



Pelaw Main Public School NEWSLETTER

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2 MAY 2014

TERM 2 WEEK 1

DATES FOR THE DIARY

5 May

Author Visit
10.30 in the Hall

7 May

NRMA Science & Road
Safety Day

9 May

Assembly
2.30 In the Hall
Regional Cross Country

13, 14, 15 May

NAPLAN

Playgroup Dates

Term 2

Tuesdays

6, 13, 20 and 27 May

3 June

Thursdays

8, 15, 22 and 29 May

5 June

10am-11.30am

In the Hall.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Mon 5 May

Sarah Blackmore
Kelly James
Rowena Boughton

Wed 7 May

Sarah Blackmore
Kelly James
Sheryle Farley

Fri 9 May

Sarah Blackmore
Kelly James
Sheryle Farley

Principal's Report

Welcome back to all of our wonderful students and families.

I trust you enjoyed the holiday break, including Easter and the Anzac Day public holiday. We have a nine-week term coming up and it is going to be very busy. I would encourage you to make sure you look through your child's bag every night for notes, newsletters and other items of communication so as to not miss out on dates for events. Don't forget that the newsletter is available to read from our website and, if you have a smartphone, a school app is downloadable from the website.

Rugby League

In terms of sport, we hit the ground running this week. Our Stage 3 rugby league team travelled to Singleton on Thursday for the Steve Simpson Shield for 7-a-side teams. Our team played well and were closely beaten in their four games. It was a great competition!

Regional Cross Country

Next Friday, 9th May, three of our students will be going to the Regional Cross Country at Broadmeadow Racecourse. Well done to Makayla Patterson, Jordyn Atkinson and Zane Stone for making the Zone team to participate at this carnival. We wish them all the best.

Assembly

Our first School Assembly for the term will be held on Friday, 9th May. During this assembly, there will be a special performance from the Stage 3 Drumbeat girls, who participated in the program in Term 1. I look forward to seeing this.

Canberra Deposit Reminder

A reminder to parents and guardians of Stage Three students that the initial payment that secures your child's place for the Canberra excursion was due on the last day of Term 1. If you have not yet paid and you would like your child to attend the excursion, please pay your deposit at the office. Thank you to all those people who have already made payments.

School Counsellor

The School Counsellor, Mrs Lyn Osborne, will be at school on odd week Thursdays and even week Fridays this term. Please contact the office if you have any questions in regards to our counselling service.

Heddon Greta Bus Service

During the school holidays, Rovers Bus Service informed me of a new passenger service operating to and from the Heddon Greta area in the morning and afternoon. The bus will NOT be a school service, rather a regular passenger service that just happens to pass both Pelaw Main Public School and Stanford Methyr Infants School. The morning bus service arrives at PMPS at 8:25am, which is a little early for children to be supervised, as supervision begins at 8:45am, so I wouldn't encourage this service to be utilised. However, the afternoon passenger service will pick up at school, separate to the school bus service, at 3:20pm, arriving at Heddon Greta via Stanford Merthyr at 3:35pm. If you would like your child to access this service, written permission will need to be given to the office. Even if you would like to only have your child access this service intermittently, written permission will be required each time they use it. This is because the service is a general public passenger service and we need to know they have permission to use it.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held for Year 3 and Year 5 students in Week 3 this term. On Tuesday, 13th May, students will be undertaking the Language Conventions Assessment AND the Writing Assessment. On Wednesday, 14th May, students will be undertaking the Reading Assessment. On Thursday, 15th May, students will be undertaking the Numeracy Assessment. If a student misses any of these assessments, the school will be able to follow up on Friday, 16th May, for students to sit any or all of the assessments that were missed. If you would like to discuss any issues or concerns you have for your child undertaking these assessments, please arrange a time to talk with me.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be CLOSED next week and reopening on Monday 12th May. School Hats are available to purchase any day at the School Office for \$12.

Author Visit

Professor John Maynard Monday 10.30am.

Some important visitors are coming to school to talk to Stage Three students on Monday morning at 10.30 in the Hall.

Professor John Maynard and Karen Menzies will be talking about the book, "The Aboriginal Soccer Tribe", and the indigenous history of our local area.

John is the author of the book and a prominent indigenous leader in the Hunter Region. Karen is a lecturer at The University of Newcastle.

Interested parents are welcome to join us in the Hall at 10.30.

NRMA Science & Road Safety Day

Wednesday 7th May

Our school will be hosting an NRMA Science & Road Safety Day, a new road safety program delivered by NRMA Motoring & Services free of charge to schools across NSW and ACT as part of its commitment to child road safety.

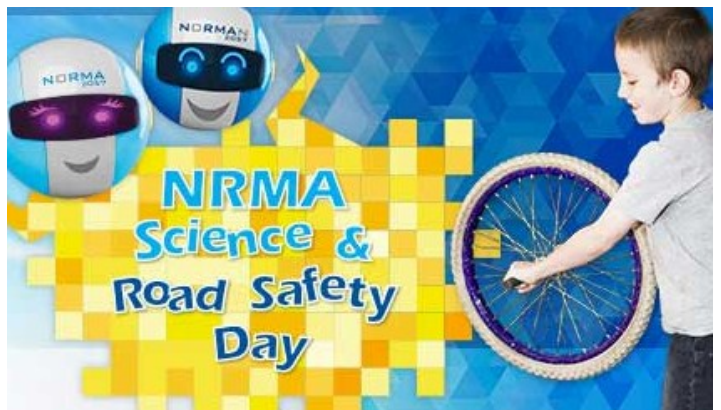
The day looks at road safety from a science perspective so that children can better understand the forces that act on an object (humans) in motion (in cars or on bikes) so that road safety messages such as, "Wear your seatbelt", become more relevant. Our students will be asked to wear their bike helmets at the assembly at the beginning of the day.

Decorations are optional.

Parent/ Carer Workshop

Parents/Carers play a vital role in keeping their children safe on the roads and are invited to attend a Parent/Carer workshop at 2.30pm in the Hall.

The workshop will be delivered by a science professional who will explain what parents can do to help their children stay safe on their bikes and in cars.



P&C News

Our Mother's Day stall will be held Thursday 8th May during class time. Children will be able to purchase Mother's Day gifts at this time. Items at the stall are limited in quantity. Please ensure your child has smaller notes. Items not sold will be available at the assembly on Friday 9th May. Mother's Day raffle tickets have been sent home this week. Please sell your tickets and return all tickets and money to the P&C box located near the office.

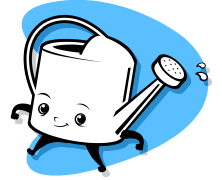
Entertainment books will be distributed to each family on Wednesday 7th May at a cost of \$60 each. If you do not wish to receive a copy please inform your classroom teacher.

Canteen Update

The Canteen will reopen Monday, 5th May (week 2). New flavours of Up'n'Go are now available- Caramel, Banana and Strawberry.

Eco Explorers Week 2

Our Eco Explorers for Week 2 are:
Elliya 3W, Rylee N. 3W, Connor R. 3W
and Lara H. K1.



Communication Guidelines

Just a reminder to you about communication between parents and school staff members. Please refer to the table below for reference.

CONCERN	APPROPRIATE ACTION
The academic progress of your own child	Directly contact your child's class teacher either by note, by phone or at an appropriate time to discuss any issues.
The welfare of your own child	For minor issues directly contact your child's class teacher to clarify information. For more serious concerns, contact office. State nature of concern and arrange a suitable time to talk with class teacher or appropriate staff member. To convey information about change of address, telephone number, emergency contact, custody details, health issues, etc, please contact the office.
Actions of other students	Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem. Contact the supervisor or principal for playground problems.
School policy or practice	Contact office. State nature of concern and make an appointment to see the principal and/or appropriate member of staff.
Actions of a staff member	Contact the teacher directly in the first instance. For more serious concerns, contact office to arrange an appointment to see the principal.



Live Life Well at School

Keep active in the colder months.

Don't be a winter wannabe and let you and your children be sedentary this winter. Encourage children to engage in active play such as bush walking, bike riding, kicking the footy, or playing a game of tag all year round.

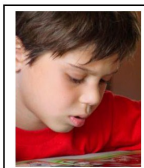


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STANFORD MERTHYR INFANTS SCHOOL

Free Parent Information Session about your child's eyes.



Parents are invited to listen to **Dr Kevin O'Brien**, Behavioural Optometrist who is coming to Stanford Merthyr Infants School on **Wednesday 11th June 2014 at 2:00pm**. A general eye check does not pick up on how our eyes function with our brain. Please phone the school on 49371192 if you would like to attend.

The function of our eyes is to collect information. In order to do this efficiently we need to be able to see well in the distance and at near. We must be able to change focus efficiently from distance to near and back again.

We also must have good eye movements so we can get our eyes pointed at what we are obtaining information from and then be able to track this object. **One in three children has problems in one or more of these areas that could impact on their learning.**

Visual Processing:

Once our eyes have collected visual information this information is processed in our brain and we then send this information to multiple sites.

We call this visual processing.

- To copy information from a blackboard we require good visual motor integration – sending information from our eyes to our hands.
- To understand what we see we require good **visual perception**
- To remember what we read we need good **visual memory**
- To sound out words we require information to be sent from our eyes to our ears. We call this **visual auditory integration**. These are but a few of the skills required to process visual information. These perceptual skills can influence a child's reading and learning abilities.

If your child is having problems coping in the classroom an assessment of their visual processing may be of assistance.

Kevin will answer any questions you may have.

Please ring the school if you have any questions.

Anne Carr Principal

Come and try Heart Foundation Walking!

When: Thursday 8th May 2014, arrive at 9:45am for a 10:00am start

Time: 9:45am for 10:00am start

Where: Peace Park, Cessnock Road, Weston

Details: Approximate walk length is 3km or 30-45 minute walk

Who: Everyone welcome!

Bring: Hat, sunscreen, thermos with hot water for a cup of tea. Dress in red or wear a Heart Foundation Walking shirt if you have one.

RSVP: Shane on 4993 3410 or chhb@samaritans.org.au by 5th May. Please RSVP essential for catering purposes.

FREE healthy morning tea, tea and coffee for all walkers and prize



Ability Links aims to assist people with disability to be valued and equal members of their communities and help build a society where people with disability enjoy inclusive lives in all spheres: community, public, private and social.

It is about building a person's informal networks to support them to achieve their goals and have their needs and interests met. It is also about promoting community inclusion and participation for people with disability, so that people with disability are able to access and participate in activities available to the general community. Ability Links coordinators, known as Linkers, work with people with disability, their families and carers to plan for their future, and help people become more confident, supporting them to achieve their goals, break through barriers and access support and services in their community. Linkers also work alongside communities and mainstream services, supporting them to become more welcoming and inclusive to any person who would like to connect with their community.

Please phone Hazel Brooksbank – Team Leader/Linker for Cessnock/Kurri Kurri to find out more 0437368123 or drop in at our office in The Kurri Kurri Community Centre, 251 Lang Street, Kurri Kurri. (2nd floor).

