



# NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter No 2/2

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May 7, 2009

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School Security – 4343 1119

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May 8	Last day for Stewart House donation drive.
May 11	3-6 SportsPro clinic
May 12	School Council Meeting
May 12/13/14	Naplan Yrs 3 and 5
May 14	Last day for Book Club orders
May 15	Walk Safely to School Day
May 15	SRC Disco
May 15	Last day for Entertainment Book orders

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The following students received a Principal's Award at Assembly this week:  
Hamish Fullagar Jordan Fullagar Laura Penn

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Dear parents & students,

### **School Cross Country**

A tremendous day at an extraordinary venue appears to accurately appraise our carnival. The day was convened competently by Mr Pinchbeck and Mrs Bardwell. It is very rewarding to witness students, parents and staff working cohesively in school events and the cross country defined a strong community spirit. The House captains and vice captains were very inspirational in leading their group. Congratulations to all runners and we wish our representatives the very best in competing against the other twenty schools in the Beecroft PSSA zone carnival in week 4.

### **NAPLAN Tests**

The National Assessment Program –Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) replaces the Basics Skills test. Next week years 3 and 5 students will attempt a battery of tests over three days from Tuesday to Thursday. We know the children will try their best. We encourage all parents to ensure their children in the abovementioned grades are at school by the morning bell time. The results of the testing will be forwarded to parents in September.

### **School Executive**

In Mr Kunkler's absence, the very ardent *and modest* teaching assistant principal, Mr McLaren, is relieving principal. This has provided an opportunity for the very capable Mrs Barrett to become relieving assistant principal for years 3-6, coupled with her commitment to class 5B. Mrs Georgiou and Mrs Liston are our other assistant principals. A brief about your communication options in relation to school matters will appear in next week's newsletter.

## Technology News

[Click](#) - A technology guide for parents, is out now with vodcasts, podcasts and blogs helping parents understand the technology their children are using at school, at home and on the go. This edition includes stories about Facebook, the new student Gmail email system, MP3 players – downloading music and protecting your child from hearing damage and much more! Take a look at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click)

## Mothers and Grandmothers Day

The late Bea Arthur, television celebrity, once asserted, *"It's not easy being a mother. If it were easy, fathers would do it."* We wish all the mothers in our school community a wonderful time and deserving rest on Mother's Day this Sunday. Special mention is extended to all our new mothers and staff members – Ms Shelverton and Ms Jones, currently on leave. We trust both Mrs Liston and Mrs Gower will enjoy *Grandmother's Day* for the first time.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow."

*Mary Anne Radmacher*


Greg McLaren  
Relieving Principal


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## Edited Message from the Director General of Education (29 April 2009)

The education department is maintaining regular contact with NSW Health about swine influenza and will continue to update schools with any new information.

Simple precautions that prevent the catching and spreading of influenza include:

 washing your hands after contact with soiled tissues or any contact with nose or throat discharge

 covering your mouth if you cough

 if students or staff are sick, advise them to stay home.

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## SRC DISCO

WHEN: Friday May 15 (Week 3)

THEME: Black & White

PRICE: \$4.00 per ticket

TIMES: K-2 4:30-6:00pm

3-6 6:30-8:00pm

3-7

TICKETS ON SALE FROM FRIDAY MAY 8.

Please note: Disco is for current NWPS students only.

## **WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY Friday 15th May**

As part of the Pedestrian Council of Australia's initiative to reinforce safe pedestrian behaviour, we are encouraging all families to participate in the Walk Safely to School Day campaign Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

*The objectives of WSTSD are:*

- To promote the health benefits of walking and help create regular walking habits at an early age
- To help children develop the vital road crossing skills they will need to become mature pedestrians
- To ensure that children hold a grown up's hand when crossing the road
- To reduce car dependency habits that are being created at an early age and which will be difficult to change as children become adults
- To promote and improve the use of public transport and reduce the level of traffic congestion
- To reduce vehicle emissions to help tackle climate change and improve air quality

All children have been issued with a sticker to wear on the day. So leave the car at home and *Walk Safely to School!*

Enjoy your walk!!

H. Georgiou  
Assistant Principal

## **CROSS COUNTRY THANKYOU**

We would like to thank all the parents, students and staff for making this year's Cross Country Carnival such a success. Congratulations to all the students for your enthusiastic running and great behaviour; to the staff for all their extra duties to ensure the smooth running of the day and to our fantastic parent helpers who manned the checkpoints around the course. Thank you, too, to the House Captains and Vice-Captains for all their organisation and the leadership of their houses.

The children in Years 3-6 who will represent NWPS at the Beecroft Zone Cross Country on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, will be notified shortly.

With thanks  
M. Pinchbeck & M. Bardwell

## **STUDENT INFORMATION – FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

It is extremely important to let the office know of any changes in contact information for yourself and your emergency contacts. If any of these details, including phone numbers have changed, please contact the office immediately or complete the form attached to this newsletter.

Another issue arising is children with asthma medication at school for which the teachers and office have no information. If your child is asthmatic, please submit their asthma plan to the office with detailed instructions on their puffer use.

Does your child have an allergy that the school does not know about? This is another important issue. Please make sure the office knows about your child's allergy and that you have an emergency action plan in place for your child. This plan is circulated to all relevant parties at school, including the office, the canteen and the

class teachers to ensure that your child is looked after promptly and correctly in the event of an emergency.

Term 2 student invoices have been posted home this week. Payment for all term 2 events is due by July 7. Outstanding term 1 and 2008 payments are due immediately. Please note that the school has access to Student Assistance Funding. If you need to take advantage of these funds please contact me to make a confidential appointment with the relieving principal.

Sue Shears  
Administration Manager

## ***BAND NEWS***



### **BAND WORKSHOP**

Our first band workshop for the year was a huge hit. Musicians young and old alike hit the rehearsals and the food table with equal enthusiasm and made some beautiful sounds for their appreciative audience at the end of the day. Many many thanks to all the parents who came to supervise tutorials, to those who sent some very more-ish snacks and to our tutors. (Yes, it was a long day.) Bravo to conductors Ray and Jane for their patience and skill. But special mentions for help over and above the call of duty must go to:

Graham Honeyman, for his gift of an extra amplifier.

The Kents, for the delivery of an extra drum kit.

Nicole Page and Jill Taylor, parents and clarinet masters, who stepped in to help with tutoring.

Our lovely Training and Concert Band convenors.

And last, but not least, our fearless leaders Karen and Beci

### **PARENTS, REMEMBER TO PRACTISE**

Those parents who attended Ray's special talk before the concert will now be practicing their "ta-ta-ta's" and helping their offspring. We hope.

### **NEXT EVENTS**

The next big gig for our bands will be Open Day on May 27, followed by the Yamaha Festival. Watch this space for more details.

### **BAND SET-UP**

Any parents who are available to come and help set up Wednesday or Thursday mornings are most welcome.

Band Committee

### **GROUNDS FORCE DAY**

It's that time again!!

This term we are calling for all year 3 & 4 families to come along and help get the school ready for Family Fun Day. Also any year 5 & 6 families that were not able to make it last term are very welcome!!

**The Grounds Force Day will be held on Sunday 31st May.** Please mark this date in your calendars and come along for an hour or two to help out.

**Future Grounds Force Dates are:**

30th August Years K-2

15th November - All (pre Christmas markets)

Please mark these dates in your calendars now so that you will be available to help.  
The more helpers we have turn up on the day the less work for everyone!!

Belinda Pope & Helen Howse (Grounds Force)