School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 9 9 September 2015

Dates to Remember

September

12th - Bunnings BBQ at Mascot
14th - T20 Cricket Rescheduled
14th - WestConnex Meeting 7:30pm
15th - NRL Development Day
16th - Assembly led by 5/6LW
16th - P&C Chocolate Fundraiser
   Money to be returned to P&C
18th - RAW Art Show
18th - Last day of Term 3

October

5th - Labour Day Public Holiday
6th - Students Return to School for Term 4
9th - PSSA Recommences
14th - 3/4T Assembly
16th - Pogo-athon - 3/4T
28th - 1/2S Assembly
29th - Starting Blocks - Session 1

November

2nd - Play Day Performance Y3-Y6
   2 - 13 - Swim Scheme
5th - Starting Blocks - Session 2
11th - Remembrance Day Assembly

Retirement

Next Friday, September 18 will be my last day at St Peters Public School as I have decided to move into the next phase of my life and retire. I have been at St Peters since 1992 wearing a number of “hats” and working with 5 different principals over that time.

My main role has been as Librarian in a Library that has seen many changes. In the early days there was no automation, all resources were accessioned by hand and borrowing was done on cards. We then moved onto a computerised system under Oasis and this year we were one of the first schools in the state to take up the Oliver computerised system. I have been lucky enough to have had very few financial restrictions in regard to the purchase of resources which has allowed the students access to the latest books and it has allowed me to respond to “can we have some books by...” etc.

In this age of technology I do wonder where books sit but on posing that question to a group of year 1 and year 2 students I received answers like “but Mrs Ward when I am reading in bed I can just let the book drop as I fall asleep, and when I am reading a book I can imagine what is happening not just see things on a screen etc”.

I am sure the Library and the school will continue to grow.

I thank the parents for their continued support, the students for their enthusiasm and the staff for their loyalty and dedication to a great school.

Robyn Ward

Reminders

- All absences need to be explained - preferably by written communication.
- All notes that contain money must come to the front office.
- Follow our twitter account @SPPSnpsnews at http://twitter.com and receive timely news updates.
Starting in 2016?
In the last week of October and first week of November we will be holding our 'Starting Blocks' annual kindy orientation sessions. These sessions are designed to provide a school readiness transition experience for kindergarten students for 2016. We have been steadily receiving enrolments through the term but it is still not too late to enrol. It would, however, be advantageous to enrol very soon with a completed enrolment form and supporting documentation if you wish to be part of the Starting Blocks program.

Leaving at the end of 2015?
Every year students move on from the school because their families are leaving the area or for other circumstances they are leaving. Some parents have already advised us of their moves. If you have a child in kindy to Year 5 and you know they will not be attending the school next year we would be most grateful if you would let us know. This allows the school to plan for 2016. You can let us know by emailing the school or by writing a short note and passing it to your child's teacher. Of course if you have already done this, there is no need to do it again. There is also no need for year 6 students who are moving onto high school.

WestConnex
As you may already know WestConnex announced it has chosen a builder for the St Peters interchange and also released indicative plans of the development. The school itself is not directly affected by the development but there will be work in Cambell Street. The plans are available via the WestConnex website at:


The WestConnex sub committee of the school has organised a meeting with representatives from WestConnex on the evening of Monday 14 September. That is next Monday. The meeting will be held in our school hall.

I think you will agree that this is a great chance to raise your concerns. Please look at the indicative maps if you get a chance and come along.

Uniforms
Everyday the staff of the school pick up school uniforms and hand them back to students while talking to them about developing strategies for remembering them. Unfortunately on some occasions we find that the jackets or hats do not have names on them and thus they become displaced and lost. While we fold them up neatly and place them in the lost property area near the staff room, they are seldom claimed simply because they cannot be identified. Hats and jackets are particularly prone to this problem as these are the first items to be taken off.

Our teachers imagine a time when every item has a name on it to be identified and think how much money could be saved in uniforms by doing just this.

Please add your name to any items of uniform that are taken off in the course of a day. Iron on names, sew in names or just a texta works well.

P & C News
Father's Day Raffle and Stall last Friday, Chocolate drive wrapping up, Bunnings BBQ this weekend, WestConnex Meeting next Monday. What a big end to term 3!

First of all thanks to the parents involved with organising the Father's Day stall and raffle. As always the kids were beautifully behaved and hopefully they all selected something their dad appreciated. Congratulations to those families who won a hamper in the raffle – it's great when they go to the families in the school community J

Thank you to those from our school community who donated items for the raffle and stall.

The following local businesses all supplied goods and services that we were raffled or sold. If you are able to, please support them as they support us!

- Pepe Saya
- Robin Hood Hotel
- Aslan Coffee
- Euro Abrasives Hardware
- MAD CDs
- St Peters Fruit World
- Urban Kombat/Krav Maga
- The Outdoor Club
- Tyre Right
- Brisk Books
- Sample Coffee

On Saturday we are holding the BBQ at Bunnings Mascot. We still have a couple of shifts that need filling. If you can help out for a few hours on the day please contact Mel Andersen 0412 434 218 or andersenkingfamily@gmail.com. If you can't do a shift why not drop by and support the school by purchasing a sausage or drink? We will be serving food from 7.30am till 4.30pm.

Don't forget to return your chocolate drive money too! You can hand this to Natalia O'Brien (Kolenc). Money should be returned before the end of term.

Mel Anderson P & C President
This week Steven and I, interviewed the teachers about their class and how they’re going. We started with K/1MP. Ms Milner said that her class enjoyed last Monday’s Cupcake Day because of all the different flavours and toppings such chocolate and candy. She said that there were two challenging things that they were doing these past two weeks. They’ve been reading a book and getting asked comprehension questions on their own. Ms Milner was very pleased and felt they are getting better at reading every day. The second thing that has been challenging is skipping. They haven't learn the best technique just yet but they are working on it. Ms Milner is really happy about K/1MP’s behaviour and that they’re trying their best in class. It’s great to hear about how our newest students are doing and they are progressing so well with their reading.

We then visited Miss Sheridan and she told us that her class had been doing Literacy Circles which consisted of five different activities, the Summariser that makes a short summary of the book, the Visualiser who draws a picture of what they read, the Question Maker who makes interesting questions, Word Wizard who finds tricky and interesting words and the story mapper who maps the story so far. Miss Sheridan’s class has also been making recycled paper seed cups. They hope that they will grow into alfalfa sprouts in the coming 2 weeks. Her class have really enjoyed making these recycled paper seed cups in science.

After this, we went to Ms Thompson to whom we asked the same questions. The thing that she thought was enjoyable, but difficult was her class learning to jump with a pogo stick. She told us that some of the kids found it more easier than others but still they all had lots of fun. She said that everyone had things to learn even though everyone is improving. The intention is that the kids will build up to Pogo-a-thon Challenge Day in October.

Finally, 5/6. Over the past two weeks we enjoyed finishing our information poster where we found out about the three levels of government and their different responsibilities. We also have been learning about percentages which we’re learning a lot about. We have been relating what we now know about fractions and decimals and how these relate to calculating percentages. We all have a lot to learn but we're making massive progress.

So there you have it, the last two weeks summed up. We hoped what you heard was helpful.

James and Steven
Cupcake Day

The 5-6 class has recently been working busily on making delicious cupcakes for all our students at St Peters Public School but before that here’s the story of why we were making cupcakes.

Two weeks ago, I found out about Cupcake Day. The RSPCA holds a Cupcake Day every year, where people all over Australia buy or sell cupcakes, and all the money earned from it goes to the RSPCA. RSPCA stands for Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Hearing about Cupcake Day got me thinking about how I could help support the RSPCA too, so I looked on their website and found out that that the schools can do Cupcake Day. I decided to print out a couple of information sheets for the school to see and handed them to Mr. Lavitt the next day. He told me that I should give them to Mrs. Ward and tell her what I told him as it was an ideal thing for the class to do. Doing that she decided that it would be a good idea and that she would talk over it with the whole class. After talking to the class, we all had some sort of idea of what it would look like. But we still had to find a date. All the website had said was that it had to be some time in August, even though the RSPCA’s Cupcake Day was Monday the 17th.

That following Friday, Mrs. Ward was in our class again and she told us she had an official date. Monday the 31st. She asked us if over the weekend we could make the cupcakes and signs. We had handed in a form that said what type cupcakes we were making and how many. So, over that weekend most of the 5-6 students were working on making delicious cupcakes for all the kids in the school.

On that coming Monday, eight of our 5-6 students went to help Mrs. Ward set up the stalls. We put together 5 or 6 tables and taped red tablecloth to them. After having a quick lunch before any of the other students, we put up some of the posters and got to work separating different cupcakes, putting some on different trays, and getting ready to work on selling cupcakes. Soon enough, it was lunch time and all the students came piling out, trying to get as close to the cupcakes as possible. After most students had had a fair amount of time to eat, teachers started calling out random letters and if the student’s name started with that letter, they could go buy a cupcake. The helpers kept on serving and collecting all the money that was given to them. Soon enough most students didn’t have any money left, and most cupcakes were gone.

In the end it was a great day, quite satisfactory to most students and with all the cupcakes being sold we earned $104 that all went to the RSPCA to help animals in need.

Amy

NRL Development Day

On Tuesday 15th September, qualified developmental officers from the NRL will be coming to St Peters Public School to conduct fundamental rugby league skills appropriate for all grades from Kindergarten through to Year 6. The day will involve safety lessons and fun games for developing catching and passing skills and communication.

All students will be participating in the activities and are asked to wear their sports uniform and or football jerseys on the day and joggers.

The school will be subsidising the cost of the NRL program but a gold coin donation to help fund the running of the activities would be appreciated and can be brought on the day.

Kellie Thomson
Sports Coordinator

News from Mrs Ward

Photos

A new selection of photos will go up on Thursday. I would ask that if you would like any of these that they be ordered by Friday September 18, the last day of this term.

Book Fair

At this stage the Book Fair running in the Library since Bookweek has taken over $1100 which will allow me to select approximately $300 worth of new books for the Library. Thank you to all the families who have purchased books and/or donated books to the Library.com. If you can’t do a shift why not drop by and support the school by purchasing a sausage or drink? We will be serving food from 7.30am till 4.30pm.

Don’t forget to return your chocolate drive money too! You can hand this to Natalia O’Brien (Kolenc). Money should be returned before the end of term.

Robyn Ward
LEARN TO PLAY BASKETBALL

TERM 4 SESSIONS
WEDNESDAYS IN BALMAIN
SATURDAYS IN ULTIMO & LANE COVE

FEATURING COACHING BY NBL LEGEND:
WAYNE MCDANIEL

Wayne still holds a bundle of NBL records including 3rd on the NBL’s highest career points average per game (26.5 ppg)

QUOTE: CHT4 FOR A 10% DISCOUNT
*VALID TERM 4, 2015 ONLY

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