



Growing Stronger and Smarter every day.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

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

10 November 2015

Principal , Chris Payne

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Principal's Message

Here we are in Week 6 and we begin to realise now just how close we are to the end of the year, which means we're that much closer to Christmas too! Better click-clack the seat belts because these last few weeks are going to be busy ones!

Please take note of the "Upcoming Events" section of this newsletter. Mark some of the big ones on the calendar so you don't miss a thing!

The Unhappy Bit

Around this time each year we start hearing whispers of students who are moving out of the area and leaving us. I keep telling parents that no one is allowed to move away but this sort of movement is a natural occurrence.

If you are planning on moving away can you please let our office know. I am currently in planning mode for 2016 and accurate numbers help.

Alternatively I would like to ensure our school continues to grow so as we see new families moving into our area, make sure you drag them down to our school to enrol. (Ok, don't actually drag, I don't think they'd like that, but a word on how great our school is goes a long way.)

The Happy Bit – Bringing back the fun!

Our staff recently attended an afternoon training session and in it we saw an example of a timetable from a Queensland school. While no one could deny the quality teaching time, the school looked to have been stripped of quality time for arts, sports and fun!

School needs to be fun too. Students need to know that school is a great place to be. Over the last few

weeks we've had a number of great things going on that have definitely made school fun.

Each year, on Melbourne Cup Day, we usually run a mock Melbourne Cup race. Sadly this year, the track was rained out but that didn't stop us from continuing with the fashions from the field show.





Kindy Orientation

Our Kindy Orientation program has been running for the last two weeks and I am very excited to see another wonderful crop of students about to start our school next year.

Without a tear our pre-kindergartners have been learning all about school life and what "big school" is all about. As Mrs Doodnath will be with Kindergarten next year, she has been running the program so the students get to build a rapport with their teacher before the year starts.



Our Year 4/5s have been great, looking after their buddies in the first few visits.



We know by the time next year starts, our pre-kindergartners will have had plenty of time with their teacher, with their classmates, in their classroom. This means by the time 2016 rolls around the only tears are from the parents.



Carpark Safety

Unless you have permission from the school please do not drive and / or park on school grounds for any reason. The carpark is predominately for staff parking, with a bay allocated near the top for deliveries and designated Special Transport drivers.

As deliveries come at odd times during the day, if you are walking to Bell St with your child/ren, please use the veranda and mini-crossing. Please do not allow students to walk down or near the driveway.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

P&C

Our next P&C meeting is scheduled for Thursday 26th November. As a number of our current P&C people are finally "graduating primary school" at the end of this

year, we are in need of some new faces to help the team out.

Have a wonderful week – after the success at Tamworth some of the PBL team are off to Part Macquaire to continue the message – Speers Point Public School is awesome!

Chris Payne
Principal

Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Wed 11th Nov	Kinder Orientation 8.45am-11.30am Swim Scheme 2pm-3pm
Wed 18th	Kinder Orientation 8.45am-11.30am Swim Scheme 2pm-3pm
Wed 25th	Teddy Bears Picnic 12.30pm-3pm K-2 Students & Families to Join our 2016 Kinders at Speers Point Park
Thu 26th	Oztag Day at Wangi P&C Meeting 6:30pm
Tue 1st Dec	Speeches / Voting for Student Positions 2016
Fri 4th	Family Fun Fest ALL WELCOME
Tue 8th	Movie Day Year 6 Farewell
Fri 11th	Presentation Day
Mon 14th	Stewart House – Casuarina Jacaranda Waratah

Grandparents Day 2015

On Tuesday 27th October Eucalypt helped host Grandparents Day. Firstly we joined with Blue Gum to show the senior students how amazing our reading skills have become. Then we helped make pikelets for the Grandparents and Grandfriends. In the afternoon we held a special assembly, which consisted of a full hall of special guests which came along to hear our stories and poems about our Grandparents. We look forward to an even bigger and better Grandparents day next year!



TERM 4 WEEK 4 CLASS AWARDS



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Eucalypt

Monica R
Alex B

Casuarina

Cayden H

Cedar

Tenneka H

Wattle

Annabelle A-W

Jacaranda

Wyatt H

Blue Gum

Jasmyn W
Harley T

EXPECTATION AWARD

Eucalypt

Tristen R

Casuarina

Tyron G

Jacaranda

Molly H

Wattle

Korey G-S
Sophie R

Cedar

Archie T
Blake M

Blue Gum

Rebecca C

PBL TOKENS

Eucalypt

Ryan K
Liam D

Casuarina

Cayden H

Jacaranda

Quentin P

Wattle

Sydney D
Jordan B

Cedar

Miah M
Blake M
Tenneka H

Blue Gum

Brooke B
Sindy-Lee R
Harley T

Birthdays

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday!

Sean A	13 th November
Alaska H	14 th
Shakyla C	18 th
Harley T	18 th
Dominic B	20 th





Student Achievement!

Ebony Demir has recently competed at The Australian Gymnastics Tittles which were held in Bendigo VIC. Ebony once again excelled in her chosen sport. The team placed 2nd on Beam, 3rd on Vault & are the Australian Bars, Floor & Overall Champions 2nd Year in a row. **Congratulations Ebony!**

Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Wed 11 th Nov	Rae
Thu 12 th	CLOSED
Fri 13 th	Krystal & Bethany
Mon 16 th	CLOSED
Tue 17 th	CLOSED
Wed 18 th	Kristy Lee
Thu 19 th	CLOSED
Fri 20 th	Mandy
Mon 23 rd	CLOSED
Tue 24 th	CLOSED

Scabies Information

Description

Scabies is an infestation of the skin by small insects called mites. It is found worldwide but is endemic in remote northern and central Australian Indigenous communities¹ Scabies affects people of all ages, sexes, races and standards of personal hygiene. Having scabies does not mean that people are unclean. Scabies is diagnosed by examining the characteristic burrows or rash. The diagnosis is confirmed by scraping the skin and identifying the mites or eggs under a microscope.

How does it spread?

Scabies usually spreads by skin-to-skin contact with an infested person. Contact must be prolonged- a quick handshake or hug will usually not spread the disease. Mites can sometimes spread on underclothing or bedclothes that have been freshly contaminated by an infested person, but the mites can only live away from the human body for 2-3 days.

Incubation period

Itching begins 2-6 weeks after infestation in people who have not had scabies before, and within 1-4 days in people who have had scabies before.

Infectious period

People with scabies can pass on the mites until the day after they have started effective treatment. The mites can live for 2-3 days on the clothes, bed linen and other personal items of people who have scabies.

Responsibilities of educators and other staff

Advise the parent to keep the child at home until the day after they have started treatment. Make sure staff and children practice effective hand hygiene.

Ensure that appropriate cleaning practices are being followed in the education and care service.

Responsibilities of parents

Keep the child at home until the day after they have started treatment.

Treat all close contacts of the child (i.e. people who have skin-to-skin contact with the child) and other people in the household at the same time. Encourage effective hand hygiene at home.

Controlling the spread of infection

All close (skin-to-skin) contacts and other people in the same household should be treated at the same time, even if they have no itching or other symptoms. By the time scabies is diagnosed in one person, many other people may have been

infested. If everyone is not treated at the same time, treatment is unlikely to be successful. Contaminated underwear, bed linen and other clothing worn by infested people in the 48 hours before treatment starts should be washed in hot water and detergent. All items such as toys, cushions and pillows that cannot be washed or dry-cleaned should be placed out in the sun for 2 or 3 hours.

Treatment

Skin disease caused by mites can easily be confused with other skin diseases. Treatment should not begin until a doctor has confirmed the diagnosis after examining a skin scraping for mites. This is particularly important for infants, pregnant women or people who have other forms of skin disease. Several treatments are available from chemists, and your doctor will tell you which one is best for the child and your family. All family members and other close contacts should be treated at the same time, even if they are not itching. Treatment can fail if not all contacts are treated at the same time. Follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully before, during and after the treatments. Treatment should be repeated after 5--7 days.

Community News



*Amended time 4pm - 7pm

When kids ask "the" questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years' experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

Session 1: Where did I come from?
1-hour session: years 3-6

Session 2: Preparing for puberty
1-hour session: years 5-6
Years 3-4 can attend at parent's discretion

Date: Thursday, 24th March 2016

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.
Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.

 **interrelate**
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