

Peats Ridge Weekly



Week 4 Term 1

FEBRUARY 13 2012

COMING EVENTS

Thursday 23rd February

Tuesday 28th February

Monday 5th March

Thursday 8th March

Thursday 16th March

Wednesday 21st March

Monday 26th March

Thursday 5th April

Monday 23rd April

Parent Teacher Evening - In classrooms 6pm-7pm

Small Schools Swimming Carnival

Year 6 Students issued with High School information for 2013

Science Day for Small Schools here at Peats Ridge PS

Return High School Expression of Interest Forms

Harmony Day

P&C Annual General Meeting 6.45pm

National Young Leaders Day (Sydney Excursion for Year 6 only)

Last day of Term 1

First day of Term 2 for ALL students (NO School Development Day)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

LATE ARRIVALS / EARLY DEPARTURES

A reminder to parents that all students arriving at school after the official starting time of 9:00am **MUST escort** their child to the front office and sign the child/children into school. Please do not send your child from the car on his/her own. Please do not take your child to the classroom without the Late Arrival slip from the office. This late arrival time is documented and a regular pattern of lateness will be investigated by the Department of Education and Communities Home School Liaison Officer. Also, if you are collecting your child/children at any time of the day except 3:10pm, please call at the front office to complete an early departure note. Then proceed to the classroom, present the Early Departure slip to the classroom teacher and then you may take your child early. This process is in place for the protection of your children. We need to know the validity of the person collecting the child. Thank you for your support in this matter.

PARENT SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Thank you for your wonderful response to our Parent Satisfaction Survey. Please return English/Literacy surveys as well which were distributed last week. Thank you in anticipation of your responses.

KIDANSYS DANCE PROGRAM

The children are having a great time with Lyn each Wednesday. The children wishing to be a part of our audition for the Central Coast Dance Festival have been

reminders

- Payments for KIDANSYS Dance Program Now Due
- Active After School Sport will commence next week on **MONDAY** and **WEDNESDAY** afternoons
- 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>

selected and are 'locked' into the rehearsal times between 10:30 and 11:30 each week. Please ensure payment is made by Wednesday 15th February so your child can continue attending the sessions. Please contact the office if you are having difficulties paying but want your child to attend.

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2012 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on **1800 500 501**, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

EXCURSIONS Canberra / Bathurst / Challenge Ranch

The recent Teaching Principal Network Meeting for the Mountain Schools discussed our combined activities including overnight excursions. Below is the proposal that each principal is taking to their respective school communities.

EVEN Years Years 5 and 6 attend Canberra Excursion (3 days / 2 nights)

ODD Years Years 5 and 6 attend Bathurst (3 days / 2 nights)

ANNUALLY Year 4 attend Challenge Ranch (2 days / 1 night) as a lead up to the longer excursions

Canberra and Bathurst excursions only support the Stage 3 syllabus HSIE units for Years 5 & 6. Year 4 have been previously added in to make up numbers on the coaches. Of course as numbers of students in each grade changes dramatically year to year so must we re-assess this proposed plan on a regular basis. It was found that 2 nights away from home was causing quite a bit of anxiety for some Year 4 students. The Year 5/6 Leadership Training and Transition activities held at Challenge Ranch in late Term 4 are now being covered through very strong links with Kariong Mountains High School Transition Programs (Literacy Days, Sports Gala Days, Transition Programs)

This year the Year 5 & 6 Canberra Excursion and the Year 4 Challenge Ranch overnight stay have been booked for September 19th – 21st. Please plot the dates on your calendars.

UNIVERSITY OF NSW INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS and ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS) 2012

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to enter the UNSW ICAS. This is the largest independent competition and assessment program for schools in Australia. It is also delivered to over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, Pacific and the USA. Students of any ability are entitled to enter although the competition is highly competitive and aimed at assessing more capable students. Students are awarded Certificates of Participation OR Credit, Distinction and High Distinction Certificates. Areas and fees are listed below for your information.

Dates for the competitions are listed for your information. Please do not enter a competition if planning a family holiday around these dates. The dates cannot be changed and there will be no refunds.

Please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return to school with payment. There is still time to return the form. Once entries are received, the school will enter online. Tests are administered by Peats Ridge PS teaching staff. Parents receive a detailed explanation of student results.

INFORMATION PROVIDED by the Department of Education and Communities

Beat the heat

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Remind your child to protect themselves from sun and heat exposure while at school by: reducing their exposure to the sun, wherever possible

wearing broad-brimmed hats in the playground to protect the face, neck and ears, playing in shaded areas, particularly during peak times of UV levels, drinking plenty of water, using 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.

Selective high schools placement test – 15 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

VALENTINES DAY Year 6 Fundraiser

On Valentines Day, Tuesday the 14th February Year 6 will be holding a fundraiser to raise money for the school.

Things that will be held on this day

- Jellybean jar guess! (\$1 per guess)
- A cupcake stall! (\$1 a cupcake)
- \$1 coin donation for mufti Red day! (mufti optional but it will help year 6 raise money)

Garry Standen

Principal

ASSEMBLY AWARDS WEEK 2, TERM 1

Citizenship

Monique G., Logan J., Karl W., Tessa H., Jacob Page.

Merit

Sophie G., Rose K., Marcus S., Jared S., Kate P., Tylar H

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club

There is a Scholastic Book Club for every grade level from pre-school to junior high. Each Club is exclusively school-based and is run by Mrs Blair and Tina Burton. In each issue of the Scholastic Book Club student brochure, your child will find a terrific selection of new and noteworthy fiction, classics, award winning titles, perennial favourites, reference books, sports books and more.

By Participating in Scholastic Book Clubs, your school can earn FREE teaching materials and resources for their classroom and library. Every order you or your child places earns bonus coupons, to be used to purchase items for your school. Reading Rewards allow schools to build classroom and library resources for the benefit of the school community. Every order can earn Bonus Coupons and Free Picks. So get involved. Last year we received over sixty books for free or at a reduced rate because of the Book Club purchases.

Twice each Term, Book Club brochures are sent home with students. Students return order forms and payments to the school. Then the books are delivered to the school.

Premier's Reading Challenge

Welcome back from the Library. At Peats Ridge we participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. For those who are new to the school I have listed the rules of the Challenge and the number of reading per year level. If your child is in K, Yr 1 or Yr 2 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 texts read.

Rules:

1. The Challenge runs from **1 February to 1 September 2012**. Ongoing reading is encouraged. Books read from 1 September 2011 can count towards the 2012 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. 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

4. Special Notes

- Independent K-2 readers should attempt the 3-4 Challenge.
- To experience a book a child can listen to the book, participate in a shared reading of the book or read part or all of the book independently.

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(RETURN TO SCHOOL)

UNIVERSITY OF NSW COMPETITIONS - ICAS 2012

STUDENT NAME;.....GRADE;.....

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STUDENT NAME;.....GRADE;.....

Area	Fee	Date	Tick if entering
COMPUTER SKILLS	\$7	Tuesday 22nd May	
SCIENCE	\$7	Wednesday 6th June	
WRITING	\$15	Monday 18th June	
SPELLING	\$10	Tuesday 19th June	
ENGLISH	\$7	Tuesday 31st July	
MATHEMATICS	\$7	Tuesday 14th August	

TOTAL payment included \$.....