



NEWSLETTER TERM 4 WEEK 4

Principal: Miss Jude Hayman

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Term 4 2012

Calendar

*Please note dates from week to week as there are occasionally some changes.

Week 4

Wednesday October 31 st	2.15pm Kinder 2013 Orientation Meeting
Friday November 2 nd	K-6 Assembly SRC 'Halloween Dress Up Day'-Gold Coin Donation

Week 5

Tuesday November 6 th	2pm Kinder 2013 Orientation
Wednesday November 7 th	2pm Kinder 2013 Orientation
Friday November 9 th	School Fete

Week 6

Tuesday November 13 th	2pm Kinder 2013 Orientation
Wednesday November 14 th	2pm Kinder 2013 Orientation
Friday November 16 th	K-6 Assembly

Week 8

Thursday November 29 th	6.30-8pm K-2 Frolic
Friday November 30 th	K-6 Assembly

Week 9

Tuesday December 4 th	Stage 2 Excursion
Wednesday December 5 th	Stage 2 Excursion
Thursday December 6 th	10.30am Presentation Day

Week 10

Thursday December 13 th	Year 6 Farewell
Friday December 14 th	10am Year 2 Graduation K-6 Assembly

Reports sent home

Week 11

Wednesday December 19th Last day of term Four

Borambola Excursion

Many Stage 3 students and staff had a fantastic time at Borambola Sport and Recreation Camp last week. Thank you to the staff who organised the excursion and to those who attended.

Many students experienced activities such as rock climbing, kayaking, archery and BMX riding for the first time and would love to try them again one day! Students also took great pride and effort in duties required of them such as chores in the dining room and cabins.





Year 2 Excursion

On Tuesday the 16th of October Year 2 went on an excursion to the Citrus Sculptures. We had a quick lunch at the Egg Park and then broke into two groups. One group went to the Griffith Art Gallery and we looked at the different flower artworks made by local artists. We chose our favourite artwork and then made our own drawing of it using oil pastels. After that we went to look at the Citrus Sculptures. We took some funny photos with our favourite sculptures.

We all met up again and went to the Griffith Library. The lady at the Library read us three different books. We used a felt board and read the Very Hungry Caterpillar then we used puppets to tell the story of the Three Little Bears. After that we made bear puppets using brown paper bags. When we had finished at the Library we went back to Egg Park for Fruit Break and a play.

On our walk back to school we saw the Camp Quality cars. When we got back to school we had an ice block. It was a really, really fun day.

By Year 2



2013 Kindergarten Orientation

Orientation for those children beginning Kindergarten in 2013 will commence on Wednesday 31st October at 2.15pm in the school hall.

Following this initial meeting, further sessions will be held from 2.15-3pm on;

Tuesday 6th November

Wednesday 7th November

Tuesday 13th November

Wednesday 14th November

Notes have been posted to families who have already enrolled students. If you know of families in the community who have children starting school next year, please encourage them to enrol at school as soon as possible.

P&C News

The next P&C meeting is on Wednesday 7th November.

Hats are now being sold in the canteen. Children can buy a hat from the canteen before school, at lunch time and at fruit break. Hats are \$7.00. Thank you Brenda for helping us.

The P&C Mini Fete is being held on Friday 9th November. Thank you to our staff for volunteering to help at the Fete. If any parents or carers could help at the Fete, please contact Mrs Lander at school. If your child brings at least \$10.00 to spend at the Fete, they will have a terrific time!

Thank you,
Helen Lander

Canteen News

Wednesday 31 st	Cathy
Thursday 1 st	Agnes
Friday 2 nd	Elena
Monday 5 th	Elena
Tuesday 6 th	Kerri

Thank you to last week's helper Kerri Sutton.
Please have lunch orders in by 9.30am.

Hot Dogs	\$3
Chicken Burgers	\$3.50
Pluto Pups	\$3

Year 6 Graduation and Disco

The Year 6 Graduation ceremony, dinner and disco will be held on Thursday December 13th. Students will be receiving more information and invitations for parents and family closer to the day. At this stage we would love to hear from parents of students in Year 5. Traditionally the Year 5 parents have helped in the decoration of the hall. If you would like to help, please contact Mrs Catanzariti or Miss Morante at the school. They would greatly appreciate your help. After the ceremony and dinner Year 5 students are invited back to the school to join the disco with our graduating students. To be eligible to attend the dinner and disco Year 6 students must be on bronze level or above by week 8 of this term.

School Captain 2013 Nominations

All Year 5 students have been informed of the process for election of students to school leadership positions in 2013. To be eligible to nominate for captain students must have reached a gold level by the end of Term Three. It is wonderful to see we have so many eligible students this year. These students met together and the Student Leadership Policy as well as the responsibilities of school captains were thoroughly discussed. Students have been given nomination forms and have hopefully discussed their potential for the role of captain with their parents or carers.

Successful nominees will be required to give a prepared speech to the whole school at a special assembly on Thursday November 22nd 2012 in the school hall. After this students from Years 2 to 5 will vote. The successful candidates will be announced during Presentation Day later in the term.

K-2 Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at the last assembly:

KB Feleti Faigafa Elina Anau Elijah Guy	KV Amandeep Singh Ross Aloni Jada Penrith
KL Sea-King Moala Brendan Connors Patu Toru	KM Victory Tiera Samuel Banfield Lleyton Smyth
1B Arriane Anau Olioni Tuitufu Emanuel Orake	1F Amanda Langi Joe Bretherton Nove Chand
2L Shanice Penrith Blake Stevenson Moerai Rangiura Makonia	2D Lilly-Anna Fell Robert Taituave Wotoa Toru
2B Justen Kelton Ruth Tietie Peter Viran	

Fete-Mystery Jars

WANTED for the 'Mystery Jar' stall for the school fete-please send a long a 'Mystery Jar' filled with lollies, novelties etc. to your child's teacher. If each child is able to donate at least one jar then we will have a fantastic "Mystery Jar" stall at the fete. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Request for Plastic Bottles

The Enviro Champs are in need of empty and clean 2L and 1.25L soft drink containers for the fete. Please send them in to Mrs Lemon ASAP. Thank you.

Halloween Out of Uniform Day-SRC Fundraiser

This Friday November 2nd (Friday Week 4), the SRC will be holding a "Halloween" Out of Uniform Day. Students are asked to come to school wearing their favourite and most creative Halloween costumes. Students will also need to bring a gold coin donation for wearing their Halloween costume on this day. The SRC will judge the best Halloween costumes on this day. Those children will receive a small Halloween prize.

Selective High School Placement

Selective High Schools cater for high achieving, academically gifted students. Students are offered places in selective high schools by a selection committee which considers all available information. Selective High Schools in NSW include agricultural schools (such as Yanco Agricultural High) and academic schools (such as Fort Street High Sydney) or sporting schools (such as Fairfield High in Sydney).

Parents who wish to apply for admission for students going into Year 7 in 2014 should complete all relevant sections of the application. The preferred method is online at

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement>

If required there is a printed version of the application available by contacting Griffith Public School. Paper applications close on November 16th. Online applications are open until November 19th. If you have any queries contact Mrs Campbell at school.

GPS Mini Fete

Friday 9th November

1pm- 3pm



* SAUSAGE SIZZLE

* SING STAR

* JUMPING CASTLE

* WHITE ELEPHANT



STALL



* MYSTERY JARS

* SAMPLE BAGS

* GO CARTS

* DRINKS & ICE

BLOCKS

& LOTS MORE



Come to the Fete, it will be great!

Win a \$5.00 Canteen Voucher Week 4

Give your newsletter to your parent or carer to read. Ask them to sign this slip and put it in the box in the front office. If your slip is drawn out at Friday's assembly, you will win one \$5 canteen voucher! Two slips will be drawn out at each assembly.

Student/Family Name_____

Parent/Carer Signature_____



Education &
Communities

Public Schools NSW

Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents



Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?

The compulsory years of schooling

In New South Wales, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school or be registered for home schooling. After they complete Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship);
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child:

- develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- to learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- make and keep friendships.

What if my child has to be away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may be required to:

- send a note to the school, or contact the school via electronic means such as SMS text message, fax or email, or
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

A small number of absences may be accepted by the principal. For example, if your child:

- has to go to a special religious ceremony
- is required to attend a serious or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

What are school Principals responsible for?

Principals help to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of your child. Principals have to keep accurate records of student attendance and the reasons for any absences. Principals are responsible for accepting or not accepting a parent's explanations for their child's absences. Principals may request further information from parents for long or frequent absences, even where they are explained by parents as being due to illness.

When absences are unexplained by parents, or the explanations are not accepted by the principal, the school will work with parents to help address the issue. The main aim is to sort out what is preventing the child from getting to school and putting strategies in place to help. Sometimes, the school will ask support staff and other agencies to assist.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken.

■ Attendance meetings and compulsory attendance conferences

Parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a meeting with school personnel and other regional officers. The aim of the meeting is to help identify strategies to support the child and family. Other agencies may also be invited along to help, if parents agree.

If the school and other regional officers have tried to help improve a child's attendance, without success, parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a compulsory attendance conference. The conference will be run by a trained conference convenor. The aim of the conference is for the school, parents (and sometimes their child) and other identified agencies ("the parties") to further identify the issues which are impacting on a child's attendance.

The outcome of a compulsory attendance conference is for the parties to agree to undertake certain actions to improve the child's attendance. These actions are written in the form of undertakings.

■ Applications to the Children's Court – A Compulsory Schooling Order

Legal compliance can be sought through an application to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The aim is to assist a family and/or child to address the issues which are preventing satisfactory school attendance but has the added enforcement of a Court's powers.

■ Prosecution in the Local Court

If all attempts by schools and regional support staff fail to improve a student's attendance, action can be taken in the Local Court and the result can be fines up to a maximum of \$11,000.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites

Policy, information and brochures:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/attendance.php>

The school leaving age:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leavingschool/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are provided, where possible, for parents/carers who do not speak or understand English well and for Deaf parents/carers who use sign language. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the telephone number: 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

See the website address:

http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help_with_translating/