



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)

31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

Principal , Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

## Principal's Message

Once again I start the final newsletter of the term with some cliché about how quickly Term 1 has gone, but those ten weeks have passed by at an accelerated pace. *Tempus Fugit*. That's one of the few things I know in Latin and it means "time flies." That's especially true when you're having fun.

I would really like to acknowledge the sensational effort of our students this term. Our PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) team has made some great changes to our school this term which the students have embraced and exhibited. It is wonderful to see the engagement and enjoyment from our students.

## Term 2

Term 2 begins on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April. Staff will be attending their Staff Development Day on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and will be engaged in professional learning.

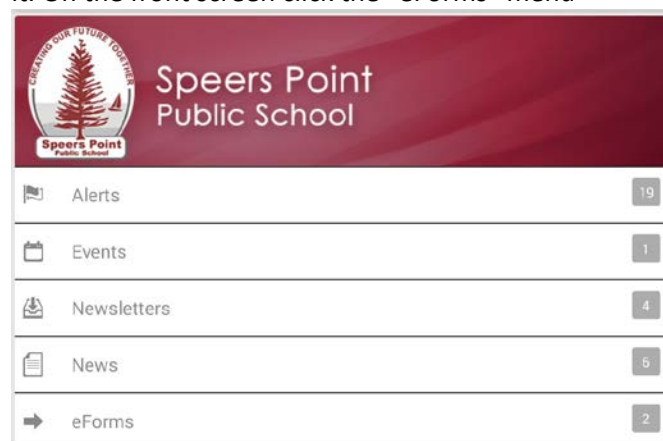
## Attendance and Lateness

A few weeks ago I included a blurb about attendance. This is a proactive action as we aim to have great attendance at Speers Point Public School, and this includes starting the school day at 9am.

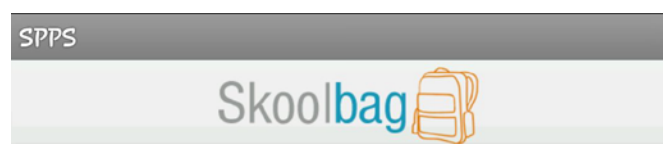
Parents and carers have the responsibility to ensure that their child is attending school on time. Absences for legitimate reasons must be explained within 7 days.

If you were not aware, our school app actually has a form by where you can submit an explanation for an absence. Alternatively you can call, write a note or email the school.

Our app is free from your app store (just search Speers Point Public School) if you haven't already downloaded it. On the front screen click the "eForms" menu



Following with the attendance note:



Please complete this form if your child has been sick or otherwise absent from school.

**The school office may contact you to verify details.**

Student First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Student Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
Student Class/Year:	<input type="text"/>

This week we welcome our Home School Liaison Officer, Nadene Johnson, who will be working with us in reviewing our current procedures around attendance, lateness and will also be supporting some students who's attendance is causing a concern.

### Farewells

After years of dedication to our school and to the Department of Education and Communities we regretfully wish a fond farewell to our favourite school counsellor, Mrs Kay Griffiths-Yates. Mrs Griffiths-Yates is taking leave over Term 2 before retiring at the end of that term. Those who have had the pleasure of being involved with Mrs Griffiths-Yates know not only is she a brilliant source of information, but also a brilliant source of support. Mrs Griffiths-Yates you will be greatly missed from our school.

At the end of this term we will also be farewelling Mrs Toohey who has been with Eucalypt on Thursday and Fridays. We would like to thank Mrs Toohey for her valuable efforts with Eucalypt and our school. We all wish you well with the imminent arrival of your baby and that next exciting chapter.

In Term 2 we will welcome Mrs Summers to Eucalypt class for Thursday and Fridays.

### Recognition Assembly

Thank you to Miss Brooke from the Song Room program for our amazing performances at our Recognition Assembly yesterday! I was so proud of all of our students for their efforts.

It was great to be able to showcase the efforts of all of our students to our parents, so you can see the actual product from the Song Room program. In the audience we also had two special guests, Mr Steve Harris, who is the Director of some 40 schools along the west side of the lake, and Mrs Heather Hern, our Learning and Engagement Officer who has always been a great support for our school.

### Last Thoughts

While the term is almost over there are still things happening including the big Easter hat / Crazy Hair Parade on Thursday. This is for all students, K-6 and we look forward to see all of our parents and community joining us for the event.

Have a wonderful holiday break and we look forward to see our students returning safe and happy in Term 2.

Chris Payne  
Principal

### Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Hat/Crazy Hair Day Canteen Hot Cross Bun Day <b>END OF TERM 1</b>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Students Return for TERM 2</b> Support Units Stewart House Excursion 21/4 – 24/4
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Zone Cross Country ANZAC Day Ceremony
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	School Assembly 2pm

### Recognition Assembly

Today's Assembly was outstanding! All students demonstrated what wonderful performers they truly are. A very big thank you goes to Miss Brooke for all her hard work with Song Room. We look forward to next term and the new performances she has planned. Student behaviour in the hall today was exemplary. Everyone demonstrated our four school expectations – Safe, Respectful, Responsible, Achievers. Well done! Congratulations to our new Parliament Ministers and award recipients.

Thank you to all community members and special guests who attended our Recognition Assembly we look forward to seeing you again in Term 2.





### Cross Country

Speers Point PS enjoyed the combined cross country held at Boolaroo PS. It was a wonderful day watching all our students competing & showing great sportsmanship.



### Harmony Day

This Year we celebrated Harmony Day on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2015.

'Harmony Day is held every year to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of

Racial Discrimination. The message of Harmony Day is everyone belongs. It's a day to celebrate Australia's diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.'

Throughout the morning, students went to Miss Stroud's classroom and painted handprints onto canvas. This was to symbolise that we value our school community and coming together in unison, where nobody is excluded.





### *Class Awards*

Eucalypt	Merit: Kirra Makayla.W Stronger and Smarter: Jake.S
Waratah	Merit: Bailey.P
Wattle	Merit: Sienna.C Isaac.A

	Stronger and Smarter: Sydnie.D
Cedar	Merit: Dominic.B Blake.J Stronger and Smarter: Lacey
Jacaranda	Merit: Quentin.P Molly.H
Casuarina	Merit: Cayden.H Stronger and Smarter: Chris.B
Blue Gum	Merit: Jet.B Jesse.M Stronger and Smarter: Klæe.D



### *PBL Tokens*

Eucalypt	Jake.S Aurora
Wattle	Sophie.R Blake.J
Cedar	Tenneka.H
Jacaranda	Quentin.P
Casuarina	Oliver.D
Blue Gum	Ebony.D Sam.B Jordan.P



## Message from our Ministers

Term 1 Week 10

### Minister for Education – Brooke Baxter

#### Harmony Day

Thankyou to all Speers Point for celebrating Harmony Day. It was a great success! Thankyou to all who donated Easter Eggs for our Easter Raffle.

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April our school will be holding our Crazy Hair Day and Easter Hat Parade. Easter Raffle will be drawn after our parade.

**DON'T FORGET** to wear your Easter hat or come to school with crazy hair!

Thank you to all the staff, students and P&C that have contributed and helped to make this day possible.

#### UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

**Monday** 8.30am – 9.30am  
**Tuesday** 8.30am – 9.30am

**Please note:** School hats may be purchased from the school office at any time. Please have correct money/cheque with all orders and place in a sealed envelope. **For outside of opening hours** your orders will be processed and a phone call will be made for you to come and pick up from the office or sent home with your child. Please make sure all your child's uniforms are marked with their name.

#### Birthdays

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday!

Bailey C 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
Molly H 5<sup>th</sup>  
Braiden M 10<sup>th</sup>  
Aijah T 10<sup>th</sup>  
Ebony D 14<sup>th</sup>  
Kayla N 14<sup>th</sup>  
Damon G 20<sup>th</sup>  
Sophie R 20<sup>th</sup>  
Alex B 21<sup>st</sup>



Keeley C 26<sup>th</sup>  
Sienna C 26<sup>th</sup>

#### Canteen Roster

Date	Volunteer
Mon	CLOSED
Tue	CLOSED
Wed	CLOSED FOR CLEANING
Thu	Hot Cross Bun Special Day

## Community News

#### School calendar

What's on when? Stay on top of school holiday, term and state examination dates across NSW.

Find out more:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar/?do=setViewPeriod&categoryid=2&viewType=yearView>

#### April school holidays

Have you got April school holidays organised yet? It's not too late to book for a Sport and Recreation Kids' Camp. Watch the video to see how much fun these kids are having.

Find out more: <http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps/>

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