

Speers Point soaring high, spread our wings and learn to fly.

Find us at Bell Street, Speers Point

www.speerspt-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

20th February, 2019

Principal, Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Don't you just love it when a plan comes together? By the end of this week, we will have all students in their proper classrooms for 2019. In the last two weeks, our support classrooms have been finished and Pine, Jacaranda, Blue Gum and Casuarina have all been able to move in to their rooms. This now allows our two K/1 classes, Waratah and Eucalypt, to move down into their rooms.

The patience, flexibility and understanding of community, students and staff have been wonderful and I thank everyone for bearing with us as we got to this point. It has definitely been worth it! We now have some wonderful, purpose built learning environments for our support classes.

Block Names

While our school has different buildings or "blocks" there has always been some confusion and we usually resort to descriptions – eg the "top block" but then it would get confused with the "middle block" or the MDR or BER block. The original alphabet naming system, eg A block, is out of order as F block sits between A and B.

So, in talking to a few staff, Mrs Pateman came up with the great idea of local landmarks, in particular mountains, to name our blocks. So for ease of reference around our school we have:

Sugarloaf block – this is the big top block closest to Main Rd. Just like Mt Sugarloaf, it's the biggest.

Munibung block - the smallest block of just two rooms (Waratah and Eucalypt)

Watagans block – our newly renovated rooms which is actually made of two blocks

Macquarie block – admin and hall, named after the lake

Road Safety, especially on Bell St

Bell St has always been a tricky spot with traffic. It's a narrow road that bends around with poor visibility. The last few weeks were made more difficult with work vehicles parked out on the street. Although this has decreased, road safety on Bell St is still a concern.

The biggest factor is visibility. With cars parked along the roadside it is impossible for students to see cars coming. That also means it's impossible for drivers to see students until they step out. **Parents please do not allow students to cross the road without an adult.** We've seen instances where parents have called or waved students across the road and if it wasn't for staff stopping them then there would have been an accident. **Road safety around our school is everyone's job.**

External Validation 2019

Our school has been selected for external validation in 2019. It sounds like a big scary thing but it's actually very positive and a chance for us to show off a little. Every year, schools self-evaluate themselves against the School Excellence Framework. It's not a standard as such, but a means to evaluate and measure school improvement.

We will conduct our self-evaluation as we do every year by the end of this term, and over the next few terms will be creating data sets which show and annotate the evidence we've used for our evaluation. This evaluation is cross-checked by a panel which is made up of another principal and a PSL (Principal, School Leadership) as a method of ensuring consistency in evaluations across the state. Sadly, there's no medal or prize at the end but we do get some bragging rights.

Have a great week!

Chris Payne—Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, 1st March Clean Up Australia Day	Friday, 8th March The Wizard of Oz Dress Up day	Mon & Tues, 18th & 19th March Myuna Bay Day Trips	Thursday, 21st March Harmony Day
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Myuna Bay Excursion

Years 3 - 6

Date	<u>Monday 18th of March and Tuesday 19th of March, (Week 8, Term 1)</u>
Cost	Total Cost - \$100 . You are welcome to pay the amount in instalments. Please pay by CASH to the office or POP
Classes Involved:	WATTLE, CEDAR and some CASUARINA, PINE and BLUEGUM students.
Time:	8:15 am depart each day and return to school by 4pm
Meals and Information	Fruit Break and Morning Tea. Students will be provided with a full lunch at the camp. Wear: Appropriate clothes for activities including hat and sunscreen. Swimming gear will be needed for the Tuesday

Payment is due Monday, 11th March.

Permission and medical notes have been sent home with your child last week. Payments can be made in instalments.





Wizard of Oz Dress up Day

Friday 8th March 2019



Wizard of Oz Arena Spectacular is coming to Newcastle in late April. *Speers Point Public School* has jumped on board and will be holding a special Dress up Day for Blue Gum, Casuarina, Pine, Jacaranda, Bonzai, Waratah and Eucalypt classes in order to win our share of amazing prizes.

The Dress up Day will be held on **Friday 8th March 2019**. Students from these classes are to dress up as a character from the popular movie and will have the chance to parade their costumes for the rest of the school. They will be learning '*Somewhere over the Rainbow*' to perform at the assembly on **Thursday the 7th of March**.

One student will be selected as the Best Dressed Winner from our school and will receive a VIP Family Pass (4 Tickets Valued at \$149 Each) to attend an exclusive viewing of the final dress rehearsal performance of The Wizard Of Oz - Arena Spectacular at 1pm AEST on Friday 26th April at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

A photo of each Best Dressed Winner from each school will be posted to our website so the general public can vote for an Overall Winner. The photo that receives the most votes will win the Overall Prize for their school.

There is one (and only one) prize offered to the winning school. The prize is 500 complimentary tickets (Valued at \$149 Each) to attend an exclusive viewing of the final dress rehearsal performance of The Wizard Of Oz - Arena Spectacular at 1pm AEST on Friday 26th April at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.



Voting will open via www.wizardofozarena.com on Monday 11 March at 9am AEST and closes on Friday 15 March at 5pm AEST. Each person can vote once, and only once, using a unique and valid e-mail address during the voting period. The individual Best Dressed Winner for each school will be announced via www.wizardofozarena.com on Monday 18 March at 9am AEST. The Overall Prize Winner school will be announced via www.wizardofozarena.com on Tuesday 19 March at 9am AEST.

BEFORE.....

REMAKE.....





.....AND AFTER!

How to download our school app

Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and all school communications.

1

Download the app

Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store



2

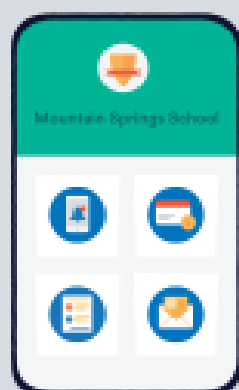
Create an account

Sign up in seconds with your email address

3

Add your school

Search for your school and add your subscription groups



Making Payments

Just a reminder that our office does not have EFTPOS facilities. If you wish to make payment using your card, the instructions to make a payment via our school website are below. We also take cash payments. Please ensure you provide the correct money as we do not have change.

Parent Online Payment Instructions

Speers Point Public School offers online payments for parents and caregivers. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard, credit or debit card. The secure payment page, hosted by Westpac, is accessed via our website by selecting the Make a Payment link above.

You will be able to pay for anything you would normally pay at the front office.

When you access the Make a Payment you must enter:

1. the student's name
2. date of birth
3. the ref. or invoice (if applicable)
4. the payment option
5. the payment description
6. the amount you are paying.

These details need to be entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. No student's details are given to Westpac. As a consequence, payments for each child need to be made separately.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured securely. These details are not passed back to the school.

Under payment options, enter the details provided on the permission note.

You can print your own receipts or have the receipt emailed to your email account. This gives you immediate proof that you have paid for the item. Record your receipt number on the permission note and return it to school as normal. Your payment will be reconciled against the receipt number on the permission note.

Making an online payment does not constitute permission.

Please return all signed permission notes to school as normal.

2019 Stationary Pack **OFFER EXTENDED**

For several reasons, **we are implementing** a stationary pack for all students at Speers Point Public School in 2019.

Firstly, we are now under strict chemical register guidelines and need to have specific types of glue, sanitizer and other liquid items that may be difficult for parents to buy.

Secondly, as a school we can purchase stationary items at a greater discount than individuals; saving parents a considerable amount of money and time at the start of the new school year.

Finally, we would love to have all students prepared with the right equipment at the start of each lesson and teach them the responsibility to look after their belongings.

The packs are made of a library bag as well as consumable items that are used by the whole class throughout the year and stationary that children are responsible for individually

All packs are at a considerable saving to you with the estimated price from Office works included next to each pack to compare.

Packs will be ready for collection upon payment. If you wish to take up this offer please fill out the form that has been sent home with your child and make payment by Friday, 15th March.



Green Student Info Sheet 2019

Reminder: Please complete and return to school as soon as possible.

DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:

Thursday, 28th February

P & C News

WELCOME DISCO



Join us at our Welcome Disco for 2019

Have a sausage sizzle sandwich
And have a dance with the kids!



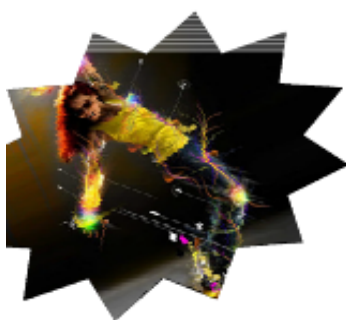
Event Details:

Tuesday, 5 March 2019

6.00pm ~ 7.30pm

At the School

Gold Coin Donation for Entry



Community News

Local Beginner Piano Lessons!

- Any Age
- Your house or mine
- Classical or modern piano
- Affordable pricing



Lessons by Sam Gulliver

- 11 years playing experience
- 2 years teaching experience
- Year 12 student

Toronto Tigers Baseball Club

Come and try baseball

Juniors & Seniors welcome ☺

From age 4 and up

Friday 8th Feb 5pm-7pm

Sunday 10th Feb 10am-12pm

Friday 15th Feb 5pm – 7pm

Friday 22nd Feb 5pm – 7pm

Sunday 24th Feb 10am-12pm

Waterboard Oval

Fennell Crescent, Blackalls Park

Website: <http://www.torontotigers.com.au/>

Email: torontotigersbaseball@gmail.com



ACTIVE KIDS Voucher welcome

Good for Kids good for life



ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER

The NSW Government is helping kids get active with the new Active Kids program.

Parents, guardians and carers can apply for a voucher valued up to \$100 per calendar year for each student enrolled in school.

The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and membership costs for sport, fitness and active recreation activities.

The voucher can be used at any time during the calendar year it was issued.

To use the voucher, find a registered activity provider and present your voucher when you sign up.

The program runs year round, so kids can get active at any time!
Visit www.service.nsw.gov.au/active-kids to apply



**Service
NSW**

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Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

HNEHLD-GoodForKids@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au
<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/>

DREAM OF PLAYING FOOTY?

Take action today and come and play Jr Rugby League with us.



Cost

Under 6's: \$100 (free with active kids voucher)
Under 7's: \$100 (free with active kids voucher)
Under 8's-10's: \$130 (\$30 with active kids voucher)
Under 11's-17's: \$150 (\$50 with active kids voucher)
Under 14's Women's Tackle: Free with active kids voucher



Boys and girls welcome.

Enquiries: Ben Robertson 0411744669

Register at www.playnrl.com/register

Type in Glendale & follow the way to join us here at a family friendly club.