The Chalkboard

Week 6, Term 1 Thursday, 7 March 2013

The Newsletter from Narrabeen North Public School

Dates to Remember - Term 1

- Fri 8 Mar: PSSA vs Avalon @ NN back field
- Fri 8 Mar: Pittwater Tag @ Narrabeen Reserve
- Tue 12 Mar: AFL @ NSHS
- Tue 12 Mar: PCS Y7 Extension Class Test @ NSHS
- 9.15am (sharp)
- Thu 14 Mar: Selective High School Test @ NSHS
- 9.15am (sharp)
- Tue 19 Mar: Shave and Colour Day
- Thu 19 Mar: Mufti Day—gold coin donation (Canteen fundraiser)
- Thu 28 Mar: Canteen “Let’s Get Ready For Easter”
- Fri 29 Mar: Good Friday—Easter Break
- Mon 1 Apr: Easter Monday—Easter Break
- Tue 2 Apr: Grand Parents/ Friends Day
- Fri 12 Apr: Last day Term 1
- Wed 1 May: Term 2— Students return to school. This is the Athletics Carnival day.

From the Principal’s desk...

Principal Award recipients for Week 6 - Congratulations to: Coen Spoljaric 1AJ; Lily Taylor 1AJ; Beau Lambert 1M; Jasmine Bennett 1/2M; Charlotte Caldwell 2H; James Van Dyk 1/2M; Dylan Schmidt 2H; Patrick Hamilton 2H; Hayden Smith 2SG; Amber Bell 2SG; Tahlia Raper 2SG; Matthew Marcellino 2SG; Bailey Roper 3M; Jacob Murray 3M; Samuel Marov 3M; Hayden Tucker 3M; Alec Rawson 3M; Jayden Waters 3/4G; Tom Crowther 3/4G; Beau Raubal 3/4G; Zee Waterhouse-Bushnell 3/4G; Mia Creed 4F; Max Oldham 4F; Jayden Hunter 4F; Oliver Gordon 4P; Kristy Williams 5S; Erin Brooks 5S; Kara Meth 5/6B; Hugh Arundel 5/6B; Ella Bullock 6W; Chantal Williams 6W; Daniel McKay 6W; Gracie Mamoah 6W; Skye Kirkland 6W Thea Waring 6W; Lauren Dean 6W; Indyha Burton 6W; Connor Webster 6W and Harry Rawley 6W. Well done, everyone!

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 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.

Our new P&C executive

It is a huge delight to welcome the new executive team of the 2013 NNPS P&C. I know that they were introduced in last week’s Grapevine but I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Jacqueline, Danielle, Michael, Jo and Gay for stepping up to the mark and helping the students and community in this wonderful way. All of the staff of NNPS pass on their warm thanks and congratulations to each and every member of the new team.

I understand that there are one or two subcommittee roles and some class parent spots still to be filled. Please ‘put your hand up to help’ by contacting Jacqueline today. Thank you.

School starts at 9am

It is very important that students are at school in time for the start of lessons at 9am. Of course, on the odd occasion there may be the ‘can’t be helped late arrival’, but late arrivals should never become the norm. Our procedure is that all students who arrive after the 9am bell must sign-in at the office and take a yellow late slip to class. These late arrivals are counted as ‘partial absences’ and are included in the school reports.

When students arrive in the morning they should put their bags near their classrooms and move around to the main playground. Students must not remain in the area near J Block and the library. A teacher is on duty every morning from 8.30am and all students must be ‘behind the red line’. Thank you.

Devices at school

Our school does not encourage students to bring mobile phones, hand-held ICT devices and computer games to school at any time. Such devices can cause problems at school and may distract students from their school work. The school accepts no responsibility whatsoever, if a device is lost, stolen or damaged. Please encourage your child to save the ‘delights’ of such devices for home and the weekend.

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.

Good luck, Mrs Murphy
On Wednesday and Thursday, our RFF science teacher, Mrs Murphy competed in the NSW Life Saving State Titles representing North Narrabeen Surf Life Saving Club. As at time of writing we are not aware of the results but I am sure that we all wish Mrs Murphy every success. Congratulations, Jodie!

Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre (NBISC) parking
For the benefit of our new families I will take a few lines to explain the situation at the NBISC regarding car parking.

The school does not own the NBISC car park area; it is under the control of the NBISC management committee. The management of the centre generously allows NNPS parents to use their car park for drop off in the mornings and pick up in the afternoons. NNPS parents generally have access to the car park from approximately 8.30am to 9.15am and again from 2.30pm to 3.15pm. Drivers must follow safe driving practices and obey the one-way flow system, especially when there are children present. They must park in the marked bays only and obey the rules regarding the handicapped spaces as well as those spaces reserved for NBISC office workers.

The NBISC is most busy after school hours and the car park can be very crowded when evening games are scheduled - which is every night! When there is a big school related evening event, such as parent teacher interviews at the end of this term and later in the year, presentation events and dance concerts, the NBISC car park is not available for school parking. The centre will need the car park for their own regular evening events. We must remember that as a school community we are very lucky indeed to be able to access the car park by the good graces of NBISC management. Many local schools would be very keen to have the car parking arrangements that NNPS boasts!

Lost property
Please come and check outside my office on the lost property racks if your child is missing an item of clothing. There is enough stock there for me to open a shop! Also, the black bucket on the wooden seat near Mr Brown’s room is overflowing with lost lunch boxes and drink bottles. Please check. Thank you.

Robert Blanchfield

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB NEWS
Issue 2 of Book Club will be sent home on Monday, 11 March.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RETURNED BY FRIDAY, 15 March

Orders and payments are to be placed in an envelope with the child’s name and class clearly marked and delivered to the office. ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE FRIDAY.

Students in KW, 1/2M, 5S and 6W should return their orders directly to their class teacher.

Gail Bateman and Shelley Bell
Book Club Coordinators

School Banking Day Reminder

Don’t forget that Thursday is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit on Tuesday or Wednesday.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

Information regarding school banking can be obtained from the office.
**Miss Russell’s Wrap Up…**

**Grandparents/Friends Day**

Narrabeen North will be holding our Grandfriends Day on Tuesday, 2 April. We would like to invite all our Grandparents and/or Grandfriends along to our banner assembly at 10am to see our students receive awards for excellence at NNPS. You will also be treated to a few performances from students in our choir groups and Kindergarten will entertain you with a song as well. After our assembly our Grandfriends will visit our classrooms to see just how fabulous their grandchildren are. They are then welcome to join our students in the playground for recess. Light refreshments will be available from the canteen for purchase. I hope to see you all there.

**Writing Competition**

There is a writing competition that I have submitted for our school to enter. Write4fun has designed a competition to encourage creativity with literacy. Students can write a story on any topic and in any style. Entries must not exceed 16 lines in length or 64 characters in width for poems and must not exceed 500 words for short stories. You can find all the details on write4fun.net. Please come and see me if you have any questions. Entries close Sunday, 31 March.

**Welfare News - TRIPLE P seminar series**

TRIPLE P parenting seminars are on again this year. Please read the information provided from Relationships Australia.

TRIPLE P seminar series
In around 90 minutes each, these three seminars will aim to leave carers feeling more confident, competent and ready to deal with common child behavioural and emotional issues. Topics include ‘The Power of Positive Parenting’, ‘Raising Competent, Confident Children’ and ‘Raising Resilient Children’. These seminars are for parents and carers with children 3-10 years old.

When: Saturdays, 16 and 30 March and 6 April at 10-12pm
Where: Relationships Australia
5 Sera Street, Lane Cove
(Sorry, no childcare available)

ALL SEMINARS ARE FREE. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

As places are limited call 9418 8800 to secure your place. For more information email northadmin@ransw.org.au or visit our website http://www.nsw.relationships.com.au

**Meet the Teacher Night**

A huge thank you to all those families who came out to meet their child’s class teacher last week. It was great to see so many parents here and finding out about all the wonderful things that the teachers and students do here at Narrabeen North Public School.

Until next time,

_Tanya Russell_

Non Teaching Assistant Principal
Literacy, LST, Welfare and ESI Leader

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**Beyond the Board with Miss Dickson**

Half the term is already gone and just so many interesting and challenging opportunities have been provided for our Stage 3 students. Go Stage 3!!

**Dance Update**

Congratulations to Ella from 6D and Indyah from 6W. Both girls were successful in their application to the talented dance camp for students in stage 3. The camp will truly be a wonderful experience and extend their skills as professionals as the Sydney Dance Company mentor them.

Our Stage 1 and Stage 3 Performance Groups are both hard at work learning their dance routines for the Sydney North Dance Festival auditions early Term 2. If successful the groups will perform at Glen Street Theatre at the end of Term 2.

Class dance lessons, where students receive a 30 minute weekly lesson with Miss White, our dance specialist, begin in Term 2.

**Stage 3 Anti Bullying Program**

At NNPS we take a strong stand against bullying and strive to teach our students how to show tolerance, follow the NARRA values and say no to bullying. We specifically teach our students strategies to deal with bullying and promote a ‘No, Go Tell’ policy. Students are also asked to sign a school based Anti Bullying Contract. Often though, outside help can be of great assistance to reinforce our message and make an impression on our students.

On Tuesday Stage 3 were thrilled to welcome the Manly Warringah Development officer and current sea eagle, Glen Stewart to the school as part of the ‘Tackle Bullying’ campaign. The session proved to be most valuable and engaging and we love having the Sea Eagles assist us with this important message.

**Expression of Interest for High school 2014**

Forms will be sent home directly. Parents are to complete the Expression of Interest form and return it to school no later than Friday, 22 March, 2013. Please return the form in the envelope provided. As explained on ‘Meet the Teacher Night’, should your child not be attending a government school you still need to fill in section E and return your form to school. Should your child be sitting for Manly Selective School you must tick the box in section D but also complete either section B, C, or E.

**Sport Update**

As reported last week NNPS enjoyed great success at the Pittwater Zone Swimming Carnival. Many of our students reached finals and a number of super-fish placed in those finals. We are also thrilled to have four students moving on to the Sydney North Regional Carnival to be held at Sydney Aquatic Centre on Monday, 18 March.

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Congratulations to these students:

Jed Hugill  3rd in butterfly
Lily Yeoman  3rd in backstroke

In freestyle events 3rd place move onto Regionals

Alex Brown  3rd in 10yrs freestyle
Max Oldham  3rd in 9yrs freestyle
Makayli Byrne  2nd in 8yrs freestyle
Ben Couper  2nd in 8yrs freestyle

We wish you all well and hope you enjoy the moment and magic of swimming in the Olympic pool. Go NARRA super-fish!

We have also had numerous students attending zone trials in recent weeks. Well done to Carly Abbott and Mia Heysmand who represented the zone at the regional trials. Good luck to those students also representing us in the coming week at the basketball trials.

From the P and C President...

Hello from the P&C! It’s been a very busy week indeed as we get a lot of administration out of the way and get down to business!

CLASS PARENTS! At the moment I am missing Class Parents for the following classes!!!: KA, KM, 1/2M, 2CJ, 3L, 4F, 5M, 5S, 5/6B and 6D. If you are the nominated class parent or know who is for these classes can you please email me at nnpspandc_president@gmail.com so I can update the roll of contacts. Thank you All!

RAFFLE TICKETS - Keep them coming in! If you need more books see the office and don’t forget there are some great cash incentive prizes for the top sellers! Last tickets must be in to us by the Tuesday, 26 March!

This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the entire year so please get your workplaces, families and sporting groups behind us so we can donate as much to the school as possible!

BANK ACCOUNTS - If you use P&C services such as Band, Before and After School Care or the Canteen through online ordering then bank accounts have changed effective immediately to St George Accounts. Update your details to:

NNPS P&C Music  BSB 112-879  Account 4676 08044
NNPS P&C Canteen  BSB 112-879  Account 4751 85539
NNPS P&C B&ASC  BSB 112-879  Account 4389 54811

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - We still need a chairperson for the Before and After School Care service. We had someone pull out who had more commitments than time available, and so this position is still available and needs to be filled. There is not a lot of time required and full training will be provided so if you use this care service and are interested in helping us further nurture and develop it into a success in 2013 please contact me asap! We also need a volunteer to change the school sign/noticeboard and we are also desperately short of canteen volunteers so please contact me if you can help!

Are there any parents who are qualified CPA’s or Auditors who would be willing to audit the P&C’s books at the end of the year, either on a volunteer basis or for a nominal fee? If any of you can answer the call out for this essential legal requirement please email me as soon as possible thank you!

The outgoing and incoming executive committee met last night for a long but productive meeting and it was exciting to note the passion we all have for making this one of the best years yet for our school and our children. We hope we have all of the parents support in achieving these goals and as always encourage you to the next P&C Meeting on Wednesday, 27 March.

Jacqueline Mannell
**Field of Mars is Coming!**

Exciting news! Stage 2 has visitors from the Field of Mars coming to the school on Monday, 18 March and Wednesday, 20 March. We will be putting together a script and storyboard to make a short documentary on the habitat and plant life within our school and in the wetlands. Children will be starting their research and filming ideas. Look out... we may have the next David Attenborough within our midst!

Jules McKenzie  
Stage 2 Assistant Principal

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**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

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**GRAND PARENTS DAY**

Tuesday, 2 April  
Let’s enjoy the day with our grandparents and grandfriends.  
Tea and coffee as well as yummy piklets and Anzac biscuits will be on sale for our grandparents/friends.

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**LET’S GET READY FOR EASTER**

Thursday, 28 March  
Let’s all get ready for Easter with chocolate coated fruit sticks for $2.50.

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**AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2013**

Dear Parents,

The annual AMT Mathematics Competition will take place on Thursday, 1 August for students in year 3-6 and students are invited to participate. The fee for the competition is **$5.50.**

The aim is to give students an opportunity to discover talent in mathematics. Students are asked to solve thirty problems in 60 minutes. The earliest problems are very easy, all students should be able to attempt them. The problems get progressively more difficult until the end, when they are challenging to the most gifted student.

If you would like to register your child, please collect a form from the 5S classroom, or the office, or print out the form from the school website and return to school office gold box with your $5.50 enclosed before the end of Term One.

Kind Regards,  
Tamar Stewart  
Competition Coordinator
UNSW International Competitions and Assessment 2013

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to enter the 2013 International Competitions in Science, Spelling, Writing, Mathematics, English and Computer Skills. These examinations incur an entry fee and are not run by the Department of Education but by EAA - Education Assessment Australia, an independent organisation owned by the University of NSW. Your child will compete against students in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, South Africa and the Pacific Region. The exams provide an opportunity for students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly, their total score, as well as their average, compared with the rest of the students in the state.

Certificates are awarded as follows:
- High Distinction: top 1% of entrants
- Distinction: to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit: to the next 20% of entrants
- Participation: to all other participating students
- All students who achieve the highest score in each state receive a University NSW medal.

Dates and cost are as follows:
- Computer Skills: Tues 21 May $8.80
- Science: Wed 5 June $8.80
- Writing: Mon 17 June $18.70
- Spelling: Tues 18 June $12.10
- English: Wed 31 July $8.80
- Mathematics: Tues 13 August $8.80

Please collect the entry form from the school office, the 5S classroom or download a form from the school website. Return your form with the correct payment to the school (drop in gold box in office) no later than Monday 8 April 2013. Entries after this date cannot be accepted.

Students performed very well in 2012 and we can’t wait to see the great NNP5 results for 2013! I look forward to receiving your entry forms!

Kind regards,

Tamar Stewart (ICAS Competitions Coordinator)

What is the sip in Crunch and Sip?????
Water

Tap water makes the best drink!
Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer:
- it is cheap and readily available
- it doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar
- it encourages optimal function of the body

We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day. In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.