

Term 4 | Week 8 | Thursday 27 November 2014



Message from the Principal

As we come to the end of the year it is timely to reflect on the significant achievements of the school and community. We currently have some amazing 'behind the scenes' support with a parent group who are assisting the school in delivering a wonderful Year 6 Farewell. The school is highly appreciative of assistance for the school, particularly when parents approach the school with ideas as to how they can support the school in its everyday work. Similarly the parent support for the strings program this year has seen some amazing achievements with Education Week displays, performance opportunities during each assembly and mini concerts at community events. Such successes and opportunities are attributed to the wonderful partnership between the school and the parent committee who drive this program. I would particularly like to acknowledge Emily Stoddart for her ongoing commitment to the program, her regular meetings with myself to discuss directions, and her coordination of the P&C strings subcommittee parents in fundraising and student assistance as well as negotiating and creating opportunities with the wider community. Particular thanks also to Gina Mitchell and Kelly Vernon for the support you provide our students in the weekly supervision and management of the program. The strings subcommittee is exemplary of a true partnership, where parents are empowered through seeking knowledge and understanding in aligning opportunities for students with the directions of the school and resulting in improving the learning outcomes for students. Well done to all involved.

Helpers' Morning Tea

It is timely to remind all our helpers this year of the Helpers' Morning Tea being put on by our staff as a token of our appreciation. All parents and community members including classroom helpers, canteen volunteers, parents who have assisted with transport to the various sporting and cultural events, and the many parents who have provided various resources to the school throughout the year are all welcome to join us on Friday 5 December 2014 in the library at 10:45am.

Reporting to Parents

Your child's Semester 2 reports will be sent home on Friday 12 December and is a report of your child's academic, social and behavioural achievements in Terms 3 and 4. When reading reports it is important to remember that 'Sound' achievement indicates that your child is making sound progress in relation to what he or she was expected to learn over the last semester – your child is on track. Parents are able to make an appointment at any time

throughout the year to discuss their child's progress, issues concerning their behaviour, how they are achieving compared to their peer group or any other issue by contacting the office to make an appointment with their child's teacher.

Good Luck to our Strings Performers

Tonight Pretty Beach PS Strings Program will present its Inaugural Gala Concert at Wagstaffe Hall at 6.30pm. This event is a celebration of all that is wonderful about children developing a lifelong love of music and the arts. The concert marks the end of a successful year of the strings program.



Year 6 to 7 High School Transition

Our Year 6 students will be attending a high school Orientation Day at Kincumber High School on Wednesday 3 December 2014.

Information from Kincumber High School has been posted to our Year 6 students enrolled for 2015. This information concerns the parent information session being held on Wednesday 3 December 2014.

Parents of Year 6 students will find some useful information in the 'Transition to High School Checklist' which has been included in this newsletter.

A special thank you goes to Miss White who has been coordinating the high school transition process for our students attending Kincumber High School next year.

Anaphylaxis and Life Threatening Allergies

Are you aware that we have students who have life threatening allergies to nuts, peanuts/legumes, seafood and eggs. Where possible please do not include these items in your child's lunchbox.

For further information about Anaphylaxis see the link to NSW Health fact sheet.

www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/general/allergies.html

School Safety and Security

Parents and community members are requested to report any suspicious after-hours activity on the school grounds to School Security on 1300 880 021. Thank you for helping to keep our school safe.

Does cartoon violence make kids more aggressive?

Lots of parents question the violence in many of today's cartoons and video games, but many of us grew up watching cartoons where violence was also a key ingredient. What does the research indicate about exposure of our kids to violence? Find out more: www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using-technology/does-cartoon-violence-make-kids-more-aggressive

Different types of writing

Your child may be asked to present an assignment in a particular text type. Text types mean writing according to a purpose or an audience. For example, factual texts inform and literary texts entertain. This fact sheet gives several examples and the purpose of different types of writing. Find out more: <https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eppcontent/glossary/app/resource/factsheet/4108.pdf>

Choosing a book for your child

What makes a good book for young kids? Usually anything that they want to read. Resist the desire to choose only books that you read as a child. Good books teach kids things subtly while still telling a great story. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/my-book-club/what-makes-a-good-book-for-young-kids>

Thank You Teachers

I am constantly impressed by the levels of dedication and commitment shown by the teachers at Pretty Beach Public School. They are consistently going to great lengths to ensure our students receive a high quality education in a caring, supportive and nurturing environment. The amount of 'extra' work the teachers do in organising additional experiences for our students is exceptional. We have recently had the opportunity to reflect on the wide range of programs the school has offered in the past year and are amazed at what has been achieved – these achievements are made the more so impressive by the fact that we are a small school with a limited number of teachers to 'share the load'. At this time of the school year, when the teachers are investing a substantial amount of time writing student reports, it is particularly pertinent that I thank them for their continued professionalism and commitment to our students.

Have a fantastic week everyone.

Kind regards

Jane Rees

Relieving Principal

Return to School in 2015

Students in Years 1 to 6 in 2015 return to school on Wednesday 28 January 2015. Kindergarten parents have been notified by a separate letter regarding starting date and time.

K-6 Assemblies

Parents and community members are very welcome to attend our K-6 Assemblies which are held every second Friday at 2:15pm. Our next assembly is tomorrow and is hosted by 1/2HD.

Diary Dates

| Calendar | Week 9 to Week 11 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Week 8 | |
| 28/11 | Assembly 1/2HD |
| Week 9 | |
| 2/12 | Footsteps |
| 4/12 | Yr 6 Mini Fete |
| 5/12 | Helpers Morning Tea |
| Week 10 | |
| 9/12 | Footsteps Yr 6 Farewell |
| 11/12 | Presentation Day |
| 14/12 | Pretty Beach Community Markets |
| Week 11 | |
| 16/12 | Movie/Picnic Day |
| 17/12 | Last Day of Term for students |

Presentation Day

We look forward to you joining our Presentation Day Assembly on Thursday 11 December 2014 commencing at 12:00pm and concluding at 2:00pm. Parents who wish to take their child home at the conclusion of the assembly are able to sign their child out at the office on the day.

To assist with the resourcing required for our assembly, we request that all families please RSVP to the school office to indicate their attendance.

NSW Public School Terms and Holidays

Here's a snapshot of NSW public school terms and holidays for 2015 - 2016.

Find out more:

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/vacations.html>

Bus 59 Morning Route

Commencing Monday 1 December there will be a change to the departure time of Morning Route 59 Service departing from Wagstaffe Post Office at 8:36am to Pretty Beach Public School and Emprie Bay Public School. Bus drivers will hand out more information to students on the buses. For further information please contact Busways CustomerService on 9497 1870 or www.busways.com.au

Bouddi says**Excellence,
Respect and
Responsibility****by
Everyone,
Everywhere,
Every time**

This fortnight we have learning about how to demonstrate Respect, Responsibility and Excellence when on the school oval.

**Excellence
Respect
Responsibility**

Student Wellbeing encompasses everything that our school community does to meet the personal and social needs of students and enhance their wellbeing. It involves holding high expectations of student behaviour and recognising, valuing and developing each student to achieve their maximum potential.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) has well and truly made a positive impact on the Pretty Beach PS community. We know that when good behaviour and good teaching come together, our students excel in their learning. This year the teachers and students PBPS have been actively promoting PBL in a school-wide focus to help all students achieve important social and learning goals.

As part of our PBL program we have established clear values and expectations framed around the three expectations (rules) of **Excellence, Respect and Responsibility**. These expectations are the basis for the behaviour that we expect in all areas of our school, and we have been explicitly teaching these expectations to all students over the past two terms.

The PBL strategies are continuing to improve school morale, classroom teaching time and student success by applying consistent consequences and positive reinforcement for all students. By detailing expected behaviour and teaching in a positive way, we provide a common language for everyone in our school, including students, teaching staff and our parents and caregivers.

We believe that by helping students practise good behaviour, we will build a school community where all students have an environment where they respect themselves and others, feel safe to learn and enjoy their school experience. As a response, rewards are frequently given to students as positive reinforcement for their great behaviour.

As a school, we understand that students need to be active participants in a program that responds to their successes. We want to give our students a sense of ownership therefore we recently surveyed every student as to the type of rewards and incentives they would like to receive for displaying such positive behaviours. Parents and community will also be consulted and given the opportunity to discuss possible changes at our first P&C meeting next year. We are hoping that from the start of 2015 our mascot, Bouddi the red crowned toadlet, will lead the change! Our current Wave Award system will need to be changed to align with the new school wide PBL reinforcement system.

**Student suggested
changes ...**

1. Positive Reinforcement: Teachers will issue Bouddi incentive tickets to reinforce student knowledge and successful practice in displaying positive behaviours based on Excellence, Respect and Responsibility. These will be frequent and tangible rewards issued with verbal praise. Students will have the opportunity to be drawn from the Bouddi Box win bin to further celebrate their successful behavior.

2. Personal acknowledgment of consistent positive behavior and citizenship. Bouddi incentive tickets are then collected by the students, put onto a personal chart and maintained as a record of the positive behaviours they have demonstrated. Each term students will be offered the chance to trade their tickets in for a choice of special rewards (identified from the student survey). There will be a menu style of rewards on offer. We are aiming to have short, medium and long term awards available. Each student will choose the reward they have been aiming for and will pick from the positive reinforcement menu. This could mean that some students may opt to 'save' their Bouddi tickets to achieve a long term award eg. earn a movie pass, whereas other students might be more interested in a short term award eg. being able to wear their own hat in the playground for the day or getting a pass to be first in line for the school canteen. Full details of this menu will be provided early 2015 via the school newsletter.

Our system of recognition of positive behaviours will continue to include merit certificates at school assemblies that recognise qualities of Excellence, Respect and Responsibility.

**We are very excited about the
introduction of our new reinforcement
system that will begin in 2015 so
WATCH THIS SPACE!**

Mrs Hoyle PBL leader

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If a student is to be absent, it is best for the parents to notify the school. When your child is absent from school, don't forget to send in a note on their return to school. This note should explain the reason for the child's absence, the date(s) of the absence and should be signed and dated by a Parent or Guardian.



Merit Awards

- KS:** William, Malene, Lexi, Joe
- K/1** Kobe, Luke, Isaac
- 1/2H** Jasper, Makayla, Ava, Molly
- 2/3B** Neilla, Noah, Lucia, Brooke
- 3/4P** Lilly, Daniel, Lucy, Atticus,
- 5/6W:** Callum, Annalise, Jarrah, Shardai

*Congratulations to our
Wave Award Recipients*

We are very proud of your achievement!

*High Achievement In
Excellence Respect Responsibility
Yellow Wave Awards*

*Green Wave Awards
Lola, Patrick*

*Silver Wave Awards
Haleia, Lachlan, Lucas, Gnanita, Taj, Daniel,
Archie, Baden, Alex*

*Blue Wave Awards
Bonnie, Nina, Ben, Tahli, Zahn, Martin,
Grace, Ben, Sophia, Ben, Karina, Elise,
Ryan, Ruby, Neilla, Lucia, Ethan, Zane,
Jacob, Lauren, Lachlan, Meg, Patrick*

*Purple Wave Awards
Alastair, Vic, Ellie, Lexi, Amelie, Lilly,
Oliver, Sabienne, Owen, Jhon, Jed, Ella,
Bella, Olivia, Grace*

Canteen News

Thank you to all of the canteen volunteers who have assisted in the canteen this year. **The volunteers for the remainder of the year are listed below**

| Date | Volunteer Names |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 27/11/2014 | Sophie Walsh |
| 4/12/2014 | Deidre Moran |
| 11/12/2014 | Open for over the counter only (no lunch orders) |



Operation Art Winners

Congratulations to Aliasha, Jed and Sienna who received certificates for their successful entries for Operation Art.



Leaders Speeches

The above students need to be congratulated for the fine speeches they gave on Monday.



Combined Christmas Scripture

Hunter Wetlands Centre

Visit the Hunter Wetlands Centre at Shortland in the January school holidays. There's always lots to see and do.

- Try dip-netting from the jetty
- Watch the Magpie Geese feeding
- Climb the Egret Tower
- Get up close to some of our reptiles at an interactive tank talk.
- Become a WETLANDS EXPLORER and go in the draw to win a weekly prize
- Hire a bike or canoe or bring your own and explore the wetlands
- Climb, slide and play at the Discovery Playground
- Bring a picnic or eat at Spoonbill Cafe

Kids can book in for one of the special holiday activities:

Bush Skills for 8-12 years (\$20) – have fun making a bush survival shelter, cook damper, learn knots and other bush skills.

Wiggly Wetlanders for 5-8 years (\$20) – enjoy a wetlands wander and then get creative with craft activities For more information go to www.wetlands.org.au or phone 02 4951 6466

Kids' TALENT QUEST
SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER 3PM

OPEN TO ALL KIDS AGED 4-16
FREE ENTRY
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
DOOR PRIZES & PRIZES FOR ENTRY
GOLD COIN DONATION FOR STARLIGHT CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
JUST FOR FUN!

Book Your Place!!
E-MAIL: jmgvocalstudio@live.com
OR CALL: 0466 533 724

Hardys Bay Club

14 Health Road, Hardys Bay 2257, t: 4360 1972, e: hardysbayclub@gmail.com

Pretty Beach
Christmas MARKETS
SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER
9AM-2PM

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOPPING
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
special guest appearance by... SANTA!

Homemade gifts, vintage clothes and shoes, organic foods, unique jewellery, live music, local photography and art, exotic homewares, handmade children's wear + more.

f prettybeachcommunitymarkets
prettybeachschool.com.au Pretty Beach

KIDS' CHRISTMAS PARTY!
SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA
SWEETS AND TOYS
FESTIVE FUN
SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER 1PM
Hardys Bay Club

Hardys Bay Club, 14 Health Road, Hardys Bay 2257, t: 4360 1972, e: hardysbayclub@gmail.com, w: www.hardysbayclub.com.au