



# NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter No 11/2

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July 10	Last day of Term 2
July 28	First day for children Term 3
July 29	NWPS Athletics Carnival K-6. Pennant Hills Park
Aug 4	K-2 Fitschool program begins
Aug 5	O.C. Testing Yr 4
Aug 5	Year 5 visit to C.A.R.E.S.
Aug 6	Backup date. NWPS Athletics Carnival.

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Dear Parent and Students,

As this is our last newsletter for the term I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy vacation break.

Term 2 was an extremely busy and very successful term for Normanhurst West with the school enjoying wonderful successes in many different areas. These included our very successful and enjoyable Education Week – Open Day activities, our school choirs, junior and senior dance groups and concert and training bands, as well as the school debating team continuing to perform wonderfully in the district competition, the school dance group captivating the audiences at the Sydney North Dance Festival, LaBS day, winter PSSA competitions, mufti day fete, various excursions, SRC disco and of course our Family Fun Day. Having over \$3,000,000 *reinvested* in our school by the Commonwealth Government and the ordering of six interactive whiteboards are also a highlight.

Term 3 is shaping up to be just as busy with many exciting, quality activities planned, including the Stage 3 Canberra/Snowy camp, Grandparents Day, continuation of peer support values sessions, band camp, Opera House choir, Year 5 bike education, UNSW English and maths competitions, the school athletics carnival, and of course the continuation of quality education in each and every classroom. We have fifty percent of the school year left to make a difference in 2009.

Attached to this newsletter are several ideas to occupy your time with the family during the sometimes bleak winter holidays. Remember all students return for term 3 on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> July as abovementioned.

## **Student Progress Reports**

Student reports will be taken home today (Thursday). I would like to thank our staff for the enormous effort that has gone into writing these reports. Thank you also to all

of our students for the outstanding work that they have done during this first semester.

### **Students and Staff Farewells**

We sadly farewell the Roach family (Aliya 4N & Yasmin 3C), and the Adams family (Sebastian 1/2R). Thank you to both families for entrusting your children's learning with NWPS and for being active members in parent representative groups.

We say goodbye to two staff members tomorrow. Mrs Jobje Lamb is retiring as mentioned in last week's newsletter, as the well wishing deservedly keeps coming in for the much loved Jobje. She will be missed!

Mr Payne (who refuses to retire) completes his temporary appointment on the sensational 6M. Mr Payne is technically a retired primary principal of the highest level attainable within the system, being a principal in five NSW DET schools and one independent school in his lengthy career. I have had the pleasure of *supervising* Mr Payne in two schools and I continue to learn a lot as his supervisor. We thank Mr Payne for his genuine commitment to the betterment of his students.

### **Core Value: RESPONSIBILITY**

Being accountable for your individual and community's actions towards yourself, others and the environment

In **school communities**, evidence of this value includes:

- ☺ reflecting policy and school community needs in school rules
- ☺ supporting the decisions of the school
- ☺ accepting responsibility for the school's involvement in community activities
- ☺ including in school rules strategies to reinforce appropriate behaviour as well as consequences for breaking rules.

In **classrooms**, evidence of this value includes:

- ☺ self-discipline
- ☺ modelling expected behaviours
- ☺ involvement in strategies to encourage compliance with school rules.

*Week 2*

### **Principal Medallion**

There is going to be a change to our merit certificate system. The now practised five merit certificates will still lead to a principal's award. The change occurs when a diligent student attains four principal's awards, possible by stage 3. The next tier of recognition will be in a very special form to be known as the principal's medallion. Our teaching staff and school council have approved this inclusion to the student welfare policy.

The 'school spirit award' which is a recognition certificate to any member of the school community for special services will be considered more, and have a fresher appearance.

### **Minding Your Manners – A+**

This week and last week I asked several canteen parent helpers (mums and dads) about our school's canteen. From everyone informally surveyed there was a glowing report about correct manners by the students to Mrs Irvine and the parent volunteers. We do appreciate the valuable service the canteen provides and should continue to be grateful to our canteen workers.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK –

*"We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have."* - Fredrick Koeing

Greg McLaren  
~~Relieving Principal~~  
Assistant Principal

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*For Your Information:*

NSW DET

The school and NSW Department of Education and Training are represented on the project group, *Australia's Safe and Supportive School Communities: Finding workable solutions for countering bullying, harassment and violence in schools* (SSSC). The project oversees the **Bullying. No way!** website.

The **Bullying. No way!** website provides up-to-date, evidence-based research on anti-bullying strategies within Australia and international links. See: [www.bullyingnoway.com.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au) .

The coordinator of the website generates an electronic e-bulletin with the latest information related to anti-bullying strategies once a month. To subscribe to receive the e-bulletin, go to the following link and complete your details.  
[http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/ebulletin\\_signon.asp](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/ebulletin_signon.asp)

Recent editions to the **Bullying. No way!** website at the 'Talk Out' Spotlight section includes the following topics.

- ① Student voice
- ① Bystander behaviour
- ① Cyber bullying
- ① Anti cyber bullying mobile movies.

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## DANCE

After months of hard work and many early morning and lunchtime practices, both our Junior and Senior Dance Groups delighted and entertained us at the Sydney North Dance Festival which was held at the Glen St Theatre, Belrose.

Their performances were simply spectacular and their behaviour impeccable. They were great ambassadors for our school.

It is such a wonderful experience for our children to be able to perform at a 'real' theatre with professional sound and lighting technicians. This, coupled with the children's fantastic costumes and make up really enhanced their performance.

Thank you so much to all the parents that helped with costuming and make-up. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

Congratulations dancers. You did an amazing job! We are very proud of you.

Holly Ryan  
Jnr Dance Coordinator

Robyn Barrett  
Snr Dance Coordinator

**2009 NWPS Athletics Carnival  
CANTEEN ORDERS – LAST CALL**

Just in case you missed it last week -the canteen will be open for business at the NWPS Athletics carnival on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

**Student** lunches will be available by **PREORDERS ONLY**. The choices are attached. Please remember to complete both sections and attach them to TWO bags per student. These must be returned to the canteen **BY THIS FRIDAY – 10<sup>th</sup> JULY** There will be no opportunity to order lunches before the carnival or on the actual carnival day next term.

PLEASE NOTE – If the carnival is cancelled due to rain the preordered lunches will be still be served to the students at school on 29<sup>th</sup> July. There will be NO canteen lunches available on the backup carnival day Thursday 6th August.

Thanks,

Kerrie Basclain. Acting Canteen Manager