



Pelaw Main Public School NEWSLETTER

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29 JUNE 2018

TERM 2 WEEK 9

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 6th July

Exemplary Student Day
Last Day of Term 2

Monday 23rd July

Staff return Term 3

Tuesday 24th July

Students Return Term 3

Thursday 26th July

NAIDOC Day

Tuesday 31st July &

Wednesday 1st August

Public Speaking
Competition Kurri Public
School

Friday 3rd August

Zone Athletics

Tuesday 9th August

P&C Meeting

Saturday 22nd September

Spring Fair

Canteen

The canteen will be closed on Fri 6th July & will reopen after the school holidays on Wed 25th July.

Breakfast Club

There will be no Breakfast Club on Thursday 5th July (next week) or on Tuesday 24th of July (Week 1 Term 3). It will resume on Thursday 26th July Term 3.

SCHOOL FEES

Our voluntary school contributions of \$47 per family are now due. Payments can be made at the office by Eftpos or cash & online.



New Handball Courts

We are all very excited to have had our area out the front of our hall transformed into a new handball court. We have started using it this week and the students have really enjoyed having this new space.

Look out for some up and coming handball tournaments

Zone Athletics

The Zone Athletics Carnival is scheduled for Friday 3rd August at Turner Park Athletics Field, Cessnock. Information will be distributed early next week, if your child qualifies. Please see Mrs Lantry if you have any questions.

Hunter Inter-Schools Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations to all students who prepared, practised and presented a formal oral speech on a topic of their choice to classes. From this effort, 2 students were chosen from each class to present in front of their stage, in an attempt to proceed in the competition to represent our school in the Hunter Inter-school Public Speaking Finals. Congratulations to the following students.

Early Stage 1 (Kinder) - Gabriella and Sienna

Stage 1 (year 1 and 2) - Mia and Bodie

Stage 2 (year 3 and 4) - Jayla and Andrew

Stage 3 (year 5 and 6) - Hannah Q and Eliza

These students will compete on Tuesday 31st July or Wednesday 1st August at Kurri Kurri Public School. More information will be given to successful students closer to the date.

K-6 Whole School Sport program

The Backyard League sports program has been well received by students and teachers and the last session for students will be in Week 10, Term 2. All students, K-6 have enjoyed learning movement skills associated with the game, including tackling, kicking and evasion tactics. Upon completion of the program, students K-2 will receive a free Rugby League 'Bluey and Red Play Rugby League at the Zoo' Book via a redemption, while every student in Years 3 – 6 that participates will receive a free Rugby League modified football, via a redemption. More information on how to claim these items will be distributed by coaches this Monday.

SMS Notifications

This week we started notifying parents of absences via SMS. While we anticipated some early teething problems, so far it has been hugely successful, with only one or two hiccups. Currently we have on average around 85% of parents notified, responding to these messages each day, which is a vast improvement. Just reply to the SMS with your explanation of the absence and no further action is required! It's simple! If your child is late to school, they must report to the office to be signed in. This will ensure that you do not receive a message regarding their absence.

Morning Assembly

As of this week, we have stopped having our daily morning assembly, apart from Monday mornings. This is due to a number of factors, but mostly to increase class and learning time. Already, teachers are reporting that the extra few minutes in class every morning is making a difference! I have also spoken to some Stage 3 students and their thoughts were that they are really enjoying getting into class earlier to get organised and start their learning!

Reports

Semester One reports will look slightly different to the past. We have taken on feedback from the Tell Them From Me survey results from 2017, which indicated that parents wanted reports to be more parent friendly. We have taken this back to staff and report comments will be trialled this semester based around this feedback. They will be based around specific things your child can do and some things they are learning to do. They will be written in dot point format, using more 'parent-friendly' terminology and language. Also, English and Mathematics will be the only areas with a written comment. The other key learning areas will be covered with specific indicators addressed throughout the Semester.

Reports will be sent home with students on Thursday, 5th July. We welcome your feedback about these changes early next term.



PBL Awards for this week

Be Safe Jayla 3/4 Blue

Be Respectful Bailey T 4/5 Violet

Be an Active Learner Beau G 2/3 Green

Ribbit Attendance Award White, Indigo & Green

Attendance

Attendance at school is vital for students to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. When children attend school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

The Education Act (1990) requires parents to ensure that children of compulsory school age attend school each day that it is open for instruction.

By the end of this term, any child who has an attendance rate below 80% will receive a letter from me, displaying current attendance rates and reasons for absences. These students will need to display an improved attendance rate in Term 3 to avoid being placed on the Home School Liaison Officers caseload.

If you ever have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please contact their classroom teacher to discuss these issues.

Bus Behaviour

I have been informed of some inappropriate behaviour about some of our students who travel on the public bus, mainly of an afternoon. The bus driver has reported this to Rover motors and any students involved may face consequences in the future if any more inappropriate behaviour arises. All students who catch the bus have had a meeting with me in recent weeks about our expectations for safe and respectful travel on the school buses.

If your child catches the bus, I urge you to discuss with them appropriate and safe bus behaviours. Your assistance in reporting any inappropriate behaviour on the bus is greatly appreciated. Also, I would encourage any parents to report serious incidents to Rover motors directly.

Office Payments

When making cash payments at the office, please ensure money is in a bag or envelope which is marked clearly with the student's name, class and what the payment is for. Payments made this way are much easier to keep track of and process. Thank you for your cooperation.

Exemplary Student Day

Exemplary Student Day will be held next Friday, 6th July. A note has already been sent home regarding the arrangements. All students, exemplary or not, will be able to come to school in their pyjamas. Suitable shoes still need to be worn on the day; however, they might like to bring their slippers to wear down in the hall. Exemplary students will watch a movie during the middle session and the school will supply them with popcorn, as a reward for being an exemplary student. Kinder to Year 4 will watch a movie in the hall, whilst Stage 3 have an option to watch the movie or go to the library and bring their own device. All Stage 3 will have access to laptops and iPads if they opt not to bring their own device. Non-exemplary students will be able to wear pyjamas, and will participate in an alternate activity during the middle session.

Mobile Phones at School

Mobile phones are not encouraged at school. If there is a need, the mobile phone is to be handed in at the office at the beginning of the day by the student and collected at the end of the day. The school takes no responsibility for their loss or damage.

Out of Zone Enrolments

As you may be aware, our school is no longer in a position to accept out of zone enrolments. This is due to the Department of Education's Enrolment Policy being enforced consistently across the state. Out of zone enrolments have been accepted in previous years, where consideration has been given to families with siblings and those students transitioning from Stanford Merthyr Infants School. However, due to our school having demountable classrooms, we are not in a position for this to occur anymore.

This **does not affect** children currently enrolled, however, it will affect any other sibling/s not enrolled. If you have not already spoken to me about this issue, and you are affected by this, please make an appointment to speak to me as soon as possible.

P&C News

Pie Drive - The pie drive was a huge success. There were a few small glitches so thank you for your patience and support! Thank you to our amazing volunteers for organising and packing!

Spring Fair - There will be a Spring Fair meeting on Monday July 2nd, 1pm-3pm in the library. Come join us to see the progress and share any ideas!

Watch for notes about pre-paid ride tickets, showbag order forms and information. September 22nd is less than 3 months away. Get the kids doing jobs to earn some pocket money.

This is a great way to encourage a savings plan. Pre-paid unlimited ride tickets will be available in term 3 from canteen. See Kim Snedden.

Car Park - Thank you to Mrs Burton & Mark Hodson for their tireless efforts in the planning & acquisition of our new car park.

P&C Meeting - The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday the 9th August.

Canteen will be closed Friday 6th July and reopening after school holidays on 25th July.

Entertainment Books - Please return book or payment. Digital copies are available

NAIDOC Day - Did you receive your NAIDOC DAY canteen order form? It is due back by Tuesday July 3rd.

Breakfast Club

There will be no Breakfast Club on Thursday 5th July (next week) or on Tuesday 24th of July (Week 1 Term 3).

Breakfast club will resume on Thursday 26th July Term 3.

Merilyn Burton - Principal

Good for Kids good for life

CRUNCH&SIP® AT HOME

Crunch&Sip® is a set time during the school day where children are encouraged to eat a fruit or vegetable snack and drink water.

Why not continue to have a Crunch&Sip® break at home on weekends and during school holidays.

You could make it into a fun game such as:

- Choosing a variety of vegetables and seeing which one makes the biggest crunch.
- Try to make a rainbow out of the fruits and vegetables in your home.
- See who can make the funniest face using pieces of vegetables.



PHONE 49246299

July Holiday Activities @ your library

Tickets on sale mid June. Bookings essential, as numbers strictly limited

BASKETWEAVING WORKSHOP – ages 10+

Monday July 9	Cessnock Library	11.00 – 12.30	\$5.00
Wednesday July 11	Kurri Kurri Library	2.00 – 3.30	\$5.00

Come and learn this beautiful craft. All materials provided – run by Kilipynpiyn.

HOGWARTS ESCAPE ROOM – ages 12+

Tuesday July 10	Kurri Kurri Library	4.00 – 7.00	FREE
Tuesday July 17	Kurri Kurri Library	4.00 – 7.00	FREE
Thursday July 12	Cessnock Library	4.00 – 7.00	FREE
Thursday July 19	Cessnock Library	4.00 – 7.00	FREE

Back by popular demand – this time you are locked in the Divination Classroom – find the horcruxes to escape!

NAIDOC STORYTIME – ages 2-6

Tuesday July 10	Cessnock Library	10.00 – 10.45	FREE
Wednesday July 11	Kurri Kurri Library	10.00 – 10.45	FREE

Special NAIDOC week storytime and art activities.

LEGO COMPETITION – ages 5+

Thursday July 12	Cessnock Library	10.00 – 11.00	FREE
Friday July 13	Kurri Kurri Library	10.00 – 11.00	FREE

Fill out an entry form to take part in the great annual Cessnock Library competition, and build a masterpiece!

KIDS CAN KNIT! – ages 6+

Monday July 16	Cessnock Library	1.00 – 2.00	FREE
Wednesday July 18	Kurri Kurri Library	1.00 – 2.00	FREE

Have a go at this fun, productive and relaxing craft in this special beginner's workshop –this could be the beginning of a very long scarf!

MAKERSPACE – CARDBOARD AUTOMATA – ages 8+

Monday July 16	Cessnock Library	3.00 – 4.00	FREE
Wednesday July 18	Kurri Kurri Library	3.00 – 4.00	FREE

Build your own mechanical sculpture out of simple everyday materials – for all those kids who love to tinker.

LET'S DANCE! STORYTIME – ages 2-6

Tuesday July 17	Cessnock Library	10.00 – 10.45	FREE
Wednesday July 18	Kurri Kurri Library	10.00 – 10.45	FREE

Dance your way through this special holiday storytime – make your own set of dancing ribbons!

JD HOWLETT MAGIC & JUGGLING WORKSHOP- ages 6+

Thursday July 19	Kurri Kurri Library	10.00 – 11.00	\$7.00
Thursday July 19	Cessnock Library	2.00 – 3.00	\$7.00

Learn the tricks of the trade with the wonderful JD Howlett in this special hands-on magic workshop.

CARTOONING WITH MATT LIN – ages 7+

Friday July 20	Kurri Kurri Library	11.00 – 12.00	\$5.00
Friday July 20	Cessnock Library	2.00 – 3.00	\$5.00

Brush up your cartooning skills and learn some tips and tricks from Sydney artist Matt Linn.

Please ring Cessnock Library 49 934399 or Kurri Kurri Library 49 371638 to enquire.

Sandy Ryan

Childrens Services Officer

49 934384

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Everyone gets mad

"Hi Dylan. How was school today?" "All right," says Dylan, but the way he throws his bag into the car says something different. Dylan gets into the car, roughly pulls off his jacket and manages to elbow his younger brother. "Can't you be more careful Dylan?" his mother says.

No answer.

Later at home Dylan gets really angry when he finds a favourite toy missing from his shelf. Then when he is asked to turn off the television and help get things ready for dinner, he ignores his mother's request. When she asks again, he storms off angrily into his bedroom and slams the door.

Over dinner Dylan's mum asks him, "What's up?" Dylan just shrugs, "Nothing."

It's easy to see that Dylan is pretty angry about something, but it's hard to tell what it's about. Did something happen at school? Is he worried about the soccer game coming up on the weekend?

Helping children learn to manage anger

Children's angry behaviour is often difficult to deal with because it stirs up feelings of anger and annoyance in others. It can also frustrate parents and carers when anger is used to push them away. If you were Dylan's mum how would you feel? Annoyed? Frustrated? Tense? Angry?

Everyone feels angry at times. Parents and carers can help children learn how to cope with anger in positive ways by teaching them to be aware of feelings, to find appropriate, safe ways to express them, and to identify and solve the problems or frustrations that lead to angry feelings.



Learning skills for understanding and dealing with anger will make it easier for children to solve problems, get help when needed and be more relaxed around others.

How parents and carers can help

Be aware of feelings

Children need to learn that having angry feelings is normal and okay, but that reacting aggressively towards others when they're angry is not. Adults can help children become aware of feeling annoyed, frustrated, angry or furious by naming feelings. Learning to say, "I'm feeling angry," or "I'm really frustrated," gives children a way to separate feeling angry from how they react.

Time to talk

Talking to Dylan about what has put him in an angry mood will help him see that feelings have causes and that solutions can be found. Once you find out what he was angry about you can help him think up better ways to handle the problem.

This kind of conversation doesn't work while he is really angry. Sometimes it must wait until later. Children often find it easier to talk in informal situations where they feel less pressure. Find a relaxed time to talk to children about feelings. Asking, "What makes you angry?" can be a good way of starting a conversation about anger.

Find alternatives

Getting children to think through a difficult situation helps them develop problem-solving skills. Asking, "Is that what you wanted to happen?" or "What else could you have tried?" encourages children's helpful thinking. Thinking of alternative solutions helps children plan different ways of reacting next time. Be sure to praise their efforts.



Have ways to calm down

When emotions are strong, it is easy to act without thinking. Encourage your child to take control and allow time for the emotions to subside. Walking away, using a quiet spot to think, or doing something else like riding a bike or listening to music are all activities that can assist in reducing strong emotions.

'Cool-down' steps to teach children

- 1 Recognise that you are angry
 - Notice the body signals that mean you're angry (eg getting hot, racing heart, tense muscles)
 - Give a number from one to 10 to show how angry you are
- 2 Cool down your body
 - Breathe slowly
 - Take time-out in a quiet place
 - Go for a walk, do something physical
 - Draw how you feel
- 3 Use coping self-talk
 - "It's okay. I can handle this."
- 4 Try to solve the problem
 - Talk to someone who is a good listener
 - Plan what to do next time

This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing



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