



Growing Stronger and Smarter every day.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

www.speerspt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

28th October 2014

Principal , Chris Payne

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Principal's Message

How fantastic was our concert! I don't care how biased I sound, it was simple and brilliant performance by our students and I am immensely proud of them all! Every student participated, some were in multiple acts (in the case of the seniors, some were in five acts) each one to a very high standard. I am also very proud of our staff and volunteers who through their efforts and time, made such a show possible.



We have uploaded some 100+ photos to our school website in the gallery for everyone to relive the magic.



Bunnings BBQ

A big thank you to the Cherry and Lambert families who organised and ran our Bunnings BBQ last Sunday with help from some of our staff. Despite the heat it was a very successful day out, raising money for our school.

The big focus for fundraising this year, including the fete, is to replace the loose softfall around the play equipment with permanent softfall rubber (that doesn't wash away or end up in shoes) and shade sails over the equipment.

State Athletics

Congratulations on your fine effort, Jesse Moore, who ran in the 100m at the State Athletics Carnival! Coming 7th in your heat, we are all very proud of your great efforts.

Before and After School Care - Closure

Sadly we have been informed that the YMCA Before and After School Care at Boolaroo will be ceasing operations from December 17th. While there has been some action from different groups to try and preserve this service, at this stage I am aware only of the closure. We will pass on any new information should any new developments occur.

Attendance

I've been noticing a slide in attendance rates lately and given the importance of this term, especially for the seniors as we prepare them for High School, students need to maintain regular attendance.

The best teachers with the best teaching and learning programs will not help our students achieve to their highest potential if they are not here at school, or even on time.

We are here to help. If your child has a touch of the Mondayitis or the Wednesday morning go-slows we

have a range of strategies that can help. Talk to your child's class teacher for some ideas.

Professional Learning this Term

Through the term we have staff participating in a range of professional learning experiences that will enhance their skills in the classroom. Sometimes this means a relief teacher may cover the class, but we attempt to keep disruptions to an absolute minimum, whilst still providing opportunities for staff to develop their expertise.

As principal, I have always tried to limit my absence from the school. I regularly skip different conferences in order to remain at school. I often attend meetings and courses outside of school hours for this reason.

This term there are a few things I cannot miss, including yesterday's "Strategic Financial Management" which is training around the new finance system coming in early next year, and Thursday's "Focus on Reading" training with Miss Elliott.

Mrs Wood has just returned from the 3 day facilitator training of "Targeting Early Numeracy." (TEN) This means that rather than sending teachers away for TEN training, Mrs Wood is able to train all of our teachers in this fantastic numeracy program.

#Fightforourfifth

Our Kinder transition program, the "K2Bees" started last week and it was very exciting to see our students for next year. We have the numbers for a straight kinder class next year, with space for a few more enrolments.

I'm still widely talking to people about what I have dubbed the "fight for our fifth" where we are still just a few students short of getting back our 5th mainstream class for next year. As I have said before, I need your help in spreading the word about our great school.

P&C Meetings

Rather than trying to keep track of the 3rd Tuesday of the month, P&C meetings are now held on Tuesday of Wk 3 and Wk 8. This means we no longer have meetings falling in the holidays or the week before or after holidays. Our next meeting is on the 25th November.

White Shirt Phase Out

As it has now been two years since the maroon school shirts became uniform, starting from 2015 the old

white shirts will no longer be part of our school uniform.

Oval Bubbler

Mr Gandy was busy yesterday installing our shiny new bubbler out on the oval. With a second one on order, we should have another one installed soon for our students.



Have a great week everyone!

Chris Payne
Principal

Upcoming Events

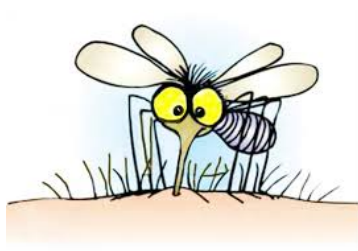
Date	Event
Thu 30 th Oct	Kinder Orientation 8.45-11.30
Thu 6 th Nov	Kinder Orientation 8.45-11.30
Fri 7 th	Yr 6 Orientation Visit to LMHS
Mon 10 th	School Swim Scheme BEGINS
Tue 11 th	School Swim Scheme
Wed 12 th	School Swim Scheme
Thu 13 th	School Swim Scheme Kinder Orientation 8.45-11.30
Fri 14 th	School Swim Scheme
Mon 17 th	School Swim Scheme
Tue 18 th	School Swim Scheme
Wed 19 th	School Swim Scheme
Thu 20 th	School Swim Scheme Worm Workshop
Fri 21 st	School Swim Scheme ENDS
Tue 25 th	P&C Meeting 6.30pm
Thu 27 th	Kinder Orientation 8.45-11.30
Fri 28 th	School Fete

Reminders!

Swimming payments must be made in full (\$26) by the 6th November. Don't forget spaces are limited so bring in your payments along with your permission note ASAP.

Mosquito Protection

We have been inundated with a plague of mosquitos around our school. If parents/carers could spray their children before school or provide them with a roll on insect repellent eg aeroguard it would be much appreciated.



Lolly Jar Guessing Competition

We are holding a guessing competition at school to win an enormous jar of lollies. Children need to pay 20c per guess and the students from Blue Gum are organising a time each day for the children to have a go. The winner will be the student with the closest guess. The money is going towards soft fall for our playground equipment.



Birthdays

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday!

Jaspah E	28 th October
Isaac M	29 th
Terook M	31 st
Lacy S	31 st



Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Wed 29 th Oct	Mandy D
Thu 30 th	CLOSED
Fri 31 st	Melissa A & Tina B
Mon 3 rd Nov	CLOSED
Tue 4 th	CLOSED
Wed 5 th	Rachael B
Thu 6 th	CLOSED
Fri 7 th	Bethany J Krystal R
Mon 10 th	CLOSED
Tue 11 th	CLOSED

If you are able to help on our School Canteen on either Wednesday's or Friday's please call Ally 0415 239 822

Lake Macquarie International Children's Games Torch Relay



Community News



Choosing the right school shoes

Can those school shoes last...one...more...term.....?
And are the expensive ones REALLY better for your child's feet?

Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/choosing-the-right-school-shoes>

Creative reading

If your child is full of great ideas, share these 22 slides to help them tell their stories. Pixar's 22 rules for great creative writing are brilliant! <http://bit.ly/1fyxNK3>

Some ideas to make lunchbox vegies fun and interesting for kids include:

- Ants on a log – fill celery sticks with low-fat cream cheese or hummus, and place sultanas across the top.
- Sticks 'n' dip combo – offer crunchy veggie sticks like carrot, green beans, capsicum, celery and cucumber with a small container of beetroot dip or tomato salsa.
- Corny cobs – steam corn on the cob and put in the lunchbox. Alternatively, use a small container of canned corn (no added salt).
- Roast vegetable, chickpea and couscous salad – fill a small tub (with a tight fitting lid) with salad and top with a dollop of hummus or natural yoghurt.
- Falafel wraps – make a delicious lunch wrap with baked falafel, tomato, lettuce, cucumber and dip (for example, tzatziki, yoghurt or hummus).
- Grilled or oven-baked vegetable chunks or wedges – serve with yoghurt dip.
- Vegie muffins – try pumpkin and zucchini, carrot and sultana, cheese and corn, pumpkin and date and sweet potato, zucchini and poppy seed.
- Vegie slice – mix grated vegetables (such as zucchini) with chopped onion, cheese, flour and eggs and bake in a moderate oven until golden brown.
- Snap pack – fill a snaplock bag with sugar snap peas and cherry or Roma tomatoes

