



Pelaw Main Public School NEWSLETTER

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14th February 2020

TERM 1 WEEK 3

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 17th February
Book Club issue 1 orders due
Tuesday 18th February
P&C Meeting 6pm
Wednesday 19th February
Zone swimming carnival
Thursday 20th February
Mark Hughes Shield -
Rugby League
Friday 21st February
Assembly - Swimming
Carnival Champions
announced
Friday 6th March
School Photo Day
Tuesday 17th March
P&C Annual Meeting 6pm

REMINDER

Zone Swimming
Carnival
Wednesday
19th February

NOTICE

Canteen closed
Week 4



Planned Maintenance

As you may be aware, some areas of our school are currently undergoing a much needed facelift with a fresh coat of paint. The outside of the main building is currently being painted and we have decided to change the colour scheme, which will gradually go through the whole school. It will be a work in progress until everything matches, but it has certainly breathed some new life into the front of the school.

As part of this maintenance work, the roof on the canteen building will be replaced next week. Scaffolding is in place for this to ensure worker and student safety.

The wooden fence on the bottom oval adjoining one of our neighbour's properties is also set to be replaced in the next few weeks.

Canteen Closed in Week 4

Our canteen will be **CLOSED all of next week** (Week 4) due to the roofing work taking place. We will not be able to access this building until the scaffolding is removed. Thank you very much for all the wonderful volunteers who have helped us keep our canteen open three days a week – if you were rostered on in Week 4, you get a day off! Sorry parents, packed lunches all week next week!

Zone Swimming Carnival

We have about 30 students nominated to attend the Zone Swimming Carnival on Cessnock on Wednesday, 19th February. We were able to nominate the three fastest qualifiers for each 50m age race for freestyle and the three fastest Junior (8, 9 & 10 yrs) and Senior (11, 12 & 13 yrs) for each of the form strokes. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students and we wish them all the very best of luck and know that they will represent our school proudly. Miss Latter and I will be attending the carnival with our students.

Junior and Senior Swimming Carnival Champions will be presented at our next school assembly on Friday, 21st February.

Uniforms

Towards the end of last year, we noticed a difference in the standard of uniform across the school. Colourful socks, hair accessories and jewellery were the main things. Whilst we understand that crazy socks, scrunchies and jewellery are very trendy, these things are not part of our school uniform and detract from our collective appearance as a school. I will be speaking to all classes, reminding them about our uniform expectations and reminding them that these items are not appropriate for school. We appreciate your support of this in reminding your children of these expectations.

Partners in Learning

Partners in Learning has been running at our school for close to ten years and the children love showing you what they are doing in class and at school. This year we plan on continuing the program, but making some changes along the way. It will be led by classroom teachers this year and may have a particular focus each term. We have decided to let the students settle into their class routines in Term 1 and start this program in Term 2. We will send home more information later this term.

Social Media

Social media is an ever increasing issue for primary schools. Most social media platforms have minimum age requirements which generally start around 13 or 14 years. However, we understand many of our students are regular users of these platforms, such as Snapchat, Tik Tok, Facebook and Instagram.

Please be aware that the use of these platforms is not recommended by the school if students are underage as they can cause issues with peer relationships and student wellbeing. The school is not responsible for student actions on social media platforms outside of school. However, if it becomes an issue that affects student wellbeing at school, we will be in contact with parents to ensure they are aware of these issues. In many occasions, primary aged students are often unaware of the damaging effects a "funny" text, snapchat or private message can have.

The following website contains a lot of helpful information and advice for parents. I highly recommend taking a look and discussing some of these things with your child. <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

Parent Concerns

Whilst I always try and make myself available to talk to parents regarding concerns they may be having with their children, usually I am not the best person to talk to first regarding the concern, as I do not have the information you may be after. Our Assistant Principals are as follows:

Miss Perry – Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 classes and teachers – K Red, 1/2 Orange and 1/2 Yellow

Mrs Brathwaite – Stage 2 & 3 classes and teachers – 3 Green, 3/4 Blue, 4/5 Indigo, 5/6 Violet and 6 Pink

Miss Perry - will also be dealing with Planning Room incidents.

The following table may be of use in determining the first port of call. When issues arise, we all want them to be resolved as quickly as possible, and talking to the person with the most information is often the quickest way. Naturally, if the issue isn't resolved to your satisfaction, please don't hesitate to ring and make an appointment to discuss it with me further.

Guidelines for Consultations

CONCERN	APPROPRIATE ACTION
The academic progress of your own child	Directly contact your child's class teacher either by a note or a phone call to the office to arrange a suitable time to discuss progress. If a meeting with the Principal is required contact the office.
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.

School Photo Day

School photo day is on Friday the 6th March. Photo envelopes for each student will be sent home with more information very soon.

Students will be required to wear their normal school uniform on this day, rather than their sport's uniform.

Nut Allergies

Pelaw Main Public School strives to be a nut free environment and we would like to remind everyone about the importance of this.

Nut allergies can be life threatening. It takes only the slightest smell, touch, or ingestion of nuts, or nut products to cause a potential anaphylactic reaction in some people.

Products such as Nutella, peanut butter and snack foods containing nuts, should not be brought to school. For the safety of our students, it would be greatly appreciated if you could keep this in mind when packing lunches for your child.

If your child does have these products they are asked to let a teacher know to ensure the safety and hazard elimination for students with severe allergies.

Local Schools Community Fund

In collaboration with the P&C, I applied for a Local Schools Community Fund grant from the Federal Government, to assist us in providing a permanent shade shelter over our fixed equipment. I received a phone call from Meryl Swanson, Member for Paterson at the end of last year to inform us we had been successful in securing \$5,000 through this grant. The P&C have already generously provided \$15,000 for this at the end of last year. We will discuss the plans to get this underway at the next P&C meeting.

P&C News

The first P&C Meeting this year will be held on Tuesday, 18th February at 6pm in the staffroom. It would be great to see some new faces come along as well!

The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17th March, from 6pm, in the school staff room. All executive positions and sub-committee positions will be declared vacant at the meeting and elections will be held during the meeting. Proxy nominations will be accepted; however, proxy votes will not be accepted. The monthly P&C Meeting will be held immediately following the AGM.

A Message From the Office

When making payment at the office, please ensure money is in an envelope or plastic zip-lock bag with your child's name, class and excursion clearly written on the front.

WHAT DO THESE SIGNS MEAN?

YOU CAN STOP HERE FOR 2 MINUTES ONLY
You can drop your child off here but you must either stay in the car or within 3 metres of the car. Mobility scooter permit holders may stop for up to 5 mins.

NO STOPPING
YOU CANNOT STOP HERE
You cannot drop your child off here. Medical or other emergency stopping only is permitted.

BUS ZONE
YOU CANNOT STOP HERE UNLESS DRIVING A BUS
Children cannot be dropped here unless they are arriving by bus.

Hours of operation may apply to some signs. This means that the restrictions apply for those times only.

For more information please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au

Good for Kids good for life

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

Walk, bike ride, skate or scooter to school on March 13th, to celebrate active travel.



Children under 16 years of age (and adults supervising them) are allowed to ride on a footpath in NSW.

Encourage your kids to follow these tips for safer riding:

- Always wear an approved bicycle helmet, properly fitted and fastened.
- Always obey road rules, including traffic lights, stop signs and give way signs.
- Turn your head when passing driveways
- Keep left when riding on the footpath and give way to pedestrians
- Travel at a speed that is safe for you and others
- Wear bright clothing to make yourself visible

Sources: The Bicycle Network & Transport for Road Safety NSW



HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>



*Kurri Kurri and District
Pre-School Kindergarten Inc*



We would like to invite all children who attended Kurri Kurri Preschool last year to attend our **BACK TO PRESCHOOL AFTERNOON TEA** on **Thursday 27th February 2020, 3:30-4pm.**

Please RSVP on 4937 2110 or admin@kurripreschool.com.au or text 0437 211 544. We look forward to seeing you all!

We also have a few vacant positions for eligible children for this year. Please contact us on the above numbers if you are interested.