



FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

TALKABOUT

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Term 4 - Week 5

Wednesday 5 November, 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As you read this I am accompanying our Years 4, 5 and 6 students to Canberra for a 3 day excursion. We will be visiting the National Exhibition Centre, Parliament House, Telstra Tower, Electoral Education Centre, National Museum, War Memorial, Questacon and the Australian Institute of Sport. Students will explore further their work and understanding of Democracy.

I know the students will enjoy their trip and experiences in Canberra. They will be very busy and missing home, perhaps. We will see everyone on Friday afternoon at Kennedy's Bus Depot and I'm sure everyone will have lots of stories to tell. Look out for photos in next week's edition of Talkabout and on the school website.

I will be keeping in regular contact with the school while I am away. If we are delayed on our trip home in any way I will ring the school. Please give Karen a call at school on Friday afternoon to confirm our arrival time.

Presentation Evening: This will be held on Monday 8 December at 6.00pm. All students are expected to attend this night. All students receive an award and will be performing musical items as well.

Attendance at school and absences: It is vitally important that all students attend school daily. Parents can be prosecuted for not ensuring their children attend school. Having days off to celebrate birthdays or to help out at home are not valid reasons for students to be absent from school and we have to record these as unjustified absences.

DEC policy states that if your child is away for 2 consecutive days his/her teacher will ring you to ask why your child is not at school. We will be following this directive. If your child is absent it is important that you contact the school.

If we cannot reach you or the emergency contacts you have provided then I must contact the police and ask them to find / contact you and ask why your child has not been at school.

If you have any questions about this please contact the school for further information.

Kindergarten 2015: We are now taking enrolments for Kindergarten for 2015. If you have a child who will turn 5 before 31 July next year please come and see me to discuss the enrolment. Likewise, if you have a neighbour who has a child turning 5 next year please ask them to come and see the school for an enrolment package. Orientation Day will be next week, Tuesday 11 November at 1.30pm. Transition days will be on Tuesdays 11, 18 and 25 November at 1.30pm.

P & C: I ask that all parents carefully read the attached letter from Adam Willis, President of Falls Creek P&C. Many on the current committee will be leaving at the end of the year and we need more parents to become active in the P&C. The canteen will cease to operate without a P&C to run and manage it. There will be no opportunities for Mother's and Father's Day stalls. There will be no raffles or movie nights.

I encourage parents to attend our P&C meetings. We discuss many issues and I always present a report discussing the issues facing the school and explaining the ever changing educational landscape and what it means for us as a school and the impact these changes can have on our school.

Bushfire Season: Falls Creek Public School is once again on the DEC's Bushfire Register. This means that if there is a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating declared the school will cease operations on that day. All parents will be notified of this the afternoon before the school is to be closed. Further information about this is available on the school's website on the following link:

www.fallscreek-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/rules-policies/bushfire-safety-information

Finally, my office day is on Friday so if you need to speak to me, please make an appointment for Friday or before or after school on any other day.

Nicole

K/2H NEWS

I know everyone is having a great time and working hard, even though I am not with them.

Kinder and Year 1 are working together for the rest of the week, getting ready to be Year 1 and 2 next year!! Year 2 are so excited to be working with Year 3 this week – they will get a taste of Year 3 work and they can't wait. I know all of Year 2 will have so much fun in 'Year 3'!! I can't wait to hear about it next week.

Every reading group is working so well that all students have moved to harder books either this week or next. It's great to see how regular home reading consolidates what the students learn in class and provides them with confidence to tackle more challenging texts with confidence. Well done, everyone. Five pats on the back for all of you!!

We have a prac student starting in our class next week for 4 weeks. Mr Declan Waight will be observing our class and then teaching the students during his time in the class. I know everyone will welcome Mr Waight into our class.

Please come and see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Nicole

3/6B NEWS & 3/6L NEWS

The National Parks & Wildlife Service Ranger visit on Friday was a great success with all students from Stage 2 and 3 engaged in learning about their environment. The students were attentive listeners and Parks and Wildlife rangers commented on how well behaved the groups were. Below is a recount of events written by Brodie from 3/6B

I hope Stage 2 and 3 have a wonderful excursion to Canberra.

Susan Porteous and Dion Lalor

Ranger Visit

On Friday Rangers from the National Parks and Wildlife Service visited our school to teach us about native fauna and flora in our area.

There were two activities so we were divided up into Stage groups. Stage 3 had David, Deidre and Georgie first. In this group we had to locate animal tracks, tick them off a list then determine if they were native or feral.

After that we went over to Alex and Velda who taught us about fire safety. They had driven a Cat 9 vehicle onto the oval, then showed us the equipment that goes on it. We saw the pump, fire torch, winch, radio, walkie talkie, lights, slip-on, hose and foam. We all had the chance to use some of this equipment.

I had a great time because I learnt more about native flora and fauna.

By Brodie

MS CULLEN

This week the students have been continuing to practise their dance and gymnastic skills. Next Tuesday, I will be taking K/2H on a virtual excursion called 'Staging Stories' at the Sydney Opera House! A virtual excursion uses video conferencing technology (that we have available in our library) to connect with the presenters in another area. The students will be participating in some drama, talking and listening activities along with two other schools.

Bonnie Cullen

WHAT'S ON THIS TERM

THIS WEEK (5)

☺Tuesday 4 November	Active After School Communities - Cricket
☺Wednesday 5 November	CANCELLED Active After School Communities - Baseball
☺Wednesday 5 - Friday 7 November	Canberra Excursion (Years 4 - 6)

NEXT WEEK (6)

☺Tuesday 11 November	Kinder Orientation 1.30pm Active After School Communities - Cricket
☺Wednesday 12 November	Active After School Communities - Baseball

COMING EVENTS

☺Tuesday 18 November	Kinder Transition 1.30pm
☺Tuesday 25 November	Kinder Transition 1.30pm
☺Thursday 27 November	P & C Meeting 6pm
☺Wednesday 3 December	Swimming Carnival
☺Monday 8 December	Presentation Evening



P & C - CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are now accepting donations for our Christmas hamper end of year raffle eg: biscuits, chocolates, cans of fruit / vegetables, toiletries, toys and knick knacks.

You will receive your book of raffle tickets next week.

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

The raffle will be drawn at the Presentation Evening on Monday 8 December. Please support the school and send in a donation or buy a ticket.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Presented at assembly Thursday 30 October 2014

MERIT AWARDS

K/2H	Declan Flear, Chrystel Buckley, Kiho Luke and Erik Kubinyi.
3/6B	Sam Ramsay and Arnie Kubinyi.
3/6L	Lachlan Willis, Bailey Cullen, Elvis Oppong, Corey Henkel and Levi Robinson.
Ms Cullen	Blake McDonald and Sealisha Buckley.

BRIDGE BUILDER AWARDS

Bronze	Levi Robinson and Corey Henkel.
Silver	Casey Lalor, Sam Ramsay and Jye Picker,
Gold	Emily Sammut, Evie Finch, Jonas Duke, Akasha Duke, Khe-Sanh Duke, Chrystel Buckley and Rheya Luke.

PLAYGROUND STARS WINNERS

Akasha Duke, Jye Picker, Ryder Partridge, Emily Dillon and Aaron French.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 7 November

James Duke

CANTEEN NEWS

Hi everyone,

There is a change to the new menu, we have a new 100% juice which is only \$1.50 !! instead of \$2.00 as written on the menu.

Regards

James



BANDANNA DAY 2014 - Thank you to everyone for supporting Bandanna Day this year. We actually sold out of bandannas and raised just over \$200 for CanTeen.....well done!!



You're invited to
join in the fun of

The School Disco!!!

Presented by the Falls Creek P&C

WHEN
WHERE
WHAT TO BRING

Friday 14 November 2014 6pm - 8:30pm
Falls Creek P.S.
You need your best dancing moves and
\$10 per person entry or \$25 per family.

Includes sausage sizzle, drink, fruit platter and ice block.

Letter to the Parents, Carers, Relatives and Friends of Falls Creek Public School.

Dear All,

My name is Adam Willis and I am the President of The Falls Creek Public School P&C. I have been associated with Falls Creek Public School since 2002, when my wife and I enrolled our eldest son. From the time our association started at the school we knew that this would be a special place for our children to be educated. Almost immediately we became involved with the P&C, not only because we wanted to be connected to the community in which we had just moved to but we also found it the best way to keep up with what was happening with our children's education.

Over the years we have made many friendships and feel we have had a real say in the running of the school. We feel proud to have contributed to the quality of not only our children's education and lives but of all the children who have attended the school over the years we have been involved.

The reason I have decided to write this letter is that I believe there may be a real crisis looming for the P&C after the beginning of 2015. Our youngest son will be leaving this year and our association with the school will be finishing as of March 2015, at the P&C Annual General Meeting. This year will see some other families moving on that are also involved with the P&C.

As with the nature of schools, families move on and usually there are newer generations to take the helm, but this year we have found that there has been very little interest in the P&C. The small group who currently attend the meetings are achieving some wonderful outcomes so I can only imagine what could be done with more help. My biggest fear is that the P&C may not continue after this year, which will be a great loss to the children of Falls Creek.

The P&C runs the canteen for your children, organises uniforms for your children and raises funds for equipment and activities that will no longer be provided if the P&C folds.

We are asking that you consider joining us at our next meeting and help save this vital element of your child's education.

Your child's school needs you, become a community hero, just by providing a little time you will be able to feel proud that you are helping your community and contributing to your child's education. Think of the rewards that will come from your contribution not only for the benefit of the school but by showing our kids the importance of being involved and active within their community.

Yours Sincerely,

Adam Willis.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th November 2014 at 6pm

All P & C meetings are child friendly so please bring your children.

SO WHY JOIN THE P & C ASSOCIATION

- To meet other parents and make new friends
- Belong to a team of people that can make a difference to the school
- Help the school to grow and benefit from your knowledge and skills
- Have the opportunity to express your opinion and ideas
- Provide advice and recommendations to the Principal on issues which affect students and the general operation of the school
- Share in planning the goals of the school and P & C
- Feel a sense of achievement as these goals are realised

WHAT IS A P & C ASSOCIATION?

- A group of interested parents, community members and school Principals.
- The P & C meets once a month to contribute toward discussion on issues affecting the students at the school.
- They participate in making decisions and taking actions relating to these issues

WHAT DOES THE P & C DO?

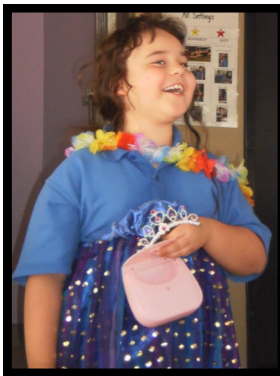
- Operates and manages the canteen
- Provides a uniform shop
- Provides funding and ideas for major and minor projects
- Provides funding for other resources
 - Books
 - Technology and Computers
 - Sports Equipment
 - Musical Instruments
 - Achievement Awards
 - Contributions to assist and encourage Representative Sport
- Organises major school events that not only raises money for the school but are fun for the kids as well
 - Discos
 - Movie Nights
 - Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls
- Encourages closer cooperation between the parents, staff, students and the community



Assembly Week



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N P W S V I S I T