

Peats Ridge Weekly



Week 2 Term 2

April 30 2012

COMING EVENTS

Tuesday 1st May

Wednesday 2nd May

Friday 4th May

Wednesday 9th May

Friday 11th May

Monday 14th May

Tues 15-Thurs 17 May

Tuesday 6th June

Monday 11th June

Monday 18th June

Tuesday 19th June

Thursday 21st June

Thursday 28th June

Friday 29th June

Tennis Program commences

Bunnings Sustainability visit

Small Schools Cross Country at Central Mangrove PS

Impact Student Leadership Conference-Newcastle

Central Coast Primary Student Leadership Forum-Wyong

Gosford City Council Environmental Program & Competition launch

P & C Meeting 3.15pm

NAPLAN for Year 3 and Year 5

ICAS (NSW Uni) Science Assessment

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

ICAS (NSW Uni) Writing Assessment

ICAS (NSW Uni) Spelling Assessment

Years 3-6 Excursion to CARES Bike Education Program in Wyong

Small Schools BALL GAMES DAY at Peats Ridge PS

Last day of Term 2 for students

School Development Day - Teaching Staff only

(This date was changed from Monday 23rd April)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

MRS JO COMENSOLI

Some of our parents may be wondering why Jo hasn't been seen in the front office for a while. Jo decided to reduce her working days, and for consistency to have the one staff member in our front office five days a week, we have kept Mrs Margaret Laird on as our Relieving Senior Administrative Manager for the rest of 2012. Jo will be working a couple of days a week at Spencer Public School for the rest of the year. We will all miss Jo terribly but anticipate seeing her back at Peats Ridge next year. These changes have been approved by the Relieving School Education director.

Reminders

- Please return all spare red hats and check jumpers for correct names.
- Active After School Sport Begins today. Term 2 sessions start on Monday 30 April and Wednesday 2 May (Week 2)
- 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>

EASTER HAT PARADE

For the first time ever, the traditional Easter Hat Parade was held in our community hall. Congratulations to all the students who paraded so 'proudly' on the last day of Term 1. Special thanks must go to our guest judges on the day, Margaret and Kaye Pointer and June Gibson. The quality of some of the hat creations caused the judges to have a very difficult time indeed. Thanks to our wonderful P&C for organising the afternoon tea of Easter buns, fresh fruit juice and hot drinks. Thanks, Tim!!!!!!



WEEKEND WORKING BEE - A BIG THANK YOU!!!!!!

Thanks to all our families (mums, dads and children) who came along yesterday on a Sunday to help clean up and mulch some of our gardens, especially our vegie garden. As well as this the whole pile of 'green garden waste' was removed by Grant Skinner from in front of the "old" residence in preparation for the building of the "new" chicken coop which Mr Randall is organising. Thanks to Mr Randall for his superb organisation and management of the "jobs to be done" on the day.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILL

Late last term we held an evacuation drill. The students were taught in class about the reasons behind the emergency evacuation drills and that they were not to worry when they heard the bells going off. They understand that the teaching staff have the responsibility to keep them safe in the event of an emergency. If you are ever on site during a drill please note the "Assembly Point" for Peats Ridge Public School is on the cricket pitch on the very top oval.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS and ASSESSMENTS for SCHOOLS (ICAS)

This term will see the implementation of some of the assessments for 2012. These are the competitions run by the University of NSW and parents have already paid for these assessments. Students participating will be withdrawn from their class by one of our teaching staff members whilst completing the competitions. Please refer to the dates on the calendar above.

NAPLAN

The National Assessments Program Literacy And Numeracy for Year 3 and Year 5 students will take place during Term 2 Week 4 on Tuesday 15th, Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th May. Friday 18th May is set aside as a catch up day for any child who may have missed one of the assessments. All assessments must be returned to the marking centre at the end of Friday 18th May.

OPPORTUNITY CLASS for Year 5 - 2013

Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2013 are required to submit an application by 18 May 2012. Generally students are in Year 4 in 2012 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2013.

Parents of Year 4 students are now invited to apply for opportunity class placement. Newspaper advertising will be placed by the Selective High School and Opportunity Class Placement unit to advise the wider community.

Parents seeking opportunity class placement for students in 2013 will be able to apply for up to two schools of their choice. It is expected that parents will make appropriate decisions when choosing a school that is within reasonable travelling distance. Our closest opportunity class placement would be at Gosford P.S. and there is also one at Wyong P.S.

Parents of students currently enrolled in a NSW public school with access to the internet, a printer and their own email address (not the student's) should apply for opportunity class placement online by going to the [NSW Public Schools website](http://www.nswpublicschools.org).

Online applications open on **Monday 30 April 2012**. All other applicants must complete an official

printed application form.

Application packages will be available in schools from **7 May 2012**. The number of application packages dispatched will be reduced this year in response to the high demand for online applications. Schools requiring additional application packages should contact the unit.

Application forms whether submitted online or lodged with the principal should be received by the student's current primary school by **Friday 18 May 2012**.

INFORMATION PROVIDED by the Department of Education and Communities

Tax rebate for school items

The Education Tax Refund provides up to 50 per cent back on a range of children's education expenses. In the 2011-12 tax year, you could claim up to \$409 for primary students and \$818 for secondary students.

The Education Tax Refund now includes school-approved uniforms, purchased from 1 July 2011, so items of clothing including hats, footwear and sports uniforms approved by a school as its uniform may be claimed from 1 July 2012.

Keep your receipts for school uniforms and other education-related purchases so you can claim them at tax time. You will need them to calculate your refund and you may need to show them as proof of purchase.

The website www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au will help you decide if you are eligible and explains what you can claim and how to claim.

Privacy Awareness Week

27 April – 5 May 2012

Privacy Awareness Week is a chance to remind your children to protect their personal details and information, especially online.

Australians lead the world when it comes to average monthly social media use and we share many details of our lives online.

As a parent, you can help your child behave in safe and smart ways to minimise the risks of their online activity.

To ensure that your kids are protected from cyber bullying, unwanted attention or privacy breaches, you can:

- remind them not to share their user names and passwords with anyone
- go through the privacy settings of social networking sites with them to make sure they are only sharing their personal information with their friends
- talk to them about the danger of identity theft and the permanence of online sharing.

For more information on how to educate your children about protecting their privacy online and how to avoid being a victim of identity theft or even how to stop junk mail, go to: <http://www.privacyawarenessweek.org/youth.html>

World Asthma Day

World Asthma Day is on 3 May. If you or someone in your family is one of the 10 per cent of people in Australia with asthma, you can find lots of resources to understand and manage this condition at: www.asthmafoundation.org.au

If your child suffers asthma, we recommend the school be given an up to date asthma management plan available from your child's GP or specialist. If they require an inhaler, please ensure there is one in their bag at all times.

Garry Standen
Principal

TERM 2 WORKING BEE

On Sunday 29th of April we had our first working bee for the year and what a resounding success it was. Although the weather threatened to dampen the spirit of the day we achieved some amazing things. All of the gardens in the school received a much needed lift with fresh mulch, a trim and weeding. The school vegetable garden is now up and running once again and is ready for our visit from the team at Bunnings on Wednesday. The vegetable garden is weed free, freshly fertilised and ready to be planted with an amazing variety of vegetables. On the day we also made fantastic progress in preparing the site for our chook shed which is being built in the coming weeks. This would have been an extremely difficult task if we didn't have the fantastic support of Grant Skinner and his tractor., thank you Grant. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the following families, Skinners, Hellyers, Glovers, Popes, Gatts, Farr and Kemps for their hard work and dedication on the day. Without the support of our school community projects like our working bee become almost impossible. I would like to say a very special thank you too, Mykalah, Chaynece, Jazmin, Christopher, Lachlan, Monique, Kaitlyn, Brendan, Thomas, Angus, Sophie, Max and Ellie for giving up their weekend to come back to school and working to beautify the school grounds, I am very proud of you all!!!

Shane Randall
Classroom Teacher



LIBRARY NEWS TechoPush 2012



Peats Ridge Public School has entered the NRMA TechnoPush Kids' Design Challenge.

TechnoPush is an exciting program where students, teachers and local communities work together to design and construct a vehicle to detailed specifications. It requires a team effort including all students and promotes a connected outcomes approach.

The NRMA TechnoPush Challenge is part of Kids' Design Challenges project which provides unique opportunities for primary and secondary students to participate in real-life tasks of personal and community relevance.

Kids' Design Challenges support students to work collaboratively as they research needs and issues and devise design ideas and solutions. The aim is to promote and use design and technological know-how as a means of solving problems related to our world. Designing and making is well integrated with investigating as students explore and clarify ideas and solutions.

Definition of a pushcart

A pushcart is a billycart that is designed to be pushed by one person whilst being steered by another person seated in it. As with many products, science and technology have contributed to the evolution of the pushcart. Today pushcarts are built using a variety of materials, in all sorts of shapes and with a focus on safety.

Students from 4/5/6 will be working on this challenge throughout Terms 2 & 3.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

I am keen to identify anyone who may be able to help with ideas, supply the class equipment, or spend some time helping us build our pushcart. Volunteers will be needed to work with the class during Terms 2 & 3. You can help in any way by donating construction material, making team uniforms or simply giving your time. Please contact Julie Blair on 43731149.

Julie Blair
Librarian

ASSEMBLY AWARDS WEEK 4, TERM

Citizenship

Bianca V., Max S., Mykalah P., Logan J.

Merit

Sophie G., Jared S., Jayden V., Lily F., Austin P.,

Library

Brendan H., Mishka S.

P&C NEWS

Mother's Day Plates

The "Design a Plates" for Mother's Day have arrived. They look fantastic.....Well done to the children with their wonderful creations.

Could you please ensure payment is made by Tuesday at the latest as the children will be bringing the plates home this week.

Thank you
Josephine Sparacino

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen will be open for lunch only this week.

Wednesday 2nd May 2012

Hot dog and bottled water meal deal - \$3.00`

Supplied and served by Toni A.

COMMUNITY NEWS

New Dance Class

For school age girls on the mountain. Would you like to do some dancing that is energetic, easy and fun? Come along and learn lots of different styles of Eastern dancing. No dance shoes are required and weekly costs are very reasonable. Most costumes can be made at home and we have a costume pool as well. Classes will be on Tuesday afternoons at Kulnujur Hall. Enrol now! Phone teacher Joanne 0412290031 (or Sue Douglas 43761350). Class times will depend on numbers and ages of girls interested. Organised by KCAEP for the girls of the mountain area.