



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

4th April, 2019

Principal, Chris Payne

Ph. 4958 1230 Fax. 4958 2478

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We have a few great events ahead of us leading to the end of Term 1. We've had a great first term and now the initial inconveniences of the building works seems like a distant memory. Next term we'll expect to see construction underway for the new hall. At this point we know the contract will be awarded this week and from there the project will move into the design phase. I'm expecting things to pick up steam shortly after the holidays and will be able to provide a lot more in depth information through the term.

The Driveway

Please do not use the driveway for pedestrian access. It is not safe to be walking up or down the driveway, especially around bell times. As we have a number of vehicles using the driveway as part of the Assisted Travel program, it is essential to keep this area clear and safe.

Year 5 Future Leaders

Recently a note went home for our Year 5 students as future leaders. This note details many of the expectations and criteria required for Year 5 students to stand for leadership positions next year. This takes the mystery or the unknown away from what is the eligibility and gives a clear framework of expectations through the year. We've asked both parents and students to return the signed slip at the bottom so we can see that students have the understanding of these expectations.

Recognition Assembly

Our Term 1 Recognition Assembly is being held next Thursday at 9.15am. As with all assemblies, community are invited to attend as we celebrate the achievements of Term 1.

Three Way Conferences

Over this week and next, our Mainstream classes are wrapping up Three-Way conferences. These parent-Student-Teacher meetings are extremely important in setting the learning goals for students to work towards over the year. You would have noticed that in end of semester reports these learning goals and progress towards their achievement are reported on. If you haven't booked in a Three Way conference yet you can book online at <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/code?code=h2275> or call the school to make an appointment with the class teacher.

Class Sizes

I spoke recently at our last P&C meeting around our class sizes. Given our current student population any future in zone enrolments may give us the capacity to form another mainstream class. With the holidays approaching there are sometimes student movement at that time. In the event that we return next term to new enrollments I will be scheduling an evening information session for parents around how a new class may cause some changes and the benefits around it.

During the holidays if you have a new neighbours moving into the area with school aged kids, give the school a thumbs up and let the parents know we're here for a chat and a tour of the school should they like to see how awesome we are.

Looking to the Future

Mrs Cobcroft and myself, along with a team from Wangi Public School, have the opportunity to visit several Sydney schools next Monday who have recently completed their construction works. These schools have the new model in innovative learning spaces. As part of our own build we know that the new classrooms coming will not be looking like traditional classrooms and be more open to innovative teaching and learning.

Mrs Cobcroft and I will be part of the first team to learn about these rooms and most importantly find out what did and didn't work in these new designs, so we can put that information into practice for our own rooms. Following that we'll be looking for opportunities for different teachers to be developing their own skills for these new classrooms.

Term 2

Term 2 begins on Tuesday 30th April. Staff return for a Staff Development Day on Monday 29th which includes our yearly CPR & Anaphylaxis training.

Have a great week

Chris Payne

Principal

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, 11th April Recognition Assembly 9.15am	Friday, 12th April Easter Hat Parade	Tuesday, 30th April First day of Term 2	Tuesday, 30th April Healthy Harold
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Reminders:

Tuesday, 9th April—Sausage Sizzle order forms due for Easter Hat Parade

Wednesday, 10th April—Healthy Harold payment and permission forms DUE

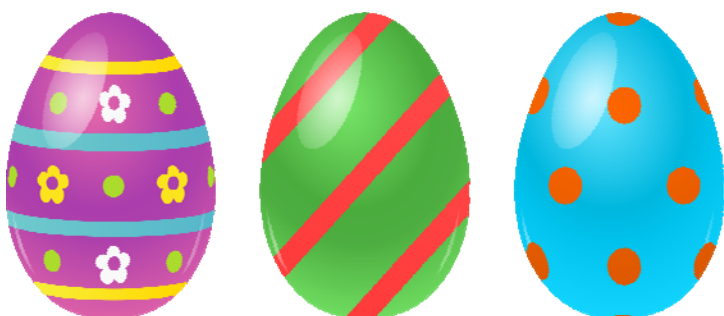
Thursday, 11th April—Recognition Assembly at 9.15am

Friday, 12th April—Easter Hat & Crazy Hair Parade from 8.45am coffee van and cupcakes available to purchase. Parade is from 9.30am

Tuesday, 30th April—First day of Term 2. Healthy Harold excursion.

Easter Egg Donations

Thank you for your Easter Egg donations so far. It would be greatly appreciated if the donations could be dropped to the office by Tuesday, 9th April. Easter Raffle will be drawn on Friday, 12th April.



IMPORTANT SAFETY ALERT

When using the Bell Street entrance, please ensure you use the ramp or verandah on the admin building and NOT the carpark driveway. The driveway is for vehicle access only and is used throughout the day, making it a very dangerous place for pedestrians!

We ask that you use the ramp/verandah even if you do not have a child with you to model safe behaviours and ensure everyone remains safe at Speers Point Public School.

Vehicle access to school grounds/carpark at all times is strictly for staff and approved vehicles only, e.g., ASTP transport vehicles and vehicles transporting students with a disability access sticker.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in ensuring students safety.



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN OUR

Easter Hat & Crazy Hair Parade

FRIDAY, 12 APRIL

FROM 8.45AM - COFFEE VAN & CUPCAKES BY KOALA VI
WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

COME EARLY, FIND A SEAT AND GRAB A COFFEE AND
CUPCAKE BEFORE THE PARADE AT 9.30AM.

WE'D LOVE TO SEE YOU HERE!

Please bring in..



Plastic bottle tops



Newspaper



Magazines

Don't forget to pack Crunch&Sip® every day...

Crunch&Sip® is a set time for your child to eat vegetables or fruit and drink water in the classroom.



Speers Point Public School is proud to be part of the Crunch and Sip initiative. Please ensure you are packing a bottle of water and **at least** one serve of fruit or vegetables each day for your child/ren to eat during the designated Crunch and Sip class time each day.

We also ask that you consider how much hard work a day at school is when packing lunchboxes. Kids need a lot of energy to get through the school day and we strongly encourage you always pack a substantial lunch meal, for example, a sandwich/bread roll/wrap, salad, pasta, as well as several healthy snacks to make sure your child/ren has enough of the right fuel to thrive throughout the day!

April is Autism Awareness month!



What is Autism?

Autism is a lifelong developmental condition that affects, among other things, the way an individual relates to his or her environment and their interaction with other people.

An estimated 1 in 70 people has autism; that's almost 230,000 Australians. Autism affects almost four times as many boys than girls

At Speers Point Public School, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is something very close to our hearts. This week, a team of staff have joined up to participate in 'Walk for Autism'. We will be walking 8000 steps each day and fundraising to support the incredible work of Autism Spectrum Australia (ASPECT). ASPECT work tirelessly to provide ongoing support for children, adults and families who are touched by Autism and also provide community outreach and education programs to promote acceptance and understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

On Friday 5th April, all of our staff will be 'Going blue for Autism'. We will also be hosting a bake sale to raise money for our 'Walk for Autism' team. Cakes and slices will be available for students to purchase at recess time for \$1 or \$2. All money raised will be donated to the Walk for Autism initiative.

*****students are to be in normal sports uniform*****





WALK^{for} AUTISM

31 March – 7 April 2019

Stepping toward
a world where
no-one on the
autism spectrum
is left behind

Support us today!

Speers Point Public School

Visit our page:

<https://www.walkforautism.org.au/fundraisers/speerspointpublicschool>

NAPLAN Online Frequently Asked Questions

How secure will the Online Assessment Platform be?

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform (under Education Services Australia's direction) has state-of-the-art security protections. The online platform is designed and has been extensively tested to be compliant with government and industry standards for security, interoperability, privacy and accessibility.

In preparing for NAPLAN Online, the online test environment has been used in various online assessment activities as well as the National Assessment Program: Civics and Citizenship sample assessment in 2016. These activities have allowed us to test the security of the system.

How will tailored testing work?

During the test, students are presented with sets of questions based on their performance. Many of these questions are of mid-range complexity for each year level, but some are of higher or lower complexity. Students who experience difficulty early in the test are given some questions of lower complexity, more suited to their performance. These students are less likely to become discouraged as they progress through the tests. High-achieving students are given questions that they find more challenging.

Students who complete a more complex pathway are more likely to achieve a higher score (and a higher band placement). Students who answer the same number of questions correctly, but follow a less complex pathway, will achieve a lower score.

Will students be completing the same test?

NAPLAN questions have always assessed a wide range of difficulty. What differs from student to student in the online test is targeted questions of either higher or lower complexity, depending on the student's performance. These targeted questions are designed to provide more focused, detailed results that can be used to target teaching.

How can I best prepare my child to complete NAPLAN in an online setting?

Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs is a part of students everyday learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum.

You can help your child become familiar with NAPLAN Online by accessing the public demonstration site on the NAP website. The demonstration site includes useful resources for schools to help students become familiar with the online test experience

For further information and answers to additional questions you may have visit

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/FAQs>

Children's University



Did you know that America has a National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day which is celebrated on April 2 to honour its role in making the best American breakfast and lunch sandwiches. What do you think your national sandwich should be?

Design your sandwich, which must have more than one filling and show your design to your in-school CUA Coordinator for a stamp in your Passport. Why not make your sandwich and take it to school for lunch, write up a recipe card or make an advert to sell your yummy idea. We'd love to see what you come up with. Post to Children's University Australasia Facebook page or email to the school so we can post on Speers Point Public School's Facebook page.

Looking for some fun activities to do at home these school holidays?

Well, look no further than the amazing CUA Autumn Holiday Activities. Mrs Cobcroft will be sending home a copy of the booklet for you to complete over the holidays at home. Complete as many activities as you can from the booklet, then return to your school's CUA Coordinator (after the holidays) to earn 30 minutes for each activity in your passport!

NSW Department of Primary Industries- Kids Fishing Workshop

Thursday 18 April 2019

NSW Fisheries runs four hour kids fishing workshops for eight-14 year olds. The kids learn how fish responsibly in a safe and fun environment.

NSW DPI fishing workshops include fun lessons on fishing techniques, information on NSW fishing rules, best methods to maximise released fish survival and a practical fishing session in a safe location.

Cost per child includes quality rod and reel, shirt, hat, tackle box, show bag-all to take home.

Bookings are essential – please email: emma.mitchell@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Maximum 25 participants.

NSW DPI fishing workshops are run with the assistance of the Fishcare Volunteers and are supported by funds from the Recreational Fishing Trusts.

Date: 18/04/2019

Time : 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Learning Destination

This event is organised by [NSW Department of Primary Industries- Kids Fishing Workshop](#)

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.

P & C News

Easter Hat Parade:

Last call for Easter Eggs Donations for our Raffle next week! P&C will be hosting an Easter Raffle which will coincide with the Easter Events that will occur at the school. We are asking for donations of Easter Eggs which can be dropped at the school. Any donations can be dropped off at the office, up until Tuesday, 9 April.

Lunch Orders – Sausage sandwich orders for Easter Hat Parade day will need to be returned by Tuesday, 9 April to the office with cash payment please. Your sandwich/drink tickets will then be sent home on the Thursday for you use as a collection point on Friday.

Canteen Roster for Term 2:

Calling all Volunteers for Canteen in Term 2! Roster is now open and you can register your preferred dates at <https://signup.com/go/vykfyfM> - We currently have most Wednesday's and Friday's available.

Coding Program available from Term 2 for SPPS:

Recently held at our P&C Parent Information Night in week 8, we heard from James and the team at Broader Learning. With interest sparked at the meeting we are looking to commence a coding program for those interested students in Term 2.

The program will be run independently with the schools approval, as well as the P&C. Broader Learning's aim is to provide quality STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) learning programs to students and schools. Coding is fast becoming fundamental to the way that we interact with the digital world, so learning to code is important for kids who want to play a part in how their future looks. Their programs make sure today's kids have an opportunity to learn something they'll love and will need in tomorrow's world.

The program will be held each Thursday morning from 7.45am-8.45am (1 hour per week) for the Term. The cost for the program is \$175 per term. As an incentive, you are able to use your Creative Kids Voucher (\$100) towards the program. We have chosen Thursday's as the preferred day due to breakfast club also being on, which will allow the students to do the 1 hour in the morning and grab something quick to eat from Breakfast Club before the 9am bell.

The program does need a minimum of 15 students to run and will have a maximum number of 24 students within the class – so places are limited!

Broader Learning staff are fully qualified to run the program and have provided the school with all necessary documentation to be onsite, including working with children checks.

Speers Point Public School

Canteen Menu

2019

Lunch Meal Deals

Everyday Food (Healthy Option)		Occasional Food (Select carefully)	
Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich & Drink	\$4.50	4 x Chicken Nuggets & Drink	\$4.00
		6 x Chicken Nuggets & Drink	\$5.00
Toasted Chicken & Cheese Sandwich & Drink	\$4.50	Chicken Burger & Drink	\$6.50
Cheese Burger (lean meat) & Drink	\$6.00	Pie & Drink	\$5.00
Chicken Burger (lean chicken) & Drink	\$6.00	Sausage Roll & Drink	\$4.00

Hot Food

Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich	\$3.00	Chicken Burger (crumbed chicken breast, lettuce, mayo & cheese)	\$4.50
Toasted Chicken & Cheese Sandwich	\$3.00	Sausage Roll	\$1.80
Cheese Burger (lean meat)	\$4.50	Warm Beef Noodles	\$1.50
Chicken Burger (lean chicken)	\$4.50		
Spaghetti	\$4.00		
Macaroni	\$4.00		
Fried Rice	\$4.00	Sauce - Tomato & BBQ	30c

Salads, Sandwiches & Wraps - All meet everyday option

(all options below available in rolls or toasted - extra 50c)

Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$2.50	Vegemite Sandwich	\$1.50
Chicken or Ham & Salad Sandwich	\$4.00	Ham Sandwich	\$2.70
Plain Salad Sandwich	\$2.70	Ham Salad Plate	\$4.00
Salad Plate	\$2.50	Chicken Salad Plate	\$4.00

(all cheese is reduced fat and everyday foods will contain lean meat)

Drinks

Chocolate Milk (light)	\$2.00	Juice Poppers (Apple, Orange or Apple/Blackcurrant)	\$1.50
Strawberry Milk (light)	\$2.00		
Water 600ml	\$1.00	Chill J	\$2.00
Milo served Warm or Cold	\$2.00		

Snacks/Recess

Carrot Sticks & Dip	\$1.50	Honey Soy Chips - small	\$1.00
Seasonal Fruit / Fresh Fruit Cup	\$1.00	Grain Waves	\$1.00
Pikelets (x 2)	40c	Chocolate Muffin	\$1.80
Popcorn	50c	Banana Bread	\$1.80
Rice Crackers	70c		

Frozen Snacks

Quelch Fruit Tubes	50c	Moosies	70c
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The Canteen is open on Wednesdays and Fridays

Open during Lunch only, Recess available by pre-order only

Community News

G * I * R * L

grow * inspire * realise * love

... improving self esteem through
creativity, chatter and fun!

Commences

Thursday 9th May 2019 - 3.30 - 5.30pm (8 sessions)
Eastlakes Family Support Service - 14 Hickory Road, Gateshead
Phone Paula on 4943 9255 to register!

Freestyle + Big Trick Comp
\$50 Prizes
+ Skate & Scooter Workshops
by Newcastle Skate



CARDIFFerence
its Cardiff...with a difference!

YOUTH WEEK EVENT
Saturday
20th April
11am-2pm
Wilkinson Park
Cardiff

Sausage Sizzle
Giant Jenga
Ninja Line
Field Games
Open Jam Session
Bring Your Instrument

MASSIVE Easter Egg Hunt




THE NORTHALL PROJECT
LAKE MACQUARIE CITY
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
and RECREATION

Presented by the NSW Dept of Justice





Special People Pony Playdates

Hosted by Whitethorn Academy, Maitland Vale.

Special People Pony Playdates give kids with ASD and their families a supportive, non-judgemental place to have great fun with quiet, well-trained and well-mannered horses and ponies.

Group activities? Yes! Parallel play activities? Certainly! A break for parents? Absolutely!
The chance to have a breather and chat with others who understand exactly what you're experiencing.



Here's what happens on a Special People Pony Playdate...

- 10:00 - Arrive at Whitethorn Academy. (Bring as many spectators as you like!)
- 10:00 - Helmets and boots on! Welcome & explanation of the activities.
- 10:30-12:30 - Horse activities (mounted games, competitions, 'circus tricks')
- 12:30 - Horse activities finish
- 12:30-1:30 - Bring a picnic lunch! (Our undercover barbecue area is free to use.)

What does SPPP cost?

\$35 for riding participants. \$25 for non-riding participants.

Some of our participants are able to use NDIS funding for SPPP activities, as a Capacity Building activity, in the Innovative Social Participation category, under Increased Social & Community Participation.

If you can't use NDIS funding, we also accept NSW Government Active Kids Vouchers (all NSW school students are eligible for a \$100 Active Kids Voucher.)



More info?

Phone: Toni Lennard 0414 855 228 | Email: info@whitethornacademy.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1887779734588538/> | Web: www.whitethornacademy.com



How do I book?

Email: info@whitethornacademy.com Put SPPP Rider or SPPP non-rider in the subject line of the email. We'll respond with all the info you'll need.

Where is SPPP held?

Whitethorn Academy
346 Maitland Vale Road
Maitland Vale NSW 2320