



Pelaw Main Public School NEWSLETTER

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20 SEPT 2018

TERM 3 WEEK 9

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 22nd September

Spring Fair 2pm—6pm

Friday 28th September

Last Day of Term 3

Monday 15th October

First Day of Term 4 for Staff
& Students

Friday 14th December

Presentation Day

Jackie French Author Visit

What an exciting Thursday morning we had here at Pelaw Main Public School!

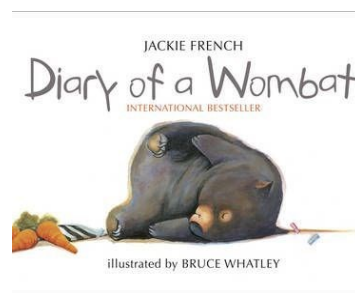
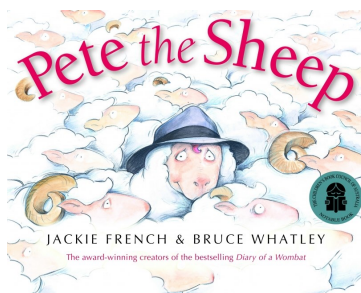
We were very excited to welcome Jackie French as a visiting guest speaker at our school and we shared the occasion with Stanford Merthyr students and staff.

Jackie French has written many, many books including the Diary of a Wombat picture book series as well as Pete the Sheep and Flood to name a few. She has also written chapter books focusing on a range of topics including Hitler's Daughter and Dingo: The Dog who Conquered a Continent.

Jackie entertained us with stories about the wombat that started her journey of writing about wombats. Can you imagine a wombat chewing through your back door and climbing up the stairs to look for carrots?

All of our students and staff joined in the conversation about what makes a 'magic' book – the book that you just can't stop reading. I hope all our families enjoy the holidays, and take some time to find their 'magic' book!

Tracy Foggett – Teacher Librarian



Partners in Learning

Mon 24th Sept 3/4 Blue
9.30 am in the
classroom

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.

Canberra Excursion

On Wednesday, 57 Year 5 and 6 students set off for a 3 day excursion to our nation's capital. From all accounts they are having a fabulous time and will return home this afternoon at approximately 4.30pm. We look forward to hearing all about their experiences and sharing some photos early next term.



Spring Fair

Our first ever weekend Spring Fair is finally here, and on TOMORROW! Our P&C and band of volunteers have worked hard to ensure the day is successful and enjoyable for our school and community. Thank you to all the parents who have already generously donated bits and pieces for our stalls and/or volunteered to help on the day. If you can help out on a stall for half an hour to give someone a break, I am sure it would be greatly appreciated.

The action starts at 2pm and will be finished by 6pm.

For safety reasons, please do not turn up early, as the rides and stalls will not be operating before 2pm.

It has been many years since we have hosted a Spring Fair and although it is our main P&C fundraiser, it is also to enable our wider school community to have a fun day together. The weather is meant to be a perfect spring day, so come along and enjoy the fun. Funds raised will be used to purchase a new interactive Smartboard for our students.

Parent Tell Them From Me Surveys

Every year our school participates in the Tell Them from Me Survey, where students in Years 4-6 and parents get the opportunity to provide us with some anonymous feedback. We need as many parents as possible to complete the survey so we can get valuable information that influences planning for our school. All parents are invited to participate and it will only take a few minutes. Mrs Knight will be coordinating these surveys before the end of term and will catch some parents in the playground before and after school. Alternatively, you can access the survey using the link below. <https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/zh8xb>



PBL Awards for this week

Be Safe Kayden W 3/4 Blue

Be Respectful Indyana S 5/6 White

Be an Active Learner Ariana W 1/2 Yellow

Ribbit Award Orange & Blue

Early Arrivals

Staff supervision does not start until 8.45am. We still have an issue of increasing numbers of students arriving at school far too early. Whilst we understand some families have emergency circumstances that require children to be dropped at school prior to school hours, please be aware that leaving students unsupervised from 8am in the morning should not be a regular occurrence. Before and After School Care operates in Kurri and the school bus picks up and drops off from there. Please consider this as a safer option for your children if the need arises.

Enrolments for 2019

Our enrolment for 2019 is currently 197 students.

Unfortunately, this means that we will be losing yet another class next year. We will be entitled to have only 8 classes next year.

If you know of any families, residing in our zone, who have yet to contact the school regarding enrolment next year, please direct them to contact the school as soon as possible. Also, if your circumstances change and you are leaving our school, please advise us immediately. Having accurate enrolment figures allows us to adequately cater for our students next year.

Regional Spelling Bee

Ahryannah B and Cooper H represented our school at the regional Spelling Bee competition on the 6th September. Well done to them both!



P&C News

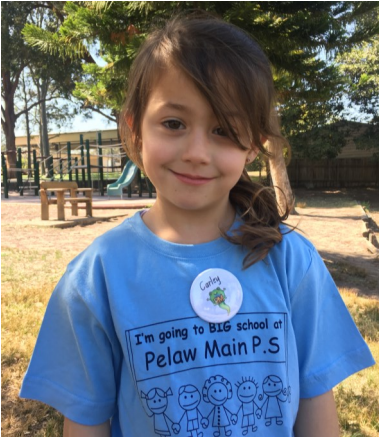
It's the SPRING FAIR TOMORROW!

Please come and have fun!

Happy Holidays from the P&C. We look forward to telling you we have achieved our fundraising goal of "10 for Technology" next term!

Tadpoles Kindergarten 2019

The tadpoles took the leap to big school last Friday and got to know their teacher and peers for 2019 while their parents participated in a literacy and numeracy workshop with Mrs Warren-Davey. Tadpoles will continue every Friday from 9.30-11, until week 5 next term (with the exception of the school holidays).



Maitland Touch Football Gala Day

4 teams competed in the Maitland Touch Football Gala day on Thursday 13th September, 2018. The gala day was held at Maitland Park, Maitland. It was great to see such enthusiasm from both junior teams with the junior girls winning 4 from their 5 games. The junior boys had a very competitive draw and showed great commitment on the field. The senior boys were undefeated on the

day winning all of their 5 games and the senior girls winning 4 from 5 too. Thank you to all of the parents who supported all teams with coaching, organisation and transport. This day was certainly made possible with the support from our fabulous school community.



Reg Kelly Cricket Round 3

On Tuesday 12th September, the school's cricket team competed against Ashtonfield Public School in Round 3 of the Reg Kelly Cricket competition. Students showed persistence in fielding, batting and bowling but unfortunately did not bring home the win on this occasion. Thank you to the parents who supported the team and provided some well-deserved oranges. Round 4 and 5 of the Reg Kelly competition will be played in Term 4. Cooper M is missing from the photo.



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will not be operating on Thursday 27th September and will reopen on Thursday 18th October.

Canteen News

The canteen will be closed on Friday 28th September and will reopen on Wednesday 17th October.

Merilyn Burton - Principal

School holiday fun @ your library

TICKETS ON SALE MID-SEPTEMBER Numbers strictly limited, pre-bookings essential, no refunds

Fire, Fire: Storytime

Meet real firefighters, learn about fire safety, and check out a real fire truck!

Cessnock Library Tuesday October 2 10-10.45am

Kids Play Uke

Learn the basics of ukulele playing at this introductory workshop—
instruments provided—perform for your friends and family!

Cessnock Library Tuesday October 2 2-3pm
Kurri Kurri Library Wednesday October 3 2-3pm

"Under the Sea" Scratch Art

Scratch your own magical underwater world with local artist Michèle Heibel

Kurri Kurri Library Thursday October 4 10-11am
Cessnock Library Thursday October 4 1-2pm

Game On!

Challenge your friends on the Wii or Xbox—or your favourite board game.

Cessnock Library Friday October 5 10am-12pm
Kurri Kurri Library Monday October 8 2-4pm

Talk to the Animals Pet Storytime

Stories, songs and craft—what's your favourite pet?

Cessnock Library Tuesday October 9 10-10.45am
Kurri Kurri Library Wednesday October 10 10-10.45am

Movie & Craft

Enjoy an afternoon at the movies, then make your own Nemo puppets!

Cessnock Library Tuesday October 9 2-4pm
Kurri Kurri Library Wednesday October 10 2-4pm

Creatures of the Deep with Emma Best

Learn about giant squids, gulper eels and other monsters of the deep—
what's down there and how ugly is it?

Kurri Kurri Library Thursday October 11 10-11am
Cessnock Library Thursday October 11 2-3pm

Bob Turner Wildlife Show

Get up close and personal with bugs, reptiles and all things that slither and
crawl in this entertaining and educational hands-on wildlife show.

Kurri Kurri Library Friday October 12 10-11am
Cessnock Library Friday October 12 1.30-2.30pm



Cessnock Library
65-67 Vincent Street
CESSNOCK 2325
Phone: 4993 4399

Cessnock City Library
Start here. go anywhere...

Kurri Kurri Library
253 Lang Street
KURRI KURRI 2327
Phone: 4937 1638

Learning to value others

Some girls in Grace's year four class were taking turns at skipping. Grace watched them closely and decided she would like to have a turn too. She asked to join in but Sally said, "It's too hard for you."

Grace had an intellectual disability. This meant she sometimes took longer to learn things. She was also not as well coordinated in sports as the other girls.

"Come on. Let me have a turn," said Grace. "Anyone can have a turn," said Deepa. "Have your turn after me."

So Grace tried to skip over the rope, but it got caught at her feet. "Try again", a few of the girls said. "You have to jump just as it hits the ground." Grace tried again. They gave her extra tries because she was learning. On the last try she managed two skips in a row. "You did it," said Deepa. Grace was really proud. "I did it!" she said. "And you helped me."

Learning to see another person's point of view

Learning to see another person's point of view is important for getting along with others and building positive friendships. Understanding others helps children know what to do in social situations and is the basis for developing caring and responsibility.

It's not always easy for children to see the point of view of someone who is different from them. Being different could mean having a disability, coming from a different country, being a different age or gender, or having different values and interests. Children who are seen as different may be left out of activities.

They may face discrimination because others think they are not as good, as talented, or as important as they are. Discrimination can have very negative effects on children's self-esteem and mental health and wellbeing.

Skills for empathy

Taking others' needs into account involves values of caring, compassion and acceptance of others. It also involves emotional skills for empathy. Learning to empathise with another person means learning to 'walk in their shoes.' It means being able to recognise and value their feelings and needs, even though they may be different from your own.

Skills for empathy develop over time and include:

- recognising your own feelings
- recognising others' feelings
- listening to others' opinions
- thinking what it would feel like if you saw the situation their way
- thinking how you can respond in a caring way
- doing something to help.

Some children find it easy to tune into feelings. Others need more guidance to learn empathic skills. Adults have an important role in supporting children to learn kindness and empathy.

A little kindness can sometimes go a long way. Learning to skip has made Grace's day. Watching and supporting her has helped everyone else feel good too.

How parents and carers can help

Research has found that the examples shown by caring adults have a big influence on children's empathy. Parents and carers (as well as school staff) can also foster empathy by promoting values of caring and compassion and coaching children to be kind and thoughtful towards others.

- Model empathy by tuning into children's feelings (eg "Ouch! That must have hurt," or "You must be feeling disappointed that your friend can't come over").
- Help children think about how feelings affect other people (eg "How do you think your friend might be feeling?").
- Help children develop skills for understanding other people's points of view by discussing the effects of discrimination and the importance of respectful and caring attitudes towards everybody.
- Talk about situations that involve empathy (eg "What I liked about the story was how kind the hero was," or "That was a mean thing to do. Don't you think she should have helped her friend?").
- Notice when children are kind and let them know you value their behaviour (eg "That was a very thoughtful thing to do. I really appreciate it!").



How to support children to accept and include others

- Teach children that there is nothing wrong with being different and that each of us is different to somebody else.
- Teach children that everyone has a right to be respected.
- Help children develop skills for positive friendships and cooperative play.
- Parents and carers of children with special needs can talk to the staff at their children's school about how to support their strengths and about encouraging other children to include them.

Valuing others means seeing difference as something positive. It means trying to understand how others think and feel, and knowing that this helps you as well as them.

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



Principals
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