

The Point

Newsletter of
Soldiers Point Public School



Wednesday • April 26th • 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back for what will be a bumper term of action at Soldiers Point Public School. As we look over the Term 2 calendar I have a feeling it's going to be a very fast & exciting ride for us all. In addition to our class-based learning experiences, we also have numerous activities to further extend our students' skills e.g. Footsteps and a plethora of sporting opportunities.

Staffing Update

The conclusion of Term 1 was a very special time for staff at Soldiers Point as we farewelled Mrs Freeman, who concluded a distinguished career as a teacher. I sincerely thank Mrs Freeman for all she brought to Soldiers Point over the past 30 years and wish her a long and healthy retirement. With Mrs Freeman's retirement, her position will be shared between two of our regular teachers, Mrs Samantha Hartmann, (teaching Mon, Tues and Thurs) and Mrs Pitkin (teaching Wed and Fri).

Additionally, Mrs Cosgrove (Pawley) is taking maternity leave for the pending birth of her baby. Mrs Crowley (Lawrence) will be replacing Mrs Cosgrove during this time. I'm sure you'll all join me in wish Mrs Cosgrove and her husband well with the birth of Baby Cosgrove.

Also, Mrs Merriman will be on leave from the library for Term 2 and will be replaced by Ms Piggott.

School Hours

I remind all families that our school hours are:
8:55 AM – 2:55 PM.

Parents should refrain from dropping their children at school before 8:25 AM and ensure they are collected soon after the 2:55 PM bell to go home. Students arriving at school before 8:25 AM will not be supervised by school staff and should make their way to the Big COLA and await teacher supervision at 8:25 AM.

ANZAC March 2017

We extend a big thank you to all the families who arranged for their children to join us for this year's ANZAC Day March and service. We had a small contingent of students who were supported teachers and parents. Our students were keen to participate and were extremely respectful throughout the service. We would also like to acknowledge our two school captains, Emma Dawson and Rowan Connick for their great job at leading our school and laying the wreath.

A whole school ANZAC Assembly will take place on Friday 28th April 2017 at 1.30 PM with a guest speaker from RAAF Base Williamtown, Flight Lieutenant Daniel Price attending amongst distinguished guests. There will also be a short performance by the school choir. We would love to see as many families there at this special occasion.



NAPLAN 2017

Our Year 3 and 5 students will be undertaking the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Week 3 of this term. ***(Tuesday 9 May-Thursday 11 May).***

Tuesday 9 May	Wed 10 May	Thurs 11 th May
Language Conventions	Reading	Numeracy
Writing		

We wish all our Year 3 and 5 students well with their assessment tasks.

Term Dates

Term 2 – Week 1

Monday 24 th April	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 25 th April	ANZAC Day
Wednesday 26 th April	Students Commence
Thursday 27 th April	Footsteps
Friday 28 th April	ANZAC Day Assembly

Term 2 – Week 2

Monday 1 st May	Port Stephens Zone Rugby
Tuesday 2 nd May	
Wednesday 3 rd May	School Improvement & Finance Committee Meeting from 7:00pm
Thursday 4 th May	Footsteps
Friday 5 th May	Hunter Regional Soccer Trials

Term 2 – Week 3

Monday 8 th May	
Tuesday 9 th May	NAPLAN P&C Meeting
Wednesday 10 th May	NAPLAN
Thursday 11 th May	NAPLAN
Friday 12 th May	Footsteps

Term 2 – Week 4

Monday 15 th May	
Tuesday 16 th May	Boys' Soccer V Tanilba Bay
Wednesday 17 th May	
Thursday 18 th May	Footsteps
Friday 19 th May	

Term 2 – Week 5

Monday 22 nd May	
Tuesday 23 rd May	Musica Viva @ 11:50
Wednesday 24 th May	
Thursday 25 th May	Footsteps
Friday 26 th May	

Term 2 – Week 6

Monday 29 th May	
Tuesday 30 th May	Koala Animation Crew visit
Wednesday 31 st May	
Thursday 1 st June	Footsteps
Friday 2 nd June	

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 28th April – 1.30pm
ANZAC Day Assembly

Friday 5th May – 2.15pm
Class Councillor Induction

All Welcome

NAPLAN 2017

During Week 3 of Term 2 our Year 3 and 5 students will be undertaking the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN).

Tuesday, May 9	Language Conventions & Writing
Wednesday, May 10	Reading
Thursday, May 11	Numeracy

Footsteps – Ten Week Program

Term 2 – starts tomorrow

As part of our school's PDHPE program **ALL STUDENTS** will be participating in the above Dance Program.

This program is held every 2nd year and is age appropriate, and enjoyed by all students.

Cost for Ten week program is \$35.00

Please complete note sent home and return to the office with payment ASAP.

From the OfficeDon't forget

- Parents can pay on-line through the school's website. You don't need the students ID number but don't forget to put your name, students name and what you are paying for.
- Skoolbag – app is available for both smart and Android phones. It is a great way to stay updated with newsletters and important information from the school. The App is free just search for Soldiers Point Public School Skoolbag.
- Have you moved? *Do you have a new address? Have you changed phone numbers? Have you changed your child's emergency contacts or numbers? Does your child have new or updated medical details* then please contact the school office.

DEFENCE AIDE NEWS

The Defence Community Organisation will be holding a morning tea on **Monday 1st May 2017** – see flyer below.

I would love as many Mums/Partners to come along and meet some other Defence Mums/Partners within the Nelson Bay area. This is a great opportunity to have any question's answered regarding defence benefits, lifestyle, education, returning to work by DCO Williamtown. I will be attending on the day and look forward to catching up with all of you.

Please RSVP Danielle 0438 430 616 or Debra 0423 766 378 ASAP, so we have an idea how many will attend.

Kind regards

Danielle Robinson

DSTA



DEFENCE PARTNER COFFEE CATCH UP MONDAY 01 MAY

Buddies in the Bay

Buddies in the Bay are hosting a Defence Partner Coffee Catch Up on Monday 01 May 2017 from 10:00am.

This is a wonderful opportunity for you to make new connections, share experiences and have some time out while enjoying a coffee at the Salamander Bay Tavern.

Defence Community Organisation's Family Liaison Officer will be in attendance to discuss the family services available to assist with the mobile Defence lifestyle.

Everyone is very welcome to attend. Please register your interest via text message to Buddy in the Bay, Debra on 0423 766 378.

Defence Partner
Coffee Catch up

From 10:00am

Fenced children's
playground on site

Everyone is very
welcome!

Salamander
Tavern, Town
Centre Circuit,
Salamander Bay

We hope to see
you there!

**NEWS****Introducing our NEW P&C COMMITTEE for 2017**


President	Ms Paula Adnam
Secretary	Mr Paul Brooke
Treasurer	Ms Janine Wright
Publicity Officer	Ms Brenda Madden
Social Media Administration	Ms Melanie Bonniface
Social Media Officer	Ms Katie Allen
SIFC Sub-Committee Convenor	Ms Brenda Madden
Fundraising Committee	Ms Kirsty Webb
	Ms Melanie Bonniface
	Ms Davina Gamble
	Ms Carla Queenan
	Ms Katie Allen
	Ms Jane Lestone

Welcome aboard! We look forward to achieving some great things together in 2017.

Contact Us

Email: sppspc@live.com.au

P&C Website: sppspc.weebly.com

 Soldiers Point Public School Parents



Comment
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National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2017

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2017 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 9-11 May 2017.

TUESDAY 9 MAY	WEDNESDAY 10 MAY	THURSDAY 11 MAY
Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)	Reading test	Numeracy test
Writing test		

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be one Numeracy test with two parts: Part A calculator is allowed and Part B where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 12 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day. Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, **or**
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the school principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support>

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) replaced BOSTES on 1 January 2017.

NEWS



Fundraising Committee Garage Sale

Event Date: Saturday 29 April

Time: 8am – 12 noon

Place: Soldiers Point Public School

Thank you to the families and residents who have already donated pre-loved goods for the garage sale this Saturday – keep them coming! Volunteers will be at the school this week to collect donations in the top carpark (beside the school hall) before and after school on:

Thursday April 27

Friday April 28

Baked goods can be delivered to the canteen either on Friday or to the event on Saturday morning. A huge thank you to all our donors and volunteers. Egg and bacon rolls, tea, coffee and cakes will be available for purchase on the day so drop by and grab some great deals and breakfast or morning tea.

We would like to thank Woolworths, Salamander Bay, for their continuing generosity both in their donation to the Garage Sale and the ongoing fruit donation to the canteen which will be supplied again in Term 2.

Canteen

Thank you to Deanne Cosgrove, Leanne Benbow, Davina Gamble, Karen Jones, Matt Connor, Julie Thomson and Casandra Butterworth for all their help over the last two weeks of Term 1.

Roster

Fri 28/4	Leanne Benbow, Deanne Cosgrove
Mon 1/5	Deanne Cosgrove
Wed 3/5	Matt Connor
Fri 5/5	Leanne Benbow, Casandra Butterworth
Mon 8/5	Help Needed

The Canteen is desperately short of volunteers on a Monday and Wednesday. If you could spare any time, even an hour in the morning to help out with preparation, please come and visit me in the Canteen or contact me on my mobile 0448 771 336.

Teaching staff have requested that at the beginning in Term 2 Snappies are no longer sold at recess. This will come into effect from Wednesday 26 April. All frozen treats must be purchased at lunch time only and the cut off time for purchase will be 1.15pm. This allows time for Snappies to be fully consumed before the bell.

Thank you for your continued support, Paula

Meetings

School Improvement and Finance Committee (SIFC) Meeting: Wednesday 3 May held in the School Administration Building at 7pm. All welcome.

P&C Meeting: Tuesday 9 May held in the School Administration Building at 7pm. All welcome.

Uniform Shop Open Tuesday 8.30am – 9.30am and Friday 2.15pm – 3.15pm

We try to keep our prices as low as possible but we have to increase some items in Term 2 due to our suppliers increasing their prices. New prices are: Hats \$14, Library Bags \$14, Skorts \$18, Cargo Shorts \$18, Cargo Long Pants \$22, Microfibre Shorts \$15, Full Zip Polar Fleece Jackets \$28 & Bomber Jackets \$42. The Uniform Shop has a seconds rack and families are encouraged to drop off their pre-loved uniforms to us throughout the year. Thank you, Karen and Brooke.

Contact Us

Email: sppspc@live.com.au

P&C Website: sppspc.weebly.com



Soldiers Point Public School Parents

SCHOOLS AS COMMUNITY CENTRES PROGRAM

Anna Bay Public School
191 Gan Gan Road Anna Bay NSW 2316
T 4982 1787 M 0437 829 037
E jacqueline.orwell@det.nsw.edu.au



TERM TWO 2017

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23 TO FRIDAY JULY 30

In partnership with the Yacaaba Centre we are holding:



Unique, Unstoppable U

an empowerment course for women

This is a safe supportive five week program designed for all women who want to explore and build on skills to improve your relationship with yourself and others.

Topics covered include:

- Mindfulness
- Self Esteem—how to build it and keep it
- Discovering your strengths
- Developing a confident attitude
- Looking after your self-care

Five weekly sessions commencing:

WEDNESDAY 31ST May: 12.15 pm - 2.30 pm

FREE childcare

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

In partnership with the Benevolent Society, Gan Gan Family Centre is holding the Internationally acclaimed parenting program:

Circle of Security

The Circle of Security is a six session practical program which helps parents and carers to understand their children's relationship needs and how to support them.

This course gives suggestions for:

- building supportive relationships between parents/carers and children
- developing children's self-esteem and ability to handle their emotions

When: Monday May 8 to June 5

(Mondays over 5 weeks)

Time: 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm

FREE Afternoon Tea and Children's Activities

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



In partnership with the Catholic Diocese Maitland Gan Gan Family Centre is holding:

Seasons for Growth Parent Program

Supporting your child following separation or divorce.....

Provides an opportunity for you to reflect on the experience of separation or divorce from your child's perspective.

Small group program for 5 – 12 parents, it will be held over 2 x 2 hour sessions.

Two sessions commencing:

WEDNESDAY 10th & 17th May: 12.15 PM - 2.30 PM

\$15.00 cost

FREE Afternoon Tea and Children's Activities
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL



READY, SET FOR SCHOOL

A TRANSITION TO SCHOOL PLAYGROUP!

The READY, SET FOR SCHOOL program targets children commencing school on the Tomaree Peninsular in 2018

Our fun structured 90 minute sessions allow your child to develop their skills and confidence through play based learning experiences.

Held each THURSDAY 10.00 am – 11.30 am

Commencing May 11.

Siblings welcome

Limited spaces so bookings essential

MEETING DATES THIS TERM:

BAY GAPS(Grandparents as Parents): Every Wed@10 am

YOUNG PARENTS GROUP: Every Tues@10.30 am

FAMILY LAW CONSULT: Thurs by appointment

TERM TWO 2017

GROUPS FOR NEW PARENTS

EARLY PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP

For new mums and dads with babies aged 0 – 3 months.
Facilitated by the Child & Family Health Nurse.
Come along and chat about the joys and challenges of parenting.

FOUR weekly sessions commencing:
THURSDAY 11 May: 10.00 am to 12 noon.

For more info phone: 4924 2588.

BABY MASSAGE (Newborn to 6 months)

A course for parents & their babies to enhance bonding & empower parents in the care of their baby.

Assists with colic and digestion, stimulates baby's growth & development & helps baby sleep better.

FRIDAY 26th May 10 am to 12 noon

Booking Required. (\$35.00 for the five sessions)

Ring Clare: 0421 678 680

PLAYGROUPS AT THE CENTRE

MESSY PLAY

Messy Play program is for children aged 0 -5 years.

Childcare staff from Good Start Early Learning, Anna Bay facilitate the session each week.

Come and join us for structured messy play activities and learn the importance of sensory play with your child.

TUESDAYS commencing 2 May
10.15 am – 12 noon
* Bookings essential.



Young Parents Network

Invites you to:

ANNA BAY YOUNG PARENTS GROUP

A group for all parents under 25 years

Come along to meet other young parents and share your parenting experiences

Every Tuesday @ 10.30 am

SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP (Newborn to 5 Years)

Supported Playgroup is held in partnership with the Benevolent Society and provides opportunity for parents and children to enhance their relationship in a supportive environment, increase their skills and confidence and develop valuable social and family support networks.

Held every **MONDAY** in the School Term.

Time: 9.30 am -11.30 am. *Booking required

Are you caring for a child with a disability?

Playgroup NSW MyTime support groups are for mothers, fathers, grandparents and anyone caring for a child up to age 16, with a disability or chronic medical condition.

MyTime is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, and nationally coordinated by the Parenting Research Centre.



MyTime
supporting parents of children with disabilities

Wednesdays

10 am – 12 noon

For more info ring Tracy: 0410 476 128



TOYS ON TAP

TOY & BOOK LIBRARY

Quality toys, books & resources

OPEN WEEKDAYS DURING SCHOOL TERM

9.00 AM – 11.00 AM.

NEW TOYS HAVE JUST ARRIVED



Find us on
Facebook

THE MAGIC OF MAMBO FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Hosted by
Mambo-Wanda
Wetlands
Landcare

13 MAY 10AM-3PM (LUNCH PROVIDED)

MEET AT THE CORNER OF PORT STEPHENS DRIVE & FORESHORE DRIVE.

What makes Mambo Wetlands so special?

The diversity of habitats, species, and cultural significance of the wetlands.

MORNING SESSION

Take a walk through Mambo:

A member of a local bird watching group will share their knowledge of fauna, avian, their movements, and the significance of this habitat.

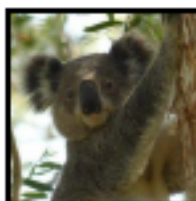
A Custodian from Maaiangal Nurra will talk about and show people significant food and medicinal plants.

Plant koala food trees along the way

AFTERNOON SESSION

Learn from a Koala carer all about Koalas in Mambo and Port Stephens.

An environmental ecologist will demonstrate the importance of the salt marsh, seagrass and mangrove areas.



RSVP by 6th May (LIMITED SPACES)
0428 846 585 or wddandmy@hotmail.com
[Click here to book on Eventbrite](#)

Wearing closed shoes is essential.
Also bring hat, sunscreen, insect repellent,
binoculars if possible.

ACTIVITIES

10 AM - 12 PM

**JUST FOR KIDS-
BUSHLAND SCAVENGER
HUNT**

BIRDS IN MAMBO

TRADITIONAL FOOD AND
MEDICINAL PLANTS

COMMUNITY TREE
PLANTING

12 PM LUNCH

1 - 2 PM
KOALAS IN MAMBO

2 - 3 PM
SEAGRASSES, SALMARSH,
MANGROVE HABITATS