

Monday December 10 2018

Dear Parents,

With the end of the school year only a matter of weeks away, I've included dates of some of our school events below to assist with your organisation. The following activities will take place over the next fortnight:

- We'll be recognising our Year 6 students at their Farewell on Tuesday, December 11;
- Our scripture Christmas assembly will be held on Wednesday, December 12, from 1:30-2:00 in the hall. All students who normally attend weekly scripture shall be attending;
- Friday, December 14, we'll be holding our 2018 Celebration Day; and
- Student reports will be sent home on Friday, December 14.

Celebration Day is unquestionably the most significant of our annual school events. It is intended to be a reflection on the school year where we share & celebrate our amazing students.

This Friday, December 14, we'll be holding our annual Celebration Day in the school hall from 9:45am.

Don't forget later this day we'll be holding our inaugural Powder Walk and children will require a change of clothes.

This week & next, classes will be participating in a range of activities e.g. class parties, cleaning days & cinema visits. Please look out for detailed information from your child's class teacher.

Student Reports

On Friday, December 14, all students will be given their Semester 2 student report. The reports will be given to all children in a sealed envelope and it is expected that it will be delivered home to parents unopened.

We encourage parents to read the report together with their child discussing the positives and possible goals for future improvement.

Parent Forums

I would like to extend my thanks to the parents who were able to join us for this year's Parent Forums. Both sessions were very productive providing us some very helpful feedback and ideas for future school improvement. A special thank you to Brenda Madden for doing such a brilliant job of running the forums again this year.

Merry Christmas

As next Wednesday, December 19, will be the last day for our students, I would like to wish all families a merry Christmas and a happy start to 2019.

I look forward to seeing you in the New Year poised and primed for school. All students in Years 1-6 will be commencing on Wednesday, January 30.

Students starting Kindergarten will be undertaking their Best Start assessment from Wednesday, January 30, until Friday, February 1, and then commencing on Monday, February 4.



Term Dates

Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 10 th December	
Tuesday 11 th December	Year 6 Farewell @ 5:30pm
Wednesday 12 th December	Scripture Assembly @ 1:30
Thursday 13 th December	Stage 2 Movie Day
Friday 14 th December	Celebration Day – 9.45am Student reports sent home

Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 17 th December	Evening of Music @ 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Tuesday 18 th December	Stage 3 Movie Day
Wednesday 19 th December	Term 4 concludes for students
Thursday 20 th December	Staff development day
Friday 21 st December	Staff development day

Term 1, 2019– Week 1

Tuesday 29 th January	Uniform Shop open 9:00am – 10:00am
Wednesday 30 th January	Years 1-6 return

Term 1, 2019 – Week 2

Monday 4 th January	Kindergartens start
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SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 14th December
Whole School - Celebration Day 9.45am

Book Packs 2019

To assist with your organisation for next year I have included the anticipated cost of Book Packs.

Year	Amount
Kindergarten	\$120.00
Year 1	\$80.00
Year 2	\$80.00
Year 3	\$100.00
Year 4	\$100.00
Year 5	\$100.00
Year 6	\$100.00

What's in a Book Pack?

Book Packs include *all* stationery items your child will require throughout the year. Each Book Pack comprises items such as: text books, exercise books, pens, pencils, glue, ruler etc.

In 2019, all Book Packs include a subscription to Maths Online, which students will be using instead of a text for mathematics. For some stages it also includes a subscription to literacy resources, such as School Magazine.

As has been the case since 2013, each Book Pack includes a *voluntary* technology contribution. This voluntary contribution, which will be \$20.00 in 2019, enables the school to sustain and improve our current technological resources.

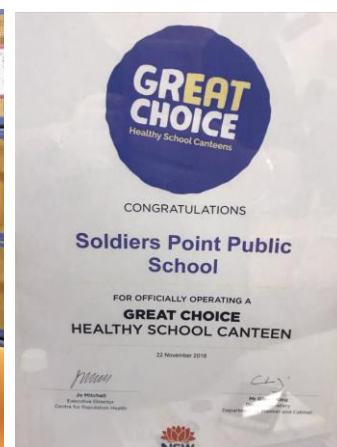
Since introducing the voluntary technology contribution, we have been able to install wireless access points (Wi-Fi) across the school, purchase additional devices, as well as replace all interactive whiteboards. In 2019, we aim to buy more laptops for students to use.

Families finding it difficult to meet these initial expenses are most welcome to make part-payments throughout the year.

Canteen News

It's official, a HUGE **congratulations** to Paula for getting our menu approved and operating a "Great Choice Healthy School Canteen".

Paula was presented with the certificate last night by Hunter New England Health.



A lot of hard work to achieve this qualification has been put in by Paula and the other canteen committee throughout 2018 and the P&C are very thankful of your effort. Well done!!

Canteen Roster

The canteen helpers for the next week and a half are:

Monday 10/12/18	Elisha Nicole
Wednesday 12/12/18	Ken Harper
Thursday 13/12/18	Danielle Whitmore (from 12)

Friday 14/12/18	Cassandra Butterworth & Hannah Riseley
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Monday 17/12/18	Elisha Nicole
Wednesday 19/12/18	Ken Harper

Please note we'll need more helpers on **Wednesday 19/12/18** as it is the last day of school so orders will be busy and the canteen will need a good clean and a stock take done.

Urgent Attention Required

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

STUDENT ABSENCES & PROCEDURES

Listed below are Departmental requirements for student absences both **Whole Days & Part Days**.

Whole Day Absences must be in writing (eg. Note from parent/guardian, Skoolbag, Email). Phone call will be taken but must be followed by a note.

Late or Slept In are no longer justified reasons for being late to school. They will be recorded as **Explained** but **Unjustified**.

Any student not accompanied by a parent and arriving **Late** will be marked as **Unexplained** and a letter will be sent home to parents for explanation.

Students who are late will be escorted to class by a school staff member if needed. Parents will not need to escort their child to class.

Any student who is away for more than two days without explanation will receive a phone call from the Class Teacher.

Student absences **MUST BE explained within 7 days**. School generated letters are sent home every week if students have **Unexplained** absences.

Absences which are not explained **within 7 days** will be recorded as **Explained** but **Unjustified**.

Any student picked up by a Parent, Guardian, Emergency Contact must come to the office for an **Early Leavers Slip** before picking up the student.

No student(s) can be picked up directly from the classroom/playground. Early leavers will be sent to the office after Early Leaver Slip is generated.

If you have any questions please come to the office for clarification.

Thank you

SMS MESSAGING FOR STUDENT ABSENCES

A decision has been made by the school to introduce the notification of students' unexplained absences by SMS which will be implemented at the beginning of 2019.

A text message will be sent to contact 1 in your Family Information to inform you that your child is absent from school with no explanation.

With this in mind, can families please ensure that we have correct mobile numbers and that your family information is up to date and correct.

This will not take over from any other way parents can explain an absence eg. Skoolbag, written note

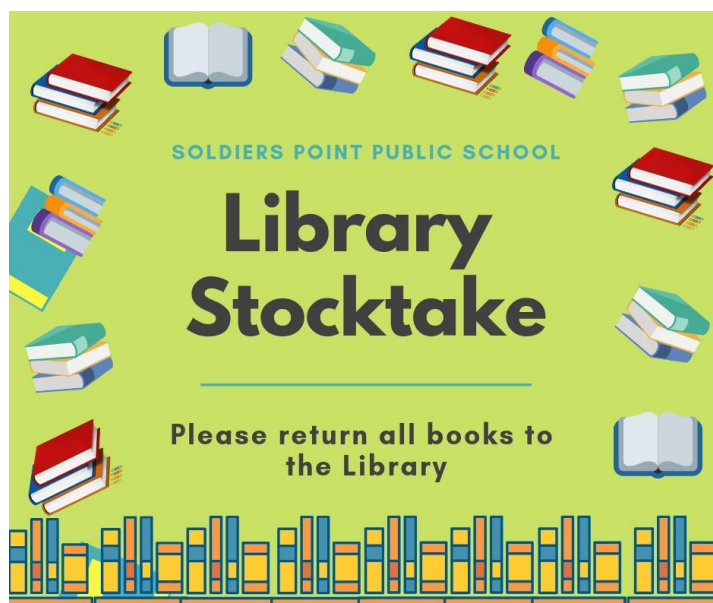
More information will be sent home early in 2019.

Thank you
Bronwyn Sherman
Admin Manager

Card Art

Card Art orders will be sent home tomorrow. If you would like your order packed into a plastic bag please send one along in the morning with your child/children.

Many thanks
Rose Aitchison



5¢ & 10¢



Book Fundraiser

In weeks 3 and 4 of Term 1, 2019, SPPS P&C are conducting a 5¢ and 10¢ piece fundraiser to purchase a range of updated readers for the classrooms.

Please start collecting any 5¢ and 10¢ pieces you may have lying around. The class that collects the most will win a class lunch party.

Individual classes may use the coins to learn about mathematical concepts such as counting, tallying, height, length, weight and surface coverage.

The big count will take place on 22/2/2019



Please note that this fundraiser is not compulsory.

SUMMER READING CLUB

Curious Creatures

Port Stephens Library January 2019 School Holiday Program

Date	Activity	Venue	Time	Age	Cost
10 January	Crocodile Encounters Supervision is required for younger children	Tomaree Library	10.30-11.15am	All ages	\$10.00
10 January	Crocodile Encounters Supervision is required for younger children	Raymond Terrace Library	2.30-3.15pm	All ages	\$10.00
15 January	Creature Character Storytime & Craft Come along dressed as your favourite creature or storybook character	Tomaree Library	10.30-11.15am	2+	\$1.50
17 January	Kids Movie – Adventure Planet	Tomaree Library	2.00-3.30pm	All ages	Free
18 January	JD's World of Magic	Raymond Terrace Library	10.30-11.15am	3+	\$10.00
18 January	JD's World of Magic	Tomaree Library	2.30-3.15pm	3+	\$10.00
23 January	Curious Creatures Crafternoon Come along and create a curious creature	Raymond Terrace Library	2.00-3.00pm	8+	Free
24 January	Micro Pet Create a unique micro pet using BBC micro:bit and speakers	Raymond Terrace Library	2.00-3.00pm	8+	\$5.00

Port Stephens
LIBRARY
Start here, go anywhere...

Bookings are essential as places are limited
Payment will confirm your booking
Tomaree Library : 4988 0670
Raymond Terrace Library : 4988 0111

Nelson Bay
FOOTBALL CLUB



2019 GIRLS TEAMS

NBFC are seeking expressions of interest from girls wishing to play in All Girls Teams in 2019.

The Club is aiming to submit girls' teams in all ages from U8 up in 2019 and we welcome any new players/teams.

An introductory clinic will be conducted prior to season commencement for any new players.

U8-10's teams play on Saturdays and U11+ play on Sundays with away games every second week.
Registrations commence in January.

Please contact the Club's Female Participation Officer who, where possible, will endeavour to form teams based on friendships and school groups.

Martine Shaw
NBFC Female Participation Officer
martineshaw@yahoo.com.au
Mob: 0413 457 999

School Holiday Art Workshop



COME ALONG AND PAINT A
MASTERPIECE AT TOMAREE
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRES
KIDS ART WORKSHOP.

Cost - \$5.00 Includes canvas and materials.

Ages 5-12 years

TOMAREE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WARATAH ROOM

11TH JANUARY 2019

11AM - 1PM

Parents/ carers please call the
centre on 4984 6220 to register
your child.

