

# Salt Ash Public School Newsletter

Respect Consideration Co-operation  
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Term Two – Week 4

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Hi Everyone

It is great to see everyone back and things starting to return to normal.

## ANZAC Service

Friday saw our annual ANZAC Service held late, but in fine weather. It was obvious to all who were there how respectful our children were and how important this service is to our local community. Our guests and I were very proud to be part of the service.



## Gardening Club

A number of our kids have been working on the school gardens and they are pretty much ready to be planted down. Our P&C run canteen will use anything we grow to make yummy lunches for our kids.

If you have an interest in gardening and could offer any advice or assistance it would be very welcome.

Our hope is to have kids and our community working side by side on this project.

## K-2 Transport Excursion

Students from Kindergarten to Year 2 recently attended our transport excursion. We were able to travel by bus, boat and train as well as use our legs on the day. We also got an insight into air transport at Fighter World, Williamtown. Miss Nash even organised a coal ship to enter Newcastle Harbour and a couple of police officers on push bikes to arrive while we were having morning tea! On the day, students were able to see transport in action and gain a greater understanding of the need for transport networks to connect. A highlight of the day was to get up close and personal with the West Pack Rescue Helicopter. Everyone had a great day and the students must be commended for their behaviour. A big thank you goes to Miss Nash for organising the event. Good job Lyndall.



## Paul Harrigan Cup

Last week our footy boys joined with Bob's Farm Public School to compete in the Paul Harrigan Cup. The team played well, moving through undefeated in their 4 pool games to the semi final. The team went down in the semi but had a great day and it was tops to see them come back to school so excited. The secret weapon in the team's success was the expert coaching from Mr Milne. In a short time with a team made up from two schools he produced a very competitive team of kids who had a great time. Thanks Craig.

### Star Struck

The show has begun! Our Star Struck students with the help of Ms Young are practising every day, in their own time, to polish their performance. It is all very exciting.

Salt Ash has been successful in gaining a place in Star Struck for many years now and it is a great opportunity for our kids to shine in the performing arts. This year's team would not have been possible without the mountain of work Ms Young has put in. Thanks Sharon.

### Attendance

This Friday morning we will hold our Term 1 100% attendance breakfast. Students from Term 1 who made it to school every day last term are invited with their families to join staff for a sausage sandwich breakfast to celebrate. We also hope to have a couple of special guests.

Please remember regular school attendance is a key indicator of student wellbeing, academic success and increased life chances.

### P&C News

Our canteen is up and running again. The canteen committee is revamping the menu and working hard to provide our kids, and anyone else, with healthy and delicious lunches and a few treats.

Canteen volunteers are still needed! If you can help out with a couple of hours on a Monday or Friday please let us know and we will welcome you aboard.

### Upcoming Dates

- NAPLAN 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May.
- Walk Safely to School Day is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – details to follow.
- Young Teen Talk (Year 6) Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Parents welcome. Please send notes and money ASAP.
- School Athletics Carnival (K-6) Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June.
- Don't forget Canberra Excursion, notes and deposits are due now.

Schools are busy places there are bound to be more dates to follow. Stay tuned!

### Department News

#### Review of Special Religious Education and Special Education in Ethics in NSW government schools.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities has commissioned an independent review of the implementation of Special Religious Education (SRE) and Special Education in Ethics (SEE) in NSW public schools.

The review is being conducted by an independent research company, ARTD Consultants. It will inform ongoing improvement of SRE and SEE for the Department and providers.

#### Why is the review being conducted?

In 2012 the NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee No 2, chaired by the Hon Marie Ficarra MLC released a [report](#) on the Education Amendment (Ethics Classes Repeal) Bill 2011.

Recommendation 14 of the report requires that '*a future independent review of both ethics classes and SRE be conducted by appropriately qualified early childhood educational reviewers in 2014-2015*'.

Additional information about the review can be found in the *Public reviews and inquiries* section of the [department's website](#).

Parents and carers can have a say until 31 July 2015 via an online contributions portal, located at the [SRE & SEE Review webpage](#).

Regards  
Andrew Price



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