



Growing *Stronger and Smarter* every day.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

[www.speerspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:www.speerspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

28<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Principal , Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

## Principal's Message

### Early Action for Success (EAfS)

Last week I was fortunate to attend the Early Action for Success induction with our Instructional Leader, Sara Metse. As previously mentioned, Speers Point PS has come on as a Phase 2 school in this program which gives us the Instructional Leader for 2 days per week.

While this is a focus program for students in Kinder to Year 2, Mrs Metse has already been working in all of our classrooms, supporting teachers in the implementation of best practices. Another key role of the Instructional Leader is to frequently review student achievement and identify areas for development. It is providing some exciting new directions for our schools, while reaffirming the many positive things already happening in classrooms.

### The Return of John Fleming

Last year we came on board with a few other Lake Macquarie schools as we implemented EDI – Explicit Direct Instruction. John Fleming being the Yoda of EDI (taller, and less green he be hmmm) has been working with our school. On Wednesday he will be back again to visit our school, and to observe each of the mainstream classes as they do their *reading warm-up*. With our Instructional Leader, Sara Mr Fleming can provide great feedback to our teachers in best practices.

If you haven't heard much about *warm-ups* yet, these are an intense 10 to 15 minute lesson starter that reinforces previous learning. It's not rote or repetition, but a way of transferring knowledge from the short term memory to the long term memory.

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

This year is our school's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. While we are in planning for a few different key events, I will give a very early "*save the date-ish*" warning for around September 15<sup>th</sup>. This date is not set in stone, however we are currently organising an evening function (for the grown-ups) where we are hoping to bring together current community and staff with previous community, students and staff. If you know people who are former students or community, please pass the word on and let them know to keep an eye on our school Facebook page.

After the resounding survey at concert to keep concert a yearly event, the Australian themed concert will also reflect the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will be held in the final few weeks of the year (in Term 4).

### Our Gates

As we have some students who are still developing their sense of boundaries, if you are entering through the gates off Main St during the day, please ensure these gates are closed behind you.

The back gate on Bell St is tied shut for this reason and again **I ask that no parents, other than those approved by the school for Special Education transport, should drive into the school during any time of the day, this includes dropping off your children when arriving late.**

### Late Arrivals

On a daily basis I am seeing numerous students arrive after the bell. Students should be at school ready by 9am. While a few minutes may not seem like much, this often results in students missing important messages at assembly or parts of their *warm-ups*.

## Mathletics and Reading Eggs

By now your child/ren should have their personal log-ins for Mathletics and Reading Eggs. The school has paid for each student to have access to these online learning resources where students can consolidate literacy and numeracy skills.

These resources can be accessed from both home and school. While both of these have apps you can download, they often work best when accessed directly from a browser.

Have a great week

Chris Payne  
Principal

## Upcoming Events

<b>Term 1 Week 6 2017</b>	
<b>Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>Clean up Australia Day</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	
<b>Tue 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>P&amp;C Meeting 6.30pm in the School Library</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	
<b>Tue 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Harmony Day</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	
<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>School Photos</b>

## Zone Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday, 21st February, Liam Dwyer represented Speers Point Public School at the Westlakes Zone Swimming carnival.

Liam swam in the 50 metre freestyle event and came 2nd in his heat.

He did an amazing job and swam very well.

Well done, Liam. You were a great representative of our School.



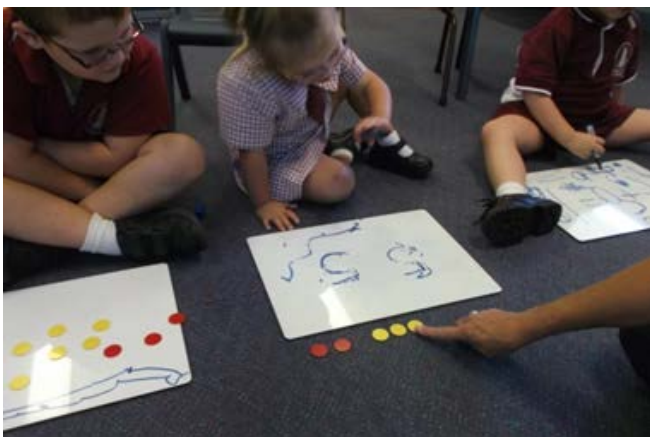
## Spotlight on Casuarina

Casuarina is having a brilliant start to 2017. We have a number of new students in our class and everyone has settled so well into the school routines.



In our morning literacy sessions, the Kinder and Year 1 students are learning Phonics and reading skills using the Interactive White Board, while the older students are further developing their reading and comprehension skills. In Maths sessions we are participating in a 'hands on' TEN program, developing early arithmetic strategies.





During the week we have visited the Speers Point Public Library and have enjoyed learning about Families in our History unit with Mrs Hopton.



Di Wood - Classroom teacher

### Environmental News

A huge thankyou to the Warners Bay community gardening group, who volunteered their time last Wednesday to have a working bee in our vegetable garden. The vegetable garden and orchard are looking great, even with a lack of rain over the holidays. On returning to school we found we had grown some

amazing watermelons!! We have enjoyed eating them at lunchtimes.



The 'Green Gang' (our student gardening group) is back this year and will be held lunchtimes on a Tuesday and Friday. All students K-6 are welcome to come along and join in.

At Friday lunchtime, the Green Gang harvested our sweet potato crop. Eucalypt and Banksia classes counted and ordering the potatoes according to size. There were 58 sweet potatoes !! We are planning to make our famous sweet potato chips again this year.



Di Wood  
Environmental Coordinator

Photo taken by Makayla

## Homework Club 2017

There has been a great response to our Homework Club with many new permission notes signed and brought to the office. Our wonderful administrator Gay is compiling a roll and sign on register so she is aware of which students are attending each day. If you have filled out your permission note you are EXPECTED to be there each week. If you are unable to attend please contact the front office by **10am** Tuesday mornings so Gay can organise volunteers. This is to ensure the safety of our students.

## Birthday Wishes

Wishing the following students a very Happy Birthday for the month of February.

Gabriel B	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Natalia H	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Henry N	8 <sup>th</sup>
Noah D	8 <sup>th</sup>
Riley B	12 <sup>th</sup>
Bailey M	17 <sup>th</sup>
Brodie M	26 <sup>th</sup>



## P&C News!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our welcome disco & meet the teacher night. All the kids had lots of fun dancing away while we hope parents/carers were able to have some valuable time with their class teacher.

Last Thursday P&C held an extraordinary meeting and we are proud to confirm that all P&C Executive positions are now filled: President is Daniel Corp, Vice President is Haley Tibbetts, Treasurer is Fiona Thompson and Secretary is Nicole Lambert

Our next P&C Meeting will be Tuesday 14 March (Week 8) starting at 6.30pm in the school Library. Everyone is welcome! We are always looking for fresh and new ideas on how we can support the school so if you have any ideas you would like to share please come along.

## Easter Raffle

P&C will be hosting an Easter Raffle which will coincide with Easter events that will occur at school. We are asking for donations of Easter eggs which can be dropped off to the office.

## Canteen

Thank you to all our new volunteers who have put their hand up to help in our canteen. Jennie Moore will be co-ordinating the canteen rosters and ordering. Without the support of our wonderful volunteers we are unable to keep our canteen open for students and staff. We are still looking for volunteers to cover a few days this term, so if you are available and would like to help please contact the office. Your support is always appreciated and welcomed.

## P&C Committee

### Canteen Roster – Weeks 6 & 7

	Wednesday	Friday
<b>Week 6</b>	Kara Peters Sarah Keyes	Kerry Jennifer Markham Jennie Moore
<b>Week 7</b>	Kara Peters vacant	Rachel McHardy vacant

## Community News

**BULK billed**

**EYE**

**examinations**

**health fund**

**DIRECT**

**BILLING**

FIND US ON **facebook**

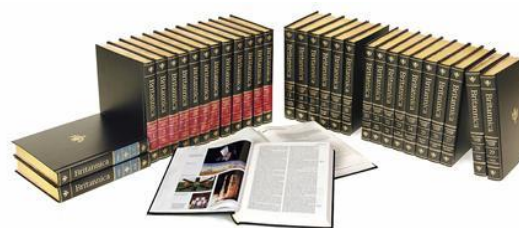
**Speers Point** 1/177 Main Rd p 4958 7892

**Singleton** 1/65 John St p 6571 5600

**aie optical**

**Eyecare & Eyewear**

## Speers Point Library Program



As part of our new programs at Speers Point Library, we are holding an information session on how to research effectively use Encyclopedia Britannica online. This session will be of benefit for stage 3 primary school



children. It is hoped that students will attend these after school sessions with a parent.

We are holding the first of these on March 27th from 4-5.30pm here at the library. The session will be hosted by Camille Davey, a former employee of Britannica Online

## Busy Brains Hub

**FREE with  
afternoon tea!**



Open to all children from  
**Boolaroo & Speers Point schools**.  
We offer support with **Homework, Numeracy**  
and **Literacy**. Access to computers and  
internet is available.

**Boolaroo Public School  
Mondays 3 - 4 pm**

**Speers Point Public School  
Tuesdays 3 - 4 pm**

**Permission Forms available at the school offices**

Our dedicated volunteers have a current  
Working with Children Check.



Our Community Place - 7/24 Main Rd, Boolaroo  
coordinator@ourcommunityplace.org.au  
4958 7251 www.ourcommunityplace.org.au

**Physical Culture Classes @  
EDGEWORTH COMMUNITY HALL**  
"Empowering Girls For Life"

What is Physical Culture?  
Physique, as we lovingly refer to it is a National Sport where our aim and mission is to empower girls and women to gain confidence, and be the best they can in a field of music and exercise, gaining correct posture, strength, agility, and flexibility along the way. Physique is a glamorous sport that also offers many life skills. Thinking positive thoughts, improving co-ordination and meeting and making life long friends. But most important of all is to have fun. Physique is a challenge, a beautiful unique challenge. You can compete individually or in a team or do it just for fun, and no matter if you are 3 or 83, Physique will change your life.

BJP celebrate 125 years in 2017 and our club has been involved for 50 of those years.

Our classes commence on:  
Monday 6th February, 2017  
at Edgeworth Community Hall.

If you would like more information please contact our  
Head Teacher Margaret Gillespie  
on 0422 995 871 or Email:  
speerspointphysique2016@gmail.com.au

**Friends for Life**

**WHEN: THURSDAYS 4pm -6pm**

**35 Council Street Speers point**

**Supervised by leaders from the church**



**Activities: Great Songs**

**Crazy games**

**Story Time**

**Craft**



**We are the OK kids**

**Overcoming Kids**

**For years 4, 5 and 6**

**Cost \$2.00 per child**

**Inquiries Rev. Pat Cochran**

**40327162**



## The Music BUS Free Trial Lesson



**For a limited time, we're offering  
new students a free trial lesson  
– just to give it a go\*.**

Tuition in Keyboard, Ukulele,  
Singing, Drums, Guitar and  
Rock Band.

**Only \$16 per week (Drums \$18)**



**Phone 1300 168 742**  
**Limited space available.**

**www.themusicbus.com.au**

\*Offer available until end of term. To new students only, 1 free trial per student.

**BOOK  
Your child's  
Free Trial  
Lesson  
Now!**

## Good for Kids *good for life*

### WATERMELON ICE BLOCKS

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Diced Watermelon	2 cups
Fresh strawberries (hulled)	10
Lemon Juice	1 x lemon
Water (optional)	1/2 cup

#### METHOD

1. Combine all ingredients in blender and blend until smooth
2. Pour into ice block moulds
3. Freeze until hard
4. Enjoy on a sunny summer day!



Health  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

PHONE 4924 6499

## COME TRY RUGBY



The Waratahs Junior Rugby Union Club is inviting young boys and girls interested in playing rugby union to Come Try Rugby sessions at Waratah Oval.

**WHEN:** Three Friday evenings –  
17 March, 24 March and 31 March

**TIME:** 6pm

**WHERE:** Waratah Main Oval, Harris Street, Waratah

**AGES:** Under 7s upwards

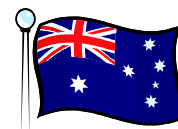
Accredited trainers will be in attendance and information available for parents.

### FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE THROUGH:

Email: [thewaratahsjuniorrugby@gmail.com](mailto:thewaratahsjuniorrugby@gmail.com)

Facebook: 'The Waratahs Junior Rugby – Newcastle'

Web: Junior Rugby tab at [www.thewaratahs.com.au](http://www.thewaratahs.com.au)



## *Clean up Australia*

### Speers Point Public School's Clean Up Day Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017.

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March it is our school's 'Clean Up Day'. All students can participate and each class will be responsible for an area of the school to 'clean', picking up papers and rubbish in that area.

To assist, students should bring along a pair of plastic kitchen gloves or gardening gloves to help pick up rubbish.

Students will be participating in a Clean up Australia video conference on the Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> organised by Mrs Hopton. This lesson will help students understand environmental issues and ways we can reduce our impacts on the environment.

Thanks  
Di Wood,  
(Environmental Coordinator)



# BRAIN CANCER FUNDRAISER

## Donation Information

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ABN: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NO: \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILS OF DONATION

MONETARY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

GIFTS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

We would like to acknowledge your support on our "Rths Reunion" Facebook page as well as on the Cure Brain Cancer Foundation and Mark Hughes Foundation websites and social medial pages. Please sign below authorising this acknowledgement and the use of your company logo/crest:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Position: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** Please supply your Company crest or logo in a jpeg format via email to: [rthsfundraiser@gmail.com](mailto:rthsfundraiser@gmail.com)

If you have a banner or corflute sign of your Company logo/crest that we can display in the marquee on Race day, please provide details on where it can be collected or if you will have a representative from your Company attending on the day:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### TICKET REQUEST

NO. OF TICKETS REQUIRED @ \$60.00 per head: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT TRANSFERRED: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Please email remittance to: [rthsfundraiser@gmail.com](mailto:rthsfundraiser@gmail.com)

POSTAL ADDRESS FOR TICKETS TO BE SENT TO: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The RTHS Reunion Admin Team sincerely thank you for your generosity and contribution towards our "Catch up for Craig" brain cancer awareness & fundraising day, in memory of Craig Engel. We look forward to meeting you on the day!

Should you have any queries or wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact one of our of friendly Admin team members:

**Bron Hutchins** 0425 267114, **Michelle Crowfoot** 0418 610014, **Mark Hampson** 0419 680620, **Craig Warden** 0408 226915, **Tom Ford** 0429 651835.

LET'S GET TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY. *Together we will succeed!*