Term 1 - Week 8

DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 18 Mar</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25 Mar</td>
<td>T Ball Gala Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 6 Taster Lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 Mar</td>
<td>ICAS Payments Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 1 Apr</td>
<td>Canberra Excursion Instalment Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 2 Apr</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Red Threads—Out of Uniform Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C BBQ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3 Apr</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20 Apr</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 21 Apr</td>
<td>Students Return for Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 23 Apr</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Ceremony at School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

17 March: Sheridan K
31 March: Shannon K

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Week 8 is now upon us. Term 1 is going by at a cracking pace. With so much going on it is easy to forget about some of those ‘start of the school year’ jobs. If you still have outstanding school fees or permission notes please ensure that these are returned to school ASAP.

ROAD SAFETY

Our school, like most schools, is a busy place on the roads during pick up and drop off times. I would just like to remind everyone that the best place to cross the road is at the crossing at the front gate. This is where cars are expecting to see people crossing the road. I would also like to thank all of our fantastic parents and carers for their road manner.

REGIONAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

It was a great effort by all of our competitors at the recent Regional Swimming Carnival. A particularly fantastic effort by Blake C, who has qualified for the State Swimming Championships in the 10yrs 50m Freestyle. While Blake has represented the school at State level in Cross Country before, this will be his first time for swimming. We wish him all the best.

State Swimmer ‘Blake C’

YEAR 5 & 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

Thank you to all of our Year 5 & 6 students (and parents) for promptly returning their deposit for the Canberra excursion. I can confirm that we have sufficient numbers to attend and the excursion will be going ahead. Please ensure that the payment schedule is kept up to date. Alternatively you can pay the whole amount.

The next instalment of $50 is due by Wednesday 1 April, 2015.

ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT

IN THE INTEREST OF ALL CHILDREN WHO ATTEND BLACKSMITHS PS WE ENCOURAGE PARENTS NOT TO SEND NUTS, OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS, TO SCHOOL

Thank you
PSSA ZONE SOCCER & RUGBY LEAGUE TRIALS
Last week Blacksmiths had a number of students try out for the Zone Soccer and Rugby League teams. All students should be proud of their efforts on the day and, of course, of the skill they have shown to be chosen to attend the trials.

Blacksmiths were lucky enough to have a number of students chosen in the Rugby League team. Congratulations to Harry M, Jed R, Philip T, Beau M, Max J, Aaron C and Jaxon R.

ASTHMA TALKS
Students with asthma were given a form to fill out last week to receive a special asthma wallet. Please send them back to the office by Friday 20 March, 2015 so we can forward them onto the Asthma Foundation.

P & C
Thank you to all those parents that come along to our P&C meetings each month. It has been great to see a few new faces this year. With new faces come fresh outlooks and I would encourage everyone to come along and have a look at some point in the year. Meetings occur only once a month and usually go for about 1 1/2 hours. This year the P&C have already funded and supported projects at a cost of over $4000.

EASTER HAT PARADE & BBQ
The Easter Hat Parade will be held on the last day of Term 1, Thursday 2 April commencing at 12 noon. Children in K-2 will be creating their Easter hats in class, with the help of students from class 5/6. We hope to see lots of parents, grandparents and family friends on the day. The P&C will be holding a Sausage Sizzle for those who wish to stay for lunch. Order forms will be sent home soon. No orders will be taken on the day.

RED THREADS DAY
Blacksmiths PS will be participating in Red Threads Day this year to raise funds for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. This will also be held on Thursday 2 April. For a gold coin donation, students K-6 are encouraged to wear something red to school on the day. This will be an “Out of Uniform” day.

Aaron Quinnell
Principal

SCHOOL FEES
Work book and resource fees are now overdue. Please contact the office if you are having difficulty paying these fees.

YEAR 5 & 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION
The Year 5 and 6 Canberra excursion 2nd instalment is due by the 1 April, 2015. Please mark that date in your calendar. POP payments are accepted.

BELMONT 16’S & COMMUNITY RAFFLE
Volunteers are sought after to sell raffle tickets at the Belmont 16s on Thursday 30th April and Friday 1st May. These raffles generally raise between $400-$500. If you are available between 5pm and 7:30pm on these dates please let Mrs Clark at the office know. She will pass on your details to the P&C.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS - Weeks 6 & 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Edward M, Taj M, Luca B, Mitchell C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Grace H, Atlanta K, Madison H, Kahila C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Kira V, Ryan E, Ty L, Chey E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Shakita B, Lani H, Max C, Emily G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Lucy W, Aaron C, Beau M, Kye G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QUALITY WORK AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Kelly L, Taj M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Emerson Le, Ethan C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Kira V, Bede E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Zali B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Jenna H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOME READING AWARDS


Congratulations!
P&C NEWS

EASTER RAFFLE
The P&C is running an Easter Raffle again this year. It will be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday 2 April. We are hoping each family will donate an egg or something similar so we can make up prizes. Each family will be sent home a book of tickets and there will be more available from the office if needed.

ELECTION DAY
Election day is Saturday 28 March, 2015. We have received permission from Swansea-Belmont Surf Club to set up and sell bacon & egg rolls and cakes/slices to the voters. This is a great fundraiser because it is not just aimed at families from our school, it includes the wider community.

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to cook the BBQ and serve on the day. This doesn’t have to be all day, an hour or two would be greatly appreciated. Cake donations can be brought to the school on Friday 27 March and left in the canteen or dropped off at the Surf Club the morning of the election or we can collect if needed. Please contact Stacey 0404 870 663, Laura 0405 506 308 or Mel 0431 601 881 to ask any questions or book in to help.

As you all know fundraising is vital to give our kids things that are simply not in the school’s budget. So far this year already we have subsidised Mathletics ($1100) and Reading Eggs ($1000), paid for the Schoolbag app ($300), filled the gas tank ($500) and given each class teacher $250 to spend on relevant class resources - and that was just at the first meeting.

Pelican RSL raffle is on tonight so why not go for dinner and support a club that is a great supporter of our school. We thank you for your continued support.

GREEN CORNER

There must be something in the water at Blacksmiths! This is a photo of our biggest watermelon grown over the 2014/2015 summer season and you will agree it is HUGE! We decided to have a guessing competition to see if anyone could guess how heavy this monster was. As it turns out, it was as heavy as some of our Kindergarten students. Weighing in at a whopping 17 kg, Max C guessed the correct weight. Well done!

We had our first SAKGF cooking lessons last week with 4/5 and 5/6. We used the watermelon to make fruit salad and then we sat down and ate it with yogurt. Yum!

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MARKET GARDEN STALL
You may not be aware but we often have a stall in the afternoons outside the office and sell some of our excess produce. We will try and keep this to Tuesday and Friday afternoons only, depending on what’s available. We have more watermelon, potatoes, herbs and lettuce coming in the next few weeks. Keep an eye out!

THE GREAT BACKYARD PUMPKIN CHALLENGE
We are entering this competition, held each year, at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. This is a photo of our entry. You are welcome to come and have a look at it in the garden before it goes to Sydney next Monday.

UNITED NETBALL CLUB
UNC is looking for 5, 6 & 7 year olds to join one of our teams. We play at Charlestown Netball Courts each Saturday. If you are interested please contact Jodie on 0414 917 895 or visit www.unitednetball.com.au

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff Member 1</th>
<th>Staff Member 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20 Mar</td>
<td>Janelle Mitchell</td>
<td>Heidi Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23 Mar</td>
<td>Mel Burge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 24 Mar</td>
<td>Daina Hissey</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27 Mar</td>
<td>Tracey Rees</td>
<td>Janelle Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 30 Mar</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
<td>Carlie Weedon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 31 Mar</td>
<td>Jo Annetts</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMMUNITY NEWS

UNITED NETBALL CLUB
UNC is looking for 5, 6 & 7 year olds to join one of our teams. We play at Charlestown Netball Courts each Saturday. If you are interested please contact Jodie on 0414 917 895 or visit www.unitednetball.com.au
**FAMILY FUN AT THE HUNTER WETLANDS CENTRE**

**Easter School Holidays 2015**

**Easter Fun Day**
Saturday 4th April 9.30am - 1.00pm
Join the Easter Bunny for:
- Wetlands Adventures,
- Craft & Face Painting,
- Fun Games,
- Reptile Encounters,
- BBQ.
$5 Adults, $2 children under 12 (under 3 free)

**School Holiday Activities**
There’s lots to do, so come along and join in the fun
- Dip netting,
- Canoeing,
- Bike Riding (bring your own bike or hire one),
- Playground,
- Walking trails,
- Become a Wetlands Explorer (go in the draw for a weekly prize pack),
- Bring a picnic or eat at Spoonbill Cafe.

Wetlands will be closed on Good Friday, Easter Sunday & Easter Monday.
Book in for these activities on Wednesday 15th April.
Bush Skills Adventure 8 to 12 yrs ($20 per child).
Have fun making a bush survival shelter, a bush damper & learn about useful bush skills too!
Wriggly Wetlanders 5 to 8 yrs ($20 per child).
Explore the wetlands, get creative and crafty with our fun wetland activities.

**Bookings Essential** - 4951 6466

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**SPECIAL EVENT**

**Fundraiser Movie Event - 2nd April**
Get your friends together & join us at Glenvale Events Cinemas for the premiere of **The Spongebob Movie Sponge Out of Water 3D**.
All tickets $12. Entertainment from 3.30pm movie starts at 6.30pm.
Tickets from www.stickytickets.com.au

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**HUNTER WETLANDS CENTRE**

1 Wetlands Place, Shortland NSW 2307
Ph: 4951 6466. Email: hwcc@wetlands.org.au
Open 9am to 4pm - 7 days
Spoonbill Cafe open 9am to 3pm - 7 days

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**VACATION CARE 4 - 12yrs**

April 2015

**Child Care Rebate**
Helping families with the cost of child care.

Come & Join Us These School Holidays, We Will Have You Reaching New Heights
Participating in Programs Such As:

- obstacle courses
- craft
- gymnastic skills
- cooking
- acro
- trampolining
- science
- tumbling
- athletics... just to name a few

**VACATION CARE IS AVAILABLE FROM TUESDAY 7TH APRIL - MONDAY 20TH APRIL**
7.30AM-6PM, MEALS INCLUDED

1 HOUR GYMNASTICS BASED HOLIDAY PROGRAMS ALSO AVAILABLE, PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL** Contact the Centre:
Ph: 4953 6366 Fax: 4953 6587 www.hsc.org.au

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**BECOME A FOSTER CARER**

As a foster carer you’ll receive a fortnightly allowance, 24/7 support and ongoing training opportunities.

If you’ve been thinking about fostering and you have a spare bedroom, talk to us today and start a journey you’ll never forget.