

# The Point

Newsletter of  
Soldiers Point Public School



Monday, November 20, 2017

Dear Parents,

This week & last we have had the pleasure of getting to know many of our 2018 Kindergarten students as they've participated in our Orientation Program. The students have participated in a number of 'big school' activities, including: story time, practising writing their name, learning numbers, shape and colours. They've also been able to meet their Year 6 Buddy for next year. We now look forward to seeing them here in 2018.

## Walkathon

As you may recall, we were unable to run our annual walkathon during Education Week due to our commitment to the school musical. As such, we will be holding our walkathon this Friday, November 24.

The format of the day will be quite different to previous years as we will be creating mixed groups of students (not class groups) and each group will participate in a wide range of fitness activities throughout the session.

The walkathon is an annual school fundraiser for the school and this year's focus is to raise funds for reading resources for the students.

I thank parents and the wider community for your support of our walkathon. I also remind and encourage parents to accompany their children when seeking sponsors / donations in their local area.



## Community Matters

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Brenda Madden for her willingness to lead our recent Parent Forums, which gave parents the opportunity to reflect and share their thoughts and ideas about the school. I thank & trust the parents attending either forum felt it was a beneficial exercise.

This Thursday, November 23, a team of school staff will be working on the new School Plan, which will take us through to 2020.

## Intensive Swimming

Our 2017 Intensive Swimming program concluded last Friday, November 17, for nearly 60 students from Years 2 & 3. Soldiers Point has offered the Intensive Swimming program for many years which has improved our students' water familiarisation and confidence. We encourage parents to continue their child's swimming development by regular visits to the pool.

I would like to sincerely thank Mrs Egan, Miss Cornwell, Mr Nix and Mr Holloway for their commitment and willingness to run the program again this year as it is of enormous benefit to our students.

## Bandstand

Our fabulous concert and rock bands are set to perform at the annual Twilight Bandstand on the November 30, which is being held at Tomaree Education Centre. This annual event provides an opportunity for the bands from the Peninsula's public schools to showcase their talents in front of their family and friends as they enjoy a lovely meal outdoors. This year's theme is 'Bollywood' and the children are madly practising their tunes ready to give their best performance ever.

### Thinkfest 2017

Thinkfest is an annual program that is exclusive to the Opportunity Class. Four groups of students are given a problem and they must deliver the solution in the form of a short skit of no longer than five minutes. Other Opportunity Classes around the Newcastle and Central Coast area come together to present their unique take on each problem.

There are four groups; English, mathematics, science and history. For example, the science problem this year is:

*"Imagination is more important than knowledge." Explore this quote in relation to science and technology in the 21st Century and beyond.*

The solution presented in each skit must demonstrate understanding, importance and significance of the given problem in an entertaining way using only one prop and a relatively designed backdrop. Each group is also expected to create a short movie trailer for their skit, as well as a visual communications diary that outlines each member's role, pictures, sketches and anecdotal comments. Additionally, the diary should reflect the research, investigations and learning undertaken to achieve the solution to each group's given problem.

This year, Thinkfest is being hosted at New Lambton South Public School on Wednesday, November 22nd. We're all looking forward to performing and watching the other schools' solutions.

### Organisation

As we move closer to the end of the 2017 school year we need to ensure that we are organised for 2018. One of our annual challenges is to know how many students will start school each year and to organise classes based on these numbers. To assist, we ask families with children in Kindergarten to Year 5, who may be leaving the school at the end of 2017, inform the school at your earliest convenience. This will enable us to plan our teachers and classes for next year. If leaving, please inform the school via email, [soldierspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:soldierspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or call the office on 49827151 so we can continue planning for next year.

## Term Dates

### Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Kindergarten Orientation
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Kindergarten Orientation
	Hunter Water Stage 1
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Thinkfest
	Kindergarten Orientation
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Walkathon

### Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Picnic in the Park – Kindy 2018
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	2018 SRC Speeches
	Twilight Bandstand
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Student Recognition Assembly

### Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Orientation THS
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Scripture Assembly @ 11:30
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	OC Orientation Day
	Canteen Meal Deal
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration Day – 9:45am
	Choir at Bowling Club

### Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Stage 2 Movie Day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Farewell
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Stage 3 Movie Day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Term 4 Concludes

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

*Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November K-2  
1/2E  
At 2.15pm*

*Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Whole School  
Student Recognition  
At 2.15pm  
All Welcome*

## Book Club

Book Club orders due by  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.



## P & C NEWS

### Canteen

Thank you to Casandra Butterworth, Leanne Benbow, Deanne Cosgrove, Julie Thomson, Matt Connor, Davina Gamble, Ken Harper and Tania for all their help over the last two weeks.

#### Roster

Wed 22/11	Ken Harper
Thur 23/11	Yr 6 Amali R, Estelle N
Fri 24/11	Leanne Benbow, Deanne Cosgrove
Mon 27/11	<i>Help Needed</i>
Wed 29/11	Ken Harper
Thur 30/11	Yr 6 James W, Drew W
Fri 1/12	Casandra Butterworth, Julie Thomson, Leanne Benbow
Mon 4/12	<i>Help Needed</i>

The Canteen is holding a Meal Deal on THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER. It will consist of a gourmet American hotdog complete with bacon and cheese or sauce of your choice and a chocolate or rainbow billabong for \$5.00. Order forms have been sent home. Any help on the day would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you

We have some additional items available for lunch over the next few weeks:

Chicken Caesar Wraps	\$4
Pork and Gravy Roll	\$4
Beef and Gravy Roll	\$4
Bubble-o-bills and Billabongs	\$2.50

## Fundraising Committee

### 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

We are pleased to announce that as well as having run a very successful and community orientated event we raised in the vicinity of \$25,000 to be put towards equipment for the school. We are still waiting for the final figure to come in. The musicians and buskers raised \$251 for the music department and the plants stall raised \$688 to be used by the gardening club.

Again a big thank you to everyone involved. Without our helpers the event wouldn't have gotten off the ground. We also had a mention in NSW State Parliament by our local member Kate Washington.

We are planning a plant and used book sale for any left-overs from the Celebrations at the school this Saturday (25/11/17) from 8am to 12 noon. Please spread the word amongst family and friends.

3/4S are looking forward to their Pizza Party this week as they were the winning class in raffle ticket sales. A high thank you to Dominos at Salamander Bay who are donating and delivering the pizzas. KF were runners up and will be having a party over the coming weeks with Fairy Bread and Zooper Doopers.

Jane Lestone  
P & C Fundraising Committee

### Parent Forums

Thank you to all the parents who participated in the recent Parent Forum sessions. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated. The prioritised results from both sessions will be summarised and ideas incorporated into the new School Plan. Great outcomes can be achieved when we work together.

### Contact Us

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[sppspc@live.com.au](mailto:sppspc@live.com.au)



Soldiers Point Public School Parents