



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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19th February, 2018
Week 4 Term 1

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

DIARY DATES

TERM 1

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

23 February
Floorball

20 March
Start Smart

22 March
Harmony Day

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students and families,

The seasonal wildlife on our school grounds is always fascinating for the students. 'Bluey' the blue tongue has been out sunning himself every day, bees are busy pollinating all our flowers and on Tuesday, the biggest slug we've ever found crossed the path in front of the bus kids. It was quickly named 'Slugterra' and measured 16cm long! We'll study these much-maligned gastropods in class this week. Did you know slugs are related to oysters and octopi, they breathe through a blowhole, have 1000s of tiny teeth, two sets of tentacles (one set for seeing and smelling and another for touching and tasting) and that slug slime is actually beautiful liquid crystal? Sadly, it was heading straight towards the chicken coop...so maybe some of you will end up eating slug protein in one of our eggs- yum!!

Sport for Schools vouchers

Coles is once again running their Sports for Schools program. Until April 3rd, every \$10 spent at Coles will earn a voucher. The more vouchers we collect, the more sports gear we can receive. Peats Ridge PS boxes will be placed at West Gosford and Tuggerah stores, but they've run out at the moment. In the interim, please drop any in to the office and ask your friends and family to also collect their vouchers for our school. If you would like to know more about the program visit: <https://www.coles.com.au/sfs>



Clean up Australia Day

Despite the rain last year, I spent a lovely morning with the other volunteers at Central Mangrove cleaning up the area around the hall. It was sad to see all the rubbish we collected and illegal dumping is a huge concern on the mountain. Over the past 27 years, Australians have devoted more than 32 million hours towards the environment and collected over 344,000 tonnes of rubbish on this day. This year, the Community Clean Up will be held on Sunday 4th March and we'll hold our School's Clean Up at 1pm on Friday 2nd March. Only Kulnura is listed as a community site at the moment but I'm sure others will be added soon: <https://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/join/?kw=&location=2250&state=&offset=0>
Please join us!



Quality Teaching Rounds

This week, Mr Randall is participating in two days of professional learning on Quality Teaching Rounds with staff from the other five small schools. QTR were developed by the University of Newcastle in partnership with the Department of Education and involve observing and coding lessons using the Quality Teaching model. Mrs Davis is already experienced in QTR, enabling the three of us to analyse and refine classroom

practice at a higher level. It is part of our new School Plan and an initiative shared between our Mountain Schools Learning Community with a focus on Maths. Read more about this important collaboration at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/professional-learning/quality-teaching-rounds>

Miss Beck will be back this week to cover classes and P2 students are very excited to catch up with their old teacher.

The ETA for the new furniture for P2 is Tuesday 13th March and the carpet cleaners visited last Thursday to do both classrooms and the library. There was certainly an interesting smell when we opened the doors the next morning- phew!



I love how smart everyone looks in their new uniforms and caps and can't wait to surprise the other schools at the Swimming Carnival next Wednesday. Keep practicing your strokes and remember to bring in your Home Reading and sightwords booklets each day. Everyone is flying through their Fry's lists!

Remember to BEE kind to each other!

Ms Austin

Principal (rel)

