



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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7th November 2017
Week 5 Term 4

www.peatsridge-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

DIARY DATES

TERM 4

Every Monday: Newsletter
Every Tuesday: Scripture
Every Friday: Sport

Wednesday 8th Nov

Belrose PS Band visit
KMHS Info night 6:30pm

Friday 10th Nov

PBL Rewards Day

Tuesday 14th Nov

KMHS Yr 11 Physics students
visit with Years 4-6

Friday 17th Nov

Small Schools Floorball for
Years 3-6 at Peninsula
Leisure Centre

Monday 20th November

Cycling Safety Day

Tuesday 28th Nov

SRE Christmas Service

Monday 4th Dec

P&C Meeting at 3:30pm in
the Library

Monday 4th Dec to

Friday 15th Dec

Whole school Swim Scheme

Tuesday 11th Dec

PRPS Presentation Night

Wednesday 12th Dec

Year 6 Farewell Dinner

Friday 15th Dec

Year 6 Day Out
Last Day school for all
students and staff

Tuesday 30th Jan

First day Term 1 for
Years 1 to 6

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students and families,

What was the first thing noticed by our band visitors from Balgowlah North PS today? The deafening chorus of cicadas! As Thomas proudly stated, "They're our band!"

'BRIGHT SPARKS' ENERGY TRAILER

Everyone had a fun time on Friday, experimenting with all the fabulous STEM gear brought along by Michelle in Rumbalara's 'Bright Sparks' trailer- magnets, coils, metals, wind turbines, a solar oven and panels, insulated boxes, a bike generator and lots more!

Here are some interesting facts P1 learned...

Hunter You can use the mechanical energy of bike riding to make the lights work.

Eli Copper and zinc stuck in a lemon can conduct electricity.

Hastings When ancient trees fell into the swamp, they made coal.

Brax One end of the magnets is attracted to other magnets but the opposite ends hate each other!

Ollie I turned the wheel really fast to get the copper wire and magnets spinning and the light came on!

Matteo In the little steam engine, the 'coal' fire lighters heated up the water to make steam and turned the engine and we made it whistle.

Shakia There are lots of different kinds of energy: wind, solar, electrical, mechanical...

Abbey The mirrors reflected the light onto the big column to collect energy and we made a buzzer, light and fan work!

PBL VALUE OF THE WEEK

RESPECT

Use all school equipment respectfully

'OUR GREEN CLASSROOM' YEAR 6 GROUP LEADERSHIP

As a follow-up to the leadership day at Australia Walkabout Wildlife Park last term, our Year 6 students also co-ordinated peer study groups to research the carbon stored in our trees, a playground bug survey and a school-wide energy audit. This new Central Coast Council initiative aims to build awareness of the environment, how to look after it and the impact it has on our lives. Students learned how to recycle better, consume less, be water wise, reduce waste and energy and enjoy nature. Most of all, we're seeing that small changes can make a big difference. The findings will be published soon...

TEACHER EDUCATION STUDENTS FROM NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

Our two lovely 3rd year Teacher Education Students (TES) from the School of Education at Newcastle University begin their placement at Peats today. Please read their personal introductions in this newsletter.

P1- Jake Thew P2- Sarah Johnstone

Teaching practicum placements are compulsory and play a critical role in ensuring graduates have the prerequisite knowledge, skills and dispositions for a successful career in teaching. Jake and Sarah will be with us until Friday, 1st Dec (end Week 8) so please say hello and introduce yourself!

PLANNING FOR 2018

Thank you to our P&C members for generating lots of interesting ideas to include in our next School Plan 2018~20. We are currently forming milestones around our two new Strategic Directions:

Thinking - innovative, future-focused teaching and learning, IT, STEM, goal-setting, feedback, behavior modification, the Premier's Literacy and numeracy targets...and

Linking – transitions from preschool->P1->P2->HS, community involvement and expertise, University of Newcastle ties, our Small Mountain Schools and learning community networks.

It's not a rushed process and consultation with our students and families is vital so please let myself, Mr Randall or Ms Beck know of any suggestions, new directions, concerns or improvements on your mind.

Good luck in the Cup!

Ms Austin

Principal (Rel)

Budding biologists, here are the answers to last week's cicada questions...

The name comes directly from the Latin **cicada**, meaning "tree cricket"

Around 3000 species worldwide and 200~800 in Australia (depends on the website)

Annual cicadas emerge every year and a *periodical cicadas* in North America emerge only every 13 or 17 (prime) years

Female cicadas lay eggs in slits made in plant stems and branches and when they hatch, they fall to the ground and burrow

Cicadas feed only on plant sap

Birds, bats, spiders, wasps, ants, mantids and tree crickets all prey on cicadas- and in some cultures, humans eat them too!

Nymphs usually live underground 6~7 years, shedding their skin at intervals

Cicadas live up to 2.5m underground, sucking sap from plant roots

When the soil temperature reaches 18°C cicada *nymphs* burrow their way back to the surface

'Ecdysis' means moulting or shedding an outer skin

After shedding their skin for the last time, cicadas only live about a month

In a good year, a cicada *brood* can number more than a million per hectare

Cicadas are so conspicuous that many of their common names were initially given to them by children. As a result, cicadas probably have the most colourful common names in the insect world, including: Black Prince, Tiger prince, Golden Emperor, Masked Devil, Double Drummer, Floury Baker, Green Grocer and Yellow Monday.

No, cicadas can't hurt you

Each species has its own male sounds and favourite time to sing

5 eyes- 2 large compound eyes and 3 very small glistening simple eyes (ocelli) on the top of the head.

FROM THE OFFICE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL YEAR 6 PARENTS

The *Kariong Mountains High School Year 7 2018 Information Evening* is being held this **Wednesday 8th November** 2017 between **6:30pm-8:30pm**. If your child is attending Kariong Mountains High School next year, please make sure you attend. Also, could any enrolment forms that haven't been returned to the high school be completed and returned to KMHS as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Kate Wilson
School Admin Manager

TEACHER EDUCATION STUDENTS - PERSONAL INTRODUCTIONS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Sarah Johnstone. I am a student from the University of Newcastle studying a Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) Honours Degree. I have been lucky enough to have been allocated Peats Ridge Public School to undertake my third-year professional placement. This means I will be working with your child in their classroom for the next month.

The professional placement dates are as follows: Monday 6th November to Friday 1st December.

This experience will involve lots of learning, not only for the students, but for myself as I will be given the opportunity to teach your child on an individual, and whole class level with support from my supervising teacher, Alicia Beckenham. I am looking forward to this unique learning experience and would be thrilled to meet any of you during this time.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Johnstone

Hi, my name is Jake Thew and I will be a student teacher in P1 for the next four weeks. I am a third-year university student at University of Newcastle. A little bit about me - I grew up on the Central Coast and played baseball at a state level as well as attended numerous leadership camps. I've always wanted to teach Primary as at that stage in my life, a teacher made a big difference to my behaviour and my life in general. I am really excited to teach at Peats Ridge Public School and get to know the students and the community. I would like to thank Mr Randall and the staff for giving me the opportunity to learn from them and their experiences.

Thank you,
Jake Thew

Intention to apply for Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2019

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 15 March 2018.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2019, you need to apply soon. You will need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

The application website opens at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7> on 10 October 2017 and closes on 13 November 2017. You must apply before the closing date.

There are no paper application forms. If you do not have internet access, you could apply at a public library. If you have a disability that prevents you from using a computer, you can contact the Unit for assistance after 10 October 2017.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.



All donations (big and small) will be greatly appreciated!

To help make our Presentation Night Raffle a huge success, we request donations of Raffle Prizes (such as gifts, vouchers, hampers, toys – *basically whatever you prefer!*)

If all donations can be returned to school with your child by no later than Wednesday 6th December so that our P&C can create the Prize List in time for our raffle.

Tickets for our Monster Presentation Night Raffle will go on sale shortly. We genuinely appreciate any donation you (or your business) can make!

The Great Benefits of the School Bus

Have you considered looking into using the school bus service as a way of getting to and from school? Here's some information you may not have known that will help you make up your mind.

Did you know that bus travel is the safest form of land travel in Australia?

Did you know that school children between the ages of 5 and 16 years, travelling to and from school, are substantially safer travelling by bus than other modes of transport?

Did you know that until the end of Year 2 bus passes are free for all students?

Did you know that if you live over 1.6km (most direct route) from the school, you can get a free bus pass?

Did you know that it only costs approx \$1/per day (\$52/term) to get a bus pass?

Other benefits of catching the bus to and from school include:

- Reducing traffic around the school, thus increasing safety for all our kids
- Reducing environmental damage from running your car
- Promoting and encouraging safe independence with our children
- Drop off right outside the school gate (or closer to the school gate then you can get dropping your child safely with your car)
- Extra 'me' time for busy mums.



PHOTOS FOR THE WEEK



Cicadas



Board Games

OUR EGGCELLENT COOK FOR THE WEEK



YEAR 6 'OUR GREEN CLASSROOM' GROUP LEADERSHIP



RUMBALARA 'BRIGHT SPARKS' ENERGY TRAILER

