School Administration

This year the Department of Education is rolling out a new Finance and Administration system to be used by principals and office staff. The new system will be very different from the previous system and so our office staff and I will require a significant number of days training out of the school. The training is quite extensive and there are a number of tasks that need to be completed in school before the system goes ‘live’. Whilst it will be a good thing to have this new system, the training will have an impact on how quickly our office staff is able to respond to requests from both staff and parents. You will also see some new faces in the office relieving while we are attending training, particularly towards the end of Term 1 and during Term 2. Mr Bannister will ensure our school website is up to date with the most current information and that our newsletters, information and student permission notes are easily available to you. I ask your support during this period of operational change to access information from the school website when possible, to assist in reducing calls to the office.

Thank you for your understanding.

Parent Information Evening

Thank you to our wonderful staff for hosting the Parent Information Evening last Wednesday. It was terrific to see many families attend the sessions and take the opportunity to meet our teachers. Families that were unable to attend should have received the class information notes on Thursday.

It is very exciting to see our classes settled and working hard. Great effort with homework everyone!

As always you are most welcome to organise a mutually convenient time to catch up with your child’s class teacher. Years 1-6 will be having parent interviews in the last week of this term i.e. 4-7th April but more information regarding this will be forthcoming.

Office News

Student Contact and Medical Information

New Student Contact, Health & Emergency Care Cards (lilac card) have gone home today, as well as ‘Additional Medical Conditions – Allergies’ and ‘Additional Medical Conditions – other than allergies’ forms to the relevant students. Please complete and return to your class teacher or the office as soon as possible.

Where families have more than one student, please complete a separate student contact card for each student.

It is vital that we have up to date information, so we can keep all students safe.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Swimming Medals Presentation

During Friday’s assembly, our 2016 Swimming Champions and place getters will receive their medals and ribbons. Families are welcome to attend. Assembly will commence at 2.15pm.

McGrath Pink Stumps Day – Friday 26th February

Pink Gold Coin Donation Day

A reminder that on Friday 26th February we are having our Pink Stumps, McGrath Cancer Charity fundraising day. Mr Bannister will be organising special cricket events for all classes during sport times and children are invited to wear something pink and bring a gold coin donation.
Clay Movies – Expression of Interest
Students in Years 4-6 have the opportunity to attend a ‘Clay Animation’ day workshop at Heaton Public School later this term. The cost will be $35.00 per child. Students in Years 4-6 have received an ‘Expression of Interest’ note to be returned by next Wednesday 24th February. If there is insufficient interest the workshop will not go ahead.

Preparing for High School – Information Session Thursday 17th March
It is only the beginning of Term 1 but already our Year 6 students and their families need to think about arrangements for high school.
Later this term, parents and carers will be required to complete an Expression of Interest to indicate their preference for choice of high schools in 2017. It is important that families understand the process and begin to prepare for this transition.
To support families in this process, we will hold an information evening for parents and carers of Year 5 & 6 students on Thursday 17th March at 5.30pm here at Jesmond Public School.
Mr Dana Fuller, the principal of our partner high school Callaghan College Waratah Campus, will be in attendance on the evening to assist in answering any questions.

Book Club
Thank you to everyone who has ordered from the first issue of Book Club. We will place the order on Friday.

P&C News
The P&C are still requiring someone to volunteer for the role of Treasurer. 1-2 hours a month is all that would be required to maintain financial records. If you would like more information please contact P&C President Megan Gleeson on 0428 104 345 or enquiries can be made with Mrs Howard at the Office.
P&C AGM – Wednesday 2nd March 5.30pm
The P&C AGM for 2016 will take place on 2nd March at 5.30pm in the Library and be followed by a P&C meeting. This is the AGM and all positions will be open at this point. I encourage you to come along to the meeting to meet the group of active members and to decide if you may like to be a regular attender. Look forward to seeing you there!

Uniform Shop
Opening Hours:
Monday morning 8.45am – 9.15am
Thursday afternoon 2.30pm – 3.00pm
Alternatively, orders and payments can be left at the office.
New stock of black logo polo shirts are now available in all sizes $25.00 each.
Next P&C meeting will be held on the Wednesday 2nd March in the Library, following the AGM. Everyone is welcome.

Community News
Good for Kids Good for Life – Benefits of Team Sports
Participation in team sports is a great way to increase your child’s physical activity. But did you know there are a number of other benefits to team sports, including:
• Teaching children skills in teamwork
• Increasing communication skills
• Helping children gain confidence through interaction with other kids
• Teaching children it is ok to lose sometimes
• Making new friends
• And most importantly having fun
There are many different team sports to choose from such as soccer, netball, touch football and hockey. Why not see what team sports are available at your school or in the community for your child to participate in?