



PEATS RIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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4th February, 2019
Week 2 Term 1
www.peatsridge-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

DIARY DATES

TERM 1

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

8th February

Assembly

28th February

Swimming Carnival
@ Gosford Pool

1st March

Clean Up Australia Day

6th March

Charlie and the Chocolate
Factory Musical

20th March

Start Smart Financial
Literacy Workshops

21st March

Harmony Day

23rd March (Saturday)

State Election in Hall

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear students, families and friends,

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to our cute-as-a-button kindies and new students- Hudson (K), Bronte (K), Lydia (K), Jasper (Y3), Rachel (Y3) and Elijah (Y5). We have a fabulous year planned ahead and we're so glad you'll be enjoying it with us!

Based on current enrolment numbers, we're not planning any staff or classroom changes. Mrs Davis will continue to teach K~Y2 in P1 and Mr Randall will continue teaching Y3~6 in P2.

Vince phoned to let us know Christina was settling in to Nulkaba PS but missing us all and I can't wait to hear how Brooke, Jayda, AK and Bianca are going at high school.

Following a Think-Pair-Share activity, the following lucky students were voted as having had the most fun in the holidays:

Beau- went to Surfers Paradise in Queensland and enjoyed a hot tub, jumping pillow and human sling-shot

Calloway and Hastings- also headed north and loved their trip to Mullumbimby
Brax and Hudson- ate a delicious ice-cream on the beach at Foster (then Brax fell off his scooter and hit his head on a metal bar!)

Jasper- had a wonderful time rowing in Newcastle

Abbey- had fun on the water too, jetskiing, and stayed in a cabin with Kade and Noah

Hunter- had a great time kayaking at Ettalong Beach

Lexie and Laura- loved every minute of their big shopping marathon

Mr Randall- spent 2 glorious weeks at Valla, camping and surfing, and

Mrs Davis- who topped the poll with an amazing holiday in Bali

Storm Damage

I went for a drive around Mangrove Mountain in the holidays and was shocked at the number of houses, garages and sheds that suffered tree damage during



the storms. We were lucky in that all our buildings were spared. The lightning strike in December did more damage than we first realised however, frying our security system, water pump, phones and office computer hard drives.

Telstra repaired the drooping phone line along the front of the school, but the department is yet to mend our front fence- both brought down when one of the large pines fell across Peats Ridge Road. Four other large



PBL VALUE OF THE WEEK



Respect-
Wear your full
school uniform
with pride



trees came down, including the two struck by lightning. Another neighbouring tree has since died and the loppers will have to come back to remove it too. Thankfully, our chooks, fish and bees were unharmed.

Bell Times 2019

The transition to the new bell times has gone smoothly. Thank you parents!

Staff have commented that the day flows better, with more time to organise practical lessons after lunch.

SRE has moved forward to 11:30am on Tuesdays, giving Mr Randall, Mrs Davis and the Scripture teachers time during Break 1 to pack away and set up.

9~11am	Morning Session	(2 hr)	
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)	PICK UP 3pm



I had to phone the bus company to remind them not to drop off students before 8:30am and it looks like the bus won't arrive till around 3:45 in the afternoon (after other school runs), making for a very long bus duty. We're planning to do lots of gardening while we wait!



School Parliament and Student Representative Council

All students had input into drafting the responsibilities for our newly elected school parliamentarians. I've included a table listing them all in the newsletter and would like to hear your feedback. They're certainly going to be kept busy and have already impressed staff with how competently they are fulfilling their roles. It's no surprise that leaders from small schools are heavily represented in leadership roles at high school and beyond. Badges should arrive soon.

For students interested in joining our new SRC, one of the homework tasks for this week is to prepare a short speech for elections in Week 3: 1min for P1 and 2min for P2 candidates. One student will be elected to represent each grade. The SRC gives students a voice and the Council will meet with me and the Year 6 leaders each term to discuss how we can make Peats even better.



Staff Development Day

Last Tuesday, staff spent the day evaluating and planning our progress through the milestones in our 2018~20 School Plan: accelerating learning in literacy and numeracy through goal-setting, group work and ongoing assessment, curriculum mapping of the new syllabus content, targeted professional learning, STEM strategies and student well-being.

Mr Randall and Mrs Davis will be involved in Quality Teaching Rounds (QTR) this semester with lesson observations, professional readings and feedback. In Week 4, they will also attend a 'Seven Steps to Writing' workshop.

Robotics STEMShare Kit

Three large and very heavy cases arrived last Tuesday and Mr Randall and Mrs Davis couldn't wait to get their hands on the new STEMShare Robotics Kit. It's an absolutely amazing resource and we'll invite parents to experience the fun at our first P&C meeting for the year. The kit is ideal with our student laptops, incorporating coding and programming into lesson plans. A variety of resources is included to suit different year levels and levels of expertise.

Included in the STEMShare Kit are:

- 10 x LEGO MINDSTORMS Education EV3
- 1x Ozobot EVO Classroom Kit
- 10x Grove Inventor Kit for micro:bit including 10x micro:bit
- 12x Makey Makey
- 1x Multi-Charger to charge 10 LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 robots



.....woohoo!

The STEMShare community project provides kits to each principal network in NSW (660 kits in total) to support the teaching of STEM using:

table robotics

virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR)

filmmaking

PC robotics

3D printing

coding

We are very fortunate to have nabbed the robotics kit on our first booking and plan to borrow many more in the future. Read more about this great initiative here:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/news/latest-news/stem-kits-bring-a-new-level-of-cool-to-schools>

Semester 1 Program

Semester 1 is already jam-packed with lots of different and exciting teaching and learning opportunities planned. The 2019 theme for the Dept of Primary Industries' investigation unit is 'We Dig Soils' so be prepared to get dirty as we experiment with soil profiles, pH, plant trials, soil organisms and organic matter. Last year we learned an incredible amount investigating bees and background information including impressive work samples from previous winners can be found here:

<https://www.nswdpi-schools-program.com/investigate>

P2 will begin researching the 2019 CWA Country of Study 'Papua New Guinea' in



Term 1 and we hope to invite a special guest speaker for Harmony Day. Do you know anyone? PNG is our nearest neighbour and just over 40 years ago, gained independence from Australia. It is a fascinating but little studied or reported on country and we plan to explore it in depth.

<https://www.cwaofnsw.org.au/page.php?id=28>

DART video conferences on 'Creative Writing' have been booked and along with Harmony Day, Clean Up Australia Day and the annual 'Start Smart' financial literacy workshops, will be held in March.

Small Schools' Swimming Carnival



Also, in just a few weeks on Thursday 28th Feb, the Small Schools' Swimming Carnival will be held at Gosford pool. A note will be sent home soon outlining the day. Start practising your strokes everyone!

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in 2019

Of course, the highlight for this term will be our whole-school outing to the Capitol Theatre, on Wednesday 6th March, to see 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory- the Musical'. Notes were sent home last Friday and I hope everyone has been saving up. We'll catch the train from Ourimbah station (like we did with Aladdin), so Opal cards will be needed as well. Parents and carers are most welcome to join us. The two-and-a-half hour musical is recommended for children aged 6+ years, so younger siblings will have to stay at home this time. 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/>



School Improvements

Hopefully tomorrow, our new phone system will finally be installed and on Wednesday, the carpet cleaners are due. More works are scheduled to be carried out in Term 1. The department's asset team will complete painting the main office block, changing the colour scheme from three shades of blue to deep green and stone, and our foyer mural of the school's orange tree logo looks great. The P&C's successful 'Building Community Partnerships' \$15,000 grant application means work on our new sandstone school entry will begin soon.

Part of the \$5000 payment we received from the Share Our Space program went towards grinding down 15 stumps in our school playground and removing the two tall, dead tree trunks near the library.

CWA Fungi Workshop and Hall Kitchen Grant

The CWA has organised fungi world expert, Pam O'Sullivan, to present a workshop in the hall on Sat 9th Feb and this ties in beautifully with our studies. I know old-timers will be a little sceptical to hear that CWA President Kaye Pointer visited for a day recently to outline a grant application for the long overdue Peats Ridge community hall kitchen. It is our top new year's resolution for 2019 and we're hoping the dream of many past P&C presidents, members and principals can finally be realised. With a state and federal election later in the year, it is a sad state of affairs to have to tell the polling place managers that if they want a drink of water, use the toilet taps!

A Lovely Email

Considering the state of the school following the December storms, it was a little miracle that our Presentation Night was such a success. I received the following email in the holidays from one of the special guests, Cathy Morrisson, daughter of Helen FitzSimons OAM:

"Thank you so much for welcoming Trish and me to this fabulous event. We were so impressed. The school looks well cared for and loved. You and your staff are achieving amazing results. The support of the P&C and community are a testament to how highly you and the school are regarded."

It made my day! Our small schools play a vital role in building a strong and vibrant mountain community and we aim to make Helen proud.

STOP PRESS!

I received the following email from the Director last week: "Congratulations to John Carters who is taking up the Principal position at Rydalmerie East Public School. Mandy Austin will continue to relieve for Term 1 2019. Recruitment process will begin this term".

Ms Austin - Principal (rel)

School Parliament 2019

Name	Ministry	Portfolio Responsibilities
Makayla Vella	Prime Minister	Assemblies and PM's report, Dojo points for attendance, flags, welcome and thank you speeches, office notes
Laura Matthews	Deputy Prime Minister	Assemblies and Deputy PM's report, Dojo points for uniform, flags, lost property, office notes
Hayley Gatt	Treasurer	Assemblies, Dojo points for homework and home reading, flags, coordinate Kids in the Kitchen with staff, lead Y6 meetings re fundraising ideas/mini-markets/gift to school, collect and record donations on mufti days
Savannah Herbert	Minister for Sport	Assemblies, Dojo points for Fruito/Vego, flags, sports carnivals and weekly PE and Sport organisation, in charge of sport shed and keeping it orderly, record Premier's Sporting Challenge points
Briony Bowman	Minister for the Environment	Assemblies, water office plants, help care for chickens/fish/bees, organise worm farm and food buckets, coordinate gardening, weeding and harvesting, conserve lights, A/C, IT and water use, in charge of recycling



PLAY YOUR WAY

1800 021 233

SCHOLASTIC  Book Club

Welcome back to the new school year.

By now you should have received your Issue 1 Book Club catalogues. As a thank you for being the Book Club Organiser in 2019, we're giving you a FREE Book Club 2019 Calendar when you place your first Book Club order on this issue to help you plan your year ahead.

As we are all aware the school newsletter is one of the most effective ways of informing parents of Book Club, we would like to share this [template](#) with you so you can put it in your school newsletter.

Thank you for your ongoing participation in Book Club and children's literacy.



PLAY ALL-GIRLS JUNIOR CRICKET AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB. ENJOY ACTION PACKED GAMES AND MAKE THE SPORT YOUR OWN.

ALL-GIRLS JUNIOR CRICKET

AGES 9-17 | 2-4 HOURS

- Play endorsed new all girls junior cricket at your local club
- More action and better skill development
- Swing one pace to go
- Get a group of friends together and form a team

Play more shots, face more bats and get more wickets as you develop your skills through three levels of junior cricket.

Central Coast Cricket Association

Summer Season starts Monday 4th February 2019

Bill Sohler Park, Ourimbah, 5pm-7pm

Contact Veronica Brown 0409 071 171

veronicab2103@gmail.com



JOIN THE FUN AT YOUR LOCAL CENTRE
REGISTER AT PLAYERICKET.COM.AU



School Opal Card

As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare.

Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

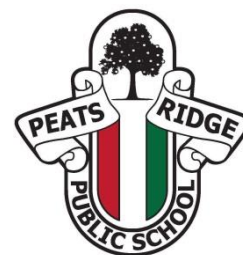
To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go on-line to www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

 busways

FAMILY BUDGET GUIDE 2019



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Below is a list of the excursions and activities planned for 2019 to help budget family finances.

Of course, other unexpected opportunities may arise later in the year.

TERM 1		Approx. Cost
Voluntary Contribution		\$30 child \$50 family
ICAS Assessments	Digital Technologies (<i>optional</i>)	\$9.00
	Science (<i>optional</i>)	\$9.00
	Writing (<i>optional</i>)	\$18.00
	Spelling (<i>optional</i>)	\$12.00
	English (<i>optional</i>)	\$9.00
	Mathematics (<i>optional</i>)	\$9.00
Small Schools' Swimming Carnival (<i>nominated</i>)		\$3.80 entry fee
Small Schools' Cross Country		No charge
Student Leaders' Fundraiser		Donation
Year 6 Shirt		tbc
'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' musical and Opal card		\$65 (adults \$80)

TERM 2		
CARES Bike Safety		\$10
P & C Mother's Day Stall		Optional
GRIP Leadership (<i>P & C \$10 subsidy</i>)		\$30
Student Leaders' Fundraiser		Donation
P1 Excursion		tbc

TERM 3		
Stage 2 Major Excursion- Jenolan Caves		\$150
Stage 3 Major Excursion- Camp		\$280 + bus
School Photos		Optional
Small Schools Athletics Carnival – Age 8 +		tbc
Book Fair		Optional
Student Leaders' Fundraiser		Donation
Father's Day Breakfast		Optional
P1 Excursion		tbc

TERM 4		
Swim Scheme		\$35
Year 6 Mini-Markets		Optional
Year 6 Farewell and Fun Day		tbc



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 Fruito 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