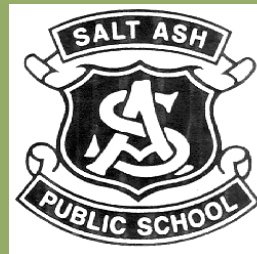


Salt Ash Public School Newsletter

Respect Consideration Co-operation
Quality Education in a unique, caring environment



Term Four – Week 4

Tuesday 27th October, 2015

Funny Story

My parents have been on an extended trip in a small boat for the last month or so and I haven't had the same communication with them I usually have. Last night I had a good catch up through the wonders of technology. Mum as usual was asking about school and how it was going (she is the product of a small school in a bygone era). During the conversation she said something like ... oh almost half way through fourth term you'll be starting to wind down ...

I didn't understand at first but the conversation went on to Christmas craft, class parties and JUST having fun.

I was a bit shocked, I have been teaching for more than 20 years and this is the first time I've heard this from mum. I set her straight (gently of course, she is my mum).

This conversation, while a little disturbing, did get me to thinking.

Please be assured that at our school we will always look for opportunities to have fun with our kids. We will be doing this to engage our kids in teaching and learning programs to meet syllabus outcomes. Mostly our school routines and expectations will remain the same and we will continue to look for opportunities to engage our kids, families and the wider community in the learning process.

Parents can help us with this by having students ready for school on time each day and reinforcing that effort (we call it persistence and confidence) at school will set them up for their future.

This is also a good time to mention that good attendance has a huge impact on students learning so please send them to school every day.

I will now get off my soap box. Sorry, blame mum.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

The local church, Port Stephens Church of Christ on Nelson Bay Road, has generously offered us the use of their facilities for our annual presentation night. This will mean no one will need to sit or stand in the blazing sun. Everyone will be able to see and hear what is going on (they have a raised stage and quality audio visual facilities) and if a storm looms the show will go on. Our presentation night will be held on **TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER at 6PM.**

Term Calendar

Please keep the following dates in mind in the weeks ahead.

Thursday 29 th October-	Book Fair Preview
Friday 30 th October -	Book Fair and purchasing, Grand Parents Day
Friday 6 th November -	Hunter River High, Small Schools Transition Day
Wednesday 25 th November -	Canberra Excursion
Wednesday 3 rd December-	Hunter River High Orientation Day Hunter River High, Parent info evening.
Tuesday 8 th December -	Presentation evening

Grand Parents Day

National Grandparents Week started on Sunday. To help celebrate we are holding a Grandparents Day at school this Friday 30th October.

On Grandparents Day we encourage students to invite their grandparents, or significant other people in their lives, to visit them at school. On the day we will reverse our lunch and recess times.

Grandparents are invited for a yummy morning tea from the canteen, this is being generously supplied by our P&C at 11:00am. Grandparents are then invited to spend the next session with students on activities in their classrooms and visit the Book Fair in the library with the student's class before we have lunch at 1:00pm. Anyone wishing to stay for lunch with the kids can order their lunch through the school canteen or bring it from home. Students will return to normal lessons at 1:40pm.

Book Fair

On Thursday we will have a Book Fair **Preview** Day. Students will be able to make a **wish list** for purchases to be made on Friday when Grandparents and others can visit the fair with students and make purchases.

Buddy Bench

One of our Stage 2 students Kayla Hockey, has suggested the school consider having a Buddy Bench in our playground.

The Buddy Bench is a permanent seat in the school playground where a student can go if they feel left out or lonely. Other students who see someone sitting on the seat are encouraged to invite them to play, walk or talk with them. This would be another way students at Salt Ash can be inclusive and support their social & emotional learning.

KOFM, in partnership with Bunnings, are running a promotion around buddy benches with many being donated across the Hunter region. If you like this idea I encourage you to go to the KOFM website and complete a nomination form. The more the better. The link has also been added to the P&C Facebook page.

Canberra Excursion

Week 8 of next term will be our 3-6 Canberra trip. Payments are still being taken in instalments at the office with the final payment due no later than next **Friday 6th November**. A detailed information sheet including what to bring, lists and consent and medical forms will come home the following week.

Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following students on their recent awards and continuing to show the Keys To Success.

Bronze Awards:

Tara Kenny, Lucian Knight, Gabby Rooney, Jye Hawtin, Tyne Morrissey.

Silver Awards:

Natalia Collinson, Terresa Plumridge, Jade House, Ocea Liston-Smith, Mikayla Anderson, Mackenzie Watson, Ashlee Gestrin, Cooper Donnelly, Emily Trimmingham, Dominic Rooney, Lily Peters, Izzy Conna, Tesharnhi Bindon-Bates, Savanna Stair, Mitchell Plumridge, Kate Slade, Taylor Phillips-McKendry.

Platinum Awards:

Kelsi Bielefeld, Montana Latham.

A Message from NSW Health

Whooping cough information for schools

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby.

Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those

who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for [information for childcare and schools about whooping cough](#).



Sunday 31 January 2016

Port Stephens Netball Clinic

Port Stephens Netball Courts (William Bailey St, Raymond Terrace)



Time: 10.00am–12.00pm

Age: 6-14 years

Cost: \$45 per person (Inc. GST)
(Includes coaching and a goodies bag)

Bring: Water bottle and comfortable clothes

For registration, please go to www.spnetball.com/clinics
Registrations close 28th January 2016.
Places are limited so get in quick!