

Monday 28 October 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much to all the families who were able to complete our annual parent survey, which has been open for the past month. Over the years, the parent survey has provided us with lots of valuable feedback and helpful ideas, some of which we've been able to introduce for everyone's benefit.

Now that the survey is closed, members of the School Improvement and Finance Committee, which is a P&C committee, will collate the information in order to identify any themes. As a committee we're hoping to identify the following:

- *What's working well at SPPS?*
- *What needs improvement at SPPS? and*
- *What are some ideas for improvement?*

The survey information will be explored further at a number of Parent Forums which will be held on November 20 (6:30-8:00pm) and November 22 (9:30-11:00am). These forums will be run by members of the School Improvement and Finance Committee (parents).

Nudie Tuesday

I would like to extend a mighty thank you to the students and parents of Soldiers Point Public School for your support of Nudie Tuesday. It's terrific to see so many students bringing their lunch in reusable containers, without any throw away bags or wrappers as it's so good for our school environment.



Strong Results

Each year the school provides the opportunity for students in Stage 3 to participate in the Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition. This year, the school performed particularly well with numerous students receiving High Distinction and Distinction. This is an outstanding achievement for our students as it places them amongst the best in the Hunter area for their respective ages.

Additionally, I'd like to acknowledge our team of senior students who took out this year's Science Discovery Day. Science Discovery is a junior version of Newcastle University's Science Engineering Challenge, designed to make students aware of the career possibilities that studying science at school and university can open up for them. Our students did particularly well on the day and were crowned Champion School.

Intensive Swimming

In Week 5 of this term approximately 60 students from Years 2 & 3 will have the opportunity to participate in the 2019 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.



TERM 4

Term 4 – Week 3

Monday 28th October
 Tuesday 29th October Camp Quality Puppet Show
 Cultural Workshop

Wednesday 30th October
 Thursday 31st October
 Friday 1st November

Term 4 – Week 4

Monday 4th November
 Tuesday 5th November
 Wednesday 6th November World of Maths workshop
 Disco SP Bowling Club

Thursday 7th November
 Friday 8th November

Term 4 – Week 5

Monday 11th November Swim School (Week 1)
 Remembrance Day Assembly
 10:30am
 Evening of Music 5-7:45pm
 Selective High School
 Applications Close
 Cultural Workshop

Tuesday 12th November
 Wednesday 13th November
 Thursday 14th November
 Friday 15th November

Peer Support

Term 4 – Week 6

Monday 18th November Swim School (Week 2)
 Year 6 Transition Activity

Tuesday 19th November
 Wednesday 20th November Parent Forum 6:30-8pm
 Thursday 21st November
 Friday 22nd November Parent Forum 9:30-11am

Term 4 – Week 7

Monday 25th November
 Tuesday 26th November
 Wednesday 27th November
 Thursday 28th November Stage 2 Camp
 Friday 29th November Stage 2 Camp

Term 4 – Week 8

Monday 2nd December 2020 OC Information Session
 at 2:00pm

Tuesday 3rd December
 Wednesday 4th December Year 5 Woollies Cup Cricket –
 Nelson Bay
 Year 6 Transition Activity
 Twilight Concert – all schools

Thursday 5th December
 Friday 6th December

Term 4 – Week 9

Monday 9th December
 Tuesday 10th December
 Wednesday 11th December Scripture Assembly 1:30pm
 Thursday 12th December Year 6 Farewell, SPBC
 Friday 13th December Celebration Day – 9:30am

Term 4 – Week 10

Monday 16th December
 Tuesday 17th December
 Wednesday 18th December
 Thursday 19th December
 Friday 20th December

Students' Last Day
 Staff Development Day
 Staff Development Day

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Friday 1 November 2019 – 2:15pm

K-2 - KJ Item

Friday 8 November 2019 – 2:15pm

3-6 – 3/4C Item

All Welcome

CAMP QUALITY PUPPET SHOW

On Tuesday 29th October the Camp Quality Puppet Show is coming to Soldiers Point Public School. They will be giving a one hour performance from 9:30 -10:30 in the school hall for all students.



For over 25 years our Education Program has transformed thousands of schools by helping children and teachers learn how to create a supportive school community for children affected by cancer, whether they are living with cancer themselves or have a family member living with cancer. The program consists of a live, educational performance focusing on cancer education, optimism, friendship and tolerance. While our performance addresses a challenging topic, at Camp Quality we believe that laughter is the best medicine. So prepare yourselves for laughter and fun!

P&C SCHOOL DISCO

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Notes for the upcoming disco have made it home now. To help make it a safe and successful night we need parent volunteers who have a Working With Children Check to give us a hand. This could be as simple as standing at the door getting the kids to and from the bathroom, or helping us get all the kids signed in and out of the event.

Please fill in your details on the notes and/or let us know if you are able to lend a hand on the night for either or both of the Discos.

6 November 2019

K-2 Disco 5-6pm

3-6 Disco 6.30-7.30pm

Soldiers Point Bowling Club

Thank You, Soldiers Point P&C

KINDERGARTEN 2020

If you have a child starting with us in 2020 and have not yet submitted an Expression of Interest (EOI) we encourage you to do so. To obtain an EOI you can either call into the school office or download it from the school's website. The website also lists all the dates of this year's transition activities.

Good for Kids good for life

HEALTHY SCHOOL CANTEENS

When it comes to healthy eating it is important that kids get consistent messages at school and at home. As part of the NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy, the Good for Kids team provides support to school canteens to create healthy canteen menus.

How can parents help?

Below are some ideas to use at home that support the NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy and build positive food habits for life.

- **Swap sugary drinks with water.** For a twist try adding sliced or frozen fruit, herbs or vegetables to the water.
- **Plan meals together** and allow your child to assist in compiling a shopping list, and help with meal preparation and cooking.
- **To add flavour to meals** use your favourite herbs and spices. Spring is the perfect time to plant a herb garden with your kids. Easy to grow herbs include mint, chives, thyme and basil.

For more ideas visit healthyschoolcanteens.nsw.gov.au and search 'parents and friends'



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

PARK SAFELY

Parking in and around any school at drop off & pick up times is a challenge. Our school is no different as we have cars, buses, bicycles and pedestrians moving in all directions. To ensure our children's safety it is imperative that we all respect and follow local road & parking rules. Failure to do so may result in a fine being issued by the NSW Police Force or Port Stephens Council Rangers.

I remind parents that the car park on the northern side of the school's hall is available for staff & parent parking, it is not a drop off / pick up zone.

Our pick up & drop off zone is on Bagnall Avenue (south of the staff car park). Parking must be in the bays provided and cars should be parked with their rear to the kerb. Parents are also urged not to drive up the gutter and park on the grass.