

# Speers Point Public School



Growing Stronger and Smarter every day.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

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

4<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Principal , Chris Payne

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## Principal's Message

I was very excited to see my tickets for Starstruck arrive in the mail today. It has been very pleasing to see some of our students practise and prepare for this great joint schools performance. I'm greatly looking forward to seeing our students participate and perform.

We also had a visit this morning from our new Assistant Principal – Support, Mrs Nicole Young. Mrs Young was our successful applicant through the merit selection process and will begin as AP-Support at the beginning of Term 3. Some parents recognised Mrs Young this morning when she was introduced at assembly and like me, are very pleased that she is joining the Speers Point team. Mrs Young will be with Jacaranda class.



Something that I have been wrestling to get up and running is my Principal's blog. I ran the blog last year as

a means of getting out those little stories in-between newsletters. Due to some technical difficulties I have had problems with my old one this year, therefore the new blog can now be found at

<http://speerspointps.wordpress.com/>

In the last two weeks, we have continued our form in continual improvements to our school. Last week I discovered that when Blue Gum and Casuarina classes were painted in the holidays, a whole tin of feature wall paint was left over. So rather than let it sit there I felt obliged to follow Mr Gandy as he patched up the library wall. He patched it, I painted it and now our back wall looks fantastic. Mr Gandy is in the process of mounting wall shelves in the library to complete the job.



Thank you to Mrs Wood and her Environmental team as they too were busy creating new planter boxes in our vegie garden

The new planter boxes, soil and mulch have all made our garden look great, plus with the addition of the different decorations, our school garden looks like no other!



Don't forget next week is the long weekend, we'll see everyone back on Tuesday.

Chris Payne  
Principal

#### Upcoming Events

<i><b>Date</b></i>	<i><b>Event</b></i>
<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>UNSW Science</b>
<b>Mon 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Queen's Birthday, Public Holiday</b>
<b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>UNSW Writing</b>
<b>Tue 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm</b>
<b>Fri 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Recognition Assembly</b>
<b>Wed 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Naidoc Performance</b>
<b>Fri 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>End of Term 2</b>
<b>Mon 15<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Staff Development Day</b>
<b>Tue 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Students Return for Term 3</b>
<b>Tue 13<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>School Athletics Carnival Glendale</b>
<b>Fri 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Zone Athletics Carnival Field</b>
<b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Zone Athletics Carnival Track</b>

#### Eucalypt News

Can you hear the noise of cogs turning in Eucalypt? That's our brains working in overdrive, in the cold (shiver) weather! Yes, it's that terrific/terrible – call it what you will, time of year again; reports. Students' brains are almost bubbling over onto their test papers, while we teachers are furiously collating this work and writing reports.

On a lighter note, it was our turn to run assembly recently. Assembly leaders; Bronte, Maliq and Noah lead our class with excellence. We all performed our

song item; Fireflies brilliantly, although some dancing lessons may be in order (hee, hee!). We also shared some great artworks that our students are creating each Friday.

On Tuesdays, we have been participating in our new PE Sport's in Schools Program. The students are acquiring and developing fundamental movement skills to assist them with general sports. We are looking forward to the remainder of these lessons.

This term in Science, we have been learning about different types of transport and how they MOVE. As part of this unit, students were asked to design and build a toy boat. As usual, many of our students have risen to the task and created some little masterpieces! Here are some of the projects, seen in the photos below.

Louise Williams and Nikki McMannus





## Sport in Schools

Parents who paid \$22.50 for the first 5 weeks of the Sport in Schools program, the next instalment of \$22.50 is now due. Please send your money in a sealed envelope with their name clearly written on the envelope as soon as possible so that your child/children can continue to enjoy this program

## Donations

Thank you to Julie West who kindly donated 2 pairs of football boots. They will definitely come in very handy for our Macquarie Cup days. Also to those many parents who donate their child's school uniforms back to the school for our second hand cupboard.

## Volunteers in School

If you are generously giving your time to volunteer in our school please sign on our sign on register located in the school office.

## Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following students.

Holly R	14 <sup>th</sup> June
Jayden C	16 <sup>th</sup>



## Reminder for Parents/Carers

For all medication to be administered by school staff a medication form is to be complete.

- Medication is to be handed into the office
- Child's name to be clearly labelled
- Name of medication/expiry date
- Time to be taken
- Dosage of medicine
- Doctors name

Medication form can be handed into the office.

## P&C News

Thank you to Chantel & John Bidas for their kind donation of an Urn to the canteen.

## Canteen News

There is now a sign in/out book located in the canteen for our wonderful volunteers. This needs to be filled in upon arrival and departure for your safety.

### Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Merrick & Chantelle
Thu 6 <sup>th</sup>	Kerrie-Ann N & Merrick
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	Michelle D & Merrick
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Queen's Birthday (public holiday)
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup>	Chelle & Gai
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Merrick & Chantelle
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup>	Kerrie-Ann N & Merrick
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Merrick, Kara & Alista
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup>	Simone T & Merrick
Tue 18 <sup>th</sup>	Chell, Casey & Gai

## Community Information

### Treatment of head lice

Around 23 per cent of primary school children screened through the NSW Health Nitbusters program have head lice. Head lice are a very common problem that most parents and teachers are more than familiar with. If your child has head lice here are some treatment tips:

- Do not treat your child if their scalp is irritated or inflamed
- Always read the head lice product label and directions before you apply it to your child's head. Products can be found in local chemists
- Apply the head lice product to every strand of your child's hair and work through, leave for 20 minutes, and comb out with a good quality lice comb
- Check your child's head and if dead lice are found, the product has worked. However make sure you re-treat your child's head in seven days to catch nymphs that have emerged from unhatched eggs
- Reduce the risk of your child catching head lice by tying their hair back or braiding it.

### Tips for tackling kids head lice

- Use hair conditioner and a fine head lice comb.
- Apply conditioner to the hair and comb through with a wide-toothed comb to remove the tangles.
- Then use a fine metal lice comb to remove the lice and pull the nits off the hair.

- The conditioner helps slow down the louse and makes it easier to comb out.

## Too sick to go to school?

Sometimes it's hard to know if your child is really coming down with something or just suffering a bout of Mondayitis. This chart will help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/too-sick-to-go-to-school>

## Speech problems

All children learn how to talk and listen at different rates but there is a general pattern to children's language development. If you're worried about your child's speech development – or their teacher has concerns – the best thing you can do is get it checked out professionally.

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/speech-problems>

## Parenting ideas

Parenting expert Michael Grose opened his Facebook page to readers' questions for a little while recently and was inundated. It's worth jumping online to have a look - if only to see you're not alone in your parenting challenges.

Find out more:

<https://www.facebook.com/parentingideas.com.au>