



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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26th March, 2018
Week 9 Term 1

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

DIARY DATES

TERM 1

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

27 March

Biosecurity &
Mini-beasts Magnified
video conferences

29 March

Easter Hat Parade,
Hunt & Raffle

30 March

Good Friday

2 April

Easter Monday

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students and families,

It's been another very busy week and we welcome to Peats, Laura in Year 5, Bailey in Year 2 and Lexie in Year 1! You have settled beautifully into your new classes, found friends already and impressed everyone with the quality of your work and lovely manners. Two other families have also enquired about enrolling their children recently and my door is always open to anyone who'd like a guided tour of the school, to see our fantastic resources and future-focused learning in action.

Many members of the community, on the mountain and in the valley, have commented on our School Leaders' articles in the Mangrove Mountain Community Newspaper and how much they enjoy reading about life at a small school. I loved hearing about Jayda's birthday party at Raw Challenge yesterday and it sounds like mud will still be oozing out of your hair, ears and noses for weeks to come!

Harmony Day Celebrations

Laura, Bailey and Lexie arrived just in time to celebrate Harmony Day and everyone looked terrific in their national costumes and orange mufti gear. Hayley was a beautiful Hawaiian girl, Abbey wore an exotic, silk *cheongsam* from China and Hunter certainly looked the part as a Mexican cowboy!



Liz Jaskalowski, our special guest speaker, brought in some wonderful objects and books from Poland for us to study and it was fascinating to hear the Polish language and hear first-hand about Poland's turbulent history. It will certainly benefit P2's CWA project. Poland is famous for amber, washed up on the Baltic Sea coast, and Liz's amber rosary beads were particularly beautiful. Amber is the fossilised resin (not sap) from ancient forests, buried 10~100 million years ago. If you're a fan of Jurassic Park movies like Logan and Luther, you'll know that the resin often trapped insects, seeds, flowers, lizards, frogs and even snakes as it flowed out, preserving them like a time capsule. Some scientists really are trying to extract dinosaur DNA from trapped mosquito blood!

For recess, we sampled traditional Polish mushroom and *sauerkraut pierogi* made by Oliver and Margaret, then cooked and transported hot for us by Lesley and little Harper- so delicious on a cold, wet day! Everyone enjoyed their Aussie meat pies and sausage rolls for lunch too and we're looking into making this a regular canteen order in the upcoming winter terms.



PBL VALUE OF THE WEEK

*Respect –
Belong and get
along!*



Earth Hour

On Friday, we switched off non-essential lighting and used as little electricity as possible as part of Earth Hour Schools' Day. I know P1 students were probably in bed, but I wonder if any families joined in the global conservation movement 8:30pm Saturday night? Everyone enjoyed making their cardboard wind turbines and learned that wind power is a limitless source of energy that is clean, reliable and pollution free. If you'd like to make another one at home, here are the instructions: <https://coolaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/WWF1305-EH-Wind-Turbine-Guide.pdf>



DART Connections Video Conferences

P1 and P2 visited the library to join in a video conference on 'Earth Hour: Sustainable Gardening' with Mary from the Botanical Gardens. We learned about the National Seed Bank, the requirements of plants as living things and the importance of invertebrates in maintaining a healthy school garden environment. Following the success of the 'Amazing Ants' video conference and research we did last year with Dr Kirsti Abbott, we've booked more this year. DART (Distance And Rural Technologies) Connections is a project of the Dept of Education to bring isolated students and teachers face to face with experts across the globe. Video conference technology and virtual excursions bring the curriculum to life and deliver rich and authentic interactive learning experiences directly into our classrooms- from some of the best zoos, museums, galleries, writers, artists, scientists, musicians and research institutes in the world! If you would like to learn more about this great initiative:

<https://dartconnections.org.au/about-connections>

School Facelift is Underway

Ben the carpenter finished repairing the canteen decking and office window surrounds last week and the painters will arrive on Wednesday. This will create some disruption to classes and at times, we may have to move lessons outside or to the hall. My office and Sick Bay will be re-located to the Library for a short time. Works will be cordoned off and staff will be extra vigilant to ensure student safety.

Start Smart Financial Literacy

Last Tuesday, Bronwyn from CommBank's Start Smart program delivered financial literacy workshops to P1 and P2 in the hall. It is never too early to learn money management skills and the aim is to empower students to make wise financial decisions for themselves. Each year, the workshops focus on different concepts and more information on the Year 1~6 program overview can be found here:

<http://www.startsmart.com.au/primary/program-overview/>



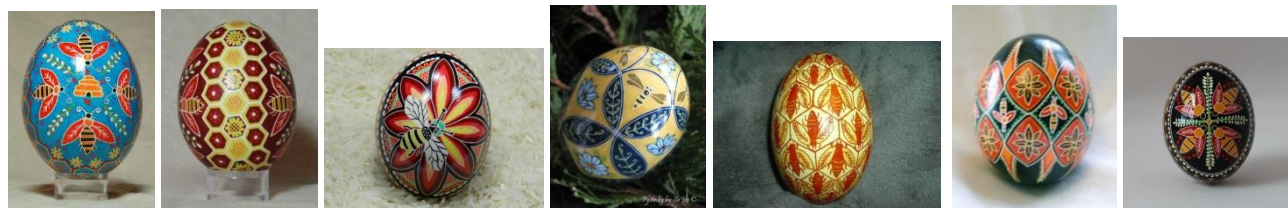
Easter Celebrations

Thank you to all the families who have donated Easter items for our P&C raffle. Excitement is mounting and I've heard quite a few students have finished their Easter hat creations for our parade and egg hunt this Thursday. Hope you can join in the fun! Events of the day-

- 2:00pm Hall Assembly
- 2:30pm Easter Hat Parade and CWA judging – prizes awarded
- 2:50pm P&C raffle draw
- 2:55pm Easter Egg Hunt
- 3:10pm The Easter break begins!

Liz mentioned the Polish Easter craft of *psanky* and I wonder how many of you remember our egg dyeing Privilege Day activity this time last year?

Here are some beautiful examples using bee motifs...



This term's PBL Privilege Day activity is cooking sweet treats with honey next Wednesday.

It's a shame Hastings and Calloway will miss it as they're jetting off to America for an early start to the holidays tomorrow – *Bon Voyage* boys! We look forward to hearing your travel tales next term.

Ms Austin Principal (rel)







SOMERSBY SCAMPER CROSS COUNTRY FUN RUN

SUNDAY 29TH APRIL 2018 – 8:30AM

3KM FAMILY FUN RUN &
6KM SOMERSBY SCAMPER
ALL WELCOME

SOMERSBY IS JUST 15 MINUTES
WEST OF GOSFORD OFF THE M1
MOTORWAY

FOR MORE DETAILS & TO ENTER
WWW.SOMERSBYSCAMPER.COM

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KARIONG MOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL 2019 SELECTIVE CLASS INFORMATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY APRIL 11, 6PM

A class for engaged, high performing students who thrive in a collaborative, high expectation learning environment that utilises best practice contemporary teaching strategies, staff trained in our "Ready to Fly" framework for gifted and talented students and offering enrichment and acceleration to optimise student success in both mandatory and self-chosen areas of study. Graduates from our first selective classes are now in the tertiary placements of their choice – a definite indicator of the early success of this program.

Information will be provided on how this class operates across Years 7-12, additional opportunities for students also talented in CAPA, Technology and Sport and the selective placement process for meeting the standard required for admittance into this class.

Please see our website to complete an expression of interest in our Selective Class 2019.

www.kariongmountainshigh.com.au