



Growing Stronger and Smarter every day.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

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

18th February 2014

Principal, Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

Principal's Message

Gymnastics

This newsletter's title banner is a quick snap I took of the Year 1 students at the Gymnastics program that I talked about in last newsletter. The program kicked off last week and was a huge hit. I always enjoy seeing the immediate growth in a student's confidence when they're first challenged by such a program. It is not too late for students who wish to join and assistance is available for families of three or more students.

Safety

Some people may remember when the staff car park use to include area above the office, or even longer ago when students just left the school in all odd directions.

Closing the car park and lines leaving the school were safety measures we implemented to improve student safety in the afternoons in that peak period. A few points have risen that require community support in order to allow our students to leave safely in the afternoons.

1. Pedestrians to Bell St, please use either the office veranda or grass next to the access road. **Please do not walk down the access road** as this is used by vehicles for support student transport.
2. If you have arranged to pick up your child from Main St, please have them wait with the escorting teacher (usually Miss Elliott)

Electronic Devices at School

The blanket rule we have is that we specify no electronic devices at school, including iPods and mobile phones. This is for student safety and protection of the devices itself.

In those rare circumstances where a child may need to bring a mobile phone, the phone needs to be handed in to the office in the morning and collected in the afternoon.

Attendance

Our school day starts at 9am. All students are required to start school at this time. This year will be a time that I am chasing down not only high absenteeism, but partial attendance concerns as well.

We have a number of great education programs at Speers Point this year, but if students are not here, we cannot teach them.

Here's the thing - we are here to help. We know students can like their sleep a little too much or deliberately misplace their left sock. We're here to work with you with support and ideas to help make sure students are here, on time and engaged in learning.

What classifies as "good attendance"? 12 days. If a student has no more than 12 days absent in the year, they have a very solid attendance rate. A great idea is to keep track on a calendar.

Thank You

There have been some wonderful people helping our school recently and we would like to thank:

- The Dobson Family – for their work over the weekend in the top garden.
- The Hitchcock Family – for tending to our veggie garden over the break
- Lake Macquarie High School – for their expertise and support at our Family Fun Fest late last year.

Also to the support from our P&C last year, this helped the school implement its first iPad bundle. Tonight (Tues 18th) is the Annual General Meeting of the P&C at 6:30pm in the hall. As we have a number of new families with us this year, we look forward to meeting some new faces, as well as welcoming some familiar ones too. (Yes, that is a big hint to those who have

been with us for some time, but may just never have thought of coming along).

Lastly

If you were not aware our weekly schedule this term has a slight change in order to accommodate the gymnastics program. **Tuesday** is now the day for both Sport (at 9am) and Assembly (at 2pm).

Chris Payne
Principal

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
18th February	P&C AGM 6.30pm School Hall Zone Swimming Carnival
19th	Scripture
21st	Gymnastics
28th	Gymnastics, Clean Up Australia Day

Cedar News

Welcome to 2014 everyone! We are looking forward to a fantastic year, full of learning and fun. Cedar children have been doing some great things already this term and have been working really hard.

Blogging

The children are doing a blog each week as part of Literacy. Digital literacy is a big focus in the new National Curriculum and we are learning to communicate with many people through blogging.



Daily 5

Cedar is up and running with their Daily 5! This is a great way for children to

engage in all areas of literacy and work at their own level within the class. Daily 5 consists of:

Reading to Self – Children choose a level appropriate story and read independently.



Read to Someone –

Children read with a partner



Work on Writing –

Children are given story starters and pictures for a short piece of writing. They concentrate on punctuation and sentence structure.



Word Work –

Children use spelling words in different activities.





Listen to reading –
Children listen to podcasts, online stories and other recorded stories.

Important days for Cedar

Monday	Homework given
Tuesday	9-10am Sport 2-3 Assembly
Wednesday	Scripture (even weeks) Parliament (odd weeks)
Thursday	Homework due
Friday	Gymnastics 10.30 – Year 2 and 3 11.35 – Year 4

As we settle into our routine over the next few weeks, I will let parents and carers who are interested, know about parent/carers helper times.

I am looking forward to a productive and positive term!! Let's get into it!!

Miss Elliott.



Environmental News

A huge thank you to the Hitchcock and Dobson families for all their work in the garden during the holidays and these first few weeks back at school. The vegetable garden and orchard are looking great, even with a lack of rain over the holidays. The Green Gang is back this year in a different format. Each Thursday morning a class will come out into the gardens and will help with the many activities that are needed.

Also the school's **Clean up Australia Day** is Friday 28th February. More information will be sent out before the day.



Di Wood

Environmental Coordinator

School Parliament



Ministers for 2014 are:

Prime Ministers – Sam Ayerst and Jasmyn Foster

Deputy Prime Ministers – Grace Bromhead and Brandan McKernan

Environment – Trinitie Bell and Courtney Kew

Treasurers – Lucy Gardner and Taylah Winter

Sport and Recreation – Ethan Cause and Bonny Catsicus

Education – Klæe Davids and Brooke Baxter

Secretary – Lillian Hitchin

Speaker – Nick Cherry

Congratulations to our Ministers.

Birthdays

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday!

Kelyka W	17 th Feb
Courtney K	21 nd
Trinitie B	22 nd



mSP
photography
Capturing School Moments

say cheese School Photo Day is 3 April 2014

Have your child's school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don't seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request

Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash and money orders only (sorry no credit card accepted)

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact us

e admin.nhvcc@mSP.com.au p +61 2 4966 8292
f +61 2 4966 8293

www.mSP.com.au

Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Wed	Need a Volunteer
Thu	CLOSED
Fri	Christine Park

Community News



LAKE MACQUARIE FOOTBALL CLUB 2014 Registration

Register ONLINE at www.lmfc.com.au to book your place for Season 2014.

We cater for Juniors Aged 5 to 18 and Seniors 19 to 99. Come and play Football (Soccer) in 2014 with LMFC. Payment days at Tredinnick Oval, Speers Point on the following days:

Saturday 8th February 9am – 3pm

Wednesday 12th February 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Wednesday 19th February 4:30pm – 6:30pm

Saturday 22nd February 9am – 3pm

For more information, please contact:

Grant Merrington, LMFC President on 0435 563 243,
OR

Greg (Bob) Willis. LMFC Secretary on 0421 573 074,
email: secretary@lmfc.com.au



Netball Registrations for 2014 season

Come and have fun playing netball in 2014. We welcome players of any ability from 5 years to adult.

We are in need of players for under 8's and 9's, under 11's and under 13's to join our Saturday competition held at the Charlestown Netball Courts.

For more details on playing netball please email us at info@unitednetball.com.au or see our website at www.unitednetball.com.au

WARNERS BAY
JUNIOR AFL CLUB



Feighan Oval, Seaman Ave Warners Bay
2014 Registration Dates at Feighan Oval
Tuesday 11th February 5pm - 7pm
Sunday 16th February 9am - 12 noon
NAB Auskick - 4 Years to 9 Years
\$60 (includes 2014 Auskick Pack & a Bulldogs T-Shirt)
Juniors - 9 Years to 17 Years
\$140 for 1st child (includes \$20 Club Uniform Shop Voucher)
\$130 for 2nd child (includes \$20 Club Uniform Shop Voucher)
\$120 for 3rd child (includes \$20 Club Uniform Shop Voucher)
New Players receive a Club Polo in-place of the Voucher
Youth Girls - 12 Years to 15 Years

\$60 (includes Shorts & Socks)

Register On-Line – www.warnersbay.org.au

For further information please contact Julie Ferguson on 0402 329 902

GLENDALE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB (GLENDALE GORILLAS)

TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2014

UNDER 6'S – UNDER 16'S

Registrations are still continuing at Glendale Gorillas for the 2014 Season. These will be done each Tuesday and Thursday from 5.15 pm at the Clubhouse, Main Road, Glendale (the one opposite Dominos Pizza!!!).

We have some places in Under 6's, 7's, 9's, 10's, 11's, 12's, 13's AND 14's. Full fees for 2014 are: Under 6's - \$120, Under 7's - Under 12's - \$150, Under 13's - Under 16's - \$160, Under 17's-Under 18's - \$185

NEW PLAYERS will need to bring along their original birth certificate or passport, a parent/ guardian and \$50 deposit.

Any enquiries can be made by email or phone. Contact details are on the Club website at:

http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=1-2358-102874-213394-16991238&SID=201804



SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2013



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

\$304

+ 2 POINTS



Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

\$169

+ 2 POINTS



Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

\$304

+ 2 POINTS



DOUBLE PARKING

You are NOT PERMITTED to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

MAXIMUM PENALTY

\$304

+ 2 POINTS

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: \$304 + 2 points, or STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing: \$405 + 2 points
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: \$169 + 2 points
- STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit: \$506