



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)

7th March, 2018

Principal, Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I think I've re-written this part about four times now because I'm trying to find the right words to express how proud I am of our school, our students and staff this year without sounding like trying to sell a car.

Every time I run into someone I know, or when someone finds out I'm at Speers Point PS, I immediately get told the great things they've heard about our school. Just last week I had requests from three different schools for other teachers to come and see some of the things we are doing. There is a great recognition from the greater community, not just those with relatives at our school.

So with this recognition, Mrs Hopton had the great idea of having a slogan, something sharp and catchy that kids can repeat, giving them pride and recognition of our school.

The staff came up with a number of possibilities, which was taken back to our newly formed SRC. The SRC was able to work through these and came up with three possibilities which was finally voted on by the whole student body. You may have seen our new slogan already on the front signboard:

*Speers Point, Soaring High, Spread Our Wings, Learning to Fly*

## P&C AGM

This year P&C meetings have been moved to MONDAY evenings at 6:30pm in Week 3 and Week 8. Our next P&C meeting is scheduled for Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm. This will be our Annual General Meeting where all positions are declared vacant and open for nomination / voting on. This will then be followed by a general meeting. New faces and the usual suspects welcome!

## Wonder – Special Screening

Tomorrow night the P&C is hosting our very special screening of the film, 'Wonder'. We are hosting the special screening of the film at Boolaroo Cinema with tickets still available. While there may be limited tickets available at the door, we strongly urge people to order their tickets before to avoid disappointment.

## Cross Country

Our combined Cross Country is being held next Tuesday at Argenton Public School. This Friday is the last day for notes and money so please make sure they are in. Students will need to arrive at Speers Point PS on the Tuesday morning for roll and instructions and then we will travel together via bus. Please do not drop students off directly at Argenton Public School.

# IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

<b>Thursday, 8th March</b> Wonder Movie Night	<b>Thursday, 22nd March</b> Harmony Day	<b>Friday, 23rd March</b> Out of Uniform	<b>Monday, 26th March</b> School Photo Day
<b>Thursday, 29th March</b> Easter Hat Parade	<b>Friday, 30th March</b> GOOD FRIDAY (No School)	<b>Monday, 2nd April</b> EASTER MONDAY (No School)	<b>Friday, 13th April</b> Last Day of Term 1

## Photo Day

Mark it in your diaries that Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March is photo day! Envelopes have gone home already for you to review and choose orders. Students need to ensure that they are in full school uniform, including white socks and black shoes.

## Attendance

Our aim this year is for our whole school to improve our attendance rate to 95%. While the minimum rate for student attendance is 85%, this would mean a student has had 30 days absent in a year, which is equivalent to 6 weeks of learning missed.

At that rate in the course from Kinder to Yr 6, that student has missed 42 weeks of learning - which is a full school year.

People do get sick, there are sometimes emergencies and we understand that sometimes absences are unavoidable. With an attendance rate of 95% a student is away for no more than 10 days.

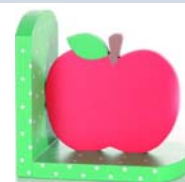
If your child is away sick or absent we are required to have an explanation from parents within 3 days. This may be via note, phone call or you may also submit absences via our Skoolbag app on your phone. For extended illnesses, a doctor's certificate is also advisable.

Have a great week

Chris Payne  
Principal



# LIBRARY NEWS



## BORROWING

**There are still a lot of overdue books so please make sure students return any outstanding books ASAP so they can start borrowing for the year.**

## CLASSES ARE AS FOLLOWS FOR BORROWING

MONDAY - Wattle

TUESDAY - Cedar

WEDNESDAY - Coachwood

THURSDAY - Blue Gum

FRIDAY - Bonsai

*Please ensure students have a library bag ready to borrow.*

## BOOK CLUB

Book Club catalogues will be going out shortly to all students. This is the main source of our books for our library as we receive 20% of all orders back to order for our school. The LOOP system is by far the easiest to pay by credit card online.



## Book Club LOOP

for Parents


**LOOP** is the Scholastic Book Club  
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:  
**[www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**

GET IT ON  
 Google play

 Download on the  
App Store



  
**Book Club**  
 orders are due:  
**28/03/2018**



**EXPECTATION AWARDS****Week 5**

<b>Blue Gum</b>	Cooper T, Tyrel T
<b>Bonzai</b>	William A, Isabelle T
<b>Eucalypt</b>	Zavier H
<b>Waratah</b>	Amitiel R
<b>Wattle</b>	Lilian R, Alaska H
<b>Coachwood</b>	William S, Lylee A
<b>Cedar</b>	Ryan K
<b>Library</b>	Deegan S, Claudia B

**AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE****Week 5**

<b>Blue Gum</b>	Violet B, Liam K-N
<b>Casuarina</b>	Bailey M
<b>Bonzai</b>	Callum D, Natalia H
<b>Waratah</b>	Eli L, Coby G
<b>Wattle</b>	Archie T, River G
<b>Cedar</b>	Jordan B, Ashley McH
<b>Coachwood</b>	Indie T
<b>Library</b>	Declan McG

**SPORTS AWARDS**

Aura McL, Dylan P, Jaycob G-H,  
Harrison T, Mia S



This year, we are putting a big focus on incorporating STEAM or (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) into our lessons and our school as a whole. We are looking at budgeting for new technology resources and programs as well as a continued investment into the LEGO LEAGUE competition.

A lot of STEAM activities are easy challenges that allow children to use a diverse range of skills to solve real life problems in creative ways. In order to build a functioning STEAM (!!??) room we are calling out to parents to provide some inexpensive resources in order for us to handle the bigger stuff with our budget. We are looking for the following items that could be bought in your weekly shop and left at the front office.

- Pegs
- Snap lock bags
- Cotton buds
- Cotton balls
- Foil
- Straws
- Toothpicks
- Rubber bands
- Plastic cups
- Play dough
- String
- Plastic spoons
- Plastic bowls
- Masking tape
- Marshmallows
- Spaghetti
- Coffee filters





# Kinder love to PAINT!



# Term 1 Wattle Writers Theatre

Wattle have been reacquainting themselves this term with the task of writing via our daily "Writers Theatre". Each student has the same visual stimulus, need to come up with a synopsis, consider a variety of elements within their proposed piece and be ready to publish part of their writing by Thursday.

Needless to say they have been as busy as bees...



When the sun was settling down, baby kookaburra Felix fell into a field of flowers. The bees instantly spotted him. There was only one particular bee named Sam, who didn't like to hurt other animals. But the rest of the colony kept bullying him to, so Sam made a plan to fool them.

The plan was to tell the baby Felix by hiding in some flowers. But what Sam didn't know was that he was allergic to flowers! Felix felt a tickle in his nose. "Ah, ah, ah, ah chooo!" He went backwards into another bunch of flowers, Sam hiding behind a tree near Felix until... "Ah, ah, ah, ah chooo!"

**By River Gilmour (Yr 5)**

As the Eagle landed cautiously on the branch, in the distance he saw **THE WASP**. His eyes widened with fear. Was it still angry about the incident when he tried to eat it? The eagle was terrified! He was not in the mood for another fight that he was likely to lose. He flew away as fast as he could.

Meanwhile, the wasp HAD spotted him and was now also going as fast as HE could to get to the eagle. The wasp was gaining on him and that eagle was freaking out! He grabbed a stick and threw it at the wasp. What happened next he would regret for the rest of his days...

**By Riley Bridge (Yr5)**

As the baby bird fell out of the old oak tree, he felt like it took him forever to reach the mossy forest floor. When he looked up he wished so much to be rescued by his mother who was now out collecting food. He knew he should have waited for his mother before beginning flying lessons! He looked up toward to sky and saw a giant ball of nuclear fire called the sun, that barely shone through the enormous canopy of trees.

All of a sudden an animal he'd never seen before in his life flew past. This strange creature was singing a buzzy noise. The baby bird Artie, heard a tiny, little, squeaking voice.

"Beware kid, without protection it's dangerous out here!" Artie looked and saw that it was that tiny little striped buzzy creature.

"What's your name?" asked Artie.

"The names Stripes. Buzzy Stripes"

"Um Buzzy, what do you mean it's dangerous?"

"Well I mean you have to look out for poachers! They poison pretty little owls like you and then stuff them to put on their walls!"

At this point poor little Artie was shaking like a leaf on a cold windy day. "P...p...poachers! " he cried.

**By Lilly Elliot (Yr 5)**

# Speers Point Public School Uniform



The wearing of a school uniform is encouraged and recommended at all times. We feel that a school uniform:

1. Ensures students' safety and well-being.
2. Contributes greatly to the overall tone of the school.
3. Encourages self pride and a feeling of belonging to the school.
4. Puts all children on an equal footing in terms of appearance.

## Girls Day Uniform (Monday—Thursday)

SPPS School shirt

Maroon shorts (appropriate length), skort, trousers, tracksuit pants (no tights, bike pants or jeans)

Maroon school jumper

White socks

Black leather shoes

## Boys Day Uniform (Monday—Thursday)

SPPS School shirt

Maroon shorts, trousers, tracksuit pants (no jeans) Maroon school jumper

White socks

Black leather shoes

## Girls & Boys Sports Uniform (Friday)

Coloured Sports House shirt\*

White Joggers

\*A coloured Sports House shirt in line with each child's House Group was introduced in 2016. This means if your child is in house group Bradman they will wear a red shirt, Elliot—Yellow, Fraser—Blue and Jackson—Green. The shirts will be available for purchase through the school, with orders being taken each term. The school will not have a surplus of shirts.

## Hats

Hats are compulsory whenever children are playing in the playground. All students need to wear a maroon sun-safe hat when outdoors. If students do not have a maroon sun-safe school hat, they will need to remain in the undercover areas during recess and lunch play periods.

## Jewellery and Makeup

No makeup or nail polish is to be worn. Please see jewellery poster for requirements.

**Sun-safe maroon bucket hats (\$10) can be purchased from the office.**

## Speers Point Public School

### The correct shoes - what to wear and why?

Enclosed footwear- Black leather or white joggers.

According to the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000 Speers Point Public School (through the Department of Education and Training) must ensure:

- ✓ students are not exposed to risks to their health or safety while they are on school premises
- ✓ the school identifies and eliminates (or controls) any foreseeable hazard that has the potential to harm the health and safety of any person on its premises.



Suede leather is ok too, just check the label!



What do I wear for sport on Friday?



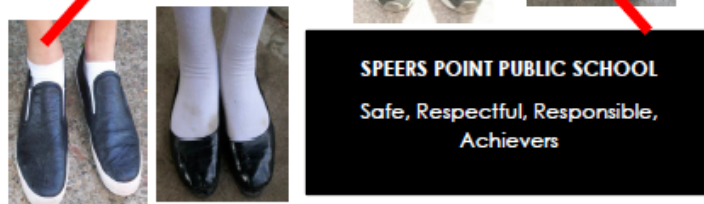
## School shoes – what not to wear.

Footwear must be leather-no colours or coloured laces.



No canvas or ballet flats.

Minimal logos



**SPEERS POINT PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Safe, Respectful, Responsible,  
Achievers

## Jewellery Expectations

at

## Speers Point Public School

Jewellery of cultural or personal significance- parents are asked to let the school know.



CAUSES – only on the day



# Payments made at the office

Just a reminder that the office does not keep change. When making payments for excursions etc can you please ensure you have the correct money or alternatively make a payment online following the instructions below.

## You can make payments to Speers Point Public School online!

We have launched a new online payment portal linked to our school's website to make it easier for you to pay for school related payments. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

### What expenses can be paid online?

- Voluntary School Contributions
- Excursions
- Sport
- Sales to Students
- Other

### How?

Log onto School website at <http://www.speerspt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>  
Click on "\$ Make a Payment" and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard credit or debit cards.  
If you need assistance or further information please contact the school office.



We are collecting the School's for Sport tokens here at Speers Point Public School. Every voucher received at our school will go towards our tally to help us order more sports equipment.



## Community News

# Invitation

We would like to warmly invite volunteers (from Our Community Place OR any organisation) to an **Informal Volunteer Lunch**

**Date:** Friday 16 March  
**Time:** 12.30pm  
**Venue:** FASHVI Hall  
27 Fourth Street, Boolaroo



*This is an opportunity to thank volunteers for all that they do for the community and to chat with each other about ways we can support and enhance volunteering in our local communities. Please join us - all welcome!*

Please RSVP by **Tues 13 March** on 4958 7251 or [admin@ourcommunityplace.org.au](mailto:admin@ourcommunityplace.org.au)



Family & Community Services



**Sunday March 11th**

**7km .. there and back**

Along the foreshore path to Warners Bay.

**Starts at Speers Point Park between**

**9.30 & 10.30 am**

The family charity ride takes place simultaneously with the traditional Loop the Lake event.

**Join us for a fun day!**

Morning tea, lunch and a pass to Speers Point Swim Centre are included. Register online at for great family prizes:

[www.loopthelake.com.au](http://www.loopthelake.com.au)

JULIA ROBERTS

OWEN WILSON

JACOB TREMBLAY

Join us for a movie that celebrates inclusion, acceptance and above all .... kindness

**LAKE CINEMA****Boolaroo****Thursday March 8th****Doors open from 6pm****Movie starts at 6:30**

# WONDER

BASED ON THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

ARE YOU READY TO MEET AUGGIE PULLMAN?



## Tickets

\$10 Adults

\$8 Kids

FAMILY \$35 (2 Adults, 2 Kids)

To purchase tickets please return slip with cash  
or direct deposit DD to

P and C ACCOUNT BSB:032521 Acc 268332

With family name and 'Wonder' in message

### Speers Point PS 'Wonder' Movie Night

NAME: .....

I would like to purchase ..... Adults ..... Kids ..... Family

(If more than 2 Adults and 2 Kids purchase 1 Family and additional tickets)

Please tick your method of payment ☐ DIRECT DEPOSIT—name in message ☐ CASH