

# Speers Point Public School

A stimulating and supportive learning environment

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

[www.speerspt-p.schools.edu.au](http://www.speerspt-p.schools.edu.au)

16<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Principal, Sue McNamara

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## Speers Point Leads the Way in Kinder Transition Programs

We are so proud of our new Kinders who have come to our school for 2 whole days now. We welcome them and their families to our wonderful school and



we look forward to a long and rewarding learning partnership as we embark on the journey to developing

responsible and lifelong learners. Our Kinder Start program is a new and innovative program being offered at our school and indeed we are the first to



implement this extended program locally. Everything we do at Speers Point is for the benefit of students to improve not only their learning outcomes but also

emotional and social outcomes and Kinder Start is no exception.

Our program is running for 5 weeks and students attend for a whole day. During the day they are involved in learning activities and assessment activities which is enabling us to develop more individualised programs to begin Day 1 2012. We thank Mrs Cobcroft for her organisation of this very worthwhile program.

Next week is our Orientation Day. As part of the day we have an experienced Speech Pathologist attending to speak with parents and we are inviting other parents and carers to attend a workshop after the orientation. Belinda will be working with us to develop whole class and individualised programs for our students. She will also assist teachers in their professional learning around language development and assessing students if necessary. We welcome Belinda aboard our learning team.

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event
<b>WEEK 6</b>	
Thur 17	• After school sport - Zumba
Fri 18	• Talent Quest 11.30am
Sat 19	• P&C Sydney Shopping Trip 6.45am
<b>WEEK 7</b>	
Tues 22	• Video Conference - Maths Magic 5/6R
Wed 23	• Kinderstart 9-3pm • Last after school sport Water Fun
Thur 24	• Last after school sport Zumba

## Reminders for this week

- Year 6 farewell dinner RSVP now due
- Video Conference notes due to office
- Swimming every day for registered students, remember to bring your swimmers.
- Annual School Report Surveys due by 23<sup>rd</sup> November in order to be in draw for uniform voucher
- Working Bee 3/11/11 RSVP now due

### Staffing 2012

Next year we farewell Miss Kerrie Armstrong from Speers Point Public School which will be sad for us but very exciting for her. Kerrie has been appointed as a permanent teacher to Tighes Hill P.S. She has been a long standing temporary teacher at our school who has provided quality teaching programs and been very active in the community. Luckily Tighes Hill is not in the same **STAR** competition as us! On a serious note we wish her well in her future endeavours. Kerrie will remain at the school until the end of the year.

Have a great week,  
Sue McNamara  
PRINCIPAL

### Changes are coming

You may notice a few changes in our newsletter, these are as a result of the skills and knowledge gained at a School Communications and Promotion workshop attended on Monday 14th November by Sue McNamara, Lisa Milson-Black, Robyn McCabe and Tracey Pettigrew. This workshop has inspired this team to promote all aspects of the school in a positive and professional light. There are many great innovative and proactive programs offered at our school that we will share with you over the coming months. Additionally if there is a great achievement or a demonstration of excellence from our school community please let us know so we can share it.

Lisa Milson Black

### A teacher's story

Hi my name is Adam Britt and I will be teaching Year 5/6 for the remainder of this year. I have taught at Speers Point Public school in both 2009/2010. I graduated from Newcastle University and have been teaching for over 2 years.



Prior to coming to Speers Point Public I was teaching a year 5/6 class at Garden Suburb. Outside of school

I coach a Junior Rugby League team for Dudley/Redhead and I have personally represented NSW this year for indoor cricket. I love my music and play an array of instruments including guitar, bass guitar, keyboard, vocals and drums. I am happy to be here at Speers Point and I look forward to meeting the parents of my year 5/6 students. Please come up and say Hi.



### Woolworths Earn and Learn Competition

Thank you to everyone who supported our school in this year's Earn and Learn competition. We ended up with over 28,000 to spend and listed below are some of the terrific items we will be receiving for our school.

- ✓ Home readers (over 100 titles -multiple levels)
- ✓ Multimedia Writing program (for every class)
- ✓ Student whiteboards/magnetic boards
- ✓ Smartboard Maths software (for each stage)
- ✓ Games and Puzzles
- ✓ Library books (novels)
- ✓ We Play Team walkers
- ✓ Soft seats (for classroom use)
- ✓ Glue sticks!!!

These fantastic items will be arriving at our school next year. Thanks again for your support.

Kerrie Armstrong  
Co-Ordinator



### Birthdays

A very happy birthday to the following students

Harley T 18<sup>th</sup>,  
Gregory M 19<sup>th</sup>,  
Dominic B 20<sup>th</sup>,  
Roman K 21<sup>st</sup>.



### P and C News

I would like to personally thank the wonderful parents who gave up their time last night and through out the year to attend the P & C meetings. Both the P & C and the school appreciate your time and your efforts and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

### Shopping Trip

Parents and Friends attending Saturday's shopping trip please meet at the bell street entrance to the school at 6.45am....we will be leaving at 7.00am on the dot.

Muffins and drinks will be available to purchase on the bus for \$1.50. Assorted chips are also available at \$1. Lucky seat prize is a Hair Straightener. Raffles and games on board.

### Reminder Working Bee: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Please come along and help with this working bee. If you could notify the school to your availability that would be wonderful as this is required for catering. Any time you can spare will be greatly appreciated.

Tracy Pettigrew  
P & C President

### Canteen News:

If your child is a swimmer and they are placing a lunch order can you please mark this on their lunch order so that their lunch can be prepared earlier.

Thank you for your assistance with nachos day the children really enjoyed it. The canteen raised \$170. "best food ever was quoted by a Yr6 student"

Please note if your child wins a free slushie they will receive this the very next day the canteen is open.

### Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>	Tracy Pettigrew
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Gaynor Jaques
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Closed</b>
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Michelle Demir
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Closed</b>
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tracey Williams



*Our new students for 2012 we welcome you.*

### Community News

#### TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2012 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Japan, Scandinavia and the U.S.A will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover - all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au), email [scceaustr@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaustr@scce.com.au) or

call us toll free on **1800 500 501**, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

## CHOICES FAMILY FESTIVAL FREE ENTRY

9.30 TO 3.30 SATURDAY DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

### LOADS OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FREE TRAIN RIDES, STALLS, PERFORMANCES BY SHARNI FENWICK, BURRGATI DANCE, BIRABAN SCHOOL AND MORE!

Lake Macquarie Light Railways, Onslow Road

### Toy recycling

With Christmas fast approaching, have you considered donating your youngest child's unwanted toys to charity? Many families feel the pinch over this time and donations to all charities are much appreciated. A new resource for quality used goods is **Second Chance Toys** ([www.secondchancetoys.com.au](http://www.secondchancetoys.com.au)), an Australia-wide community initiative to rescue and recycle gently used plastic toys by donating them to children in need. Check out the website for more information, or donate at your local op shop, charity or drop off bin.

### 2012 Enrolment Procedure

**2011 bookings do not carry over into 2012.**

**Everyone that requires care in 2012 needs to enrol via the below steps.**



1. Download your 2012 enrolment form today  
[www.lakemacquarie@ymca.org.au](mailto:www.lakemacquarie@ymca.org.au)
2. Hand your completed enrolment pack back to the centre you wish to attend from:  
**Monday 7/11/11.** Packs cannot be accepted before this date.
3. Packs will be taken and numbered from 7am 7/11/11 to 6pm 20/12/11.

**Priority of access regulations apply. We encourage families to hand packs back quickly.**

4. Parents will be sent a notification of their 2012 days via post early January.
5. Any Casual Care also need to complete a new Enrolment pack for 2012

### 2011 Living Smart Festival featuring the Electric Vehicle Show

**When:** Saturday 19 November 2011

**Where:** Speers Point Park, Lake Macquarie

**Time:** 8.00am - 4.00pm

**Cost:** Free!

**Info:** see <http://www.lakemac.com.au/living-smart-festival> or call 4921 0333

The Living Smart Festival is on again! As well as providing an opportunity for the community to get involved, have fun and explore sustainable living ideas, this year the festival will also feature an electric vehicle show.

#### Highlights

Live music featuring Nick Saxon and the Elusive Few, Chunky Salsa, Grace Turner, Kym Campbell, African Boys Dance and more.

- Open mic area, register on the day for up to 20 minutes of fame, BYO instruments and equipment.
- Electric vehicle show, talks & demonstrations.
- Kids wearable art show and competition.
- Market stalls, handmade eco and designer wares, fashion, and art.
- 20+ Sustainability & wellbeing workshops
- Fair trade and organic coffee and international food.
- Organic wine tasting.
- Eco displays and demonstrations.
- Outdoor art displays.
- Showerhead exchange, free and low cost options (conditions apply).
- Planet kids interactive activities.
- Win an eco holiday!