Term 1 Week 8

Dates to Remember

<table>
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<th>Term 1 2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 14th March    - Parent Assembly</td>
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<td>Tues 15th March  - P &amp; C Meeting 3.30 pm - AGM</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Thurs 17th March - STEPS Eyesight Screening  
(Kindergarten only) |
| Friday 18th March - Return Year 7 Placement Form 2017 |
| Mon 21st March - Harmony Day (wear orange!) |
| Fri 25th March  - Good Friday |
| Mon 28th March - Easter Monday |
| Fri 1st April  - Return School Uniform order form |
| Fri 8th April  - Last day to return money  
& permission note for Zoo Excursion |
| Fri 8th April  - Last day of Term 1 |
| Wed 27th April - Term 2 begins for students |

Principal’s News

We are entering a very busy time of the term and there are a number of notices and attachments with this newsletter explaining upcoming events. Thank you to all of our families who were very prompt in returning payments for school resources and for paying voluntary school contributions. These contributions in particular assist us with purchasing valuable resources to use in classrooms.

Jackson Koopman Tug-Of-War Challenge and Sport Day

We would like to thank everyone for their very generous donations towards Jackson’ fundraiser last Friday. We raised $720 which will be presented to his family to support them in their challenging journey.

The students had a wonderful time doing a morning of tabloid rotations, followed by a morning tea of hot Cross Buns kindly donated by Kurrajong Bakery.

After recess students participated in Tug-of-War team challenges and the Chocolate Walk. Everyone had a wonderful day and participated with great spirit and good sportsmanship.

Activities concluded with a sausage sizzle. We would like to thank Darryl Carle for donating his time to cook the barbeque. We would also like to thank Munro’s Meats at Wilberforce for sponsoring the sausage sizzle.

A big thank you must also go to Mr Hynds and Mrs Oram for organising the food and prizes for the day.

District Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to our 4 representatives at the District Swimming Carnival for their excellent efforts. We would like to congratulate Laura on achieving Senior Girls Champion! We wish her all the very best at the Regional Swimming Carnival!

Rugby League

Congratulations to Bailey N who has been successful in progressing through to the Combined U 11’s Hawkesbury/Ridges Rugby League trial and will be participating at the Sydney West Under 11’s Championships to be held on Wednesday 30th March at North Parramatta. Well done Bailey!

Soccer

We have a double congratulations to Jack H and Kaid P who were successful in getting into the Hawkesbury Soccer Team. Well done Jack and Kaid!

Shining Star Award

This afternoon at our Parent Assembly, our first Shining Star Award was presented. This award is a new award that will be presented once a term to a student who always tries their best to abide by our school rules, always works to the best of their ability and is a positive school citizen. This student is selected by all staff. Students achieving this award receive a Shining Star Medallion and a $25 Wiseman’s Book Voucher. Our very first worthy recipient is Laura! Congratulations Laura for always trying your best and for being an upstanding school citizen!

Term 1 Interviews

A note regarding end of Term 1 interviews is attached to this newsletter. These interviews will be conducted in the last week of term.

Parents wishing to meet with their child’s class teacher may request an interview on the attached form. The purpose of these interviews is to be provided with an update of your child’s progress to date. If you require an interview longer than the allocated time, please see your child’s class teacher for alternative arrangements.
End of semester interviews will be conducted at the end of Term 2 to provide an explanation of your child’s Semester 1 report.

Term 1 dates and times:

4/5/6 interviews: Tuesday 5th April  Time: 12.30 - 4.30pm  
2/3 interviews: Thursday 7th April Time: 8:30am - 4:30pm  
K/1 interviews: Thursday 7th April Time: 12.00 noon - 5.00 pm

Please return your request for an interview before Wednesday 30th March.

PBL Training

This Thursday and Friday, Mr Hynds and Ms Wheen will be attending Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Training.

Our Student Welfare and Discipline Policy and school rules have been recently revised in line with the philosophies of PBL.

Positive Behaviour for Learning, known as PBL is an evidence-based whole school systems approach that:

- addresses the diverse academic and social needs of every student to support them to be successful
- supports students in early childhood settings through to senior years of schooling
- enables schools to establish a continuum of supports that are intensified to meet the needs of every student
- is team driven, using a problem solving approach (data, systems and practices) that engages students, parents and all school staff
- establishes positive social expectations for all in the school community
- provides a framework for the school and its community to collectively support the wellbeing of every student.

The PBL journey can take 3 to 5 years to effect change. We will regularly share our progress of becoming a PBL school through our school newsletters. We look forward to the journey ahead!

Taronga Zoo Excursion

On Friday 29th April, 2016 the children from K to Yr 6 will be travelling by bus to Taronga Zoo. Please find attached all the information regarding this excursion. Money and permission note must be returned to your child’s teacher by Friday 8th April, 2016. If you wish to pay online, please go to the school website and click on the $ for access.

Hawkesbury Show Art

This year’s theme for the Hawkesbury Show is ‘Celebrations’. The Hawkesbury Show will celebrate its 130th Anniversary this year. Classes have discussed what the Hawkesbury Show means to them and what their favourite part of the show is, to depict in their artwork. Some students have chosen to depict an Australian landmark or an Australian celebration.

We look forward to seeing how the students fare at the show! Children who wish to enter will be required to pay a $1 entry fee to their class teacher.

National Day of Action Against Bullying

This coming Friday is the National Day of Action Against Bullying - a day to raise awareness about how to prevent and deal with bullying. A parent information letter is attached to the newsletter. It addresses ways to support your child in the event of bullying.

Children will be participating in anti-bullying activities during the week in the lead up to Friday. More information is available at www.bullyingnoway.gov.au.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day falls on or close to the National Day of Action against Bullying each year. This year it falls on Monday 21st March.

Harmony Day also coincides each year with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The day celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity and is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone, themes that link directly to the anti-bullying focus of the National Day.

The theme for Harmony Day 2016 is "Our diversity is our strength". Students will undertake Harmony Day activities celebrating our diversity and reinforcing the message that everyone belongs.

Students are invited to wear orange clothes to school in recognition of our diverse culture.

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Monday 21st March 2016. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

Library News

Congratulations to all those children taking part in this year’s Premiere’s Reading Challenge. It has finally begun! Don’t forget to fill in your reading records with the book title and authors name and bring your folder into school after each 5 books read so that I can enter them into the database. Happy reading everyone!

Well done also to those children who have brought in books to share on the Reading Throne. We have really enjoyed hearing about the books that have been recommended. Keep up the great work.
Uniform Orders

Attached to the newsletter is an order form for school uniforms. If you require uniforms, please complete the order form and return it together with your payment to Mrs Chapman in the office by Friday 1st April. These will be delivered early in Term 2.

StEPS Eyesight Screening

The Statewide eyesight preschooler screening (StEPS) program is a free vision screening program available for all four year old children in New South Wales (NSW). The program is an initiative of NSW Health which recommends vision screening before starting school or at the commencement of school.

Screening will take place at Bilpin Public School on Thursday 17th March. A consent form has been sent home to parents of Kindergarten children and if you wish your child to be screened it is important that you return the form on Wednesday 16th March to Mrs Chapman.

The program does not offer a full diagnostic assessment. Any concerns about a child's vision is recommended to be tested fully by an eye health professional.

Chicken News

The chooks are laying like champions! We have 3 dozen eggs available for sale at the moment.

Canteen News

The canteen is in full swing this term and we are very appreciative of our helpers who are rostered on each week. The following parents are rostered on till the end of this term.

Thursday 17th March - Sam Craigie & Kelly Haines
Monday 21st March - Michelle Coe
Thursday 24th March - Louise Saarinen
Monday 28th March - EASTER MONDAY
Thursday 31st March - Elizabeth Peters
Monday 4th April - Rebecca Tadrosse & Margaret Tadrosse
Thursday 7th April - Tessa McLaughlin

Mrs M Mackie
PRINCIPAL

CLASS NEWS

KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 1 - Mrs Oram and Mrs McCoy

This week, the students will be completing their Hawkesbury Show Art with the theme ‘Celebrations’. There will be lots of fluro and glitter happening in the classroom.

As we have had a number of activities, the maths calendars we are making have taken a bit longer to put together. These should be home by the end of next week.

Please remember to keep sending in your child’s readers to be swapped as frequently as possible. Their reading is going so well, they are all sounding fluent, with a lot of expression in their voices. Year 1 Homework - this week they will be completing maths Unit 5.

CLASS 2/3 - Mrs Mackie

The majority of students in the class have been displaying a very consistent approach to homework which is great to see. Homework is due daily, however if it is easier with your family commitments to bring homework in on Fridays, that arrangement is fine. Please let me know if this is your preference.

Home readers are due this Friday. The comment section in the reading diary is for parents to complete to provide feedback to your child and to myself, about how your child is finding the book. It is also a place where their opinion of the book can be included.

The face in the left hand column is for children to complete, showing how much they like/dislike the book and or how easy or difficult they find it.

There are reading tips throughout the diary that you may find helpful when supporting your child with home reading. If you have any questions, please let me know.

It was lovely to see so many parents at assembly this afternoon. Congratulations to all students for achieving Bronze this term. You have all worked very hard!
29th Annual
Penrith Working TRUCK SHOW
Sunday 20th March 2016
8am - 4pm
Presentations 4pm – 5pm

Australia’s Best Value Family Day

THE BEST IN COUNTRY MUSIC

ADAM BRAND
AND THE OUTLAWS

THE GIRLS OF COUNTRY FEATURING
AMBER LAWRENCE

Fun and Excitement!
Plus Much More!

• Direct access from Penrith Station
• Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
• Concert sound & full stage
• Specialist trade stalls & displays
• Entertaining games & competitions
• Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
• Free face painting
• BBQ, drinks & beer tents
• Major prizes & trophies
• Price includes entry to Museum

Adults $35
up to 3 children
FREE
with paying adult
(Children under 16, students or senior citizens over 65 years)

6th Annual Sydney Classic & Antique Truckshow
on 29th May, 2016 (See website for more details)

Held at Museum of Fire, 1 Museum Drive, Penrith. Phone: (02) 4731 3000
The Museum is registered charity and all funds raised are directed towards saving our families from the dangers of fire while preserving the heritage of our communities bravest.

www.pwts.com.au