



FALLS CREEK PUBLIC SCHOOL

TALKABOUT

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Term 1 - Week 7

Wednesday 11 March, 2015

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

School Photos: We had great weather for our school photos yesterday. All photos were taken outside and Carol got some great shots of our students. We will see these photos delivered in the near future (3 to 4 weeks).

Tell Them From Me Survey: I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey is only offered to Students in Years 4, 5 and 6. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

The survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey was sent home with students last Friday. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 13 March 2015**.

Easter Hat Parade: This will be held on Tuesday 31 March at 9.30am. Infant students are encouraged to make and wear a Easter hat while students in Years 3 – 6 can wear crazy hair for the day. Students can wear mufti. All parents are welcome to attend.

Years 3 – 6 will also be involved in an egg decorating competition and display. We will send more information about this home in the next few weeks.

Invoices for School Contributions: You would have received in the mail an invoice for school contributions.

The cost is: single student \$25, family of two or more students \$40. There is also a \$15 workbook fee. The money goes towards the purchase of the Maths workbook used in class. It also helps us to purchase extra art and craft supplies and equipment used in the classrooms. Thank you to those parents who have already paid their contribution.

P&C AGM: The next meeting for the P&C will be held on Thursday 19 March at 6.00pm. This is the Annual General Meeting where a new executive will be elected. If there is not an executive formed then the P&C may have to fold. I encourage parents to attend this meeting and be a part of their child's school.

Following the AGM will be a regular general meeting.

High School Enrolments for 2016: Expression of Interest forms were sent out last week for students going to high school in 2016 (Year 6 2015). Most students are designated to attend Shoalhaven High School as their designated high school and the form will reflect this.

Please read the form and the accompanying instructions and contact me if you would like some help to complete the form. All students must return the forms by no later than **Friday 20 March** so that we can send them to the appropriate high schools. Even if your child will be attending a non government school (such as NAC, St Johns) the forms must still be returned to school.

ANZAC Day: This year marks the centenary of the Gallipoli landing. As per usual, the school has been invited to participate in the march at Huskisson. ANZAC Day falls at the end of the first week of Term 2 (a Saturday). It would be a fitting tribute by the school to have as many students as possible marching to pay their respects. Our school leaders will be leading the students and laying a wreath on behalf of the school.

We are asked to assemble in Hawke St at 10.00am with the march starting at 10.30am followed by a service in voyager Park at 11.00am.

Enrolment Data and School Funding: Our RAM (Resource Allocation Model) Funding is

determined by the information parents provide on their child's enrolment data. Information such as parent education and occupation as well as whether a student identifies as Aboriginal or is from a non-English speaking background all help to determine the extra funding we receive. Our school was allocated an additional \$50, 000 in 2015 and this was based on 2014 data. The Department will be collecting information in early Term 2 to determine our funding in 2016.

Some parents have not provided the school with their education level or occupation. To help us ensure we receive the funds that we are entitled to we will be posting letters to these parents asking them to provide this information. All information provided is strictly confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than statistically for future funding for your child's education.

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me.

Nicole

K/1/2 NEWS

Home Readers: Kinder took home their first home readers on Monday. Everyone was very excited!! Students can change these each day. In the home reader log please write the title of the book and a comment about how students went (great reading, well done, very clever etc) and sign as well. If the book is too hard please comment on that and I can adjust the books being sent home.

Years 1 and 2 have slacked off and many aren't returning their home readers every day. Come on Years 1 and 2!!

This week Years 1 and 2 are studying the 'at' word family in Spelling and Kinder are learning about the letters h and l. We are looking at fractions this week and discussing how they must be of equal size. We are imagining a lot of pizza being cut equally to share while learning about fractions!

The Easter Hat Parade will be on Tuesday 31 March at 9.30am. All parents are welcome to attend.

If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me.

Nicole

3/4 NEWS

In Maths over the next few weeks we are looking at representing, modelling and comparing

commonly used fractions and decimals.

Congratulations to * the Kangaroos for blitzing the house point competition this week.

* Bailey, Akasha, Sam and Luke who achieved 100% in Spelling and A+ in Dictation.

* Evie, Kiho, Kaleb, Emilly, Sealisha and Ty who did very well in Dictation and

* the children who handed their Homework in on Friday.

Remember to return School Library books so everyone can borrow on Thursday.

My favourite part of the week - on Monday when we went out onto the oval after lunch to catch grasshoppers for our Science Unit. We did catch 4 different types however watching the children bouncing and leaping around I really regretted not having a video camera.

Keep in touch,

Lyn.

5/6 NEWS

Last Thursday Year 6 attended the Small Schools Leadership Day at Killalea National Park. Students participated in a range of activities and made friends with student leaders from other schools. It was a great day enjoyed by all.

In Maths this week we are continuing with multiplication and working on our division strategies. In English we are still looking at persuasive texts in the form of debating. Students have been enjoying this formal structure of arguing and are learning to re-but arguments.

Could I please remind parents and students alike that home readers need to be returned regularly. At the moment there are only a handful of students who are returning their readers.

Thankyou for your support

Dion

MS CULLEN

Last week students in 5/6 displayed great enthusiasm to explore their tie dying skills. It was fantastic to see the great excitement in the students when they opened their creation. We explored the history of tie dying across the world beginning many centuries ago. Students in year 3/4 are exploring this fun activity today. K/1/2 are exploring artefacts and the changes in lifestyle over the years.



SPORT NEWS

This Friday some of our senior students are attending the Rugby League Gala Day. Unfortunately, we did not have enough interested students to enter a juniors team. This is a 7 a side competition to be played at Rugby Park South Nowra against other local schools. Trials for the District Rugby League team will be held on the same day at the conclusion of the gala day. Dragons journals have been ordered and should arrive at school in the next couple of weeks.

Yours in Sport, Dion Lalor

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 13 March - Tamie Harvie

Friday 20 March - Jacqui Finch



BOOK CLUB



Pamphlets have been handed out to the students this week. If you would like to place an order please bring completed order and payment to the office by Tuesday 17 March.

WOOLWORTHS DOMINO STARS PROMOTION

Currently Woolworths is running a promotion where you can collect 1 domino for every \$20 spent. If you shop at Woolworths and don't want the dominos could you please collect them and send in to the school.

NOTICE TO PARENTS!!



We have been notified that several cases of head lice have been detected among our students. According to the Department of Education & Training guidelines children with head lice eggs (nits) and/or active lice must be sent home and excluded from school until treatment has been given with an approved product. (ask your Chemist for their advice) As no treatment kills 100% of nits (eggs) a follow up treatment 7 days later is advised. Once treated children may return to school. Please check your children's hair daily and treat immediately if nits are seen. If everyone is vigilant in checking and treating their children's hair daily it will help stop reinfestation.

WHAT'S ON THIS TERM

THIS WEEK (7)

☺Tuesday 10 March

School Photos

☺Friday 13 March

NRL Day (year 5/6)

WEEK (8)

☺Wednesday 18 March

Zone Soccer Trials

☺Thursday 19 March

P & C Annual General Meeting 6:00pm

Assembly 2:15pm

COMING EVENTS

☺Wednesday 25 March

Responsible Pet Program K/1/2 11:30am

☺Tuesday 31 March

Easter Hat Parade 9:30am

☺Saturday 25 April

ANZAC Day March 10:00am

P & C NEWS

EASTER RAFFLE Thank you to those people who have sent in donations for the raffle already, just remember the more donations we receive the more prizes we have! Keep your eyes out for stuffed toys, chocolate eggs, chickens etc. Please bring any donations to the office. If you need more raffle tickets please contact the office. Our Easter Hat /Crazy Hair Parade is on Tuesday 31 March.

Easter Raffle

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



BULB FUNDRAISER If you would like to support our bulb fundraiser and grow beautiful flowers for spring, please fill out the order form and return it to school by the end of term (2 April).

Year 6 Leadership Day

Killalea

Thursday last week Mr Lalor and all of year 6 travelled to Killalea for a Leadership Day. Some of the activities were starting fires, going bike riding, and walking on the beach. It was an excellent day and I made lots of friends.

By Corey

