



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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12th September 2017
Week 9 Term 3

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

DIARY DATES

TERM 3

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

Tuesday 12th Sept
Parent/Teacher Interviews

**Thursday 14th to
Friday 15th Sept**
Stage 2 Jenolan Caves
Excursion

Friday 15th Sept
NO Assembly

Monday 18th Sept
Parent/Teacher Interviews
Peats Pride Assembly

Tuesday 19th Sept
Surf Ed Visit

Friday 22nd Sept
NO Assembly
Last day Term 3

Monday 9th Oct
First day Term 4 for all
students

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students and families,

With the temperature starting to get warmer and some students out of uniform due to late water deliveries, it's shaping up to be a long, dry summer. A WHS consultant is visiting Peats this week, along with the other mountain schools, to review our Bushfire Plan and ensure we are prepared. Our general Assistant, Mr Pugh is also doing a terrific job cleaning up the piles of logs around the site left after the last storms. With the season bringing snakes, ticks and spiders, Mr Pugh is also starting work on a chain boundary fence along the playground tree line to clearly mark 'out of bounds' areas to students and hopefully, reduce the number of incidents involving sticks.

ANNUAL BOOK FAIR, FAMILY PICNIC LUNCH AND BOOK PARADE

What a fabulous day we all had last Wednesday! There was a big turnout of visitors to enjoy a picnic lunch in the beautiful spring weather and to admire the students as they paraded around the hall in their wonderful costumes. Congratulations to the winners in each category and I hope you're enjoying your special prizes:

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Most Creative</i>	<i>Best on Theme</i>
<i>Kindergarten</i>	Brax	Hastings
<i>Stage 1</i>	Hunter	Ollie
<i>Stage 2</i>	Violet	Beau
<i>Stage 3</i>	Brendan	Thomas

Thank you parents for your amazing effort with costumes, make the day such a success and for being so generous at the Book Fair. Over \$1000 was raised for new books going directly into our Library (see the photo), making Miss Beck extremely happy!

«THINK LEFT &
THINK RIGHT»
& THINK LOW
and think high
OH, THE THINGS
YOU CAN THINK UP
IF ONLY
YOU TRY!

-DR. SEUSS, OH, THE THINGS YOU CAN THINK!

PBL VALUE OF THE WEEK

RESPECT

Wait your turn to speak

REGIONAL SPELLING BEE

On Thursday, it was a pleasure to accompany our four top spellers to the Regional Spelling Bee hosted at Lisarow PS. Hayley was caught with the word *tonal* in Round 2 and Savannah made it to Round 4 before *skeleton* proved too tricky. The standard of competition was incredibly high and here are a few words that knocked out their opponents to test yourself:

Round 2- diva, halter, dangle

Round 3- tartan, sandal, approval

Round 4- preposterous, adamant, cleanse, intensity, forlorn, galah, tangible

Round 5- weasel, grimace, compassion, marzipan, crevice

Round 6- Antarctica, centurion, horticulture, frivolous, equitable

Round 7- alkaline, circumnavigate, exhilarate

The senior competition was even more challenging. Jade and Isabelle made it to Round 2 but fell foul of *negligent* and *nautilus**. Here are some other examples of words that stumped competitors showing the high level of difficulty:

Round 2- misshapen, luscious, pinafore, intrigue, decipher, bristle, incense, quotient

Round 3- percolator, fastidious, toreador*, jeopardy, grievous, criticism

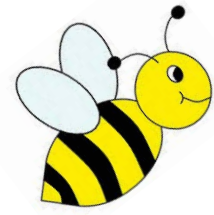
Round 4- emoticon, manganese, ineptitude, correlation

Round 5- Afghanistan, buoyant*

Round 6 & 7- imminent, disseminate, duplicitous, contemporaneous!

I'm so proud of our girls for their top effort and exemplary behaviour and know we'll have an even better crop of spellers to try out next year!

* Words Ms Austin and Ms Beck would have misspelt too!



NAPLAN ONLINE READINESS TESTS

After a few false starts, Year 3 and 5 students completed the NAPLAN Online trial in readiness for students next year to sit the national testing program on computers. Our feedback on issues particularly pertaining to small schools will hopefully ensure that things run smoothly next year.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY

Luckily for us, Thursday was a perfect day for Miss Beck and Mr Randall to take lessons outside. P1 students joined in the Humpty Dumpty STEM Challenge to build Humpty a safer wall to sit on, while P2 studied angles and textures, sketched trees and enjoyed group reading activities in the fresh air.



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT STAFF (SASS) RECOGNITION WEEK

Last Friday, staff treated Mrs Wilson to a lovely alfresco lunch to acknowledge the outstanding job she does, no matter what situation arises in the office. Kate, you're certainly a multi-talented multi-tasker and we couldn't survive without you!

PARENT-TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Our Term 3 Parent-Teacher Interviews are underway and it's always valuable for staff to give and receive feedback on student progress. Please contact Ms Beck or Mr Randall if you are unable to make the designated times so an alternative time or phone chat can be organised.

'TELL THEM FROM ME' STUDENT AND PARENT SURVEYS OPEN

Next week, our school, like many others across the state, will participate in a Dept of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey, to measure factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 1 this year. Asking students to complete the survey twice in one year allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across the school year.

The survey is a great opportunity for students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. The responses will help us improve how we do things at school.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. It's conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. A form with FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please inform the school by next Mon.

Parents and carers are also invited to participate as valued members of the school community. The feedback will be used to make practical improvements and inform our next 3 year plan. It's anonymous, takes about 15 min to complete and can be accessed anytime between now and 13th October.

Please have a say! <https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/prps1231>

STAGE 2 JENOLAN CAVES EXCURSION

This Thursday and Friday, Stage 2 is off to Jenolan Caves with Year 3 and 4 students from the other small mountain schools and I'm sure they'll have a fabulous time.

Our Friday assembly will be postponed until the following Monday (18 Sep) to celebrate the end of a very busy term.

Finally, quite a few students are without *hats* and with summer fast approaching, we need all students to be sun safe in the playground. Quite a few hats are nameless in the lost property tub or contact the office or Abbey and Jayda's mum Amanda to arrange a replacement (\$10 or \$13). The following link will take you to our school's P&C uniform order form on our school website.

https://edit.pws.det.nsw.edu.au/documents/1449498/1460101/parent_price_list.pdf

Only one week till the holidays!



Ms Austin

Principal (rel)

SHOW AT KULNURA HALL

CAPTAIN GILLIE'S GRAND ADVENTURE

A show for children up to about 7. At Kulnura Hall, 11 am 26th September.

PHOTOS FROM WEEK 8

BOOK PARADE



BOOK PARADE PICNIC LUNCH



BOOK FAIR



BOOK MOBILE VISIT



SPELLING BEE REGIONAL FINALS



HASTINGS AT THE FOOTY





OCCI Central Coast, FREE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES – Sept/Oct 17

Come and explore the rock pools with OCCI's expert guides and learn about the fascinating creatures that live there. We are also running a talk about 'binning little bits of rubbish too', at Heazlett park, Avoca Beach followed by a clean up, using kayaks to get to the debris on the waters edge.

There is a maximum of 25 people per walk **so bookings are essential.**

Most suited to ages 5 years to adult.

For those who would like to hear more about the life in the rock pools, Kincumber library are hosting an afternoon session to do this too. It is on Thursday 28th September, 1-3pm. Booking for this is on the library website.

All children need to be accompanied by an adult on the walks and clean up and ALL participants are required to wear closed in shoes for protection, as well as sunscreen.

Dates:

Tuesday 26th Sept, 10-12 Clean up talk and kayak debris collection, Heazlett Park, Avoca Beach

Thursday 28th Sept, 1-3, Kincumber library (book through library)

Wednesday 4th Oct, 1pm. Rock pool walk Umina Beach South

Thursday 5th Oct, 1.45pm. Rock pool walk, Norah Head.

Friday 6th Oct, 2.30pm. Rock pool walk, Terrigal Haven

To book walks and cleanup, please phone or text Linda on **0404 450 429**

Or email: lindaroberts4@bigpond.com



Sponsored by Central Coast Council

OCCI-CC are also available to do walks and talks to schools during term time, or adult groups at any time. To discuss your requirements please contact the secretary via the details above.



HUNTER WETLANDS CENTRE

1 Wetlands Place, Shortland, NSW 2307
PO Box 66, Shortland NSW 2307

Ph: 02 4951 6466

Email: hwca@wetlands.org.au Web: www.wetlands.org.au

**School
Holiday
Activities**

SEPT/OCT. SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM AT THE HUNTER WETLANDS CENTRE

Kids Art Days

- Monday 25th Sept.** for 5 to 12 years 9.30am - 12.30pm
Animals and Habitats - explore the wetlands to see birds & reptiles and build some large bird nests on site.
- Tuesday 26th Sept.** for 5 to 12 years 9.30am - 12.30pm
Draw it - Paint it - Find the best places to see wildlife. Draw wetland birds & animals to create a wetlands mural.
- Tuesday 3rd Oct.** for 7 to 12 years 9.30am - 12.30pm
Sensory Walk & Journey Sticks - Go on a Sensory Garden walk, create a scented candle, and a Journey Stick that tells a story.
Cost \$ 25 per session per child or \$20 per session if the same child is booked into more than one session. Bookings are essential as places are limited. Phone: 49516466



Bush Skills

Wednesday 27th Sept. and Friday 6th Oct.
Cost: \$20 per child - Bookings Essential Phone: 4951 6466
Make (and eat) a damper, build a bush shelter. Take a guided walk and learn basic survival skills. Meet some of our resident reptiles.

Wetlands Explorer Club

For 5 to 8 years 10.00am to 12.30pm
Wednesday 27th Sept. and Friday 6th Oct.
Cost: \$20 per child - Bookings Essential Phone 49516466
Let's play the Magpie Geese Game, help feed the Magpie Geese & learn about their life so you can make & play the Magpie Geese Game.



Sand Art Fun

(For 3 years +) Drop in between 10.00am - 12 noon
Friday 29th Sept. **Cost: \$5 per child (plus \$2 entry)**
Drop in and use coloured sand to create an amazing picture to take home.



Plaster Fun

Monday 25th Sept. **Cost: \$5 per child (plus \$2 entry)**
Drop in and paint a plaster model.



Wetlands Passport & Wetlands Explorer

Available any time during the school holidays. **Cost: Free**
Follow clues to explore the wetlands. Go in the draw for a weekly prize.

Biodiversity Day - Thursday 28th Sept. at Blue Gum Hills Regional Park
Come and say hello to us at this free family fun day.



Bring the family to the Hunter Wetlands Centre

A fun, environmentally friendly learning experience!

Open 9am to 4pm

Entry \$2 per primary-school age child (special school holiday rate). Under 3 free. \$5 general entry

Activities

- Watch the Magpie Geese Feeding at 10.30 am.
- Try Dipping from the jetty.
- Playtime at Discovery Playground.
- Check out the creatures in the tanks in the Visitor Centre.
- Reptile Encounter - Children can learn about reptile behaviour and care. They can handle some of the reptiles from the tanks in the Visitor Centre. Check at front desk for times.
- Shop - snacks, ice-creams, drinks and affordable gifts for children & adults.

