UPCOMING DATES

2016

Week 5
Fri 26 Feb  McGrath Pink Stumps Day

Week 6
Tue 1 Mar  Student Assistance Applications due Gymnastics Years 3-6 begins
Wed 2 Mar  P&C AGM 5.30pm followed by P&C Meeting
Fri 4 Mar  Year 6 Transition Day

Week 7
Mon 7 Mar  Premier’s Reading Challenge begins
Wed 9 Mar  Stage 2 Camp Deposit due $75
Fri 11 Mar  Out of Uniform Day P&C Easter Donation Day

Week 8
Tue 15 Mar  School Photos
Thu 17 Mar  School Cross Country Year 6 Parent Meeting 5.30pm
Fri 18 Mar  Anti-Bullying Awareness Day

Week 9
Mon 21 Mar  Harmony Week
Thu 24 Mar  Easter Hat Parade
Fri 25 Mar  Good Friday Public Holiday

Week 10
Mon 28 Mar  Easter Monday Public Holiday
Fri 1 Apr  Last day for ICAS payments

Week 11
Mon 4 Apr  Parent/Teacher Interviews begin
Tue 5 Apr  Gymnastics Years 3-6 finishes
Wed 6 Apr  Stage 2 $100 2nd payment due

P&C AGM – Wednesday 2nd March
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!

School Photos – Tuesday 15th March
School Photos for all classes K-6 will be taken on Tuesday 15th March. Envelopes will go home soon. Students have the option of paying online or paying on the day. Information on how to pay online will be on the envelopes brought home. All envelopes must be returned on photo day regardless of how you pay. Please do not return the photo envelopes until the day of school photos, Tuesday 15th March.

Cross Country – Thursday 17th March
Get ready for March 17th! Jesmond Public School will be running its annual whole school Cross Country Carnival at Jesmond Park. Permission notes will be coming home with students this week and everyone is encouraged to join in the carnival on the day. We believe it is very important for children to expand their understanding of physical exercise and the cross country provides an opportunity for great long distance runners to represent their strengths. Fortunately, there is NO COST involved with this carnival. We are looking forward to a clear and sunny day. In the event it needs to be cancelled we have a backup date booked for the following Tuesday 22nd March. Start practicing now!

Stage 2 Aussie Bush Camp
Who loves Camping? WE DO!!! Ask any student who’s been away on a school camp and they’ll all agree it will be one of their best life-long memories of school. Jesmond Public School is offering Stage 2 students, Years 3 and 4, a three day camping experience to The Great Aussie Bush Camp. This year we will travel on Wednesday 15th June and return on Friday 17th June 2016. The agenda is full of educational learning experiences about the wildlife flora and fauna as well as team building activities. Students were given an Expression of Interest note to be signed and returned by this Friday 26th February. The note outlines the dates and proposed cost involved. The official permission note and medical notes will be distributed next week. At this stage NO MONEY is required however, there will be a strict payment schedule that all families will need to follow in order for their child to attend this camp. Any enquiries can be directed to Mrs Ninevski.

McGrath Pink Stumps Day – Friday 26th February
Pink Gold Coin Donation Day
A reminder tomorrow 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.
Office News
Student Contact and Medical Information
Thank you to those families who have already returned their Student Contact Health and Emergency Care Card and Medical Forms. If you have not done so, please complete and return to school as soon as possible as it is vital we have current information. Where families have more than one student, please ensure a separate card is completed for each student. **Extra copies are available at the office if required.**
Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated.

School Website
The school website is a great starting point when finding out information about our fabulous school. Class pages are where you can find out about what your child is learning in class. A wonderful feature of the website is that it is now multi-lingual and can be accessed in many languages. It will also have an electronic copy of each week’s newsletter and permission notes as they become available. You will find the permission notes under the Parent Information section. Check it out at the following: [http://www.jesmond-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.jesmond-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/)

Year 6 News
Transition to High School – Friday 4th March
Term 2 is a busy one for students in Year 6 and their families. Next Friday 4th March students in Year 6 will visit Callaghan College Waratah Campus for a day of taster lessons. This excursion is free and for all Year 6 students, regardless of their destination high school. Mrs Curry and the Year 6 group always have a wonderful day experiencing high school life. Please complete and return permission notes as soon as possible.

Year 7 EOI Information Evening – Thursday 17th March
Notes have gone home regarding this information session on Thursday 17th March. Mr Dana Fuller, Callaghan College Waratah Campus Principal, will attend and there will be plenty of information to assist you in the process of application and enrolment to high school.

Graduation Shirts
Year 6 students are excited to be choosing the design of their Year 6 Graduation T-Shirts. Notes went home to parents this week requesting permission and payment of $37.00. A reminder that the due date for the money is not negotiable as orders will be placed immediately, so please return notes and money promptly.

Ice Cream Day
A huge thank you to all our families and children who supported the first Year 6 fundraiser of the year, our ice cream day.

What a fantastic success! We raised $234.00 towards the end of the year gift to the school.

Doing Diversity Differently
Jesmond Public School is providing senior students from Years 5 and 6 an opportunity to be part of a wonderful leadership program with in the school called Doing Diversity Differently. Students are asked to nominate to become a Multicultural Ambassador and work with Mrs Ninevski throughout the year. The team will communicate important dates in the school calendar, work on research tasks related to diversity and social issues, as well as support school events like the Multicultural Festival later this year. Interested students will collect an expression of interest note this week and return it with their family’s approval. The staff will then assess the nominations using program criteria and make a decision by Friday 4th March. Successful candidates will be announced at the assembly on this day. This is an excellent initiative for our young leaders. We look forward to the nominations this week.

Recycling
Stage 1 will be creating artworks using recycled material. We are currently collecting ice cream lids and lids from bottles and jars.
If you have any other interesting recycling objects, they would be much appreciated also. Please ensure items have been cleaned. Thank you for your support. All items can be given to Mrs Mitchell in the library.

Gymnastics Years 3-6
Next Tuesday 1st March, Years 3-6 will begin participating in a Gymnastics Program that will run for 6 weeks. There will be no cost involved. Students are sure to enjoy the opportunity to participate in this sporting activity.

Zone Swimmers
A big congratulations to Sophie, Monica, Nicholas and Brianna who competed at the Zone Swimming Carnival yesterday. All students tried their best and were wonderful representatives of Jesmond Public School.
This week, students in 3/4B, 4/5W and 5/6C have begun to learn new ways to improve their writing. Teachers have begun to use the Seven Steps to Writing Success Program to help students write more interesting and exciting texts. There will be regular updates in the newsletter to tell you about what students are learning and to give you ideas about how to support your child at home.

The Seven Steps for Writing Success are –
1. Plan for Success
2. Sizzling Starts
3. Tightening Tension
4. Dynamic Dialogue
5. Show, Don't Tell
6. Ban the Boring
7. Exciting Endings

Sizzling Starts

You only have seven seconds to grab your reader's interest. Start fast with action and impact.

Students learn to write sizzling starts first (even though they are step 2!). Sizzling starts to stories start where the action is, not at the beginning of the day where nothing is happening. Children are being taught to start at the “moment of change”. They are learning to start where the volcano starts oozing lava, as they step in the door to the big disco competition or where the emu at the zoo eats their lunch. This is much more exciting than starting a story with getting out of bed in the morning!

Let’s Celebrate Writing Success

Check out these fabulous sizzling starts from our great kids at Jesmond.

“Help me! Please!” I yelled as I dangled over the horizon. “Oh noooooo!”

Jumping off the cliff was a horrible idea...
By Rifah, 4/5W

Crack! The thunder hit the ground. I was panting for breath but I couldn’t stop. I was closely followed by a pack of werewolves. I was almost home when I fell...
By Nicholas, 4/5W

“Ready or not, here I come!”
I groan. Hide-and-seek is the most boring game ever and I always have to be in. You see, little kids hate losing.
How are they ever going to learn sportsmanship like this?
By Monica 5/6C

My mum is an...an...alien? Well, she always was a little bit on the weird side. But this, well this is a surprise.
I stare at her as she goes through the pantry and from what I can understand she’s not finding anything she likes.
By Sophie 5/6C

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Premier’s Reading Challenge will commence on Monday 7th March and finish on Friday 19th August.

Students must read a certain number of books to complete the Challenge.

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<th>Challenge</th>
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<th>Maximum number of Personal Choice books</th>
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K-2 students can read the books on their own, read them with someone, or someone can read to them.
Years 3-6 students must read the books on their own, but someone can help them choose the books.
Teachers will log books on the website for students in K-2, however, students in Years 3-6 must log them independently.
For more information you can log onto the PRC website or ask Mrs Beatty or Mrs Mitchell.
Good luck and enjoy your reading.

**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.

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**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 black logo polo shirts are now available in all sizes and are $25.00 each.

Next P&C meeting will be held on the Wednesday 2nd March in the Library, following the AGM. Everyone is welcome.