The Newsletter from Narrabeen North Public School

From the Principal’s desk...

Principal awards for Week 7 - Congratulations to: .... Lily T KW; Joshua G 1AJ; Maggie Y 1/2M; Jett H 2SG; Jamie M 3L; Emily R 3M; Julius K 3M; Aiden W 3M; Connor D 3M; Samuel M 3M; Beau R 3/4G; Aajiah B 3/4G; Jayd W 3/4G; Ruby W 3/4G; Isabelle S 3/4G; Luke M 3/4G; Coen H 3/4G; Sequoia G-B 4F; Mia C 4F; Joshua Y 5M; Joel P 5M; Jamie-Lee R 6W; Jasmine H 6W and Natalie G 6W. Well done, everyone!

What is the capital of Lesotho?

Congratulations to our hard working P&C committee in their excellent organisation of the Trivia Night this Saturday at Pittwater RSL Club. The school values your commitment to ensuring the success of this community event. All funds raised will help the P&C to finance enhancements to the delivery of quality teaching and learning at our school. Good luck to all teams!
(Answer: Maseru)

Welcome back to Mrs Bolton

After a period of maternity leave, Mrs Cora Bolton returned to school today and class 2CJ. For the rest of the year Mrs Bolton will be working with her class on Thursdays and Fridays. We are very fortunate that Miss McIntyre has agreed to say on and continue working with the delightful students of 2CJ on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I would like to thank Miss McIntyre for her dedication and hard work with her students this year and I am sure that the job share with Mrs Bolton will be an outstanding success.

Teacher professional learning

After school on Tuesday, all NNPS attended a combined PCS teacher professional learning session at Pittwater HS. The session was a follow-up to the one we attended on the school development day at the start of Term 2 and was presented by the renowned speaker and educator, Mr Michael McQueen. The theme of the session was 21st century learners and what educational strategies teachers need to use when working with students from generations ‘X’ and ‘Y’. Thanks to Mrs Sharon Smithies, our PCS coordinator for organising this valuable event.

Ongoing professional learning centred on the new Australian Curriculum’s English syllabus also took place this week. Two of the Department’s English consultants, Claire Thicket and Ros Peel were with us to assist our teachers with the development of English units of work with a particular grammar and punctuation focus. Each stage group (Early Stage 1, Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3) had half a day to work with a consultant and gain a deeper understanding of the expectations of the new syllabus. A similar professional learning opportunity is planned for next term. Many thanks to the English committee and Miss Russell for designing the day.

A lock-down practice is coming

The Department requires that schools conduct at least two emergency drill procedures a year. In Term 1 we conducted two ‘backfield evacuation drills’ and before the end of this term we plan to conduct a ‘lock-down’. In a lock down, students are contained in their classrooms until an ‘all clear’ is called by the proper authority (i.e. the police, the fire department etc.). Rooms are locked, blinds (if present) are drawn and students gather in the centre of the room. No one is permitted to enter or leave the room for any reason during a lock down. In our drill situation, the lock down might only last for a few minutes; however, in a real situation lockdowns have been known to last for hours. The emergency drills are managed by the school’s Workers Health and Safety Committee (WHS) and staff will only know the week in which the drill will take place.

Our Children’s Crossing

We have a Children’s Crossing in Namona Street. Children’s Crossings are legally the most stringent marked pedestrian crossings for managing traffic and road safety in the local streets around primary schools. During their operating hours crossings for managing traffic and road safety in the local streets around primary schools. During their operating hours crossings for managing traffic and road safety in the local streets around primary schools. During their operating hours crossings for managing traffic and road safety in the local streets around primary schools.

Listed below are the three key things to know about Children’s Crossings:

1. Your Children’s Crossing operates when the orange ‘CHILDREN CROSSING’ flags are displayed
2. Drivers approaching a Children’s Crossing with orange flags displayed by law MUST STOP their car at the stop line and wait until all pedestrians on the crossing and those about to step onto the crossing have crossed the road
3. Pedestrians using a Children’s Crossing walk between the two red and white posts on each side of the road and keep within that area.

The safety of our students is paramount to everyone. The management of traffic and safety around our school is a priority issue for Council, the RTA and the Police. The requirement to stop and wait at CHILDREN’S CROSSINGS is

Dates to Remember - Term 3

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 30 Aug</td>
<td>PSSA Trials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 31 Aug</td>
<td>Trivia Night 7.30pm @ Pittwater RSL</td>
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<td>Mon 2 Sep</td>
<td>Book Week Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 12 Sep</td>
<td>NNPS’s 74th birthday- Red Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 3 Dec</td>
<td>Cybersmart—Parent Info—5.30pm</td>
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an integral part of ensuring the safety of our students. Drivers failing to stop and wait at a CHILDREN’S CROSSING can be issued with an on-the-spot fine of at least $211 and be subject to 3 licence demerit points.

Several posters have been displayed around our school to remind all drivers of the requirements of a Children’s Crossing. There are two posters on the fence on Namona Street as well.

School office news
Our school administrative manager (SAM), Mrs Debbie Austin has currently been called up for jury duty in the city. While she is away, our school administrative officers (SAOs), Gail Bateman, Gail Holmes and Sandra Atkins have been doing a wonderful job to ensure that our school office continues to provide the level of customer service for which it is renowned.

Sentences of the week – guest class 5/6B
From Mr Brown: Recently, 5/6B has been examining the differences between simple, compound and complex sentences. Here are a few examples that we chose from our accounts of ‘Go Green Day’. Can you tell the difference and correctly define each type?

Students first went to Miss Dickson’s room to learn about the disgusting but helpful worms. By Jorja S

At the Stormwater workshop we looked at a map of creeks, headlands, rivers, roads and beaches. By Willow B

We learned about Aboriginal ways and how to make our own worm farm, but my favourite thing was making a storm water drain. By Liam W

Thank you, 5/6B. Next week’s guest class will be 6W.

Our school’s 75th birthday
Last term a meeting was organised for parents interested in being part of the planning committee for the school’s 75th anniversary in September 2014. It would be wonderful if more parents could join those parents who have already signed-up and become a part of the team planning the celebrations. If you are interested please see Gail in the office who has the sign-up sheet ready for you! It would be great if we could hold our next meeting before the end of this term. Many thanks!

Cyber safety talk
On Wednesday our Year 3 and Year 4 classes had a talk from the police youth liaison officers from Dee Why Police Station on cyber safety, and how to stay safe online. This is crucial information for all students who access the internet and although some information may seem a bit scary, it is important for all to be aware of the potential dangers as well as the benefits from using the internet. In Term 4, our senior students will take part in a Cyber Smart session with a parent session to follow. Please make sure that you have marked TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER in your diary – this parent information session is open to ALL parents, not just those of students in Year 6. More details to follow next term.

Finally, a very happy Father’s Day to all Narra Dads!

Robert Blanchfield

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**Miss Russell’s Wrap Up...**

A thank you to our community
I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to the Trivia Night committee and to our school community for all the donations that have been coming in. We have fantastic prizes for our night. The committee have been working hard over the past couple of weeks collecting donations, organising the venue, selling the tickets and setting up which is set to be a great night for those attending. Thank you for all your efforts. NNPS students will benefit from all your hard work and they say thanks as well.

Parents and caregivers of school age students on the autism spectrum
Positive Partnerships is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and provides workshops and information sessions for parents and caregivers of school age students on the autism spectrum. The program helps to develop positive relationships with your child’s teacher and school. It has the most up to date information about Autism Spectrum disorders and it also helps families to meet others in the community with children on the spectrum. The workshops and information session are FREE. If you are interested in this program please go to [www.positivepartnerships.com.au](http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au) or call 1300 881 971.

**Father’s Day Stall**
It was great to see all our children lining up to make that important purchase, their father’s day gift. Appreciation has to go to Brooke and her team for all of their hard work getting all the gifts together. We hope all our Dad’s at NNPS have a great father’s day and I am sure your children have picked the right present for you.

**English Professional Development**
This week our staff has been involved in planning for the implementation of the new English syllabus. We were lucky to have our regional support people here to guide us whilst making new units of work for our students at NNPS. It is exciting to see the new Literacy Continuum of learning come to life in our units of work. If you would like to know more about this please head to the NSW board of studies website.

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Tanya Russell
Non-Teaching Assistant Principal
Literacy, Welfare, Early Stage 1 Leader

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**Father’s Day Stall**
Thank you to everyone for supporting the Father’s Day stall with a special thanks to all our wonderful parent helpers. It was a huge success!
Don’t forget the exchange program tomorrow morning from 8.30 to 9.15 am outside Mr Brown’s classroom.

**Stage 2 Premier’s Spelling Bee**
Congratulations to all thirty Stage 2 students who represented their class in the Stage 2 Premier’s Spelling Bee final. There were some very tricky words indeed. Congratulations to Max O and Angus C. These amazing spellers will represent our school in the final on Wednesday, 11 September.
Beyond the Board with Miss Dickson ...

‘A classroom is four walls with tomorrow inside.’

Another busy week ticked off for Stage 3 with the Premier’s Debating Challenge against Collaroy (well done to the girls’ team which won the debate), the Origin Energy Science Show, Zone Athletics, Multi Day and the Father’s Day Stall. The week ahead looks equally as busy with Stage 3 Spelling Bee on this Friday, Book Week on Monday and Year 5 debaters versing Newport next Thursday. The Stage 3 teachers are thrilled to welcome back Mr Skinner to our team. Mr Skinner is teaching 6W whilst Mrs Wineberg is jet-setting her way around America with her family.

Professional Learning

The Stage 3 teachers are all engaging with the new English curriculum and this week spent a half day working with the English consultant. We had a most productive day with the focus being on better incorporating grammar and punctuation into our literacy studies. We also enjoyed the PCS presentation by Michael McQueen on Tuesday afternoon. Michael reminded us all of the myths and strategies revolving around the 21st century learner. There were many great reminders that were not only relevant for teachers but for parents (and aunties) as well. The 21st century learner doesn’t just learn by high tech, doesn’t learn by you trying to be like them and they aren’t self-sufficient—these are myths. The vital strategies are: building relationships, being a facilitator, being authentic, using stories, giving regular positive feedback, going for commitment and showing relevance. It’s not really rocket science but it was very reassuring. Remember, “they don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care!” You can check out Michael’s work at www.michaelmcqueen.net

Zone Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday Mr Brown, Miss Town and I had the honour of accompanying the Narrabeen North track and field team to the Zone Athletics Carnival. We all had a wonderful day and the NNPS athletes were all fantastic ambassadors of our school. Congratulations to the following students who have made it to the next level, the Sydney North Regional Carnival, to be held on Monday, 9 September at Homebush.

Junior Girls Relay Team (Aajuah, Lily, Ulani and Alex)
Caitlin H (800m)
Jadyn F (100m)
Josh B (100m), Josh also came second in long jump
Lily C (100m)

As always the Narrabeen North support team of parents were simply wonderful and added to the fun and enjoyment of the day. We are so lucky to have this support as it not only creates a community atmosphere but saves money. One local school told me that each child at their school was charged $25 for the day to cover the entry fee and buses plus they’d all had to leave at 7.30am. Thanks so much parents for organising private transport and being so sensible regarding the times.

PSSA Summer Competition

Trials for sports begin this Friday. The sports are: Senior Boys Cricket, Junior Boys Softball, Senior Girls Softball, Junior Girls Eagle Tag, Mixed AFL (Yrs 3 and 4 only). The actual summer PSSA Competition begins on Friday, 13 September.

Have a great weekend everyone!
Stay healthy!
Carpe Diem

Premier’s Debating Challenge

Last week our Year 6 debating teams continued their Premier’s Debating Challenge efforts.

In an exciting debate on Thursday, the Narrabeen North Northies won in a very close debate against the Narrabeen North Narras. On Friday the Northies also won against Collaroy Plateau Public School, with the adjudicator commenting on the strength of their arguments. Thank you to the Stage 3 classes for their wonderful audience manners during these debates. Both teams have worked very hard all year and are deserving of their improvement throughout the competition.

Congratulations!

Northies: Carly A, Lily Y, Talia W, Natalie G, Gemma vL, Chantal W, and Jasmine H
Narras: Gracie M, Byron O, Justin O, Jack C, Daniel M

Karen Reid
Debating Coordinator

Beginner’s Chess Lessons

Next term, on Wednesday afternoons, we are hoping to restart a new beginner’s group of chess players. Our chess coach, Miro Novak, was unable to continue the group this term due to there being such a small number of regular participants. We would hate to lose Miro to another school on a Wednesday, so we need to secure at least seven beginners by the end of term to keep him at NNPS.

Chess is such a terrific skill for children’s learning and level of concentration. In fact, according to research, test scores improved by 17.3% for students regularly engaged in chess classes.

To enroll in this beginner’s class, please collect a note from the office or from me and complete and return by Monday, 16 September (Week 10).

Thank you for your support,
Simon Brown
Chess Coordinator
Healthy Hut Red Day
Happy Birthday to Us!
Narrabeen North is celebrating its 74th birthday and you’re invited to the party.
THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER
Bring $7 in an envelope to your class teacher with your name on (Envelopes are to go in class lunch baskets; however online ordering is preferred)
Party food includes -
Recess—Fairy bread, cake and watermelon
Lunch—Party pies and sausage rolls, cocktail frankfurts
Plus for sale on the day—Jelly cups, lolly bags and other party goods
RSVP—THURSDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER

The Northern Sydney Scholastic and Sports Academy
at
Narrabeen Sports High School
Expression of interest to trial for surfing in 2014
Applications close on
Monday, 9 September 2013
Students in Years 7 to 12 are invited to trial for a place in the surfing program and gain membership to the Northern Sydney Scholastic and Sports Academy at Narrabeen Sports High School for 2014.
The trial will be held on Monday, 16 September from 3.45 to 5.00pm.
Applicants must complete a written application form. Application forms are available from Gail at the office.
For more details on the Academy, go to the school website www.narrabeen-h.schools.nsw.edu.au and the Academy facebook page (under the heading Northern Sydney Scholastic and Sports Academy).