# 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

08/09/022

From the desk of Mrs Larkman

Hello to our Parents and Carers

Thanks again to the P&C and Angela Le Rougetel for such a lovely event last Thursday morning. I met some lovely people who I have not met before as well as touching base with many others. The weather was also delightful.

#### Out of Zone (OOZ) Enrolments for Kindergarten

We have now accepted several OOZ enrolments. This has included any siblings from our current families as well as others from new families. We are also noting some more international enrolments beginning again.

#### Staffing

Our successful applicant for Assistant Principal Curriculum and Instruction was Luke Sparksman who went up against a range of other applicants for the position. We are thrilled he was successful as he is already highly respected by our staff and community.

A huge thanks to Alexis Scott (Stockton PS and Director Rep), Mark Duffield-Thomas (Community Rep), Aleisha Ladkin (Teacher Rep), Amy Lalic (AECG Rep) and myself (Panel Coordinator). Thanks to the panel for their time and commitment.

#### **Sentral Parent Portal**

Approximately one third of our parents/carers have signed up to the new Sentral Parent Portal. As mentioned, this will eventually replace Skoolbag as our main means of communication with the community.

We have recently added sick bay notifications as some of our students do not let their parents know when they have visited the front office. This is to ensure our parents are informed of these important matters. Parents will still be contacted by phone, if necessary, as well.

For this to be successful, we need more parents to take advantage of this service by signing up with the codes they have been supplied.

Cath Larkman Principal



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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Mrs Larkman's message – p1 Kindergarten 2023 – p2

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Front Office information – p4 Money collection Absences Extended Leave Early leavers / Late arrivals Medication at school Uniform Shop

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### Kindergarten 2023



#### **Upcoming Events**

#### TERM 3

Monday – Friday September 5-9

Intensive Swimming Year 3

Monday – Thursday September 12-15

Year 6 Canberra Excursion

**Monday September 12** 

Concert Band Day

Tuesday September 13

Musica Viva Kinder – Year 5 Open Kinder Classrooms 9:45am-11am

Wednesday September 14

Stage 2 Author Visit – Jess Black Open Kinder Classrooms 9:15am-

Thursday September 15

Stage 2 Author Visit – Jess Black Open Kinder Classrooms 9:15am-11am

Friday September 16

Open Kinder Classrooms 9:15am-11am

Tuesday September 20

Kinder 2023 New Families Walk through

Wednesday September 21

Stage 2 Author Visit – Jess Black

Thursday September 22

Run for Reading Family Day

Friday September 23 Last day of Term 3

#### TERM 4

Monday October 10

Students and Staff return

Tuesday Oct 11- Friday October 21

Stage 1 Swimming School

Wednesday October 12

Primary Band Day

Friday October 21

Early Stage 1 Carnival Fun Day TBC

Friday October 28

Grandparents Day

#### **Canteen Ordering**

Canteen orders can be placed one of two ways, either by

- Ordering online via flexischools.com.au

  Please note this must be done before 9am

  otherwise, the order will go onto the following

  day

  or
- Ordering directly at the canteen in person with CASH (note no eftpos available)

If a lunch order is forgotten, please bring food into the school office to be passed on to your child before 1pm. If you are unable to do this, please call the school office as soon as possible.

When purchasing from the Canteen, children are not permitted to buy food for friends or other students.

Children are not able to buy frozen foods after half bell (1.30) as this causes significant problems on return to class with students missing out on valuable learning time.

#### **Selective Secondary Schools**

For those who sat the assessment for selective schools in 2023, the results have been released. Ten of our students received an offer for Merewether High School.

For entry to Year 7 in 2024, applications are expected to open on October 18 2022, and close on November 16 2022. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on May 4 2023.

Please keep your eye on this website if you are interested in applying for selective high schools in the future.

https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7

#### **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

4G – Katrina Gardoll Jo-Anne Ellis - AP

#### Stage 3

5C – Lisa Campey

5S – Kate Spring

5FW - Kate Farrell / Sarah Wilson

6R - Michael Radnidge

6M - Abbey MacPherson

6L - Matthew Liles - AP

#### **Learning and Support**

Connie Emmington – Deputy Principal and LST Coordinator Luke Sparksman 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

Liam Beanell

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#### 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 3 and overdue for Terms 1 and 2

#### 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

#### 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)

#### 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 Brad Evans (Rel)

#### In the Community

#### October P&C Meeting

7pm Tuesday 11 October 2022

#### **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. No parent names please.

#### **Learning Gallery**

#### **Debating News**

Recently on Monday August 29, two of our senior students Milla V and Lulu W had the opportunity to attend a special day of debating. Both these girls were in one of our school's debating teams but were selected to try out for the regional debating team. The day was held at Merewether Public School and was an incredibly successful, fun and exciting day. The girls were a part of two debates that day with other students. Many schools attended and multiple debates were held. The day went a little bit like this.

When the students arrived, they were handed a clipboard with a warm up activity attached. After this task was completed, they were randomly assigned into groups and given a topic. Then they were sent into lockdown time to prepare for the debate. The debates were eye opening, and every competitor was a strong debater. Some of the topics included, that two hours should be added on to the end of the school day, that all fast food chains in Australia should be banned and that BMX bike riding should be banned. And that was just a few of the topics. There was a lunch break and then they were put into different teams to do another debate.

Overall, it was a fantastic day and we both found it extremely fun. We recently heard exciting news that Milla was successful on getting into the regional debating team! That means that she gets to attend the State camp in Mulgoa for 3 days. Lulu is the first reserve for the team.

#### Hunter Rugby Union

On Monday I travelled to Mudgee for Hunter Rugby Union. On Monday afternoon we had a training session. After our training session we were presented with our jerseys. On Tuesday we had our first game against North Coast. We ended up winning by a fair few points. We had our second game against Sydney East, we played well and ended up winning. On our second day we versed Sydney South West. We won that game and advanced to the semi finals. We versed Polding and had a good game, but they were too good, and we lost. The next day we versed Sydney East to play off for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> we played really well and ended up coming 3<sup>rd</sup> overall.

Corban B

#### Touch Football

The boys touch football team have been successful in making it all the way through to the semi-finals of the Hunter PSSA Knockout. Congratulations on winning a tight quarter final against New Lambton South Public 6-4. Our next game is tomorrow against Wirreanda Public (weather permitting).

Good luck

Mr Sparksman



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#### Father's Day Breakfast

















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#### Regional Athletics Carnival

On August 12, the Hunter Regional Athletics Carnival was held at Glendale Athletics Track. There was an amazing level of participation and a wonderful display of The Junction PS spirit from the seven students competing on the day.

Student results from the day:

Odin B, 800m - 8th

Matilda S,  $100m - 10^{th}$ ,  $1500m - 4^{th}$ ,  $800m - 5^{th}$ 

Eva  $C - 100m - 2^{nd}$ ,  $200m - 2^{nd}$ 

Harvey S - 100m - 2nd

Jasmine H - 100m - 6th

Madison B, Jasmine H, Lyla B & Eva C - Jnr Relay - 5<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to all students who made it to this level, you are all outstanding athletes and you should be very proud of yourselves! Good luck to Eva and Harvey who have progressed to the State Championships on October 19!





#### **Book Week**

The sun was shining as our students proudly paraded in their character costumes in our Book Week Parade last week. Thank you families for coming along and sharing in the joy of this lovely morning. We also hope you enjoyed the display in the library celebrating the winning CBCA books for 2022. Please go to the Gallery on our school website to view all of the wonderful photos from the day.

Book Week 2022 - The Junction Public School (nsw.gov.au)



#### Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Year 6 Students from our school will be undertaking an exciting education tour of the national capital next week. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate was applied to the total cost of the excursion.

# **COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD**

#### **TJPS P&C News**

#### Term 3 Update from the P&C

Thanks to all the Dads, families and our amazing TJPS Community for coming along last Thursday to Donuts With Dads event.

It was so great to see all the support from our School Families and the local business community too!

Thanks to Anna from DoughHeads – a whopping 800 Donuts were made.

Thanks Dave from Fat Crema for keeping the coffee flowing!



Thursday September 22 - Fundraiser and BBQ in support of Run 4 Reading initiative - more details to come.

Please reach out to any P&C member or <u>junctionpandc@gmail.com</u> for more details and to get involved.

The P&C Committee

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#### Let's Make Music

Information about Band, String and Choir Ensembles



We had the stage all to ourselves

#### **Night of Percussion**

Congratulations to our Percussion Ensemble for representing TJPS at the Conservatorium last Friday night. You were amazing and we are so proud of you. A special night for our very own Pierre, who performed a solo on the night. We were the only primary school participating in a sea of high school students and HSC solo performers. It was a great night, and this experience certainly allows our students to see what their future may hold if they continue their music into high school. A big thank you to Mr David Tracy, who pulls this altogether.







#### **Upcoming Events**

Newcastle Strings Concert Monday evening Sept 19

String Ensemble



#### BandFest Dates & Times

Concert Band (Yr 4) 9:40am Wednesday Oct 19

Primary Band (Yr 3) 10:20am Thursday Oct 20

Premier Band (Yrs 5&6) 1:40pm Thursday Oct 20

**Percussion Ensemble** 9:00am Friday Oct 21

**String Ensemble** 9:20am Friday Oct 21

Jazz Ensemble 10:20am Friday Oct 21

#### NSW Department of Education



## Compulsory school attendance

#### Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

# What are my Legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age of 17 years. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the NSW Education and Standards Authority for home schooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

# The Importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- · Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

# What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- · having an unavoidable medical appointment.
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)



education.nsw.gov.au

#### NSW Department of Education

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

#### Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

# My child won't go to school what should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

# What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

 Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

# What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

#### Working in Partnership

The NSW Department of Education recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

education.nsw.gov.au



**NEWCASTLE JUNIOR HOCKEY PRESENTS** 

# HOCKEY FUN DAY

YOUR CHANCE TO COME AND SEE OUR AMAZING NEW CENTRE



Hockey, the all weather, one location sport, come down and have some fun. Existing players can bring friends to share our great sport or we welcome children that just want to give it a go! Fun games followed by a BBQ and a drink. With women's premier league kicking off at 1.45pm feel free to stay and cheer them on!

10 Sept 202<u>2</u>

llam to lpm BBQ included



Mouthgaurds (\$10@ canteen) and shinpads required. Limited sticks available



# 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 pariticipate 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

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



# Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children and others safer during drop-off and pick-up times during the school week:

- Make sure your children are fastened in the correct child car seat for their age and size and that it is fitted correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- Watch for flashing lights on buses. They let you know that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road. A 40km/h limit applies when school bus lights flash.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Always park and turn legally around schools.
   Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated
- drop-off and pick-up area. Never call out to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- It's safest for children to get out of the car through the Safety Door, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the families section on safetytown.com.au



Too many lives lost on NSW roads.

Our goal is zero.

Established in 1911, Sydney Technical High School, located in Bexley and close to several major transport links, is an academically selective secondary school for gifted and high achieving boys.



Many of our proud alumni are currently leaders in their field and our strong

connection with them allows for authentic networking opportunities.

Our staff are experts in delivering highly engaging and challenging curriculum for our diverse learners with strong links to the UNSW's GERRIC faculty.

The STHS Performing Ensembles music program has over one hundred student participants playing over thirty different instruments and receive mentoring and specialised tuition.

We are highly successful members of the St George Sport Association with weekly grade competition each Wednesday afternoon in disciplines such as

basketball, soccer, Oztag, cricket, volleyball, table tennis and tennis. This is complemented by our

recreational sport program and includes fencing, fitness, ten pin bowling and beach walking.

Our extra curricular program offers outstanding opportunities for every student to connect and thrive in our school's high expectations culture in many fields including public speaking, debating, chess, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, digital media, Latin, entreprenuerism, coding and much more.



#### Our Open Morning is 9:15am on Tuesday 11 October 2022



Students seeking entrance into Year 7
must participate in selection procedures
organised by the Department of
Education. For further information
contact the High Performing Students
Team on 1300 880 367
or email: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au

#### SYDNEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

An Academically Selective School for Boys

686 Forest Road Bexley 2207 Enquiries to the School: 8566 2600

www.sydneytech-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Are you a student who would like to play with other musicians in a primary Woodwind Ensemble? A new combined schools **Primary Woodwind Ensemble** is forming, and you are invited to join!

The ensemble will target talent development for **students from Years 4 to 6** that have a minimum of 12 months of lessons and are familiar with the workings of their instruments. It will also include selected gifted musicians, from Year 6 to act as leaders and mentors for each section of the ensemble.

The students will meet **twice a term to rehearse as an ensemble at the Newcastle Conservatorium**. The first rehearsal is Friday 9 September and then continue twice a term from Term 4 with a performance for parents. This would then continue in 2023 with a performance planned at the end of each semester. There will be a small cost of \$15 for each rehearsal / \$30 per term.

If you are interested, please see your school's music teacher or apply to join the Primary Woodwind Ensemble via the 2022 online application and consent forms. Further information is also on the <u>Primary Woodwind Ensemble Arts Unit webpage</u>.



# THE JUNCTION **HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

SEPTEMBER 2022 - WEEK 1 (bookings close Wed 21 Sept)











Mon - Fri 7am - 6pm

For detailed information go to your school on our website.

task-kids.com.au

puestions?

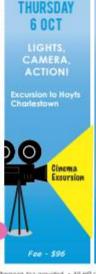
SEPTEMBER 2022 - WEEK 2

(bookings close Wed 28 Sept)











FRIDAY



\* Excursion days - places limited \* Movie title and rating to be confirmed \* Afternoon tea provided \* All HP subject to change Each day please bring: recess, binch and water bottle, hat, raincoat, socks, covered shoes and jumper - all labelled.