



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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12th November, 2018
Week 5 Term 4

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

DIARY DATES

TERM 4

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

23rd November

Kindy Start 12 - 3pm
Special Assembly

29th November

Building with Boxes
Sleepover in Hall

3rd December

Year 5 Leadership
Speeches
Parents Welcome

4th December

Year 6 Orientation
At KMHS

7th December

Year 6 Mini-fete

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students, families and friends,

Our entries for the Lucy Wicks MP Christmas Card competition were collected on Friday - a sure sign that the silly season is almost upon us. Next year's calendar has started to fill up with dates already and I printed it off for the first time last week. Despite the cool snap, the hum of the cicadas is growing louder and it's lovely to see the playground so green after the recent rain. Mr Jacklin has attached our native bee hotel to a large branch to entice new inhabitants and we're hoping our honey bee hive will arrive soon to be placed behind the old principal's residence. The labels the students designed are printed off and ready for the first batch!

Centenary of Armistice Ceremony – "Lest We Forget"

Mr Randall hobbled to school Wednesday with his broken toe, determined not to miss our special Remembrance Day ceremony commemorating the Centenary of Armistice and our new flagpole. The remainder of our Invictus Games grant money was used to bus Central Mangrove PS students over to join us and special guests included Lucy Wicks MP, Senator Deb O'Neill's representative Madeleine Paradise, CWA President Kaye Pointer, her mother Margaret and members Christine and Margie, Our P&C President Lauren Taylor, Paul Sanfilippo on behalf of the Central Mangrove community, Principal Libby Cullen and Gosford RSL sub-branch President, Greg Mawson, who led the service as Master of Ceremony. Captain David Myers commanded the catafalque party - a local military enactment group of memorial guards and a rifle squad wearing WW1 Lighthorse uniforms who performed a close order drill carrying 303 British rifles and ceremonial bayonets. They certainly held the students' attention!



Our school leaders, Brooke and Jayda, took on the roles of Margaret Pointer's grandfather, Private George Moppett, and his ten-year-old daughter May, and read short excerpts from letters exchanged between them during WW1. It was very moving and set the solemn mood.

PBL VALUE OF THE WEEK

Responsibility -
*Respectful
behaviour
for
visiting
teachers*



Seven beautiful wreaths were laid at the base of our new flagpole and the service concluded with The Ode, The Last Post, one minute's silence, The Rouse, recitation of Kipling's Recessional and singing of the national anthem. Commander David Myers and Staff Sergeant Ken Lyons dismissed the Catafalque Party of Corporals Graham Felton and Bruce Wilkinson and Privates Peter Strange and John Baxter.

After enjoying a delicious morning tea, the students had a Q&A session with the servicemen and learned many interesting facts about a soldier's kit and rations, puttees, medals, war horses, the range of a 303 and how to throw a hand grenade!

Passing trucks and thunder rumbled like distant cannons during the ceremony, but just like the Country Fair, the rain didn't fall until the very end. Many thanks to all our helpers on the day who made it so meaningful for our students- Amanda and April for taxiing all our marooned students to school when the bus broke down, Tarryn for the exquisite P&C wreath, Savannah for overseeing the unique design of our school wreath, Mr Jacklin for setting up and packing up quickly and Mrs Riley for organising buses and catering.



Honoured to attend the beautiful Remembrance Day Ceremony at Peats Ridge Public School.

The legacy of our heroes is the memory of a great name and the inheritance of a great example for our future leaders - lest we forget.... **Lucy Wicks MP**

It was a pleasure to meet you today and attend the service. Sorry I had to duck off during the question time but it was great to get up to the school on behalf of Deb and have a chat with everyone.

Thank you for hosting us today. Truly a touching service thanks to some very well-spoken kids! Your parents were bursting with pride when I spoke with them briefly.... **Madeleine Paradise (Office of Sen. Deb O'Neill)**

Fantastic to be represented at Peats Ridge Public School's Centenary of Armistice service this morning.

A big thank you to Greg from Gosford RSL Sub Branch and Peats Ridge PS for having us - what a touching service. Congratulations to Jazlee and Mariah from Central Mangrove Public School, Brooke and Jayda from Peats Ridge PS, and to all students and staff involved. Lest we forget. ... **Sen. Deb O'Neill**

It truly was a beautiful ceremony- very professional and touching. Great for the kids to see a bit of tradition and history and an absolutely fabulous, positive event for Peats.... **text from a proud parent**

P&C Meeting

That afternoon, our first P&C meeting for Term 4 was held in P2's classroom and the kids polished off the left-overs from the morning tea. A proposal to make small changes to school bell times for 2019 was discussed and endorsed. Two years ago, the middle session and Break 2 were lengthened five minutes each to reduce the long bus duty at the end of the day. Trouble is, this means our staff are frequently late to off-site professional learning afternoons and 3:10pm is an awkward time to finish.

Based on departmental policy, a primary school teacher is required to teach face-to-face 4 hr 45 min/day and 1 hour 15 minutes is the 'standard' amount of time for student breaks:

https://beta.dec.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/264795/The-School-Day-Fact-Sheet-October-2016.pdf

Reducing the middle session and Break 2 by five minutes each would mean:

9~11am	Morning Session	(2 hrs)	
11~11:30am	Break 1	(30 min)	
11:30~1:15pm	Middle Session	(1hr 45 min)	LESS 5 MIN
1:15~2pm	Break 2	(45 min)	LESS 5 MIN
2~3pm	Afternoon Session	(1 hr)	

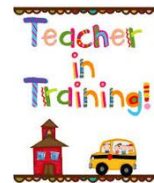


This neatens up bell times, makes them easier to remember and aligns with departmental policy. The two changes are only subtle but I realise finishing ten minutes earlier than this year may impact on family routines. Please see me if you have any concerns.

The school blazers delivered by Midford looked great and fitted students well. They've been returned to have our school logo embroidered on the pocket and hopefully, will be ready in time for Presentation Evening. Our very productive P&C also agreed to hold a BBQ prior to Presentation Evening to make life easier for our families. Old friends can catch up and new friends can be made.

Welcome Mr Matt Small!

We are very fortunate to have a Teacher Education Student (TES), Mr Matthew Small, from the University of Newcastle joining us this term. Matt called in last Tuesday for orientation and begins his 20-day block today. He'll be with us until the end of Week 8, Friday, 7th Dec and Year 6 Mini-Fete Day. Matt is a 3rd year Bachelor of Teaching (K-6 Primary / Honours) TES undertaking his second professional experience placement. Our two TES last year, Mr Thew and Miss Johnstone, were terrific teachers and it's very important we support our local university. Student teachers bring enthusiasm, ideas, questions and latest pedagogy into our classrooms and we can certainly provide them a wealth of opportunities and experience at Peats!



Building with Boxes Sleep-over



Our TES, Mr Matt Small, is no doubt looking forward to our *Building with Boxes* sleep-over in the hall on Thursday, 29th Nov, as part of our 'Built Environments' unit. It's going to be a lot of fun and students have already formed work teams, discussed ideas and used their imagination to start designing forts, bases, ships, rockets, apartments and castles- any kind of shelter- to sleep in that night! A note will be sent home soon.

Term 4 Kindy Start

Kinder Start was held today with Ms Austin (Mrs Davis' son is sick). Lots of action photos were taken for the students' *social stories* and these will be presented at a special assembly on Friday, 23rd November. It will be an afternoon session 12~3pm and include a P&C lunch order.

We've had more enquiries and our numbers are growing, so keep spreading the good news! Of course, our kindies are also invited to join in the Year 6 Mini-Fete on Friday 7th Dec and our Presentation Evening on Mon 17th Dec.



Kariong Mountains HS Visits



Also today, staff from Kariong Mountains HS paid our Year 6 students a 3-hour visit as part of the High School Transition Program. Tomorrow, Science Head Teacher Mr Jamie Cartner, will visit with his Year 11 Physics team and invite P2 students to the hall for a 2-hour workshop rotating through six hands-on STEM activities.

Later in Week 8, on the 4th Dec, KMHS will host their final Year 6 Orientation Day (notes will follow later in the term). Lastly, as an end-of-year celebration, the talented KMHS band will visit and treat our students to a Christmas performance. It's wonderful to be part of such a vibrant learning community!

Year 5 Student Leader Speeches

Just like Hayley's sister, Monique, students from Peats and the other small mountain schools regularly go on to become school leaders at Kariong Mountains High School and in other fields. We're very proud of this fact. Staff regularly discuss the expectations around citizenship, behaviour, uniform, attendance and public speaking with this year's crop of Year 5 aspirants and they know they are being watched closely this term! Nominees will present their speeches in the hall on Monday 3rd Dec in Week 8, and families are invited to be part of the audience.



End of Year Events

Year 6 parents will be joining Mr Randall and I at our first Year 6 Farewell committee meeting this afternoon. A private space at the Star Buffet at Central Coast Leagues Club has been booked for the evening of Tuesday

18th December in Week 10. The girls have decided upon a theme, colour scheme and the cake. Funds raised at the Year 6 Mini-Fete on Friday, 7th December, will go towards covering the costs for Year 6 students. Their families and Year 5 students are also invited to take part (pay at the club).

Events in the last week of term:

Mon 3 Dec - Year 5 student leadership 2019 speeches (parents welcome)

Tue 4 Dec - Year 6 Orientation at Kariong Mountains HS

Mon 17 Dec - Year 6 Principal's Lunch and Presentation Evening and P&C BBQ

Tue 18 Dec - P1 + P2 Secret Santa, KMHS Band visit and Year 6 Farewell

Wed 19 Dec - Year 6 Picnic Day and goodbyes (last day of school)

As staff have traded off Professional Learning over the course of the year, the school will be non-operational the last two days of Week 10 (20~21 Dec).



Yoga in 2019

I spent an interesting morning speaking with Trudy Gray on Friday regarding the possibility of adult Yoga classes in the hall next year and perhaps lessons for our students as part of our PE program. Trudy's children attend Central Mangrove PS and she has taught yoga to the children there. It's certainly something different! Please let me know your thoughts on this and if you'd be interested in attending her classes yourself.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in 2019

After the wonderful success of Aladdin last year, I've tentatively booked our whole school to see '*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*' at the Capitol Theatre, 1pm on Wednesday (schools' day), 6th March. I'm giving our families lots of prior warning in case you were considering going when it opens in January and so that students can start saving their pocket / birthday / Christmas money. Student tickets will be approximately \$65 each and we'll catch the train like last time, so Opal cards will be needed as well. Parents and carers are invited to join us at \$80 adult, \$70 pensioner/senior (so apply for your flexi-day now). The two and a half hour musical is recommended for children aged 6+ years. I know this is an expensive excursion, but a full musical experience at one of Sydney's best venues is an opportunity too good to miss! Read more here:

<https://www.capitoltheatre.com.au/charlie-and-the-chocolate-factory/>



I've included the Class Equipment List for 2019 in this newsletter to assist Santa as he starts shopping for stocking fillers. School Fee reminders will also be sent home this week as we approach the end of year and need to finalise our school accounts.

Lastly, thanks to mum Amanda for helping us herd wayward hen Rosy back into the coop after she escaped last week. It could've meant a very long afternoon for Mr Randall and I otherwise!

Ms Austin - Principal (rel)

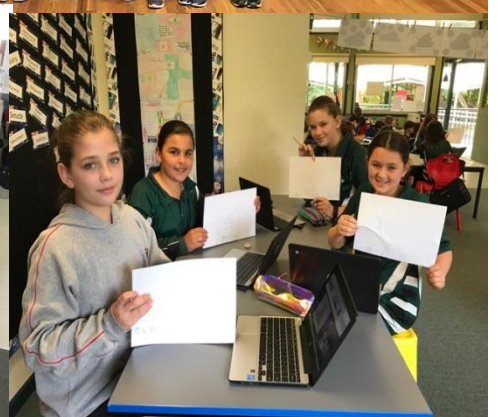
P.S. Here are some more cardboard construction pics to fire up your imagination!





Uniform Reminder

If you need to order school uniforms for 2019 please contact Lauren on 0409 745 600 / gl_taylor@bigpond.com before the end of term. Please note that all items will need to be paid for in full when placing your order. Uniform order forms are available from the front office.





Let's get Organised for Learning 2019!

Please check the kitchen draw and under your bed first before buying anything new!

LABEL all items with your name or initials.

Also, remember fresh fruit or vegetables for Frito each morning.

Equipment	Check	P1	P2
Pencil Case		Yes	Yes
4 HB lead pencils		Yes	Yes
Coloured Pencils		Yes	Yes
Sharpener- <i>barrel preferred</i>		Yes	Yes
30cm ruler- <i>cm & mm markings</i>		Yes	Yes
Eraser		Yes	Yes
Glue Stick (<i>renew each term</i>)		Yes	Yes
Water bottle		Yes	Yes
Ear/headphones		Yes	Yes
USB stick- <i>min. 4gb</i>		Yes	Yes
Whiteboard markers - <i>red/black/blue/green</i>		Yes	Yes
2 red pens		No	Yes
2 blue/black pens		No	Yes
3 different coloured highlighters		Yes	Yes
Textas		Optional	Optional
Dictionary and/or thesaurus		No	Optional
Box of tissues- <i>for use in classroom</i>		Yes	Yes
Paper towel roll- <i>for use in classroom</i>		Yes	Yes
Liquid hand soap- <i>for use in classroom</i>		Yes	Yes
Library bag - \$5 from uniform shop		Yes	Yes
School Hat - \$15 from uniform shop		Yes	Yes