



NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter No 3/2

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OOSH – 9484 4412

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
May 19	P&C Meeting
May 22	Zone Cross Country (Participants only)

The following students received a Principal's Award at Assembly this week:
Lauren Yapp Samuel Allen

Dear parents & students,

Education Week 2009

Once again you have the opportunity to witness the wonderful progress of our amazing students. Please note in your diary Wednesday 27 May 2009 and attend our school's 'open to the community day'. You are encouraged to visit classrooms and learning centres, be entertained by our performing artists and experience a picnic lunch on our magnificent school grounds. Our eager year 6 students have kindly offered to operate a coffee shop from 10.15-11am under the KL and KT verandah. Attached to this newsletter is the program for 'Open Day'.

Communication Options

I know as a parent and educator seven years of primary schooling appears to go quite quickly. Home and school communication continues to be very important in assisting our students with the best possible academic and social development. It is also very important to communicate with the best person to help solve your questions. The following is our current school practice and will give you some direction.

- **Classroom Teacher:** is always the first and best professional person with whom to speak regarding academic progress, social or behavioural concerns, class policy and procedures.
- **Assistant Principals:** If the question relates to a specific issue that is outside of the classroom, any questions regarding specific grade or department programs, issues relating to discipline / bullying, concerns that have not been resolved by speaking with the classroom teacher or queries relating to teaching and learning within the classroom.

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Assistant Principal especially K-2: Mrs Georgiou
Assistant Principal especially 3-6: Mrs Barrett (relieving)
Assistant Principal Mrs Liston

- **Administration and Finance:** Mrs Shears
- **Relieving Principal:** Any issues that relate to the whole school, child protection and student welfare, governance and management, financial and budgeting, community, concerns relating to teachers, issues that have not been resolved through discussions with the classroom teacher and /or the Assistant Principal.

Sport Representatives

The Beecroft PSSA Zone Friday winter sporting competition started last Friday. Our netballers and footballers competed against West Pennant Hills PS. We were successful with our A football team winning and narrowly lost in the other three games.

Congratulations to Mr Pinchbeck and our State knockout cricketers who progress to the fourth round after defeating John Purchase PS too. Congratulations to Ms Lott and our State knockout footballers who progress to the second round after playing Thornleigh West PS.

Debating

If you are not aware, our school has performed extremely well over the years in two inter school debating competitions- the Premier's Debating Challenge and the Hills/Hornsby districts competition. We also hold in-school coloured House debates with a trophy awarded to the winning House at Presentation Evening. Mrs Newland and I facilitate debating. We wish our school team the very best in their first debate against Asquith PS next Wednesday.

Performing Arts

Besides our impressive bands, another extra curricula activity available to our students is dance. The extremely creative Mrs Barrett and Miss Ryan afford their own time to choreograph the senior and junior dance groups. The highlight of the year is being selected to perform at the Sydney North Dance Festival, held at the Glen St Theatre, Belrose from 29 June - 10 July, 2009.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK - *International Day of Families (Friday)*
"Make a memory with your children, spend some time to show you care; toys and trinkets can't replace those precious moments that you share."
- *-Elaine Hardt*

Greg McLaren
Relieving Principal

Keep Your Receipts! The Education Tax Refund – Get 50% back

Under the new Education Tax Refund, parents and others who are eligible can now claim 50% of their eligible education expenses up to \$750 for primary students and \$1500 for secondary students. This means you could receive a refund each year of up to \$375 for each primary and \$750 for each secondary school student in your care.

Are you eligible?

To be eligible you must have received Family Tax Benefit Part A for each child whose education expenses you wish to claim. You can also claim the Education Tax

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Refund if you were stopped from receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A because your child received any of the following:

- Youth Allowance (student) aged 18
- Disability Support Pension
- ABSTUDY
- the Veterans' Children Education Scheme
- the Student Financial Supplement Scheme
- a scheme under s258 of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2004
- an Australian Postgraduate Award. Independent students are also eligible to claim.

What can you claim?

You can claim the purchase, lease, hire or hire-purchase costs, repairs and running costs of:

- laptops, home computers and associated costs — for example, internet and paper
- educational software, printers, USB flash drives, disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs
- stationery and art supplies
- school textbooks and associated learning materials
- trade tools and safety equipment for secondary school trade courses.

Some of the expenses you cannot claim include school fees or the cost of school uniforms, school excursions or travel to and from school, musical instruments or sporting equipment, clothing or footwear. For a more comprehensive list visit

www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

When can you claim?

You can claim your education expenses in your 2009 tax return. If you do not have to lodge a tax return, you will be able to lodge a separate claim with the Tax Office from 1 July 2009. Remember, you need to keep all receipts for expenses you claim. If your education expenses in one year are more than the claim limit for your children, you can add the excess to your education expenses for the following year.

For more information:

- visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au
- phone the Tax Office on 13 28 61.

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

TICKETS ON SALE NOW !

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 15th 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

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- 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

FROM THE LIBRARY

A huge belated THANKYOU to the generous families listed below who contributed to the donation of an interactive globe for the Library. It has been so useful and stimulating for the students (and for the teacher) when we are studying atlases and general geography in Library Research.

With thanks to the Croasdale, Page, Pope, Mariano, Nelson, Walker, Andrews, Allen (Lauren), Binet, Ramsay/Braiding families.

Thankyou. Mrs Liston & the children

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos were distributed last week. Unfortunately the company has temporarily run out of key rings so if you ordered one, please be patient, they will arrive shortly.

GROUP PHOTOS

The following photos are available for viewing and ordering at the office:

Captains (\$14.00) ICT Committee (\$12.00) Librarians (\$12.00)
Prefects (\$12.00)

Sue Shears
Administration Manager

P&C NEWS

There are a few matters up for voting at our meeting next week, the proposals are as follows:

1. That \$25 000 dollars be earmarked for provision of interactive whiteboards for classrooms
2. That \$800 be given to the Pre-school to contribute to the cost of the painting of the OOSH/Pre-school rooms.
3. That \$1300 be given to the school to cover the cost of a new school banner.

As I noted after our last meeting, earmarking of funds is not a decision to actually spend that money at that time, it is rather a statement of intent to spend the money on a particular project at a future time.

Should circumstances change between the earmarking decision and the spending of the money it is within the P&C's purview to re-allocate the funds as the P&C sees fit. Such action would be taken through the same process of proposal, notification of the school community and subsequent voting at a General Meeting as the initial decision to earmark the funds in the first place. The purpose of earmarking funds for particular

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projects is to allow the P&C to hold significant sums of cash for longer than a year without endangering the P&C's status as a non-profit organisation.

Next P&C Meeting is on Tuesday May 19th, OOSH Rooms 7.45pm.

Miriam Mulcahy. (P&C President). 0412 364 366. mimbles2@gmail.com

STUDENT BANKING

Student banking is on hiatus until further notice, we have been having some difficulties with the system for processing the student deposits which need to be resolved if we are to continue the service.

My profuse apologies to everyone who was inconvenienced by the communication breakdown that led to students expecting to be able to bank on Tuesday this week but having their deposits returned to them. The point where the communications broke was me, I should have clarified with the banking volunteers what they understood was happening and made sure the appropriate notice went in the newsletter.

We will be discussing banking at the P&C meeting next week and I hope to have a resolution of the banking issues one way or another in the next week or two. Please phone or email me if you have any questions or suggestions with regard to banking.

Miriam Mulcahy. 0412 364 366. mimbles2@gmail.com

OOSH NEWS

This term at OOSH we have been off to an exciting start with an action packed Active After School Care program. On Tuesdays David comes and shares with us a range of multi-skills, Wednesdays we will be having a local volunteer come and get us active in the afternoon, whilst on Thursdays, Doris is teaching us some funky Hip-Hop dance moves. Come along and take part learning new hip-hop moves and participating in other great activities designed to keep us active and healthy.

Also, there has been a big interest in dance and performance this term with talk of organising an "OOSH has Talent" show which we will work on throughout the term and hopefully lead up to an afternoon of performances at the end of the term.

We have also introduced a new 'Winter' Afternoon tea menu for terms 2 and 3 which include yummy warmer meal ideas. Last term we asked the children which breakfast and afternoon teas they enjoyed most and based around this and some new ideas, we decided on;

Raisin toast and hot chocolate
Fried Rice
Pasta Carbonara and Pasta Neapolitana
Home made pizza
Veggie fritters
Noodles

Each meal is served with fresh fruit, and has been received really well by the children.

Thanks to all the parents who attended the Meeting on Wednesday, your input and dedication to OOSH is appreciated!

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Fiona and Emma on: 9484 4412.

We look forward to seeing you soon at OOSH!

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CANTEEN COMMITTEE 2009 UPDATE

Just for the new families, our Normo Nibbles canteen is run by a volunteer canteen committee, a group of up to 10 parents which is a subgroup of the P&C. We employ our canteen supervisor Lesley Irvine, organise the parent volunteer roster and the treasurer maintains the books of the canteen. Any profits are donated back to P&C funds. The committee meets once a month at 1.45pm after a canteen shift.

The 2009 Canteen committee is as follows:-

Kerrie Basclain (Convenor)
Karen Hoschke (Secretary)
Wendy Allen (Treasurer until end of May)
Jules Curtin (Roster Clerk until end May)
Ros Cameron
Elizabeth Cook
Colleen Cowley
Deborah Evans-Scott
Janina Shinfield

To keep the canteen open, we MUST to fill the following two positions before June. _

Canteen Treasurer

The role of the Canteen Treasurer is to be responsible for the financial operations of the canteen. Without one, the canteen cannot operate.

You don't have to have any prior accounting or financial experience, for that matter even a computer. All you need is to be of good character and to be willing to learn.

While the role might seem daunting, there will be plenty of support from the person who previously held the position.

Briefly – the job entails-

- * Reconciling the depositing of monies and drawing of cheques on behalf of the Canteen.
- * Record each financial transaction ie. daily takings and expenses and any cheques written out
- * To file all supporting documents, receipt or Invoices
- * Creating and gaining approval for a budget prior to start of each financial year. (31st December each year)
- * Payroll for our very important Canteen Supervisor
- * Brief Monthly reports to be presented to the Canteen and P & C Meetings

Sadly too- the Old duck is ready to hang up her philosophy book

Canteen Roster Clerk

The role of Canteen Roster Clerk is to ensure the canteen volunteer roster is kept full. This job is mainly active at the very end and start of each school year when the new roster needs to be advertised, collated and distributed.

During the year, the roster clerk advertises any spots on the roster vacated through the school newsletter and patiently waits for the rush of new volunteers to fill each spot.

This job does not require you to run around chasing one-off replacements at short notice, that is the responsibility of the one needing to be replaced for the day.

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If you are interested in any more information,

- would like to join the canteen committee,
- have any issues that you would like addressed by the committee or
- more importantly would like to volunteer for either job,

Please call Kerrie Basclain on 9980 9836 or email kerrste@optusnet.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS FROM MRS IRVINE

I do hope everyone has studied the new menu and is now familiar with the new prices etc. I am satisfied that the menu offers a variety of healthy food choices and that there is enough on offer to tempt even the fussiest of eaters !

Open day is virtually upon us (it is happening on **Wednesday 27 May** just in case you weren't aware !) So without further ado, please take careful note of the following. We are offering a pre-order lunch service for parents and visitors on the day – you can support the canteen and get to share lunch with your child(ren) ! Children do not need to pre-order (but can if they wish) as the normal menu will still be in operation on this day. But for parents and visitors it is **essential** that lunches are all pre-ordered.

For parents / visitors :

Please provide **TWO** bags per person (one for food and one for drink) clearly labelled with your name and "visitor". Please complete lunch order form and attach to bags. Pre-ordered lunches for parents / visitors may be collected from the canteen at lunch time. They will be available in alphabetical order.

Timing is obviously an important part of ensuring that "the plan comes together" ! Please ensure that **ALL** parent / visitor orders are handed in to the canteen by **Monday 25 May at the very latest.**

Here's hoping you all have a lovely day in our wonderful school grounds sharing open day with your children !

Until next time

Lesley Irvine

Canteen Manager

FUNDRAISING

During the next week your child will receive a copy of the P&C's newest fundraising venture.

The Green Guide. A guide to local business.

Many of the advertisers are families associated with the school and many are outside businesses who support our school.(read disclaimer on inside cover).

It also has P&C subcommittee information and rosters.

The Green Guide will be available on the school website and renewed each year.

I wish to thank all advertisers for supporting our school.

Thankyou to Miss Ryan and the children of 1/2 R for providing the illustrations.

