



FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

TALKABOUT

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Term 4 - Week 7

Wednesday 19 November, 2014

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Library Borrowing: I have an important message from Mrs Bransgrove. Library borrowing has ceased for this year. All students are to return their books to the library by next week. A stocktake of all junior and senior fiction and non-fiction books must be carried out before the end of the school year and takes several weeks to do. Notices were sent home to students last week about outstanding books. Please have a good look at home for these and return them to school. If books cannot be found we may ask parents to pay the replacement cost for these books.

Kinder Transition: Our new Kinders for 2015 visited our school again yesterday and spent time in the classroom with K/2H. Everyone was very excited to be here and had lots of fun. Our current students took time to play with them at lunch and look after them. Next week will be their last visit before starting school next year.

Attendance at school and absences: Thank you to those parents who are contacting the school to inform us of student 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.

Pedestrian Crossing: It is great to see students using the crossing of a morning and afternoon as they arrive at and leave the school. We will be making sure students know the importance of using the crossing each day to arrive and leave the school safely. I would like to remind parents

that there are no stopping zones either side of the crossing and to be mindful of these. We will likely have council rangers patrolling this in the next few weeks.

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.

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

Students are very enthusiastic and keen to learn with Mr Waight who has started teaching the class this week.

We had our new Kinders visit again yesterday. It was great to see our current students mixing with our new students and helping them to feel welcome in the class. Well done, everyone!

Home Readers: it's great to see so many being returned. Borrowing of home readers will continue until week 10 so keep them coming.

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

Nicole

3/6B NEWS

Great PowerPoint presentations from all students. I am impressed by the number of students who are returning homework each week and learning their spelling words for Fridays test. Your positive attitude to learning is reflected in all your results which have been outstanding. Assessments and report writing continue this week.

Susan Porteous

3/6L NEWS

This week students finished off presenting their PowerPoint presentations. These presentations were about Australia's flora and fauna. All presentations were informative and interesting, this showed that the students enjoyed this learning experience. In class students are revising division and learning to apply different strategies, such as the array method for stage 2 and the symbolic method in stage 3. Stage 3 are working together on a play and are learning to express themselves through movement and drama though both stages have been writing their own individual plays, which have been quite humorous and enjoyable to read.

Brooke Knight and Dion Lalor



MS CULLEN

It was great to see K/2 H have such a fantastic time during their virtual excursion last week! They worked alongside 3 other NSW schools and a drama teacher at the Sydney Opera House, via the video conferencing equipment that is in our school library. The children listened to and acted out a story called 'The Pig in the Pond' by Martin Waddell. Each school then made contributions to create a unique variation of the story, changing the orientation (time, place, and characters), complications (problems that arise) and resolution (solving the problems).

Bonnie Cullen



SPORT NEWS

Next Wednesday 26 November we are planning to take two teams to Rugby Park in South Nowra to compete in the Shoalhaven Dragon Tag Gala Day. We are entering a Senior Boys team and a Mixed Junior team. Permission notes are going home today for students that were interested as we can only take 10 students per team. We will be practicing during lunch or recess (as long as it doesn't get too hot). The event is sanctioned by the NRL and some of the St George/Illawarra Dragon players will be attending.

Dion Lalor

LIBRARY NEWS



It has been a very busy year in the Library, with many new resources making it onto the shelves, new home reading boxes now in classrooms and a large extension to our guided reading resources. The students are really enjoying all the new additions to the Library. All of these new resources need to be covered, if you are able to assist, please let Karen know, your help is very much appreciated.

Last week was the last day of borrowing for 2014 as we get ready for stocktake. Please ensure library books are returned as soon as possible to enable stocktake to commence. Happy reading!

Michelle Bransgrove

BOOK CLUB orders for Issue 8 needed to be back at school today (Wednesday). Late orders will be accepted tomorrow only. Thank you.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 21 November

Jason Elliott



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Presented at assembly Thursday 13 November 2014

MERIT AWARDS

K/2H	Markus Macfarlane, Liam Henkel, Evie Finch and Jonas Duke.
3/6B	Brodie Partridge and Akasha Duke.
3/6L	Addyson Abbott, Jayden Lalor, Khe-Sanh Duke and Emilly Bloxsome.
Ms Cullen	Kameisha Riley-Burnes and Grace Fahey.

BRIDGE BUILDER AWARDS

Bronze	Rheya Luke, Chrystel Buckley, Arni Kubinyi and Elvis Oppong.
Silver	Levi Robinson
Gold	Jayden Lalor

PLAYGROUND STARS WINNERS

Brayden Cullen, Dallas and Kameisha Riley-Burnes, Luke Robinson, Emilly Bloxsome and Elvis Oppong.

WHAT'S ON THIS TERM

THIS WEEK (7)

☺Wednesday 19 November

Active After School Communities - Baseball

NEXT WEEK (8)

☺Tuesday 25 November

Active After School Communities - Cricket

☺Tuesday 25 November

Kinder Transition 1.30pm

☺Wednesday 26 November

Active After School Communities - Baseball

☺Wednesday 26 November

Dragon Tag Gala Day Year 3-6

☺Thursday 27 November

P & C Meeting 6pm

COMING EVENTS

☺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.

Each family has been given a book of raffle tickets if you need more please contact the office.

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.





ENROL NOW FOR 2015

The Central Shoalhaven Mobile Preschool is a Community Based not for profit organisation. We provide educational programs designed for preschool children aged between 3 – 5 years, by fully qualified staff in a caring environment. Allow your child to make new friends within the local area.

Subsidy available.

We operate from Falls Creek Public School Hall on Tuesday, of the school term.

PRESCHOOL HOURS:

9.00am – 3.00pm.

ADDITIONAL HOURS:

8.00am – 9.00am

All enquiries please phone our office: **44230571 / 0412928095** or call in at our venue.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Christmas Family Night 4th December 6-8pm



Visit from Santa Claus

Come and sing-along with our Special Guest Emma Jene who will be entertaining us this year with Christmas Carols. Shoalhaven Avicultural Bird Society, Jumping Castle and Scouts will be on hand to support the Christmas craft and face painting activity. Shoalhaven Woodcraft Society will be demonstrating wood carving, Salvation Army Band along with St John School will both be performing. Light Refreshments will be provided. Special appearance from Santa Claus - photos welcome

Bookings are Essential - Come and enjoy a fantastic evening of entertainment from 6pm-8pm

For more information on other in-store events, or to book, phone us on 02 44245000 or visit www.bunnings.com.au/howra



**LOWEST PRICES
ARE JUST THE
BEGINNING...**

	SPEEDING OFFENCES There has been an increase to the monetary fine applicable to Speeding Offences in School Zones.	Maximum Penalty \$3612 + 7 Demerit Points
	U TURNS Make a U-Turn without giving way to pedestrian or vehicle in a School Zone.	Penalty \$405 + 4 Demerit Points

FOR SALE

- 2 Shoalhaven High School senior boys white button up shirts (medium) \$5 each.
- 2 Nowra High School junior polo shirts \$5 each

Phone Vikki **44 478 959** or **0438 807 364**

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

Disco Night

