

The Junction Journal

The Junction Public School

Union St Merewether 2291

Ph. 4963 1343

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Principal: Cath Larkman

10/03/2023

From the desk of Mrs Larkman

Hello to our Parents and Carers,

There are a few procedures that parents have asked me to clarify after so much time in and out of lockdown.

Voluntary Contributions

Each year the office sends invoices to families for voluntary contributions. There are no fees in public schools, but we have a great uptake by our families for this valuable support. Where you can help us this way, we encourage you to do so.

The invoicing process is used as it is the most practical for our front office team in these circumstances.

The voluntary contributions are used for site licenses for programs such as Athletics, Maths Seeds and Reading Eggs. The school also supplies red boomerang bags and handwriting books to Kinder classes, School Magazine subscriptions for Years 3 to 6, as well as a variety of resources (paint, exercise books, pens and pencils etc) in all classrooms.

The suggested contribution is \$50 per child and capped at \$100 per family.

We appreciate our families paying this contribution as it helps offset the costs of these license fees and classroom resources.

We are also aware that some families are going through hardship and there may be families who are able to volunteer a little extra as an off set. This is your decision to make.



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.

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The invoices will also include Band/Strings Fees and PSSA sport fees. Fees for extracurricular activities such as Band/Strings and PSSA sport teams are payable to participate in these programs.

Volunteering at School

Teachers may ask for parents or grandparents to assist with classroom activities from time to time.

Parent/grandparent volunteers are required to complete a declaration as part of the Working with Children Check policy if they are volunteering in any capacity in the school. Parents or close relatives who volunteer at the school do not require a Working with Children Check.

These forms are available from the office for completion. Office staff will need to sight photo identification.

For P&C volunteers, a Working with Children Check is required.

School Crossing Safety

We are incredibly lucky to have dedicated and enthusiastic crossing supervisors at our school. I am sure there are not too many people who would be prepared to take the responsibility of getting hundreds of children and their families across busy roads every day.

Our crossing supervisors get a little upset when our community don't obey the road rules around legal parking, U-turns and stopping in the middle of the road to drop off children. They can see that this poses a risk to our students' safety. I don't know about you, but I would rather avoid an injury or worse to one of our gorgeous children.

Please respect their directions and treat them kindly. Lisa and Tania work in Union and Railway Street, and Jenny works in Watkins Street.

Cath Larkman,

Principal

Upcoming Events

TERM 1

Monday March 13 to 31

Goal Setting Interviews

Tuesday March 14

Regional Swimming Carnival

Wed March 15 – Fri March 24

NAPLAN

Monday March 27

Brainstorm Production

Monday March 30

Newcastle Writers Festival

Wednesday April 5

ANZAC ASSEMBLY

Thursday April 6

K-2 Easter Hat parade

Final day of term 1

TERM 2

Wednesday April 26

Students return to school

Thursday May 4

Yr 6-7 Transition Selective HS placement test

Tuesday May 23

Sydney Writer's Festival

Yr 6 GRIP Leadership

Wed/Thur June 14,15

Starstruck Tech & Dress Rehearsal

Friday June 16

Starstruck Performance day

Mon/Tues June 19/20

Whole school photographs

Friday June 23

P & C Movie Night – TBD

Friday June 30

Final day term 2

TERM 3

Thursday July 20

Athletics Carnival – Glendale

Thursday July 27

Kindergarten 100 Day Celebration

Tues-Fri August 15-18

Canberra Excursion

Mon-Fri August 21-25

Book Week/Fair

Final Day Term 3

TERM 4

Students return (no staff development day)

Wed-Fri November 1-3

Year 4 Great Aussie Bush Camp

Thursday December 7

Band Presentation Night

Last Day term 4

Support for parents, carers, and the community

[Parents, carers and the community - The Junction Public School \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.thejunctionpublicschool.nsw.gov.au)

We would like to remind you that there are a range of resources on our website for your support. From our homepage click on the **Supporting our students** tab and you will see the **parents, carers, and the community tab**. This includes support for **interpreting and translation services**.

You're Invited

To our

K-2 EASTER HAT PARADE

Thursday 6th April

9:20am on the basketball court

Children prepare their Easter bonnet/hat or mask at home and wear it to school on the day of the parade.

K-2 students may come out of uniform on the day, however please remain Sun Safe when at school.

Fully enclosed shoes must be worn and shoulders covered. No singlets or shoestring straps.

Don't forget your actual school hat!

All family are welcome.

Have a question? Please ask your class teacher.

We look forward to seeing you at our parade.





2023 School Staff

Principal - Mrs Cath Larkman
Deputy Principal - Ms Connie Emmington

Kindergarten

KC - Mrs Jody Cooper
KE - Miss Jo Ellis – Assistant Principal Early Stage 1
KG - Mrs Sarah Griffiths

Stage 1

1B - Miss Tess Barns/ Mrs Amy Blackmore
1H - Miss Angie Harris – Assistant Principal Stage 1
1L - Mrs Aleisha Ladkin
1/2A - Mrs Amy Lalic
2MC - Mrs Nina McLeod/ Mrs Nicole Jones
2/3A – Miss Alison Smoother (year 2)

Stage 2

2/3A – Miss Alison Smoother (year 3)
3LC - Mrs Holly Lynch/ Mrs Phillipa Campbell
3/4B - Miss Lucy Bourne
4F - Mr Brad Ferguson
4L - Mr Rob Low Assistant Principal Stage 2
4N - Miss Lily North

Stage 3

5FW - Mrs Kate Farrell/ Mrs Sarah Wilson
5S - Mr Nick Savage
5/6K - Miss Kate Spring
6L - Mr Matthew Liles - Assistant Principal Stage 3
6R - Mr Michael Radnidge

Learning and Support

Ms Connie Emmington - Coordinator
Mr Mark Alcock
Mrs Claire Edwards
Mrs Michelle Morrison
Miss Sara Willoughby/ Ms Hannah Titchmarsh – Library
Miss Alison Tonkin – Music
Mrs Linda Whiteside – Counsellor

Mr Luke Sparksman – APC&I
Miss Olivia Smith – Flexible Learning

School Learning Support Officers

Mrs Di Edwards
Mrs Nicole Harrison
Mrs Theresa Koitka
Mrs Emma Lovegrove
Mrs Pam Parkes
Mrs Belinda Scorgie
Mr Jack Ward - Casual SLSO

Information from the Front Office Team...

Money collection for excursions & events

The preferred payment option is through the "Make a Payment" tab on the school website. **(If you use the online option, please make sure you still return permission notes to school).**

The school also 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 – such as the Uniform Shop).

Any cash payments to come straight to the office, this includes: - Band fees, School books, Excursion money etc. Any money that is sent to school must be in a sealed envelope/bag with your "Child's name and class" on the front and details of the event you are paying.

There is a "Payments" slot at the front counter in the school office – students are to post payments in this slot.

Absences

Any absence from school must be explained. The Sentral Parent Portal is 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" from the office prior to your leave. Leave forms submitted are subject to approval by the Principal.

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 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 must buzz the intercom at the Union Street gate to be admitted into the office. Admin staff will phone the classroom for your child to come up to the office. Please be aware of early departures in recess and lunch breaks 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 Student Health Condition Support for Prescribed Medication form.

SCHOOL STAFF ARE NOT ABLE TO ADMINISTER PANADOL OR NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS.

In the Office

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30AM TO 3:15PM

School Email: thejunctionp.school@det.nsw.edu.au

SCHOOL SECURITY

ph: 1300 880021

Office Team

Mrs Dianne Edwards

Mrs Amanda Brake

Mrs Angela Bowen

Mrs Kathy McInnes

Mrs Lesley Janissen

General Assistant

Mr Tom Jervis

In the Community

P&C News

P&C Contact email

Jessica Ryan, 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. 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 (in the NOTES section)

Food for school

Please ensure that your child has sufficient food packed for the whole day. We have had an increasing number of students presenting to the office asking for additional food. Sometimes children eat all their food early or forget to pack it into their bags. There have also been issues with ordering canteen lunches through Flexischools – incorrect dates etc.

Generally, classes have fruit break in the morning, followed by recess at 11.00am and then lunch at 1.00pm. Children need to have enough food packed for all three breaks and a bottle of water, which can be refilled.

We have limited supplies available to give to children in an emergency situation.

Please check that food containers and drink bottles are labeled, so that they can be returned to students.



Miss Hannah Titchmarsh and Mr Rod Lake
making more plans for the food garden
(Wiki Yantin Koba)

Let's Make Music

Information about Band, Strings and Choir Ensembles



Primary Band
started their musical
journey last Monday!
They were very excited and
a little nervous.
Miss Tonkin was very
impressed and said they
did an outstanding
job!

PRIMARY BAND
Rehearsals
Weekly on a
Mon & Wed

BAND FEES

Invoices for band fees are about to go home. Please check school bags.

HOT WEATHER

Hopefully the recent high temperatures are behind us but just a reminder that instruments do not fare well when left in hot cars. Please keep your instrument safe from harm and take it inside with you.

BAND/STRING/CHOIR CAPTAINS

While some captains have been chosen, we will give Primary Band another week or two before asking them to vote. Invitations will be sent out to parents soon for a badge pinning at a Monday Morning assembly before the end of term.

MARKETPLACE

A warning for families purchasing second hand instruments through online sites such as Market place or Gumtree. If you are thinking of buying your own instrument please check that the seller can prove proof of purchase. An instrument with clear TJPS engraving appeared online in the Merewether area recently. Buyer beware!

Kind Regards,

Angie Harris



PREMIER BAND

Are currently working
on

Fire Dance

for an upcoming
Audition Video

so keep practising!



Rehearsals work
better when
everyone is on time.





Saving Lil & Archie

On Monday March 27 Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing performance 'Saving Lil & Archie' for K - 6. 'Saving Lil & Archie' is a live educational theatre performance that promotes balance, positive connections and responsible use of technology. Pandemonium ensues on Planet Arkon when two robots, Lil and Zig, are zapped to earth and into the lives of two siblings, Bella and Archie. Bella is being bullied by the girls in her friendship group. With no sleep and too much screen time, Archie finds it hard to connect with other children. He is lonely and confused. Bella learns to be assertive and to 'report', 'log off' and seek help when her online interactions become negative and nasty. To restore the balance, Archie must learn to control his impulses, listen and use empathy so that Lil and Zig can return to Arkon.

'Saving Lil & Archie' is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and has been developed by teachers and psychologists. This exciting live theatre experience provides students with practical social and emotional skills, and encourages students to build safe and healthy relationships, at school, at home and online.

Brainstorm Productions is one of Australia's most experienced and respected theatre in education companies, performing to over 260,000 students every year. They offer a range of programs to help schools nurture healthy and harmonious environments, addressing issues such as mental health, online safety, bullying and resilience, and are endorsed by the eSafety Commissioner as a Trusted eSafety Provider. Learn more about Brainstorm Productions by visiting their website (brainstormproductions.edu.au), or following them on Instagram (@[brainstormproductions](https://www.instagram.com/brainstormproductions)) or Facebook (@[BrainstormProductions](https://www.facebook.com/BrainstormProductions)).

Learning Gallery



Mrs Larkman enjoys regular visits from her 'friends' through her window. We think Mr Alcock enjoys it too!



Hunter Basketball

Last week, Edison K trialled for the Hunter PSSA Boys basketball Team at Broadmeadow Basketball Stadium. Edison was fortunate enough to be selected for the team and will head to Tamworth for a tournament against the state's best players.

This is a well deserved accolade for Eddie and we wish him all the best.

Mr Michael Radnidge

Zone Swimming

The Zone swimming carnival was held at the Forum on Friday February 25. TJPS had 35 students swimming on the day who all performed admirably. Well done to all the students who attended the zone carnival. A big congratulations to the following students who were selected to attend the regional swimming carnival on Tuesday March 14 at the Forum. The students are: Indi R, Elkie B, Zali G, Madison B, Charlie B, Oscar R, Lila B, Abbey B, Nina C and Imogen G.

An amazing achievement! Well done and good luck!

Mr Nick Savage

Australian Rules Football

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to attend the Hunter Regional AFL trials Emile A, Charlie B, Tom B and Odin B

Best of luck from all at TJPS

Mr Luke Sparsman

Rugby League

Congratulations to Odin B who was successful in making the Hunter Under 12s Rugby League Team.

Mrs Sarah Wilson

2023 Yarn Up

Last Tuesday, we were privileged to welcome our Aboriginal community (parents/carers, students, Newcastle High staff and community organisations) into our school to start our Personalised Learning Pathways (PLP) goal setting process for 2023.

We also were able to consult on different initiatives happening within the school this year in the space of Aboriginal Education, in particular, how we will develop our new Yarning Circle space and grow and maintain our Wiki Yantiin Koba (Garden for Everyone).

We were thrilled to see so many people in attendance and look forward to a positive year ahead!



COMMUNITY MESSAGE BOARD

P & C News

The P&C AGM was held on Tuesday March 7, during which time the 2023 committee were elected. We are pleased to introduce the following members for the 2023 team:

President - Jes Ryan

Vice Presidents - Ange Le Rougetel and Belinda Parker

Treasurer - Anna Widgery

Secretary - Jaimie Moffitt

Events Coordinator - Alison Cheek

Sustainability Coordinator - Louise Crosskill

Social Media Coordinator - Brooke Brugnani

A huge thank you to all volunteers for your contribution to our community.

Special thanks to the outgoing President, Mr Mark Duffield-Thomas. Mark has been a steadfast volunteer over his time with TJPS, dedicating countless hours to the many school & community events. His leadership during his tenure as President has been greatly appreciated by the P&C team and we wish the Duffield-Thomas family the very best of luck in their future adventures!

Being part of our Parents & Citizens Association is the best way to support our School's improvement, get to know other parents, and connect with School leaders and teachers.

It's also a great way to stay informed about what's happening and demonstrate the value of volunteering and supporting the community to our children.

We encourage parents to become a member of the P&C and pay the annual \$1 membership here: <https://bit.ly/TJPCPC2023>

AGM meeting minutes and audited accounts will be distributed shortly.

Please contact president@junctionpandc.org if you have any questions.

The Junction Public School will be a voting centre for the upcoming state election on March 25.

Democracy Sausage day is a great opportunity to raise funds for our school, and a fun day to get to know others in the school community.

We are asking for Cake Donations and volunteers to work on the stalls on the day.

Can you spare 2 hours to help? We have a variety of roles including cooking the BBQ, selling cakes and taking orders.

Please sign up to be part of the team here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044aaca92fa2fb6-2023#/>

This will be a real team effort and many hands make light work!

Come have some fun, meet our community and enjoy a Democracy Sausage!

Thank you!

The P&C Committee

NSW State Election 25 March

CAKE DONATIONS & BBQ SKILLS REQUIRED



As the day of the Democracy Sausage approaches, The Junction Public School is again an official polling station. This is a great fundraiser for the school, and a fun day to get to know others in the school community.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Donate baked goods to our cake stall.

Cupcakes, small loaves, slices, biscuits/cookies or treats. Please send all baked goods to the P&C table at the front gate (Union St) on Friday 24 March between 8.30 – 9.30am

Do you look good in an apron?

Sign up to help on the day, we need people to help cook the BBQ or sell cakes.

Use the sign up link on the SkoolBag/Sentral app, the Facebook page or email junctionpandc@gmail.com



WANDERERS RFC JUNIORS

**WE
WANT
YOU!**



**OUR JUNIOR RUGBY TEAMS ARE ON THE
HUNT FOR NEW PLAYERS!**

HOME GROUND NO 5 SPORTSGROUND NATIONAL PARK
2023 REGISTRATION COST:

U6S - U7S \$120 | U8 - U16 ARE \$220 | U18S \$240

INCLUDES: TRAINING SHIRT, PLAYING SHORTS, GAME DAY
SOCKS, CAP, 1/2 ZIP PULLOVER

TRAINING COMMENCES 27TH FEBRUARY 2023

TO REGISTER: RUGBY XPLOER,
ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS ACCEPTED





Looking for a new sport for your children?

West Junior Hockey (Boys) and Central West Juniors (Girls)

Hockey is a family-friendly sport for players
of all ages and ability • One central location
(adjacent to Knights stadium) for all training & games

All-weather spectating • Easy parking

Fully licensed kiosk

25% discount for first time hockey players*

