18 February 2015

NEXT WEEK . . . WEEK 5
Mon 23/2: Eastlakes Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival at Swansea Pool – Day 1
Wed 25/2: Eastlakes Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival at Swansea Pool – Day 2
Thu 26/2: Head Lice Check
Fri 27/2: Clean Up Australia Activity for schools
Sun 1/3: Salt Water Markets at Swansea Public School

WEEK 6
Thur: 5/3: Evacuation Drill

WEEK 7
Wed 11/3: P&C meeting and AGM at 7.00pm
Fri 13/3: Paul Harragon Cup

WEEK 8
Thu 19/3: School Photo Day

WEEK 10
Thu 2/4: Easter Hat Parade
Last Day of Term One
Sun 5/4: Salt water Markets at Swansea Public School

Canteen closed on Tuesdays

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who attended the Parent-Teacher meetings this week.

We had a fabulous turn out and your support and interest is appreciated.

Thank you as well to those parents and caregivers who have already made payments for student textbooks. The school can provide financial assistance for textbooks - please go to the school office for further assistance in this matter.

The teachers have begun the planning process for our excursions for 2015. It is expected that Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 will participate in a local excursion of one day only. The excursion for Stage 2 students will be a one day excursion to Sydney in late 2015. Stage 3 students will be going to Canberra and the Snow, 8-11 September 2015. It is expected that the cost for this excursion may be between $400 and $450. Please consider making small regular payments, like a layby system – contact the school office for more information on this system.

Reminder: Head Lice Check - Thursday 26 February
I will be conducting a head lice check on Thursday 26 February. I have always had great support for these checks from parents and caregivers over the past eight years. I usually do only TWO per school year. However, I may conduct extra checks if there is a widespread outbreak.

To clarify this process:
• The check is undertaken as per advice from Hunter Area Health
• The check is by no means a thorough check, it also involves a talk to students about preventative measures to avoid head lice.
• I am the only person from Swansea Public School that conducts a head lice check.
• If you do not wish your child to have their hair checked, please contact me by phone or in writing before 26 February.

The Tell them From Me student feedback survey - for students in Years 4, 5 and 6 only

I am delighted that this term our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students in Years 4, 5 and 6 to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27 February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Champion Class - KA

Class Champions – Week 3, Term 1
KA Daniel Flay 1/KB Ava Gray
1T Izzy Ruhl 2G Zac Stubbs
2B Archer Nicholas-Canning

Due to enrolled children’s life threatening Anaphylactic allergic reactions to all nuts and peanut products, we would like to encourage families not to send these products to school with their children. These include peanut butter, Nutella, sesame seeds, loose nuts, muesli, nut or chocolate bars or any products containing any type of nuts.

Quality Teaching … Excellent Facilities … Enriching Programs
Library News
Chinese New Year *2015* Year of the Goat
Chinese New Year begins on 19 February. As usual the Library will celebrate this colourful occasion with decorations, teaching and learning activities, correlating with the Australian Curriculum. This Saturday, there will be Chinese New Year celebrations occurring in Newcastle and Honeysuckle, with a lantern walk, Chinese lion dancing, dragons, dancers, musicians, singers, marching bands, choirs and much more. Dragon boat races will be held near the Maritime Centre between 4-6pm, and the day will culminate with a fireworks display. There is a timetable of events available on the website so for more information go to www.lightupnewcastle.com.au Looks like it will be a lot of fun!

Mending help
A big thank you to Ruth Peacock and Natalie Keene who mended some of our most loved soft toys.
Keep reading - N. Henry (Teacher-Librarian)

Badalya Hut
Attached to this newsletter is the new Canteen menu and pricelist. As always volunteers are always welcome, needed and appreciated. If you are unable to commit on a regular basis please feel free to help whenever you are available. We would love to see you. Contact Deb in the canteen for more information.

Canteen closed on Tuesdays

Play Baseball

**History**

Toronto Junior Baseball Club was formed in 1972. We are located on the western side of Lake Macquarie with our home ground in Waterboard Oval, Ferrellt Crescent, Blackalls Park. We provide a range of baseball activities for boys and girls with age groups between five and 16 years of age.

**About the Game**

Baseball is a winter sport in our area. The season commences in April and finishes in September. The ball for kids from five to nine years of age and Baseball for kids, from 10 to 16 years, is played on Saturday mornings.

**Registration Details**

**Juniors - 5 - 16 yrs**

To find out more information about the junior competition and or to register, please contact Ian Macker on ian@creationgrowth.com.au or call 0411 464 693

**Seniors - 17+**

To find out more information about the seniors competition please contact Pete 0411 163 145 or Joe 0439 697 962

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The simplest way

...to make ice blocks.

Summer afternoons are hot and sticky in Australia, and kids come home from school tired and hungry. Get them eating fruit with these super easy, fruit-filled ice blocks …

Place any combo of finely diced fruit into moulds like: mango, blueberries, strawberries, watermelon, rockmelon, kiwifruit, drained canned peaches, apricots or pineapple in natural juice, or passionfruit pulp.

Top with a fruit juice of your choice then freeze until solid – at least 4 hours, or overnight.

Enjoy watching your kids eat fruit!

For more information visit www.eattitobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eattitobeatit