

# Peats Ridge Weekly



Week 2 Term 1

FEBRUARY 03 2010

## COMING EVENTS

**17/02/11** – Queensland Flood Appeal Mufti Day Fundraiser

**07/02/11** – After School Program commences and will run on Monday & Wednesday afternoons (Weeks 2 to 8)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Welcome to 2011.

Hello everyone in the Peats Ridge Public School community. I am honoured and privileged to be writing my very first newsletter entry in the Peats Ridge Weekly as your newly appointed principal. I look forward to a very long association with the school and the wider school community.

I would like to publicly thank Mr Ben Thomas for leading and managing Peats Ridge PS for three terms last year. I congratulate him for a job well done. It is certainly very easy to follow in the footsteps of such an organised principal.

This year promises to be a very rewarding year for all. The hall project is nearing completion (as for the work done through the Building Education Revolution-BER) and now the hall committee, under the leadership of the chairperson, Gary Rowe, will be able to follow through with the flooring and stage. Quotes are being decided upon in order for this work to commence. I must say I am absolutely amazed at the size of the hall. It will surely be a magnificent asset to the Peats Ridge community and the students in our school.

We established three classes this week and I believe the fact that we have a separate Kindergarten class this year is a very rare occurrence at Peats Ridge. How fantastic for these fine young students to experience entry to school life in this way. Ms Deborah Still will be teaching the Kindergarten class of 15 students. Mr Shane Randall, known to many of the students and parents from when he was at Peats Ridge in Term 4 of 2009 has established the 1/2/3 class. At present there are 23 students in the class. Ms Michelle Stone, known to you all for many years, has accepted a teaching position at Wyong Public School. I will be teaching the 4/5/6 class which has established with 18 students.

Mrs Julie Blair continues to be our librarian and RFF teacher.



## reminders

- **School Phone Number:** 4373 1149
- **Email:** [peatsridge-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peatsridge-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- **Newsletter available online at our website:**
- <http://www.peatsridge-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/sws/view/home.node>

We have decided to hold the K-6 assemblies this year on Monday afternoons. We feel it is far better to start off the week reminding students of special events and to promote positiveness across the school. Students can work towards weekly awards all week and be acknowledged the following Monday. Students not receiving awards will be encouraged to strive for success and achievement during the rest of the current week.

We also believe a Monday newsletter would set the scene for parents, informing them of the coming activities, events and relevant information. This would mean any articles for inclusion would have to be with Jo Comensoli in the school office by Thursday evening as the newsletter would go into production on Friday, ready for distribution on Mondays.

## **QUEENSLAND FLOOD FUNDRAISING DAY for Queensland Schools**

Included below is an excerpt from a memorandum to principal's from our Director-General of Education and Training, Michael Coutts-Trotter:

***Recent floods have affected many Australians, but Queenslanders have been particularly hard hit.***

***The floods damaged more than 90 Queensland public schools. Some may not be able to open for the start of the school year. As well, six TAFE Institutes and more than 80 government child care centres have been flood affected. Luckily in NSW so far very few of our school buildings have been damaged by recent flooding.***

***I've spoken to my Queensland counterpart and offered our help, including providing demountable classrooms and furniture. We're also establishing ways for NSW schools to make direct connections with flood-damaged schools in Queensland to share resources and provide support.***

***Many of you will already be considering school fund raising activities to help Queensland school communities get back on their feet. I also propose that we join together and hold a fundraising day on Thursday 17 February, possibly in the form of a "mufti day" where students could be encouraged to wear something maroon. This initiative is supported by the presidents of the Primary Principals Association, the Secondary Principals Council, the Federation of P&C Associations, the Teachers Federation, the Public Service Association and the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group.***

***With my best regards,***

***Michael Coutts-Trotter***

***DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING***

***MANAGING DIRECTOR OF TAFE NSW***

## **PRPS QLD FLOOD FUNDRAISER MUFTI DAY**

Here at Peats Ridge Public School we will be holding an 'Australian Themed' Mufti Day Fundraiser. (Wear something Australian or maroon coloured clothes) on **Thursday 17th February**. Mr Randall is arranging a "Sausage Sizzle" BBQ. Cost: **\$2.50** for a sausage sandwich and a juice popper. Order forms will be sent home closer to the day. We are asking you to pre-order lunches so we know how many sausages we will need. Your support of this fundraising the event is greatly appreciated.

PS A quote included in a previous newsletter by Mr Thomas stated:

*"Defeat is not the worst of failures. Not to have tried is the true failure."* (George Edward Woodberry)

If I had not tried for the position of principal at Peats Ridge PS I would not be here writing this newsletter article right now. I challenge every student in our school to try their hardest at all times. Have a go....Don't ever say "I can't do it".

**Garry Standen**  
**Principal**

The following are some newsletter tips provided by the Department of Education. Various articles will be included in future newsletters.

### ***Education Tax Refund***

*Buying new school-related equipment? Don't forget to keep your receipts; you might be eligible for an Education Tax Refund. More information at [www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au](http://www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au)*

### ***Encouraging literacy skills at home***

#### ***Let your child help you write shopping lists***

*This is a great way to get them reading words that don't always come from a storybook. Children can help you read recipes and then write out lists of items you need and link names to products that you point out in the refrigerator or the pantry cupboard.*

*More ideas at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezine/yr2009/issue01/shopping/index.php>*

### ***Don't forget to label your child's belongings***

*You can:*

- *use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels*
- *go through your child's bag with them each night*
- *check that labels haven't faded with washing*
- *if something doesn't come home, ask at the office where your school's lost property area is.*

### ***You are welcome at school***

*Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued.*

*Ways you might get involved:*

- *help in the classroom*
- *listen to children read*
- *help children on computers*
- *help with school excursions*
- *prepare food and serve children at the canteen*
- *coach a sporting team.*

### ***Tips for packing lunch boxes***

- *Pack food that is easy to open, easy to eat and not messy.*
- *Write their name on their lunch box, water bottle and any other containers.*
- *Include a frozen drink bottle to keep food cold. Wrap it in a tea towel in case it leaks.*
- *Use insulated lunch boxes or cooler bags.*
- *Avoid using plastic wrap because children find it hard to pull apart, paper bags are better for the environment too.*
- *Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise.*
- *Remind your child to wash their hands before eating and use the toilet at recess and lunch.*
- *Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.*

## ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL SPORT PROGRAM

Just a reminder that Active After School Sport will begin again on Monday 7th February (Week 3). If you would like your child/children to participate please have your notes into the office by Friday. If you have not received a note home feel free to drop into the office and Mrs Comensoli will be happy to help you. We look forward to having a great year with Active After School Sports.

Regards,

Mr Shane Randall

School Sports Co-ordinator

## LIBRARY REPORT

### Library Days

**Thursday:** Kinder & 1/2/3

**Friday:**

4/5/6

Don't forget **all students** require a **library bag** to borrow books.

### Overdue Library Books

Some students still have overdue books from 2010. Please return all books as soon as possible as students with overdue books have reduced borrowing limits.

### Premier's Reading Challenge 2011

Welcome back from the Library. At Peats Ridge we participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge for those that are new to the school. I have listed the rules of the Challenge and the number of readings required per year level. If your child is in K, Yr1 or Yr2 the set reading will be completed at school by either the class teacher or the Librarian. All other grades need to keep their own record of text read. Happy reading!

#### Rules

1. The Challenge runs from **1 February to 1 September 2011**. Ongoing reading is encouraged. Books read from 1 September 2010 can count towards the 2011 Challenge.  
It is a condition of entry that students entering and successfully completing the Challenge will receive a PRC certificate and appear on the PRC Honour Roll (see [rule 5](#)).
2. Teachers, teacher-librarians and public librarians can assist students to choose the Challenge level and books that are appropriate for their age, interest and maturity levels. K-2 students who can read simple chapter books independently are encouraged to attempt the 3-4 Challenge.
3. An electronic Student Reading Record is completed at school by student/librarian.
4. Students must complete a set amount of reading to meet the Challenge, see table below:

Challenge	Number of books needed to complete the Challenge	Minimum number of PRC books for your Challenge	Maximum number of personal choice books	PRC booklist selection
K-2	30	25	5	K-2 , 3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
3-4	20	15	5	3-4 , 5-6 , 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6 , 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	5-6 , 7-9

Julie Blair,  
Librarian

## **CANTEEN REPORT**

Welcome back everyone. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break. Canteen has always appreciated the support that it's been shown in the past and we are looking forward to your continued support. We are planning to open on the **14th of February** but we would like to thank Annameika L. for donating and serving the lunch on Wednesday.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new families and remind the returning families that a roster is now being put together and will, hopefully, be attached to next week's PRW. Don't be shy, come and donate a meal or just your time to serve one.

To volunteer please call Linda Sutton on 43731350. Thank you.

***Toni Allen and Linda Sutton on behalf of your Canteen Committee***

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **SOCIAL BINGO**

### **FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

**Venue: Kulnura Hall**

**Daytime: 2nd Thursday of the month  
Starts 10th February 2011 at 10.30am**

**Evening: 4th Thursday of the Month  
Starts 24th February 2011 at 6.30pm**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Tea and Coffee Supplied**

**Enquiries: Annette: 4356 1196**

**Chris: 4376 1318**

**Colleen: 4390 8152**

**Kulnura Pioneer Memorial Hall Committee**