

Salt Ash Public School

Term 2 Week 6

A message from the Principal

What's On

- 7th June Star Struck Rehearsal
- 10th June Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
- 12th June AECG Meeting @ RTPS
- 13th June Star Struck Rehearsal
- 14th & 15th June Star Struck Performances
- 18th June Community PBL, P&C Meeting, Stage 2 Koala Visit
- 20th June Premier's Spelling Bee

Notes in circulation

- Star Struck Information Note
- Public Speaking
- Year 6 Shirts

Community PBL

Congratulations to our two Community PBL awardees for the last fortnight, Braxton Keen and Blake Smith. Braxton received his award in week 4 for *being confident in stopping two little twins who tried running away from their mum in the carpark and were nearly hit by a car*. In week 5 Blake received his award as *he is always a great friend and helper. He volunteers to hold the gate open whilst all students board the bus*. Congratulations boys!



PBL Pop Up Day

Students have been successful in earning enough Gotchas to fill our pop up container. For being such wonderful positive, respectful and safe learners we will hold a 'Crazy Hair or Hat' Pop Up Day this Wednesday, 5th June. All students are invited to come to school with crazy hair designs or a favourite hat (yes, caps will be allowed, but only for this day). Congratulations students!!!

Playground Opening

On Wednesday 22nd May we officially opened our new playground equipment. This ceremony was attended by Director, Educational Leadership, Mr Dana Fuller, P&C President, Mrs Julie Peters, Steven Nicholson and Carrie Clarke from BP Salt Ash and Alan Cloke from the Salamander Recycling Centre. Our school captains once again did a brilliant job in leading the assembly and the cutting of the ribbon. I really enjoyed listening to our students read about why they love the playground.



GRIP Leadership Conference

I was lucky enough to attend the GRIP Leadership Conference with our school captains just over a week ago at the Civic Theatre Newcastle. Our captains participated in many leadership activities that focused on Developing myself to lead, Making a difference to my team, Making a difference to my school and Making a difference to society. They then participated in a question and answer forum with the hosts for the day. When asked at the end of the day what the most important thing they learnt from the conference, they replied, "Leadership is about people, not position or power." What a remarkable piece of information to remember out of all the wonderful things they learnt that day. I am certainly looking forward to seeing what the captains do with their new found knowledge and skills.





Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital in developing the academic, social, emotional, cultural and wellbeing needs of all students to achieve their full potential. Attendance is compulsory. Schools in partnerships with parents are responsible for promoting regular attendance. Lately we have been seeing an increase in student absenteeism and unexplained absences, particularly with partial absences (late arrivals and early leavers). If your child is away, please phone the office, write a note or reply to the absence SMS that is generated daily. This includes partial absences. Parents **MUST** accompany their child into the office for either a late or early slip otherwise your child will be noted as having an unexplained absence. If, for some reason, you are unable to accompany your child into the office, please call the office ahead of your children arriving to explain the leave. Attached to this newsletter is an Information for Parents - Compulsory School Attendance fact sheet.

Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all of the students who were awarded ribbons after the athletics carnival for placing 1st, 2nd or 3rd. High jump ribbons, age champions and champion house will all be presented on Thursday morning at 9am.

Electronic devices

Mobile phones, iPods, iPads or any other electronic device should not be brought to school. If they must come to school (only in the case of parent contact before or after school) students are required to hand them in to the office and collect them at the end of the day.

Social media

A reminder that social media apps have specific minimum age requirements. These are due to the amount of issues that inappropriate use of social media can create, especially for young people. I have included the minimum age for some of the most popular apps:

- Facebook (13 years)
- Facebook Messenger (13 years)
- Instagram (13 years)
- Flickr (13 years)
- Snapchat (13 years)
- Twitter (13 years)
- Kik (13 years or with parental permission up to 17 years)

Parents we ask for your support in closely monitoring your child's device usage and create trusting and open lines of communication with your children so that they feel safe discussing any issues that may arise with you.

Canteen

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kylie Keen in her role as Canteen Manager over the last 12 months. Unfortunately, Kylie has resigned from the role. I wanted to personally thank Kylie for her endless hours of work, ensuring that Salt Ash Public School canteen now meets the new Healthy Canteen Strategy. Thank you, Kylie. I would also like to welcome Cindy Winmill as the new Canteen Manager.

Whilst we appreciate volunteers in the canteen, as we do require them in order for the canteen to run, please be mindful that due to Work Health and Safety procedures no children of any age should be in the canteen. We thank you for your assistance with this.



You Can Do It! Award Recipients

Congratulations go to the following students for receiving their You Can Do It awards for continuing to follow the keys to success of being Confident, Resilient, Persistent, Organised and Getting Along.

Bronze: Charlotte Forde, Liam Mitchell, Chloe Anderson, Lily Peters, Kate Slade

Silver: Bethany Rankmore, Scarlett Toan, Cora Middleby, Kooriarna Smith, Sienna Atkinson, Isaac Miller, Joel Partridge

Gold: Izabella Collinson, Evilyn Knight

Holly Deguara
Principal

Office news

Payments to school

Payments can be made in cash at the office or online on the school website. Please remember that we do not accept credit card or eftpos payments at the office. All online payments must be made before 5pm two days before payment is due.

- **Canberra Excursion-** instalment 2 is now overdue & instalment 3 is due this Friday 7th June.
- **Star Struck–** payments are now due.

Lost Property

Our lost property bin is *OVERFLOWING*. Please call into the office to check if any of the items belong to your child.

Woolworths Earn & Learn

Woolworths Earn & Learn Program for schools is running again & please support our school by collecting! Collection Boxes are located at our school, Medowie Woolworths, Salamander Bay Woolworths, Raymond Terrace (both Woolworths stores) & Saxby's Bakery.

We need volunteers to pick up stickers at each of the bins at the above stores, if you are able to help out please collect a letter of authorisation from the office so you can collect on behalf of SAPS.



Education &
Communities

Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

POSITIVE RESPECTFUL AND SAFE LEARNERS



Newcastle Entertainment Centre
Friday 14 June 10:30am & 7pm | **Saturday 15 June** 2pm & 7pm

Tickets through Ticketek 4921 2121
★ www.starstruck.schools.nsw.gov.au ★

On Sale NOW

NSW GLENCORE A GLENCORE Community Partnership NEW FM HERALD theherald.com.au ZHP Graphika Brand Design Web

Good for Kids good for life

WHY DOES OUR SCHOOL HAVE HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAMS?

Good nutrition and physical activity improves students' concentration and behaviour and boosts school performance.

Below are some examples of strategies schools are implementing to promote healthy eating and physical activity:

- Crunch&Sip® – a daily fruit, vegetable and water program
- NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy – revised canteen strategy replacing Fresh Tastes @ School
- PE lessons have a focus on developing students fundamental movement skills
- Students have access to physical activity equipment during breaks
- Teachers have been trained in the Live Life Well @ School Program
- Teachers are regularly incorporating healthy eating and physical activity into their lessons



PHONE 4924 6499



Term 2 Calendar

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 6 3rd—7th June	3	4	5 Pop Up Day– Crazy Hair Day	6	7 Star Struck rehearsal
Week 7 10th-14th June	10 Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	11	12 AECG Meeting @ RTPS Deabating @SAPS	13 Star Struck rehearsal	14 Star Struck performance
Week 8 17th-21st June	17 P&C Meeting	18 Community PBL P&C Meeting Stage 2 Koala Visit	19	20 Premier's Spelling Bee	21
Week 9 24th-28th June	24	25	26	27	28 Red Nose Day in Canteen
Week 10 1st-5th July	1	2	3	4 Rewards Day	5 Last Day of term
<h2>Term 3</h2>					
Week 1 22nd-26th July	22 Staff Development Day	23 Students Return	24	25	26
Week 2 29th July-2nd August	29	30 Hunter Dance Festival	31	1	2
Week 3 5th-9th August	5	6	7	8	9