willoughby/Hannah Titchmarsh – Library  
Alison Tonkin – Music  
Linda Whiteside – Counsellor

### School Learning Support Officers

Di Edwards  
Theresa Koitka  
Belinda Scorgie  
Emma Lovegrove  
Pam Parkes  
Sophie Laing  
Liam Begnell

## Information from the Front Office Team...

☑ **LOST PROPERTY** It is disheartening to see the number of jackets, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles with no names on them that we are receiving everyday in the lost property boxes. Without names, these items cannot be returned to students. Please ensure that all items have student's names that are **clearly written**, thank you.

**Band and Strings Ensemble Fees are now due for Term 4 and overdue for Terms 1, 2 and 3**

### **Money collection for excursions & events**

The preferred payment option is through the "Make a Payment" tab on the school website.

A new feature on our excursion notes is a QR Code to take you directly to the Make a Payment tab

All cash payments to come straight to the office, this includes: - Band fees, School books, Excursion money etc. There is a "Payments" slot at the front counter in the school office – students are to post payments in this slot. Any money that is sent to school must be in a sealed envelope with your "Child's name and class" on the front and details of the event you are paying. The school accepts cash, (exact amount only), cheque or we have EFTPOS facilities in the office. Please note that the school EFTPOS facility is only available for school payments and not P&C items – such as the Uniform Shop.

**If you use the online option, please make sure you still return permission notes to school.**

### **Absences**

Any absence from school must be explained. The Skoolbag App and Sentral Portal are a great way to advise the school of student absences, or alternatively phone the school, send an email or write a note. Each day at around 10am, the school sends out an SMS alert to parents of any child who has an unexplained absence for that day. Please refrain from using class apps like Class Dojo to explain absences as the teacher may not be at school or they are teaching and unable to read the Dojo message before 10am.

### **Extended Leave**

If you are going away and leave is over (5) school days, you must complete an "EXTENDED LEAVE FORM" (available from the office) prior to your leave.

### **Late Arrivals / Early Leavers**

School hours are from 8.55am to 3pm. The first assembly starts at 8.55am. If children arrive later than 8.55am, they need to present **with a parent** to the office to provide late arrival information to office staff. A 'Purple Partial Slip' is then taken to the class teacher. Similarly, if children need to leave early for the day, parents must buzz the intercom at Union Street for the gate to be opened. Admin staff will call the classroom for your child to come up to the office area to be collected. **Please try to avoid early departures during recess (11.00 -11.20am) and lunch breaks (1.00 -1.50pm) as it can be quite difficult to locate your child in the playground.**

### **Medication at School**

The office is only able to administer 'prescribed medication' to students. This means medication that has been prescribed by a doctor. This medication must be left in the package provided, clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage. If medication is required, a parent will need to come to the office and complete a Prescribed Medication Indemnity form.

### **STAFF ARE NOT ABLE TO ADMINISTER PANADOL OR NON PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.**

All COVID information for parents can be found here:

[COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19)

### **In the Office**

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

8:30AM TO 3:15PM

School Email: [thejunctionp.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thejunctionp.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **SCHOOL SECURITY**

ph: 1300 880021

### **Office Team**

Dianne Edwards

Amanda Brake

Angela Bowen

Kathy McInnes

Lesley Janissen

### **General Assistant**

Tom Jervis

### **In the Community**

#### **November P&C Meeting**

7pm Tuesday December 6 2022

#### **P&C Contact email**

Mark Duffield-Thomas, President  
[president@junctionpandc.org](mailto:president@junctionpandc.org)

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

ONLINE ORDERING!

[www.tjpsuniform.com](http://www.tjpsuniform.com)

#### **Secondhand Uniform Donations**

Donations accepted are bomber jackets, polo fleece jumpers, red polo shirts and black sport shorts and black tracksuit pants. We are unable to accept donations of white shirts or tunics.

Email the Uniform Shop:

[tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com](mailto:tjpsuniformshop@gmail.com)

PLEASE ASSIST WITH DELIVERY OF UNIFORM ORDERS BY PUTTING YOUR **CHILD'S NAME** on the order. No parent names please.

Please note that the new wet weather jacket orders have not arrived as yet



# KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Save the Dates

NOVEMBER 15TH &  
DECEMBER 6TH

9:10AM  
UNTIL  
10:45AM

MEET  
OUR  
YEAR 5

WORK &  
PLAY IN OUR  
CLASSROOMS

THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS TO MEET  
OTHER PARENTS AND GRAB A COFFEE OFF SITE.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

NSW Department of Education

## Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

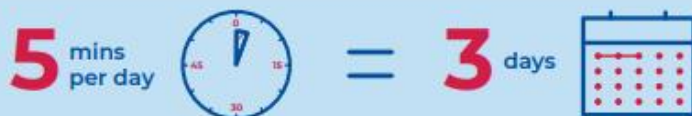


## Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss days per year



Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)

# Let's Make Music

Information about Band, Strings and Choir Ensembles



## PRESENTATION NIGHT

**Our big music night of nights is only two weeks away!**

This is a very special occasion for our music students and it will be a first for some of our bands. This major performance will be at the Conservatorium of Music on **Thursday 1st December**.

This is an evening event and involves all of our ensembles. It is primarily a night where we acknowledge all the hard work that has gone into the band and strings program by the students and their tutors. There will be certificates and trophies presented, I will try to talk less and we will play more music. It is an opportunity for our Year 6 musicians to show what 4 years can achieve and a great night for all of our families.

Please return your bright orange permission note to the office ASAP.

Drop off begins at 5:30pm  
Concert begins at 6:00pm

I remind families however that COVID is circulating in our community and all care should be taken to keep us all safe. If you have any cold and flu symptoms, please stay home.

So exciting!  
Kind Regards,

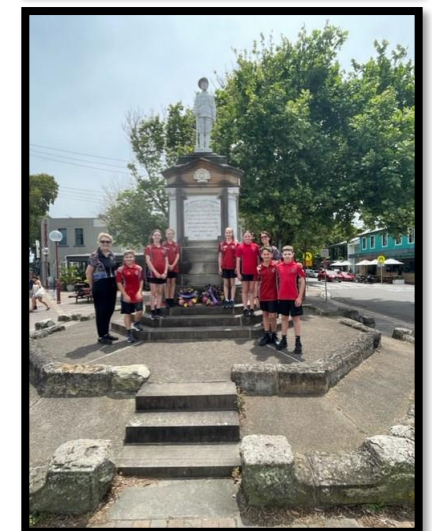
*Angie Harris*

# Learning Gallery

## Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a day to pay respects to those who have been involved in conflicts, war and peace keeping missions and to those who sacrificed their lives for our nation. On November 11, to pay our respects as a school we had a minute of silence to reflect and remember. Our school leaders ran a formal assembly, and Sarah Browne conducted the assembly band for the national anthem. Our school leaders, Mr Liles, Mrs. Larkman and Mrs Gardoll placed a beautiful wreath in recognition of all those who served our country on the local cenotaph.

By Lexi & Pierre 6L





## Weaving

This newsletter addition has been a long time coming! This year our girls have been learning to weave with Mrs Lalic. Each Wednesday, we meet in the library during lunch where we weave and yarn. The girls have been weaving bracelets and earrings with paper raffia. Once they are complete, they have been learning to attach beads. This term, the girls in Years 3-6 will be learning how to weave a basket. Watch this space to see our progress!

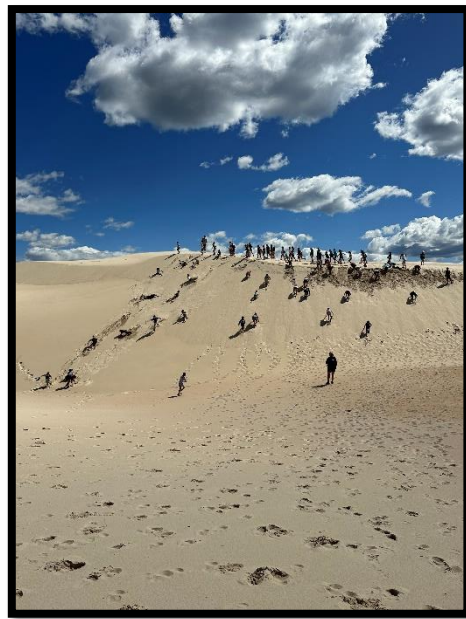


## Great Aussie Bush Camp

Year 4 had an absolute ball at Great Aussie Bush Camp! On Day 1 we ran up and down the sand dunes (this is why everyone slept so well on night 1), walked through the rainforest, and enjoyed a games night. During Day 2 and 3 every group experienced archery, the dual flying fox, orienteering, bush craft, indoor rock climbing and the mud run. As could be imagined, the mud run and playing spotlight in the bush on night 2 were some crowd favourites. It was great to see all the students try new activities, work together and overcome their fears. A big shout out to all the teachers who attended and made the camp possible; Mr Alcock, Mrs Gardoll, Ms Ellis, Mrs Scorgie, and Mrs Parkes.

Signing off,  
Miss Bourne





## PSSA Cricket Knockout- Final Bound!!!

On Tuesday 15th November, The Junction Public School faced Kahibah Public School in the semi final of the Hunter region PSSA cricket knockout. TJPS won the toss, and chose to bat. We got off to a watchful start, losing an early wicket. Sam N then hit the accelerator with a rapid 40 not out. This is Sam's fourth 40 not out in 5 innings. A remarkable achievement. Another highlight for our batting was from our captain Corban B who scored 42no. As a result we posted an imposing total of 4/136 from our 25 overs.

After a short break it was our turn to bowl. We bowled and fielded to really high standard, taking regular wickets. The team bowled out Kahibah for 68 runs. Great bowling from Sam N with 2/14 off his 5 overs and Corban B with 2 for 9 off 3 overs. We now move on to the final of the Hunter region of the PSSA cricket competition. The team consisted of Corban B (captain) Caleb R, Sam N, Charlie I, Charlie B, Angus B, Lachie B, Liam W, Lucas C, Evie R, Sam T and Thomas B



# COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD

## P&C Announcements - November 2022

COME ALONG TO OUR TJPS P&C

# COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

TUES 6 DEC 2022

Parents, carers and teachers are invited to mark the end of the year and relax.

Time: 5pm - 8pm

Incorporating the monthly P&C meeting at 7pm (will keep it short)

Where: Modus Merewether, 20 Merewether St, Merewether

Drinks / food at own expense

## Community Christmas Social

All parents, carers, teachers and community members are invited for an informal Christmas social to mark the end of the year.

Come along and meet other parents and teachers as well as the P&C.

*P&C Community Christmas Social*  
@ Modus Merewether  
5pm Tuesday 6 December 2022

The December P&C meeting will also occur at 7pm but will be kept short 😊.

We look forward to relaxing with as many of you as possible.

(Food and drink at own expense and this is an adult only event).

## 2023 P&C Membership Due

We encourage all parents and community members to become members of our P&C. Annual membership is only \$1, and this allows you to vote at our 2023 Annual General Meeting and stand for Committee positions next year.

Please click the link below and sign up. Please ensure you enter the member names if buying more than one membership, and there is also an option to make a donation on top of the \$1 membership fee.

If you are considering supporting the School as part of the P&C committee next year, please make sure you're registered as a member.

The AGM will take place in March 2023 where several committee positions will be available.

<https://bit.ly/TJPCPC2023>

## Betty Anderson Award - Nominations Closing

Each year on Presentation Day, the P&C awards the Betty Anderson Award to recognise a significant voluntary contribution to our school community over an extended period of time.

Please click the link below to nominate a member of our community for this year's P&C volunteer award. Nominations close Friday November 18.

<https://forms.gle/QTzWLqS1WcaspBL7>

## Kindy Orientation Morning Tea

Thank you to all Kindy parents who attended and donated cakes for this week's morning tea to welcome the new 2023 Kindy parents. The turn out was great, with lots of new families receiving a warm welcome to our community.

## Important P&C Dates & Reminders

6 December - Community Christmas Social & December P&C Meeting  
9 December - Charity Day  
13 December - Presentation Day  
16 December - Last Day of Term & Parents Dress up at Pick up

7 February 2023 - First P&C meeting of the year  
7 March 2023 - P&C AGM and Committee Elections



**DAUGHTERS & DADS CRICKET**  
**NEWCASTLE**

REGISTER NOW!

MEREWETHER - Mondays 5:30 - 7PM  
CHARLESTOWN - Tuesdays 5:45 - 7:15PM

- A fun and engaging 9-week program for girls 7-12 years old and their Dads or significant male role models.
- All levels of ability and experience are welcome.
- Spend quality 1:1 time together
- Starts term 4!

NSW GOVERNMENT, THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA, CRICKET AUSTRALIA, CRICKET NSW



**SURF LIFE SAVING** **NIPPERS AT NEWCASTLE BEACH SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB**

**WHAT IS NIPPERS?**

Nippers is an activities-based program that introduces children aged 5 to 13 to surf life saving.

It is all about kids learning, gaining confidence, and developing valuable life skills through fun, structured activities in a safe beach environment.

Nippers also provides kids with an opportunity to participate in surf sports competition, with a series of carnivals held throughout the season.

**WHAT TO EXPECT**

Nippers runs every Sunday starting Sunday 9th October.

Through structured activities in a safe beach environment, kids have fun, while developing surf safety skills and awareness, building confidence and becoming part of the Newcastle Surf Life Saving Club community.

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

Follow the links to our intake form on our website - [www.newcastleslsc.com.au](http://www.newcastleslsc.com.au)

After completing the intake form, you will then be contacted with further information including pricing, uniforms, meet and greets and key dates.

[www.newcastleslsc.com.au](http://www.newcastleslsc.com.au)



**Bedwetting is common in children.**

**Treatment should be started at five years of age if the condition persists.**

Attention: The Principal

Thank you for supporting our efforts in the area of night time bedwetting in the past. It is important the issue does not deter your students from participating in excursions that involve an overnight stay. Most parents want a solution to bedwetting but may be unaware that help is available. The prospect of camps and sleepovers can cause anxiety in children and their parents as they frequently fear that others could become aware of what is currently a hidden problem.

At the Bedwetting Institute we have designed an effective program that addresses the causes of bedwetting and offers a practical and achievable method of curing the problem with some children achieving success with a simple drinking program without the need for a bedwetting alarm.

Would you please include the following notice in your next School Newsletter to help notify parents that they are not alone with this dilemma and that help is available?

**Bedwetting**  
**Is bedwetting a problem?**  
  
A Bedwetting Fact Sheet can be discreetly obtained  
by texting DRY to 0407 516 100  
or visiting the website  
  
[www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au](http://www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au)

*"It worked! And it changed her life and mine. I didn't realise how much it was affecting her confidence. Now we have dry beds every night."*

*"You have no idea how grateful I am for your help." Comments from relieved parents.*

Kind Regards

Director

BPharm GradDipHPharm(Syd).

Bedwetting Institute®  
[bedwettinginstitute.com.au](http://bedwettinginstitute.com.au)

P.O. Box 1197  
Broadway NSW 2007

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or preferably please go to [www.mybusinessfax.com.au](http://www.mybusinessfax.com.au) and enter the following businessfaxid **BSMN QAAF VACL**