

Peats Ridge Weekly



Week 4 Term 1

FEBRUARY 14 2010

COMING EVENTS

16/02/11 – P&C Meeting at 3.30pm. All Welcome

17/02/11 – Qld Flood Appeal Mufti Day/BBQ Fundraiser

18/02/11 – 4/5/6 Vibe 3 on 3 Excursion

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!!!!

I look forward with much anticipation of seeing all our students and staff dressed in an "Australian Theme" or in maroon coloured clothes on Thursday when they support our efforts to raise funds for the Queensland schools who were victims in the recent floods. Mr Randall is including further details about the BBQ lunch in this newsletter. Thank you to Mr Randall for his organisation of this event.

reminders

- Term 1 Planner and Canteen Roster are attached to today's newsletter
- 4/5/6 Return permission notes & payment for Vibe 3 on 3 Excursion
- After School Sport - Mondays & Wednesdays (weather permitting)
- School Phone Number: 4373 1149
- Email: 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

STRONG SMALL SCHOOLS NETWORK

On Friday 4th February I attended the Small School's Teaching Principal's Network Meeting, held at Central Mangrove Public School. It is great to work alongside other small schools and as always several activities are planned across the four terms. There is a mountain schools Science Day to be held at Central Mangrove PS on Wednesday 16th March. Peats Ridge PS will hold a Ball Games Day in Term 2, a Cultural Day at Somersby PS in Term 3 and an Environment Day at Kulnura PS in Term 4. On top of this are the usual small schools sports carnivals.

P&C DAY

P&C Day officially falls on Wednesday 2nd March. Here at Peats Ridge Public School we would like to acknowledge the wonderful efforts of our magnificent P&C. On **Thursday 3rd March at 3:15pm** the staff of our school would like to thank all P&C members with an afternoon tea. We hope you can come along to the school library so we can say THANK YOU!!!!

PARENT TEACHER EVENING - Thursday 24th February 6pm

Come along to school to meet your child's class teachers. Our three classrooms will be open from 6pm to 7pm for you to talk with Mr Randall, Ms Still and Mr Standen.

This is an opportunity for parents to hear about class programs and procedures for the year.

It is hoped that parents may be able to attend without the children, but in case you have real child minding problems, Mrs Blair has very, very kindly offered to mind any students who turn up with their parents. They will be supervised in the library watching a DVD. Thank you Mrs Blair for offering this great service.

SCHOOL HALL

The completion of the new Peats Ridge Public School hall is very, very close now. The safety fences, the worksite office and amenities have all been removed. Levelling with top soil has been done on both ovals to restore them to as close as original condition. Mr Gary Rowe and the hall committee are still deciding upon quotes for the flooring and hall stage. Last Friday the Sewage Treatment Systems were explained to members of the hall committee and school personnel. Unfortunately, the students won't be able to use the hall until the flooring has been laid which will hopefully happen sometime in March. It is an OH&S issue whilst the work is going on. Be patient. It won't be very much longer and we will be able to make great use of the new hall.

STAGE 3 - A MIDDLE YEARS INITIATIVE

I would like to introduce a middle years initiative into Peats Ridge Public School that I have been using for quite some time. Many senior students in Year 5 – 9 do not feel comfortable being publicly praised in front of their peers yet still yearn for some form of recognition for their efforts and achievements. Of course many students do enjoy this public recognition, so naturally, there will still be all the usual classroom rewards, assembly awards and general recognition for all students. However, just for Year 5 and 6 students, as our middle years students, there will be an additional certificate style "Letter of Commendation" which will be mailed home direct to parents or guardians. The first a student will know about this certificate will be the excitement of their parent opening a letter from Peats Ridge Public School. Worthy students may receive several of these letters across the year. Families can then privately celebrate the achievement and success of the student in any way they wish. Many middle years students will come to school the following day and tell their peers they received a "Letter of Commendation" but others may choose to keep it private. This is the student's freedom of choice. I hope the Peats Ridge school community can embrace this small change in recognition of our special Year 5 and Year 6 students as they near the transition to high school.

YEAR 7 PLACEMENT FOR 2012

All Year 6 students have received an Expression of Interest for Placement in Year 7 at a NSW Government Secondary School in 2012. These forms need to be completed and returned to the school office by this **Friday, 18th February**. As all Year 6 students are tracked to high school we require this form to be returned. You can certainly note on the form that placement in a NSW government school is not required, if your secondary school choice is elsewhere.

STUDENT SAFETY

As a principal and a classroom teacher, safety of the students in my care is always paramount. I have been observing the students playing at Peats Ridge since I arrived. Whilst I appreciate the need for "kids to be kids" and have lots of fun in the playground I am also extremely conscious of keeping your children as safe as possible whilst at school. I am making arrangements for a removable chain to go across the asphalt drive between the staff carpark and the middle grass gardens. This will prevent any unauthorised vehicles driving anywhere near the playground areas, yet still allow delivery vehicles access to the canteen. I am also asking the students not to play with sticks, stones or rocks whilst at school. Many students have been doing this in the past two weeks and I have been very understanding of their desire to build and create whilst playing with peers. I really worry about potential accidents to eyes etc. I hope you, as parents and guardians continue to support me in my endeavour to keep your children safe.

HUNTER SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

Hunter School of the Performing Arts offers a unique educational environment, being NSW's only fully-selective public Performing Arts School. The school's Junior (2-4), Middle (5-8) and Senior (9-12) schools deliver outstanding developmental programs, with a gifted and talented focus in Dance, Drama and Music.


In addition, academic, welfare and sporting programs complement the delivery of a comprehensive academic Year 2-12 curriculum that caters for students' individual abilities. Academic giftedness and learning support needs are accommodated. Enrolment is by audition only with applications for 2012 enrolment being accepted in Years 2-11. The School welcomes applications in these years. However, please be aware that the School is responsive to continuing patterns of enrolment and that the majority of vacancies do occur in the junior and middle years (Years 2-8). Year 2-7 students undertake compulsory studies in Dance, Drama and Music as part of the Junior and Middle School Curriculum. The school offers strong academic programs in English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Visual Arts, Technology & Applied Sciences, Languages Other than English and Personal Development, Physical Education and Health.


Applications for Enrolment Auditions are available from:

 Hunter School of the Performing Arts (HSPA); and

 HSPA's School's Website: www.hspa.nsw.edu.au

Enrolment applications close at these two individual times:

 7 - 111.00 pm 16th March, 2011

 2 - 61.00 pm 15th June, 2011

For further information regarding the junior, middle or senior school, please contact: (02) 4952 3355 or 4952 3297 or huntperfor-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

Garry Standen
Principal

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

Are your details up to date?

Have you recently moved or changed phone numbers? Please inform the front office with any changes in your living situation so we can contact you if the need arises. It is essential when students are sick that we can make quick access to parents and/or emergency contacts. Your assistance in keeping our records up to date is very much appreciated.

If your child is absent from school

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, please send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence within seven days. After seven days, the absence is noted as unexplained and remains this in school records even when a note is received after seven days. If your child is absent from school for more than two days, a courtesy call to the front office would be very much appreciated.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact your principal, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on telephone number **13 1450** and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the principal and will stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Wednesday 2 March is P&C day

'Try a little Kindness' is a day for our school community to officially recognise and celebrate the contribution made by our local P&C association. Here at Peats Ridge we will be celebrating on **Thursday 3rd March**.

Tuesday 8 March is International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global event that celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. More information at www.internationalwomensday.com

Reminder: If your child has any allergy, medical condition or special needs, talk to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Also, inform the school Senior Administrative Manager, Mrs Jo Comensoli.

Reading with children is fun and one of the best ways to help prepare them for school.

Tip: Try not to let television or computer games intrude on reading time - set aside some uninterrupted time to read with your child.

Selective high schools placement test – 17 March

The selective high schools test is held annually for Year 6 students wishing to enter a selective government high school. For key dates, online applications and more information for parents, see www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php

QUEENSLAND FLOOD APPEAL - Great Aussie BBQ

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, all schools have been asked to assist Queensland schools with the clean up after the recent floods. To help raise much needed funds for our northern neighbours, Peats Ridge Public School will be holding an Australian themed Mufti Day and BBQ lunch on **Thursday 17th February**. Please bring some gold coin donations and money to purchase lunch on the day. All proceeds going to flood victims.

Lunch will include a sausage sandwich, onions, choice of sauce, a bottle of water and watermelon. Cost is only \$3.50.

To order your child's lunch simply fill out the order form going home with all students today and return it to school by **Wednesday 16th February**.

Mr Shane Randall

LIBRARY REPORT

Scholastic Book Club

Twice each term Book Club brochures are sent home with students. Each club is exclusively school based and is run by Mrs Blair and Tina Burton. In every issue of the *Scholastic* Book Club student brochures, you will find a terrific selection of award winning titles, classic fiction, reference and sports books and much more.

By participating in *Scholastic* Book Club, you help our school to earn FREE teaching materials and resources for our library and classrooms. Every order your child places earns bonus coupons which are used to purchase items for our school.

Orders for issue 1 are due back this **Friday, 18th February**. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Gosford City Library Bookmobile

Every 2nd Tuesday morning at 9.45am our school is visited by Gosford City Council's mobile library bus. Students are able to borrow books from the mobile library. Parents are also welcome to contact Gosford Library, if you are a member, and they will reserve books for you and deliver them to school. See our Term 1 planner for dates.

Julie Blair, Librarian

ASSEMBLY AWARDS-WEEK 3, TERM 1

Citizenship

Anthony S., Jazz O., Monique G., Sophie G., Lily H., Mykalah P., Lucas B., Thomas H., Daisy G.

P&C REPORT

Welcome back to PRPS Newsletter for 2011.

I would firstly like to introduce the P&C Committee to all the new families who have joined us for the first time.

President:	Josephine Sparacino
Vice-Presidents:	Leanne Johnson & Donna Hobday

Treasurer: Linda Tselis
Secretary: Anne Bolton
Canteen Committee: Toni Allen and Linda Sutton

Please feel free to say hi and ask us questions as we are happy to assist you and your children settling in to PRPS. You are most welcome to join us at our next P&C Meeting on **Wednesday 16th February at 3.30pm.**

I would also like to make a special welcome to Mr Garry Standen and thank him for accepting the position as Principal. Mr Standen has many years' teaching experience and I'm sure he will enjoy his position here at PRPS with the support of the lovely children and parents who make up our school community.

Regards,
Josephine Sparacino, P&C President

CANTEEN REPORT

Thank you to all the Mums who acted so promptly, our roster was finished in record time. Thank you also to Kate P. for today's lovely lunch.

This term we will be open every Monday with Mix & Match Mondays - this is a white or whole meal sandwich with a selection of toppings for \$1.00. Every second Wednesday and every Friday we sell donated home cooked meals. Recess will only be served at the volunteer of the day's discretion.

The canteen roster is attached to today's newsletter (see pink sheet). Kinder families should have received a price list on Friday. Copies are available in the office if anyone needs one.

Roster

Wednesday 16/02/11

SOUP & BREAD **\$3.00**
A choice between Tomato & Carrot or Chicken & Corn Soup

Supplied & Served by: *Annamieka L.*

Friday 18/02/11

Recess: Banana & Honey Smoothies **\$1.50** (Made to order. Please place order in the morning.)
Lunch: Chicken Wraps **\$2.50** (chicken, lettuce, cheese & mayonaise)

Supplied by: *Canteen* Served by: *Toni A.*

Monday 16/02/11

MIX & MATCH SANDWICHES OR WRAPS **\$1.00**

**a choice of Vegemite, Jam, Honey, Ham, Tuna, Mayonaise, Cheese, Egg and Lettuce on white or wholemeal bread.*

Supplied by: *Canteen* Served by: *Kate P.*

Drinks:

\$1.30 chocolate or strawberry milk, orange juice, apple juice, tropical juice, brekky juice, apple/blackcurrant, juice
\$1.00 water **\$1.20** sippa straws

Toni Allen and Linda Sutton on behalf of your Canteen Committee