



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)

20<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Principal , Chris Payne

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## Principal's Message

### Food Revolution

Last Friday we had sensational lunch as Glendale Woolies, in partnership with the Jamie Oliver Food Revolution, came to Speers Point with a healthy lunch.



Mountains of fresh food was provided free for students as Blue Gum class donned the gloves and made great healthy wraps for our school. Fruit salad with yoghurt was also a very popular option, filled with melon and berries.



Thank you to the staff at Glendale Woolies for their fantastic experience and coming to Speers Point PS. The students loved the experience of creating their own healthy lunches and we greatly appreciate the support. All remaining food was donated back to the school and the boxes of fruit (apples, bananas etc) are being given out to students in the morning this week to fill any last minute breakfast cravings.

### Heroes

Each week Blue Gum class look at a famous quote or saying. This week, the quote "Heroes are ordinary people who make themselves extraordinary" (Gerald Way) has been inspired by several students at our school. While I'm working with the whole superhero / secret identity thing here, a few students, following on from the different lessons around anti-bullying decided on a course of positive action to help change our world.

Without prompt and on pure initiative, numerous signs and posters have appeared around our school with messages and slogans against bullying.

Needless to say we are all proud of these students, and all of our students who care for each other. Every day we see examples from so many of our students who show that they care for each other, even those who are not in their class, who may not be their friends, but who will still look out for others when they are in need. A new generation of heroes.

**Reforms to P&C Federation** The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations.

Each school's P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation's Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation's Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department's website at

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/involvement.php>

#### P&C Meeting

Normally our P&C meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month but this term the holidays threw that cycle askew. Our next P&C meeting will be next Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 6:30pm. A few different items on the agenda include the upcoming disco and discussion around updating our school's uniform policy. We would love to see both new and familiar faces at our relaxed and informal P&C meetings.

#### Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Walk Safely to School Day PSSA Netball
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup>	P&C Meeting 6.30pm
Thu 29 <sup>th</sup>	P&C Disco 5.30pm-7.30pm Free Entry
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Starstruck
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Starstruck
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup>	Mixed Netball Gala Day
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Special Education Disco
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	AASS Finishes K-2
Thu 26 <sup>th</sup>	AASS Finishes 3-6

#### School Working Bee

Bunning at Glendale is sending out some helpers to assist us to revitalise the front of our school.

We would love to see as many parent/carer volunteers as possible to come out and give us an extra pair of hands.

The working bee will commence at 10am this Thursday. Hope to see you then.

#### Birthdays

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday!

Luca D	21 <sup>st</sup> May
Sydnie D	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Sam A	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Atalia S	1 <sup>st</sup> June



#### Did you know that students at Speers Point PS use Mathletics?

Mathletics is an online maths experience, based from the Australian-NSW maths curriculum and works to support student learning and reinforce a teacher's learning program.

Mathletics is a web based tool, [www.mathletics.com.au](http://www.mathletics.com.au) and is able to be accessed at any time by students. While students enjoy the activities and learning content, many of the students really enjoy the online challenges where you can compete against students in your class, in your school or from around the world in the Live Mathletics.





The screenshot above shows an example of the Live Mathletics, which has a live challenge between Australian, Turkish and New Zealand students. Many schools use Mathletics, and as the site has a subscription rate, many schools also prompt payment from parents for their child's access. However, here at Speers Point, our school pays the subscription rate for each child and provides it free for use at school and at home.

This means students are able to access and use Mathletics at home, both via a computer or a tablet that has online access.



## COACHWOOD CLASS



It has already been a busy start to Term 2 in Coachwood Class with all students enjoying the Iron and Clay performance, participating in the Bike Safety Workshop, sharing a special breakfast with their mums at the SPPS Mother's Day Breakfast and also tasting fresh fabulous food at the Woolworths healthy lunch held here last Friday.

In the classroom Coachwood have been busy learning about living things in Science and creating fabulous artworks to match. In H.S.I.E we have been enjoying investigating different celebrations such as birthdays, Easter, Mother's Day and national holidays in Australia and other countries.



### Voluntary Chaplain to be appointed at SPPS

Due to the popularity of the Shine and Strength programs held here last term which were run by the Macquarie Care Church for all students in Years 5/6 we have approached the P&C about having a Chaplain attached to the school on a more permanent basis to assist us with student welfare.

The role of a Chaplain is to assist school communities through the provision of help and care to support the personal, spiritual and social wellbeing of students and the school community. They would also foster the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development and wellbeing of students within the school environment.

The Chaplain would not impose any religious beliefs or persuade an individual toward a particular set of beliefs. They would also work closely with the Principal, Executive and School Counsellor and refer students to appropriate services as needed.

Consequently due to the overwhelming support from the P&C we are now in the process of appointing a voluntary Chaplain who would be based here one day a week. However we are still finalising the details so more information will be available in the coming weeks. In the meantime please contact Mr Chris Payne or myself if you have any further questions.

Mrs Nicole Young  
Assistant Principal

### Voluntary School Contributions

This year our target will be to provide resources for Literacy & Numeracy, Improvements to learning environments & school grounds as well as improvements to Technology resources.

The school contributions are as follows:

- \$20 per student for paper levy, online spelling subscription and other school supplies
- \$30 One off contribution payment per family
- \$2 P&C Association Fee

### Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Katrina Baxter
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>CLOSED</b>
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Simone Tomkins
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Simone Tomkins
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CLOSED</b>
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	Sonya Mosley
Thu 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>CLOSED</b>
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Volunteer Urgently Needed!</b>
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Michelle Demir
Tue	<b>CLOSED</b>

### Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will only be opened on Monday/Tuesday between 8.30am – 9.30am. Please have correct money as we do not keep a float to provide change.

All other orders outside of these hours are to be placed in the Drop Off Box located in the office.

### Community News

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Teralba Sea Scout Group

Looking for boys & girls from 6 to 18 yrs to join us for evenings packed with fun & games.

Come & see what Joeys, Clubs, Scouts & Ventures is all about.

Joeys 6-8 yrs – Wednesday from 7pm

Clubs 8-11 yrs – Wednesday 7pm – 8.30pm

Scouts 11-15 yrs Tuesday 7pm – 9pm

Venturers 14-18 yrs Monday from 7pm – 9pm  
(School terms)

Come along to our open night – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May  
Starting at 7pm at Teralba Scout Hall, York St Teralba.  
Please call & register for your tickets so that we can cater for a free BBQ on the night. Phone Barry 0418 414 725 (Leader in charge)

### Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser [www.bit.ly/1hytn2E](http://www.bit.ly/1hytn2E)

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