

Monday • October 29 • 2018

Dear Parents,

Last Tuesday, October 23, I had the pleasure of meeting with a past principal of Soldiers Point Public School, Mr Ray Kelly. Ray was principal of SPPS from 1963-1968 when the school consisted of just 2 buildings and had a population of 17 students.

Ray recalled there being very few houses on Cromarty Road at that time and the land adjacent to the school was generally farmland. Ray was impressed to learn the school now has approximately 350 students.

Ray remembered the community being very supportive of their school, which continues to be a strong feature of the school today.

Intensive Swimming

In Week 5 of this term approximately 60 students from Years 2 & 3 will have the opportunity to participate in the 2018 Intensive Swimming program. This program has the obvious benefits of developing crucial water awareness and basic swimming skills; however, I strongly encourage parents to prepare their children further by undertaking regular swimming lessons with a certified instructor.

Swimming is a skill for life & once the skill is learned, your child will always know how to swim.



This is especially useful for taking part in other recreational water activities, such as surfing, sailing, fishing and kayaking.

Mozzies About

As the days warm up we are starting to see more and more mosquitoes around the local area. This being the case it's important to look at the best way to protect ourselves from mosquitoes not just to prevent annoying itchy bites, but to stop the spread of diseases that they can carry.



Whilst we do have insect repellent in each classroom for student use, I recommend parents apply their children with a long lasting insect repellent before school. It's important to apply the repellent as a thin covering on all exposed areas of skin, not just a dab here and there.

Organisation

As we move closer to the end of the 2018 school year we need to ensure that we are organised for 2019. 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 will be leaving the school at the end of 2018, 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 or call into the office by Tuesday, October 23, so we can continue planning for next year.

Please see over for more on organisation.

Dropping-off & Picking-up

Like many schools, dropping your children off and collecting them in the afternoon can be quite a challenging mission, particularly as parking is at such a premium. That being the case it's imperative that we respect the school's morning and afternoon routines, thus promote the safety of all students.

As there are number of new families that have joined our school recently I think it's timely to remind all parents of routines and practices to keep things running safely & smoothly.

Morning Routines:

- Our school times are: 8:55am – 2:55pm;
- Students and their siblings are not permitted to play on the equipment before school as this area is not supervised by a teacher before school;
- *Kiss and go before the morning bell.* We would appreciate all parents to follow the *kiss and go* practice of a morning to help students get into their classrooms quickly and safely with minimal fuss. For parents, this means *kiss and go* on the sound of the first morning bell. This supports the morning routine and opportunity to maximise the morning learning session. Teachers have many things to get through in the first 15 minutes of the day such as: marking the roll, collecting lunch orders and notes, and students having their Crunch and Sip. The more time we take getting students safely into the classroom, the more literacy time that is taken from students learning; and
- We are a Crunch and Sip school. Please ensure students have their fruit and/or vegetable readily accessible in the morning. We appreciate fruit and vegetables cut up and in a separate container rather than students having to bring their entire lunch box into the classroom.

Afternoon collection time is particularly busy. As you'll appreciate, trying to get nearly 350 students to where they need to be in a very short amount of time is extremely challenging for teachers. It is therefore, vital that we work closely with parents and carers to ensure it works well.

Afternoon Routines:

- Most classes are walked to the Student Collection Area adjacent to the office and canteen buildings. This area is marked with a sign on the wall. Teachers will wait in this area with their students until they are collected.
- Stage 1 students are walked to the top playground where they are dismissed by their teacher. Students will then make their way to their parents, bus lines, bikes or other.

In the interests of safety, parents and carers who are collecting their children after school; should wait in the Student Collection Area adjacent to the office. This allows teachers to bring their classes up to the Collection Area without interruption. Teachers would also appreciate parents not standing at the top of the stairs that step up to the Games Court as this can create an obstruction for classes walking through.

Students not collected on time are taken to the office where we contact parents, carers or emergency contacts that we have listed. If you are running late we would appreciate you contacting the office by telephone as this allows teachers to notify students so they don't worry and get upset when they can't see their parents and are taken to the office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 49827151 to arrange a meeting with Mr Parson.

Thank you for your support.

Term Dates

Term 4 – Week 3

Monday 29 th October	
Tuesday 30 th October	Stage 1 Excursion - Wetlands
Wednesday 31 st October	AECG Meeting
	Stage 3 Boat Safety
Thursday 1 st November	
Friday 2 nd November	

Term 4 – Week 4

Monday 5 th November	Stage 2 Woodworking
Tuesday 6 th November	Stage 2 Woodworking
	Oakvale Farm Kindergarten
Wednesday 7 th November	Year 6-7 Transition Activity
	School Improvement & Finance Meeting
	Last day for Scripture
Thursday 8 th November	Cricket Bash Day - Tomaree
Friday 9 th November	Remembrance Assembly

Term 4 – Week 5

Monday 12 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Tuesday 13 th November	Year 2 Swim School
	Stage 3 World of Maths
	P&C Meeting
Wednesday 14 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Thursday 15 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Friday 16 th November	Year 2 Swim School
	P&C Federation Meeting

Term 4 – Week 6

Monday 19 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Tuesday 20 th November	Year 2 Swim School
Wednesday 21 st November	Year 2 Swim School
Thursday 22 nd November	Year 2 Swim School
Friday 23 rd November	Year 2 Swim School

Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 26 th November	2019 Kindergarten Orientation
	Mackellar Girls High School Band
Tuesday 27 th November	2019 Kindergarten Orientation
Wednesday 28 th November	2019 Kindergarten Orientation
	AECG Meeting
Thursday 29 th November	
Friday 30 th November	

Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 3 rd December	2019 Kindy Orientation
Tuesday 4 th December	Year 6-7 Transition Activity – THS
	2019 Kindy Orientation
	Parent Information Session for Kindergarten 2019
Wednesday 5 th December	2019 Kindy Orientation
Thursday 6 th December	Twilight Band Stand – Anna Bay
	2019 SRC Speeches
Friday 7 th December	

Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 10 th December	
Tuesday 11 th December	Year 6 Farewell
Wednesday 12 th December	Scripture Assembly @ 1:30
Thursday 13 th December	
Friday 14 th December	Celebration Day
	Student reports sent home

Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 17 th December	
Tuesday 18 th December	
Wednesday 19 th December	Term 4 concludes for students
Thursday 20 th December	Staff development day
Friday 21 st December	Staff development day

Year 7 Entry into Selective High School in 2020

Application information for selective high school entry in 2020 has been sent home today. Please follow the instructions if you intend your child to apply for Selective High School placement in 2020. Applications close on 12th November 2018. The placement test will be held on Thursday 14th March 2019.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 2nd November
2.15pm - K-2
Hosted by 1/2E

Friday 9th November
10:00am – Whole School
Remembrance Assembly

All Welcome

Important Update

UPDATE ON WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK WWCC

As from January 2019 all –

Classroom Volunteers

Canteen Helpers

Anyone transporting students in private cars (other than their own children)

will need to apply and have an Unpaid Volunteer WWCC number. **This is free** and must be applied for on-line at - <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-organisations/working-with-children-check>

After receiving your WWCC Number please bring to the school office and we can place you on our data base.

If for some reason you do not have access to a computer please let the school office know and we can help you to apply on-line.

If you do not have this WWCC number, from 2019 you will not be able to help at the school as a Volunteer.

Thank you
Bronwyn Sherman - Admin Manager

Visual Arts

This week, your child will bring home his/her artwork for you to appreciate and view with the purpose of perhaps ordering some quality products. Your child's artwork can be reproduced into greeting cards, calendars, diaries, notebooks and tote bags. Tote bags are a new item this year and should prove to be a popular choice considering the recent ban on plastic bags.

Usually this activity is well supported within our school community. The aim of the program is to celebrate art, not to raise money; therefore costs have been kept to a minimum.

Cards and calendars: \$10.00 each

Diaries and notebooks: \$15.00 each

Tote Bags: \$18.00 each

Samples of all items can be viewed in the office foyer. To order, simply fill in the required number of items in the boxes on the front of the artwork, and return the artwork and money to your child's teacher.

Orders must be finalised by Monday 5th November and not orders can be taken after this date.
Rose Aitchison

Tomaree Education Centre 20th Anniversary Celebrations

November 9th & 10th

Fri 9th	Special Primary & High School Assemblies Community morning tea
Sat 10th	Anniversary Dinner Soldiers Point Bowling Club. (Tickets \$65 on-line. Visit STICKY TICKETS)

P&C News

The P&C Federation will be at Soldiers Point Public School on **Friday 16th November at 6:00pm**, to talk about the roles and responsibilities of a P&C Association. P&C Federation Information Sessions are friendly and interactive. It's a great opportunity to network and ask questions.

The **School Improvement and Finance Committee (SIFC)** will meet on **Wednesday 7 November at 7pm** in the School Administration block (enter via Front Office). This month we will be looking at the results of the recent Tell Them From Me Survey and receiving an overview of recent grant applications linked to an exciting school infrastructure project. We all have our fingers crossed! All welcome.

School Opal Cards – Term 4

The School Opal card gives eligible school students free or subsidised travel on public transport between home and school on trains, buses, ferries and light rail in the Opal network.

Starting Term 4 - **ALL students** will be reminded that they are required to use their School Opal Cards every time they catch the bus to AND from school. Students who fail to use the School Opal Card will initially receive a warning and then a possible suspension off ALL school services for subsequent offences. To prevent issues with their travel, please ensure your child has an School Opal Card and is aware that they must use it every time they catch the school bus.

For more information about the School Opal card, visit

<https://www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students>



Blue Light
NEW SOUTH WALES

Coming Events

PCYC
PORT STEPHENS

Blue Light's Back!

Junior Blue Light Disco

Date **7th September 2018** Time **5pm-8pm**

Location **7 Austral Street, Nelson Bay.**

Canteen, Lucky Door Prizes & Much More!

Age group **Kindy to year 6** Cost **\$10 per child**

For more information about this event or other club activities, please contact our office.
Phone: 4981 3099 Email: portstephens@pcycnsw.org.au

Find us on Facebook pcycnsw.org.au **PCYC** POLICE CITIZENS YOUTH CLUBS NSW

<p>GAN GAN FAMILY CENTRE</p> <p>Schools as Community Centres Program Anna Bay Public School (Best Parking Old Main Road) P 4982 1767 M 0437 629 037 E Jacqueline.onwell@det.nsw.edu.au</p> <p>TERM FOUR 2018</p> <p>To book a course or for more information P 4982 1767</p>	<p>EDIBLE XMAS GIFTS</p> <p>Christmas</p> <p>Tuesdays Nov 20, 27, Dec 4 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm</p> <p>Learn to manage challenging behaviour in children aged two to twelve years</p> <p>Topics include: • Discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking • Tactics for encouraging good behaviour</p> <p>\$5.00 fee for workbook</p> <p>Free childrens activity group available</p>	<p>TREE OF LIFE</p> <p>Wednesdays August 8, 15, 22, 29 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm</p> <p>Looking differently at one's life and family relationships using imagery.</p> <p>Topics include: Standing tall re important to you Growing roots to keep you strong Coping with change</p> <p>Free childrens activity group available</p>	<p>BABY MASSAGE</p> <p>Fridays Nov 9, 16, 23, 30, Dec 7 10 am to 12 noon</p> <p>A program for parents & their babies to enhance bonding & empower parents in the care of their babies</p> <p>\$35.00 for 5 sessions</p> <p>Newborn to 6 months</p>	<p>CONNECT 2 KIDS PLAYGROUP</p> <p>Monday Oct 22 (every week) 9.30 am to 11.30 am</p> <p>Supported Playgroup held in partnership with the Benevolent Society This playgroup provides opportunity for parents to increase their skills & confidence & develop social networks in a supportive environment</p> <p>Newborn to 5 years</p>	<p>MESSY PLAY</p> <p>Tuesday Oct 16 (every week) 10.15 am to 12 noon</p> <p>Facilitated by the staff from Good Start Early Learning Centre</p> <p>Fun structured messy play activities with a focus on the importance of sensory play</p> <p>Newborn to 5 years</p>
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<p>BABY PLAY</p> <p>Every Wednesday Oct 24 10 am to 11 30 am</p> <p>Come along and meet other parents with children of similar ages and share your parenting experiences</p> <p>Also fortnightly guest speakers presenting a range of topics</p> <p>Suitable for children aged 0 to 12 months</p>	<p>LITTLE DIGGERS</p> <p>Every second Friday Nov 2nd, 16, 30, Dec 7 10 am to 12 noon</p> <p>Please join us for our NEW initiative Little Diggers garden playtime</p> <p>The group is a chance for youngsters (and adults) to get their hands dirty, learn a little about the origins of their food as well as makesome creative nature craft activities</p> <p>Suitable for ages 18 months to 5 years.</p>	<p>READY SET GO</p> <p>Thursday Oct 26 (every week) 10 am to 11 30 am</p> <p>Transition to school playgroup for children starting school in 2019</p> <p>Fun structured 90 minute sessions allows your child to practice the skills they need for Kindergarten</p> <p>Suitable for children aged 3 to 5 years</p> <p>Younger siblings welcome to attend</p>	<p>EARLY PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP</p> <p>Thursdays Nov 8, 15, 22 10 am to 12 noon</p> <p>For new mums and dads with babies aged 0 to 3 months</p> <p>Facilitated by Child & Family Health Nurse</p> <p>Come along and chat about the joys & challenges of parenting</p> <p>Newborn to 12 weeks</p>	<p>TOY & BOOK LIBRARY</p> <p>Weekdays 9 am & 11 am</p> <p>FREE consultation with Family Law Solicitor available by appointment</p> <p>GAPS Grandparents as Carers meets Wednesdays @ 10 am</p>	<p>EXPLORERS PLAYTIME</p> <p>Ever 2nd Friday Oct 26, Nov 9, 23, Dec 7. 10 am to 12 noon</p> <p>Join us for our nature based playtime at Dutchies beach Playground then fortnightly at other locations</p> <p>Whatever the weather you'll find us adventuring exploring jumping in puddles creating imagining climbing trees finding faeries making mud pies nurturing nature and mostly getting messy and having fun</p> <p>Newborn to 5 years</p>
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