## The Junction Journal

The Junction Public School Union Street Merewether 2291 Phone 4963 1343

Email: thejunctio-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Cath Larkman

16/12/2022

#### From the desk of Mrs Larkman – Presentation Day address

Good morning students, staff, and community members

I need to acknowledge the wonderful support staff we have at The Junction. I waft in on the morning of Presentation Day each year and see all the awards and trophies beautifully displayed – work that represents weeks of focus. Thanks to Dianne and her team. Also, to Tom and Brad. Somehow the seats just magically appear! Our learning support officers too, who just quietly pick up on the extra needs of the children without a fuss. We are so incredibly lucky!

It's always hard to accept that another whole year has gone by. Our children grow so fast, and we are so busy that days pass so quickly. Each week at our school assembly I look around the students and wonder where the time went as well as noting the extra centimetres. It is such a precious time when they are younger and I'm sure, in years to come, you will want it all back. To ensure that you carefully store your memories, it is important to look back over the year that was and remember the great experiences.

For me, it was a range of experiences at work that I remember with great appreciation.

During the year I have students in my office for a range of reasons; magnificent work, problem solving and just generally catching up with life. You'll be aware that my office window is the contact point if there is no other way immediately available. A face will appear at the window to check if I am there (Ms Emmington has a similar experience), or there'll be a cheery wave as students go past. But most important is the level of understanding and expression that accompany our conversations. Many insights are just so impressive and deep. I am torn between being incredibly proud and worrying about a deep knowledge of a world that is not always kind. Thank you to our students for sharing your thoughts and your work with me.

My staff are one of the best I have had regarding collective efficacy and interpersonal skills. They have such a range of strengths and are so generous about sharing them. They are also caring and supportive of their colleagues when things are not so good. All our staff have had illnesses, family challenges and tough times this year and everyone has picked up for each other in a range of ways. A huge thanks also to our parents when class arrangements have varied – it is just the state of play now.

My executive team, consisting of our Deputy and Assistant Principals, contributes so much to my daily role, which is a wide ranging and unpredictable one. The most predictable thing about being a Principal is that



Artwork by Auntie 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.

#### In this issue

Mrs Larkman's message Page 1 & 2

#### In every issue

Front Office information – Page 4 School Hats 2023 Attendance Early leavers / Late arrivals Medication at school Uniform Shop

Attendance - Page 3

**Learning Gallery - Page 5** 

**Community Message Board –** Page 12 P & C News TASK Holiday Program Community Advertisements there is no predictability each day and you are dependent on others who so ably and graciously step up with truly little notice. We will very much miss the amazing skills of Miss Chaffey as she takes up the role of AP Curriculum and Instruction at Medowie Public School. She will be amazing, and it will benefit her wellbeing by being way closer to home. She will remain on my contact list however....

Some of my favourite days this year have been spent with our families back on site. Two of my absolute favourites were Dads and Donuts for Father's Day and Grandparents Day. Both were such beautiful days weather wise and there were so many happy faces. Along with all the other wonderful experiences supported by our dedicated P&C team and our community in general, these will stay in my mind from our high spots in 2022.

Due to the population growth (or lack thereof) in Merewether and Newcastle currently, our numbers have dropped for 2023. As a result, we must farewell some of our valuable teaching team, however, hope we may be able to offer them something in the new year:

Mrs Lisa Campey

Mrs Katrina Gardoll

Ms Lauren Audsley

Mrs Louise Searant

Mr Joshua Pidutti

We will welcome to our school a new Assistant Principal replacing Miss Laura Chaffey – Mr Rob Low, currently at Swansea PS.

To conclude, I will share some of the big-ticket items that our senior students (Year 5 and 6) were grateful for during 2022.

65% said they definitely thought about what they were grateful for!

At home they were most grateful for food, family, a roof over their heads and Mum and Dad.

At school they were most grateful for friends, teachers and education.

When they were thinking about being grateful, they mostly compared themselves to other people; the disadvantaged, people living with war, homeless people and those that live in poor countries.

Other additional thoughts were they were glad to be just living, grateful for pets, exercise and living close to the school.

Thank you for sharing these thoughts with me Year 5 and 6.

I encourage you, our community, to take some time to dwell on the wonderful times you have experienced during this year, as so many across our country and the world will be hard pressed in their positive recollections.

All my Best Wishes for Christmas and for a wonderful 2023.

Cath Larkman Principal

#### **Upcoming Events**

#### TERM 4

#### Friday December 16

Year 6 Clapout K-6 Students last day of term (please note change of date)

Monday & Tuesday Dec19 & 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

#### Tuesday Jan 31 – Friday February 3

Best start assessment appointments – Kinder 2023 Students

#### **Monday February 6**

Kindergarten students Start

#### Tuesday February 7

P & C Meeting

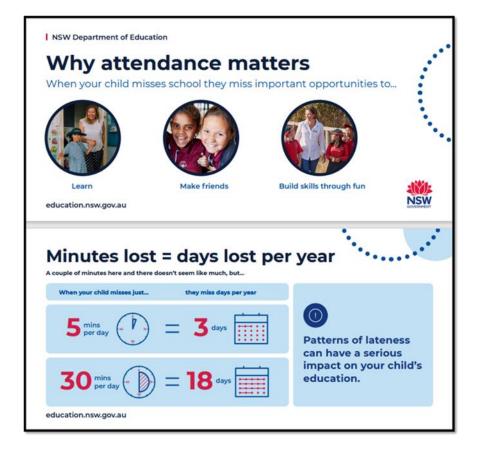
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#### Attendance Matters

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

LOST PROPERTY Please be sure to check lost property TODAY - both behind the staff room, in the classroom and at TASK for any lost items

### **SCHOOL HATS - PRICE CHANGE**

Please note that school hats are now \$12 CASH ONLY payable at the school office or eftpos at the uniform shop on a Monday morning or online.

2023 ATTENDANCE -If you will be away and you child will not be here for the beginning of the year could you please let office staff know in advance, so that class numbers can be finalised

#### 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)

#### In the Office

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

8:30AM TO 3:15PM

School Email: thejunctiop.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

#### First P & C Meeting of the year

February 7 2023

#### P & C AGM

March 7 2023

P&C AGM and Committee Elections

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

Mark Duffield-Thomas, President president@junctionpandc.org

#### **UNIFORM SHOP**

**ONLINE ORDERING!** www.tipsuniform.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:

tipsuniformshop@gmail.com

PLEASE ASSIST WITH DELIVERY OF UNIFORM ORDERS BY PUTTING YOUR CHILD'S NAME on the order.

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## **Learning Gallery**

#### **Multi-Sport Day**

On Tuesday December 6, selected students participated in an Inclusive Multi-Sport Day at Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium. We developed our skills in basketball, football, soccer, golf, boccia and tennis. The kids had a great day!











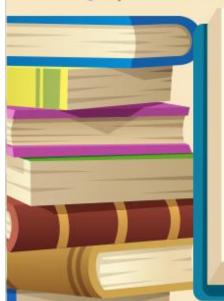




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# 2022 in the library

Stocktake is currently underway in the library so we ask that you please return any overdue books immediately. Premier's Reading Challenge certificates will be going home this week. Congratulations to all students who participated. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season from Miss Willoughby and Ms Titchmarsh.



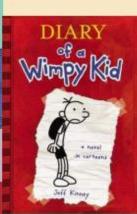
1443 NEW BOOKS ADDED THIS YEAR

15312 RESOURCES IN OUR LIBRARY

240 STUDENTS COMPLETED THE PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

TOP BORROWER: VIOLETTE 121 LOANS





1

MOST BORROWED BOOKS

#### **A Special Visitor**

A very special visitor came to Kindergarten on Wednesday December 7. Mrs Cooper organized for Ellie Cole, one of our amazing paralympians, who has won 17 gold medals, swimming for Australia, to drop by. It was a lovely experience for our children to talk with Ellie. Thanks to Mrs Cooper's fantastic preparation, the children were well versed in Ellie's achievements and things that are important to her. We spent time talking about her achievements, what her disability meant to her. how she overcame her disability and shared how many things we had in common with Ellie.

Thank you Mrs Cooper and thank you Ellie!





#### Let's Make Music

#### Information about Band, Strings and Choir Ensembles

I would like to wrap up 2O22 by thanking all of our musicians for their continued perseverance to make music happen. It takes many hours of dedication to become a good musician and our band and ensemble members are well on their way. To our Year 6 students leaving us, I wish you all the best and hope you continue your musical journey in some form.

After several years, it was delightful to see our students again on stage at the Conservatorium. I felt it was a very successful night and I know many parents were very proud of their musicians.

Well done boys and girls, you were just brilliant!

















## **BAND FEES**

Please ensure all of your Band Fees are paid before you head away on holidays.

#### Instrument Care

Do NOT leave your instrument in your car.
Cars can get extremely hot and this leads to instrument deterioration and cases warping.

#### Primary Band 2023

Wow, that year went so fast we ran out of time to complete our Primary Band process. We haven't forgotten you, Miss Tonkin & I will get right onto it when we return in 2023.

#### **Charity Day 2022**

Charity Day was held on Friday December 9 this year and what a fantastic day it was.

After a morning of rain, the weather, luckily, did fine up and we were able to set up our class stalls around 10.30am, with the day getting under way at 11.20am.

We had a toy stall, two book stalls, drinks, a haunted house, photo booth, various games and a barbecue to name just a few of the fun and delicious attractions.

Thank you to all the families that supported Charity Day this year by donating items, by allowing the children to bring along a little money to spend over the course of the morning and afternoon and maybe even by attending on the day to join in the fun with the students.

Thank you also to all of the staff at The Junction Public School for your support and hard work on the day.

This year we managed to raise \$6225.00, which I'm sure you will agree is absolutely incredible!

After consultation with student executive and our teaching staff, we have decided to this year support Soul Café, Stewart House and Jenny's Place, as well as sponsoring Saravut, our World Vision child. If you wanted to find out a little about these charities, I'm sure a Google search would provide you with the information you need.

Mark Alcock and Nicole Jones





# WIKI YANTIIN KOBA A GARDEN FOR EVERYONE

It has been a busy year here in our wonderful garden, with lots of weeding, watering, learning, and new discoveries!

Plenty of sunshine means our herbs and veggies are growing bigger each day. We've already been enjoying blueberries and cherry tomatoes, but it won't be long before our cucumbers, Swiss chard, green beans, beetroot, and snow peas will be ready.

Tom and Ms. Titchmarsh will be checking in on the garden during the holidays to make sure our plants don't get too thirsty in the summer heat.

Thank you to all the wonderful gardeners across K-6 who have joined our Garden Club each Thursday and helped to make this special place thrive.

~ Ms. Titchmarsh





# **COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD**

#### Thank You and End of Year Message from the P&C

We are very lucky to have such a wonderful community here at TJPS.

Such an incredible group of intelligent, smart, and conscientious students - who we're all so proud of.

A dedicated, passionate, and caring teaching faculty and staff who always go above and beyond.

And all of you loving parents, grandparents, and carers - it's so great to see so many of you in person at Presentation Day.

Congratulations to all of this year's awards winners and for everyone's achievements this year.

A school is much more than just its core business of teaching.

It's a place of growth and connection, of respect and resilience, teamwork and equality.

Where, yes, you learn maths and reading, but also leadership, friendship, kindness, and how to be good winners and losers.

This is why the connection between the school and the community is so important.

Today is an opportunity to recognise the progress and achievements of the last year - especially in welcoming back the community into school.

And an opportunity to double down on working together to shape the type of school we want to be and the values we're instilling in our children.

We look forward to more engagement next year and striving to create a school we're proud of.

We'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has supported P&C initiatives this year.

Thank you to the dedicated P&C team - Mark Duffield-Thomas, Belinda Parker, Naomi Wilkinson, Ange Le Rougetel, Jaimie Moffitt, Anna Widgery, Louise Crosskill, Kristen Saunders and Brooke Brugnoni.

Thank you to Ali Robinson and her team for running the School Uniform Shop.

Thank you to everyone involved in Election BBQs, Mother's Day, Trivia Nights, Movie Night, and Run for Reading.

So many events, but certainly, the two standout events of the year were the hugely successful Doughnuts with Dad on Father's Day and the Halloween Disco.

Thank you to Ange, Jes Ryan, Kylie York, Eithne Healey, Jo Wirrell, and Anna from Dougheads for your support.

This year's fundraising and past donations mean we've been able to allocate over \$30,000 of funding towards School reading, technology, and sports resources - thanks again to everyone.

And a special thank you to the parents of Year 6 children.

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We have some very special families leaving the school this week and you have all given so much to the school over the years to make this a special place for future generations.

As parents, we also want to thank all Year 6 students for representing our school with such maturity and pride. Thank you for being there for our Kindy kids when they really needed their buddies.

We can't wait to see what you're going to create in the world - we'll all be cheering you on, and you'll always be part of The Junction Public School family.

Our final thanks, on behalf of all parents, is for our incredible teachers.

We don't know how you do it, but every day you bring such care, joy, and creativity to your classrooms and we're so lucky that our children get to learn from such passionate professionals.

Thank you to Mrs Chaffey for 12 years of service at our school and to all teachers leaving us this year.

#### **Betty Anderson Award Winner**

Betty Anderson is a former parent of The Junction Public School who ran our school canteen on a voluntary basis for over 40 years through to about 2009.

She continued to help long after her own children had grown up and her grandchildren were attending other local schools. Our canteen is named in her honour. Betty passed away in 2018.

This award recognises a significant voluntary contribution to our school community over an extended period of time.

The aim is to try and identify the "quiet achievers" who repeatedly give their time to our school community.

This year's recipient has made a special contribution, particularly over the last five years, with involvement in fundraising, events, the P&C Committee, Mothers' Day, BBQs, and generally at almost every event!

Whenever there's been a call for help, this recipient has put her hand up and has supported the school with such organisation and reliability.

This person will be greatly missed and will be a huge asset to her children's High Schools.

This year's recipient of this year's Better Anderson Volunteers Award is Ying McKenzie.

Congratulations Ying and thank you.

#### 👨 Parents dress up for pick-up on Friday 🚭

All parents and community members are encouraged to throw on a Christmas hat or go all out in a reindeer costume for the final pick-up of the year on Friday.

Let's finish the year with a bit of fun and a nice surprise for the kids!

Imagine the reaction of the kids when we turn up to collect them dressed as an elf, Spiderman or Cinderella!

The kids deserve a laugh, and it will be a great way to bring together the community.

Even with only a handful of parents, it will be fun, but we hope as many of you can play along as possible - nothing too complicated - just something to lighten the mood!

Please share with other parents you know.

A few members of the P&C will also be giving out candy canes, so please come say hi.

Wishing all of the families and community of TJPS a safe, fun and relaxing holidays and all the best for the New Year.

The TJPS P&C Committee

#### Important P&C Dates & Reminders

7 February 2023 - First P&C meeting of the year

7 March 2023 - P&C AGM and Committee Elections

Please note that the school office still has a few trays and containers that have not be collected, following the Halloween Disco. These items were not able to be returned as they don't have names on them, thank you



# THE JUNCTION HOLIDAY PROGRAM

# MONDAY 19 DEC

A VERY TASK CHRISTMAS

Santa's calling, and he needs YOUR HELP!



Make your own decorations, gift tags and treats!

Fee - \$75

# TUESDAY 20 DEC

END OF TERM
OELEBRATION

Excursion to
Hoyts Charlestown
to see Disney's
Strange World!



Popcorn and water provided!

Fee - \$96

HOURS Mon - Fri

7am - 6pm

For detailed information go to your school on our website.

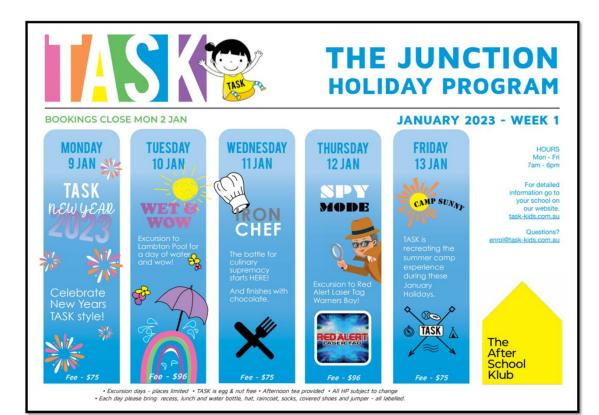
task-kids.com.au

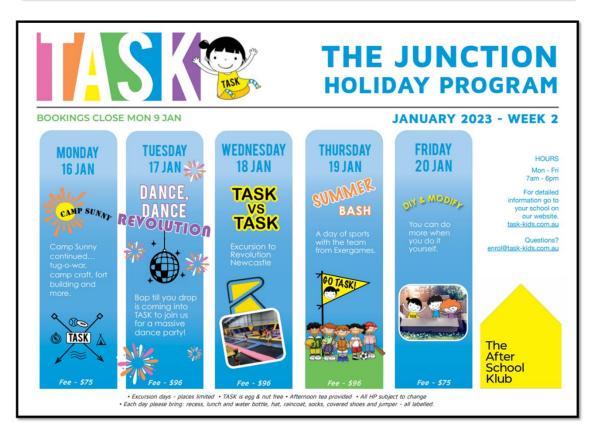
Questions? enrol@task-kids.com.au



• Excursion days - places limited • TASK is egg & nut free • Afternoon tea provided • All HP subject to change

· Each day please bring: recess, lunch and water bottle, hat, raincoat, socks, covered shoes and jumper - all labelled.







# THE JUNCTION HOLIDAY PROGRAM

**BOOKINGS CLOSE MON 16 JAN** 

**JANUARY 2023 - WEEKS 3 & 4** 













• Excursion days - places limited • TASK is egg & nut free • Afternoon tea provided • All HP subject to change • Each day please bring: recess, lunch and water bottle, hat, raincoat, socks, covered shoes and jumper - all labelled









#### AWESOME KIDS' SUMMER CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD Wed 21 Dec, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright (8-14)

MURDER MYSTERIES Wed 4 Jan, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright (9-14)

POWERS OF PERSUASION (ZOOM) Thurs 5 Jan, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright (7-13)

IMMORTAL BEINGS Mon 9 Jan, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright (8-14)

FLAWED PROTAGONISTS Tues 10 Jan, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright (HS)

THE UNFORGETTABLE BIRTHDAY Tues 17 Jan, 10am-1pm, Jess Black (8-14)

CAT MAGIC Wed 18 Jan, 10am-1pm, Jess Black (7-13)

SELECTIVE SCHOOLS WRITING PREP 23 Jan NEWC, 24 Jan ZOOM, 10am-1pm, Ed Wright

Cost: \$80 each; 2 for \$140 (bring a friend/sibling or do 2)
Selective Schools Prep: \$120 (max 8 people). Workshops eligible for Creative Kids Vouchers

#### www.creativewordshop.com.au

info@creativewordshop.com.au or phone Ed 0408788765

