The Grapevine

The P&C Newsletter from Narrabeen North Public School

From the P & C President...
Actually, parents it’s your old president here. Last night’s AGM was a huge success and we filled all executive positions. I would like to take the opportunity to introduce our new committee and to welcome them to NNPS. Our new executive committee is Jacqueline Mannell as President, Danielle Taylor as Secretary, Michael Scalese and Joe Rix are sharing the role of Treasurer (Joe’s title will be Vice President/Treasurer) and myself as Vice President (just to lend a hand to the new committee). A huge thank you to all these wonderful people for lending a hand. It is genuinely appreciated by all the families, teachers and students.

I would like to extend a huge apology and a sincere thank you to Suzanne Lascelles for all of her help preparing the procedure manual in the past month. In my haste to get through a very busy meeting I missed the opportunity to sing her praises and they are most certainly deserved. So thank you again.

A final reminder also that raffle tickets have been sent home. If you have not received them please see your class teacher. Spares will be in the office as of this afternoon.

Now I will hand over to Jacqueline who I know will be a wonderful president for NNPS.

Hi everyone, its Jacqueline here, you can call me Jac if you like, but never Jacqui. I’m excited to be starting the role of President as a new member of the school and the northern beaches community as a whole. I have a daughter in Kindergarten this year and one still at home for another year. I’m hoping you will support me in making the P&C a huge success for 2013.

Last night’s meeting was long but successful and we also filled the chairperson positions for the sub committees of After School Care (Lara Petrulis as chairperson, Vanessa Tucker as treasurer) Canteen (Elise Andrews as chairperson) Band (Megan Catterall as chairperson, Libby Vanderlaan as vice chairperson, Tracy Palmer as Treasurer, Gaylene Searle as secretary and Lisa Bow as registrar) Uniform (Rachael Peacock and Nicole Amundsen as shared chairperson). Extra volunteers are always welcome so please feel free to come along to the next meeting or to a sub-committee meeting. You will meet new friends, like me! and know that you are making a huge difference in the life of the school.

What we didn’t get around to last night is the call for Class Parents. A class parent is a valuable communication tool between the P&C and the teacher and other parents within your child’s class. It’s also a great social tool to keep in touch and meet the parents of your child’s friends! Many of you may have decided on a class parent last night at your meet the teacher night. If your class has not decided on a parent rep yet, talk to the teacher first and then please let me know via email at this address nnpspandc_president@gmail.com if you are the nominated class parent as soon as possible.

I look forward to meeting more of you at meetings or in the playground and good luck selling lots of raffle tickets!

Jacqueline

From the Principal’s desk...
Principal Award recipients for Week 5: No Principal Awards were presented this week due to the changeover to a new computer system. Awards will be presented as usual next week.

The Principal Awards are generally presented as follows:
• The Y3-Y6 awards are presented at the whole school assembly on Tuesday afternoon from approximately 1.50pm – weather permitting.
• The K-Y2 awards are presented at the special K-Y2 assembly.

Dates to Remember - Term 1

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 01 Mar</td>
<td>PSSA vs Mona Vale PS @ Kitchener Park</td>
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<td>Pittwater Tag @ Narrabeen Reserve</td>
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<td>AFL @ NSHS</td>
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<td>Mon 04 Mar</td>
<td>Banner Assembly @ 2.15pm JHA</td>
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<td>Amphitheatre</td>
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<td>Thu 07 Mar</td>
<td>Mufti Day—gold coin donation (SRC fundraising)</td>
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<td>PCS Y7 Extension Class Test @ NSHS 9.15am (sharp)</td>
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<td>Tue 12 Mar</td>
<td>Selective High School Test @ NSHS</td>
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<td>Shave and Colour Day</td>
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<td>Thu 14 Mar</td>
<td>Mufti Day—gold coin donation (Canteen fundraiser)</td>
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<td>Class Parents</td>
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6 Namona Street, North Narrabeen NSW 2101      Phone: 9913 7928
Website: narranorth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au      Fax: 9913 7873   e-mail: narranorth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Before and After School Care: 9913 2846

Website: narranorth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Before and After School Care: 9913 2846
assembly on a Wednesday afternoon at approximately 2.00pm – weather permitting.

In the event of wet weather, the awards are generally presented at the next whole school assembly. These assemblies are held after lunch at 1.50pm Mondays to Thursdays.

The Banner Assembly
The first banner assembly for the year takes place next Monday at 2.15pm in the JHA – weather permitting. Gold banners are presented to those students who have achieved 3 principal’s awards – quite an achievement, indeed! Please note that in a ‘banner assembly week’ the special K-2 assembly (Wednesdays at 2pm) and the special Y3-Y6 assembly (Fridays at 11.30am) do not take place. Principal’s awards are handed out at the regular 1.50pm assembly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

PCS Y7 extension class
Applications went home with our Y6 students last week for placement in an extension class for Y7 at one of our Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS) high schools for 2014. The applications are due at CROMER PUBLIC SCHOOL by Friday, 1 March along with the test fee. The date for the placement test is Tuesday, 12 March. Please contact me at school for further information if necessary.

Technology challenges
We have had a couple of challenging days with technology recently. Last week, our network was down after an explosion in a power box on Pittwater Rd impacted severely on the school’s system. This week we have been without our computer network again but this time due to other reasons. The Department is converting schools over to a new network management system called ‘eT4L’ and this week was our turn for the process. All school computers, printers and interactive whiteboards were inactive while the changeover process occurred. Hopefully, all is up and running correctly from today. The process was quite an intense one with personnel from the DEC here to carry out the work. It was also crucial that Mrs Wineberg, in her role as the school’s computer coordinator was also on hand to assist and become familiar with the new system.

Interviews with our teachers
I hope everyone enjoyed the ‘Meet the teacher’ sessions on last night and that the information provided was useful. The session was meant as a general overview outlining the procedures and routines in your child’s classroom. At the end of this term we will hold our Parent/Teacher interview sessions where you will have the opportunity to talk specifically about your child with the teacher. Look out for information about these sessions coming out in the weeks ahead.

Our teachers are always available to discuss your child’s school performance. However, the way to go about this is to make an appointment via the school office. Please understand that our teachers are not available for ‘door stop’ interviews at bell time – there is a class of students waiting!

The Australian Curriculum

Last week I introduced elements of the new Australian Curriculum with a focus on the English syllabus. The new English syllabus will be taught in all schools from next year. This week I will introduce the new maths syllabus and the new science syllabus.

Mathematics K-6
Students develop their mathematical knowledge, skills and understandings through a range of learning experiences across:

- Number and algebra, e.g. whole numbers and fractions and decimals.
- Measurement and geometry e.g. length, area and time.
- Statistics and probability, e.g. data and chance.
- They develop their problem solving skills, and mathematical reasoning and communication.
- Students in Stage 3 develop a deeper understanding in statistics and probability.

The new maths syllabus will be taught from 2015.

Science and Technology

- Students develop their skills in using processes of Working Scientifically and Working Technologically to answer interesting questions and develop creative solutions to important 21st century problems.
- They develop their curiosity and understanding about the Natural Environment and the Made Environment through learning about the Physical World, Earth and Space, the Living World, the Material World, Built Environments, Information
- Products.
- Students learn about the influence and relevance of science and technology in their lives now and in the future.

The new science syllabus will be taught from 2015.

For more information about the Australian Curriculum in NSW go to the Board of Studies website at: www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/parents

Teacher professional learning (TPL)
All teachers have a responsibility to engage in ongoing professional learning throughout their careers.

At NNPS our teachers are actively involved in TPL in a variety of forms, from in-school meetings to attendance at external courses. This week, several staff members have been involved in TPL. Examples include:

- Miss Stewart attended a mandatory course for choir teachers for teachers from schools with students in the State Music Festival;
- Ms McKenzie attended a course focused on the teaching of literacy outcomes using drama and art to engage learners;
- Miss McIntyre and Miss Stewart attended a course to enhance the teaching of literacy outcomes to students with language difficulties;
- Miss McIntyre attended an environmental sustainability course at Pittwater Council;
• Mrs Wineberg was engaged in TPL while working with DEC ICT staff installing the new eT4L system;
• All staff participated in an after school information session re the eT4L system presented by regional staff;
• All staff participated in Monday afternoon literacy and PDHPE/Creative Arts team meetings. The Literacy team is responsible for planning for the implementation of the new English syllabus for next year, and the PDHPE/CA team was busy planning upcoming carnivals and resource management;
• Mr Perrin and Miss Legg were involved in class program planning, extra support and differentiation sessions with our Support and Learning Teacher (SALT), Mrs Harding;
• Mrs Shaw and Mrs Wineberg attended an afternoon workshop for PCS computer coordinators interested in using Adobe products in their schools. This was the first of several sessions, with the next looking at Adobe Photoshop and its uses in a school setting.

Summer is tick season
We are very lucky to have such a wonderful playground and access to the grassy back field. All of our trees, shrubs and grass areas are very pleasing to the eye. However, in summer there is the problem of ticks. Ticks are endemic to the northern beaches and found all over the area. The management of ticks at school is a tricky business when we consider all of our vegetation and bushland. It is not possible to spray the school – what part would we spray and how often? Sprays last only for a short time (even shorter after rain) and, if used would impact severely on our many students with allergies. Our school is a ‘wildlife corridor’ and animals would quickly bring ticks back to the site. Our general assistant, Mario works hard to maintain the grounds on his two days a week at NNPS. He mows frequently to assist in the management of ticks. Overhanging branches are also trimmed. Students are encouraged to stay out of bushy areas and to walk on the pathways. A large part of the playground is artificial turf, an area safe from ticks. Students prone to ticks should be encouraged to play in this area.

An information pamphlet from NSW Health is available from the office with suggestions on how to manage the tick problem.

Return date for Term 2
There was a misprint in last week’s newsletter. The correct return date to school for students for Term 2 is WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY. This day is our school athletics carnival. The carnival date was booked very early last year, well BEFORE the government allocated a school development day on Tuesday, 30 April.

Robert Blanchfield
Beyond the Board with Miss Dickson

A classroom is four walls with tomorrow inside!

Stage 3 News
Thank you to all the parents who attended the ‘Meet the Teacher Night’ last week. Education is a three way partnership and as teachers we appreciate your support and understanding. We are all in this together for the same ultimate goal—your child’s best interest. I’m sure you’ve seen it before but I think this poem is always worth revisiting at this time of year. I hope you enjoy it.

Unity

I dreamt I stood in a studio,  
And watched two sculptors there.  
The clay they used was a young child’s mind,  
And they fashioned it with care.  
One was a teacher—the tools she used,  
Were books, music, and art.  
The other, a parent—working with a guiding hand,  
And a gentle loving heart.  
Day after day, the teacher toiled  
With a touch that was deft and sure.  
While the parent labored by her side,  
And polished and smoothed it o’er.  
And when at last, their task was done,  
They were proud of what they had wrought.  
For the things they had molded into the child,  
Could neither be sold nor bought.  
And each agreed they would have failed  
If each had worked alone,  
For behind the teacher stood the school,  
And behind the parent, the home.  

- Author Unknown

Student Leadership
Our student leaders from Yr 6 have commenced working with other school captains and vice captains from PCS schools on a targeted student leadership program at Narrabeen Sports HS each Wednesday afternoon for 6 weeks. This opportunity is run by Sharon Smithies, our PCS coordinator and Adam Hearne an Assistant Principal from Avalon PS. The program was launched with our Y6 leaders attending a special leadership development day at Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre. It will culminate with project presentations on Thursday, 11 April at the Narrabeen Sports High Hall. Our prefect body is also putting their organisational and communication skills into use by hosting a ‘Welcome Morning Tea’ for new students who have joined us in various grades, throughout the school, this year.

Congratulations to all of our student leaders who are truly being fabulous role models and leading by example. Well done! We have also been so proud of our senior students and the leadership they have shown with their kinder buddies. Each Stage 3 class also has a kinder buddy class.

High School Placement Forms / PCS Extension Test and Selective High School.
Shortly Y6 students will receive their ‘Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7’ forms. Please complete and return to the office before Friday, 22 March.

This week Y6 students received information about the PCS Extension Test which is to be held at Narrabeen Sports High on Tuesday, 12 March at 9.15 am sharp. If your child is sitting this test you should forward the application and money directly to the Cromer Primary School. Parents are responsible for taking their child to and from the test. Any questions please contact the office.

If your child applied in 2012 for Selective High School Placement they will need to be at Narrabeen Sports High School on Thursday, 14 March. Parents are responsible for taking their child to and from the venue.

Zone Swimming Carnival
A great time was had by all at the carnival today and as always our students were great ambassadors of NNPS. Thank you to the wonderful parents who assisted with timekeeping, transport and supported our swimmers on the day. Major results will be reported on in the next newsletter.

Performance Dance Groups
Over 75 students auditioned for the 22 positions in the Stage 3 dance group. Thank you to everyone who tried out and if you missed out we hope to provide further opportunities later in the year. The Performance Group will have lessons each Thursday after lunch in the NBISC. Thank you to everyone for the prompt payment of fees.

Carpe Diem
Michelle Dickson  
Assistant Principal (AP) Sports and CAPA Team Leader

Shave and Colour Day
Student Sponsorship forms and Permission to Colour forms have gone home with the youngest child today.
Additional forms are available from the office.
Adult sponsorship forms are also available from the office.
All forms are also attached to the emailed version of this newsletter.
2nd Hand Uniform Shop

Opening hours
1st Friday of every month
8.45-9.15am

Next Open Friday, 1 March

CANTEEN FUNDRAISER
Mufti muffin day.
On Tuesday, 19 March, our “Shave and Colour” day, come to school in mufti with a gold coin donation to help raise funds for the canteen. On this day, chocolate chip muffins and packet chips will be on sale for $1.50 each over the counter.

SRC Fundraising
Mufti day on
Thursday, 7 March
Donation of a gold coin.

Please add to your diary!
“Pause, Prompt, Praise”
Parent information afternoon.
Strategies and ideas for helping your child with home reading
Tuesday, 12 March
At 3.15pm
In the Library
Mrs Harding and Mrs Reid

OPEN NIGHT
6TH MARCH 2013, 6pm
Come join us in our exciting journey to assist the academic and social development of Respectful, Responsible and Successful 21st Century learners.
Waste Free Wednesday is here and Crunch and Sip is coming!

Why eat fruit and veg everyday?
Fruits and vegetables are high in vitamins, minerals and dietary fibre, as well as being rich in antioxidants. Research shows that people who eat adequate amounts of fruits and vegetables everyday can help prevent:

- coronary heart disease
- some forms of cancer
- overweight and obesity
- constipation
- high blood pressure and blood cholesterol levels
- help improve control of diabetes.

Aim to eat fruit and vegetables everyday - the greater the variety, the better health benefits.

PLEASE NOTE: Whilst every attempt is made to verify bonafide advertisers, the school does not accept responsibility therefore parents should use their own discretion.