

Perthville Public School



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Newsletter

Wednesday 2 March 2016

Term 1 Week 6

Dear Parents,

Our term is certainly flying by and lots of fantastic things are happening each week. Easter is fast approaching and we are looking forward to many fabulous activities still to come this term including the Family Picnic afternoon, the Easter hat/mask parade and the final weeks of swimming.

Blue Star and Gold Awards

At our last assembly, Blue Star awards were handed out to Courtney R and Isabelle I. Well done to both students for a great start to the year.

Wombats are House Points Winners

Congratulations to all the Wombats who picked up their first award for the year. Pictured are Dominic and Clancy with the trophy. Well done to all Wombats.



Encouraging your Children to Talk

We always encourage our students to talk to us if they have a problem at school. There have been a few incidents lately where children have arrived home upset about something but have neglected to tell their teacher or someone at school. In most cases the incident has been a small part of their day or maybe it occurred at the very end of school or maybe it was a misunderstanding or they didn't listen to what was being asked. There are always two sides to every story.

It is always important that you call us if you are concerned but it is also important not to dwell on the negative. Our students are happy, healthy and enjoy coming to school. When they are here they are learning and having fun. If they are not, we would talk to you. I always encourage you to call if you are concerned, there is usually a reason why something has occurred the way it has. At school, we will discuss behaviour and issues with students, which we always follow up with immediately and in most cases, get back to you with the outcome of our conversations. Students are reminded on many occasions to tell their teacher if there is a problem they can't handle. We will always follow through and make sure matters are dealt with.

Our FRIENDS Program has commenced

Our Friends Program has commenced in Personal Development lessons in each class. I have included some parent information from our infants program that may be useful. We will also be running a parent workshop early next term for interested community members.

District Swimming Carnival

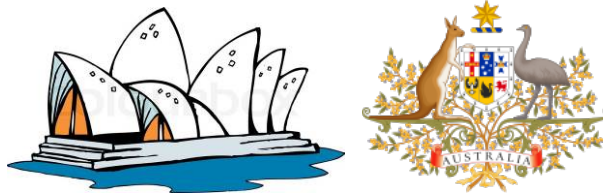
Congratulations to Georgie McP, Kiana L, Katie McP, Kassie H, Megan C, Ava W, Courtney K, Zebediah D and Max D. All students did a great job at the district swimming carnival. Unfortunately we do not have any representatives in the district team for Western Region this year.

Kindergarten Interviews

Kindergarten parents have commenced interviews in regard to Best Start assessments with Mrs Keough. These interviews will provide parents with a detailed summary of where their child is at in Literacy and Numeracy and activities they can try at home to help their child along. Please take on board this feedback and assist us to give your child the very best start to school!

Major Excursion Information for Years 3-6 – Advance Notice of Costings

Last week, Years 3&4 received information about their Small Schools excursion to Sydney. This will be held in Term 2 - Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th June. The approximate cost of this excursion will be \$240. This will be a one night excursion. Please return notes and deposit as soon as possible. Places will not be held after the due date.



Years 5&6 will be heading off to Canberra in Term 2 also – Wednesday 18th – Friday 20th May. The approximate cost of this excursion will be \$310. This is a two night excursion.

Please return notes and deposit as soon as possible. Places will not be held after the due date. Regular payments can be arranged with the front office and can be paid via eftpos or credit card.

Year Six to Seven High School Enrolment forms

Enrolment packages for High school are attached for our year six students. Our feeder high school is Dension College - Kelso High Campus. If your child is attending a different high school this must be recorded on the form and all forms need to be returned to school by 21st March. If your child is not attending a government school please return the form with a note stating which school they will be attending in 2017. We require this information on time so that appropriate enrolment procedures and transition programs can occur.

P&C Family Picnic Afternoon – Friday 4th March

Family Picnic night will be held on Friday 4th March from 5pm-8pm at the school. This night is a great chance to meet or catch up with other parents. Feel free to bring along a picnic blanket or chairs, nibbles and drinks (no alcohol allowed) and join us for a fun filled evening. There will be 3 legged races, egg and spoon races and plenty of time for the children to run around and play.

As a Welcome to New Families and a Thankyou to New and existing families for all their support of the School and the P&C we will be providing a free sausage sizzle. We hope you can join us for a fun afternoon.



**Free Sausage
Sizzle &
Easter Raffle
tickets
available.**

Easter Raffle

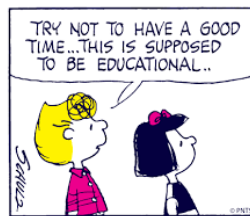
The P&C will be organising an Easter Raffle to be drawn in week 9. We are kindly asking for donations to be used in our hampers and any donation of Easter eggs or Easter themed goods would be appreciated. Please have all donations handed in to the office by no later than Thursday 18th March. When you donate for the raffle you will be given a free Raffle ticket in return. Other Raffle tickets are attached to the school newsletter for families to sell.

Term One Small Schools Gala Day – Thursday 24th March – All Years 3-6

Thursday the 24th March is the Small Schools Gala Day. All students from Year 3-6 are **required** to attend. We will be travelling in on the bus and leaving Perthville School at **9.30am**.

We will arrive back at school by 2.30pm. During the day students will be running the cross country event, practising touch football, soccer and hockey drills and trying out for the small schools teams. The cost of the day is \$4 (\$2 for sport + \$2 for the bus). Students will need to be in their sports uniform, bring along a hat, recess and lunch and plenty to drink. There will be a canteen operating on the day. Mouth guards and shin pads (soccer) are required if trying out for our teams. Please return the permission note attached.

iPad UPDATE for 2016



iPad Distribution

In response to our recent parent survey, it is timely to remind parents of how our 20 iPads are distributed amongst the classes.

As most iPad activities are utilized in group work, the devices are separated into 2 groups of 10; iPads 1-10 and iPads 11-20. Teachers allocate their class requirement onto a weekly timetable, booking in either 10 or 20 iPads depending on their class activity. The timetable is updated weekly and is distributed by Mrs Webb via our online roll marking system 'Sentral'. This is a great way for teachers to check where the iPads are at any time of the day.

iPad Apps

The most commonly used apps in our classrooms currently are; *AudioNote*, *QR Reader*, *Hopscotch*, *Floors*, *Daisy the Dinosaur*, *Green Screen*, *Aurasma*, *Camera*, *Chrome*, *Mindomo*, *Toontastic*, *PuppetPals*, *Book Creator*, *Tellagami* and *Pic Collage*. The classes also have their own 'grade appropriate' apps for Mathematics and English.

New iPad Management System

Due to a roll over to a new iPad management system – *Configurator 2*, the iPads are currently being updated and reconfigured. This will bring them into line with Apple's new system and will prove to be a more effective and efficient way to manage, distribute and utilize the iPads.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the iPads. ***Thank you Mrs Kerr***

Evacuation Drill

Last Monday we held our termly evacuation drill. Students practiced their inside-out evacuation to the bottom oval assembly point and then the outside-in (Lockdown) procedures. All procedures are practiced regularly with our preschool onsite.

Term One Dates

March

4 th	Assembly – Yr 1 to perform
8 th	Half Staff Development Day
8 th	P&C AGM
10 th	SS Girls Cricket Match
11 th	Book Club Due
14 th	SS Boys Cricket Match
18 th	Assembly – Yr 3 to perform
23 rd	Easter Hat Parade & raffle
24 th	Gala Day (Yrs 3-6)
25 th	Good Friday
28 th	Easter Monday

April

1 st	Assembly - 5/6 to perform
8 th	Last Day Term 1

Iceblocks Available

Tuesday and Thursday

Fandangles \$1.50

Icy Poles \$1.00



When is your Library Day?

Tuesday - Yr 5/6 and Yr 4

Wednesday – Yr 2

Thursday – Kinder, Yr 1 Yr 3

**Our next assembly will be held Friday 4th March at 10.45am.
Year 1 will be performing.**



Pictured are Year 2 students presenting their poem on the Seasons

Book Club Out today

Due 11th March

I 
Book Club

Year 1 enjoy Crunch & Sip time with their apple slinky machine!



✂

Yrs 3 – 6 Gala Day

I give permission for my child/ren _____

to attend the Bathurst Small Schools Gala Day on Thursday 24th March.

I understand students are travelling to and from the venue by bus. I understand the cost of this excursion is \$4.00 per child.

☐

I have enclosed \$4.00 per child.

Medical conditions you need to be aware of are:

Signed: _____ Date: _____



Fun Friends: Information for parents

Everybody gets worried or sad sometimes. All children feel anxious as a part of their normal development. *Fun Friends* was developed by world-renowned child psychologist Professor Paula Barrett to equip children and their families with life skills that build resilience and social-emotional strength to cope with stresses and challenges that are a part of everyday life. Research has shown that children who are resilient (able to bounce back from adversity) are more likely to succeed at school, develop healthy peer relationships, and are less likely to develop mental health problems.

Your child will learn how to be “brave” and deal with difficulties, to recognise signs of anxiety, relaxation strategies for staying calm, how to build positive relationships with others, to develop positive thinking, and how to try new things and face their fears.

What you can do at home

There are many things you can do to help your child become more resilient and happy. Each week, your child will be introduced to specific skills which need to be reinforced both during the group and in the home environment in order for change to occur. As a parent you are an extremely important and influential role model, and you play a vital role in the development and maintenance of the skills taught in the *Fun Friends* programme.

The Family Adventure book has a lot of useful discussion starters, stories and pictures which you can use with your child. In addition, the following handouts outline the key skills and strategies for each of the sessions of Fun Friends, and gives some helpful tips for how you can help your child and other family members to practise them at home.

It is our aim that your child, your family and community will enjoy the Fun Friends program and will benefit from learning practical, useful skills for coping with stress, worry, fear and day-to-day challenges.



F = FEELINGS.

My body gives me clues to help me know how I'm feeling. I can recognise that I'm feeling worried because my palms are sweaty, I have butterflies in my stomach, my heart is beating fast, and I need to go to the toilet. This is my bodies' way of telling me it is time to do something to calm down!

R = REMEMBER TO RELAX. HAVE QUIET TIME.

I can do milkshake breathing, practise relaxation, have fun times and quiet times too.

I = I CAN DO IT! I CAN TRY MY BEST!

I can think of more helpful GREEN thoughts, such as "I can do it", and "It doesn't matter as long as I try my best".

E = ENCOURAGE!

I can learn new things and try new things that are hard for me. I'll take small "baby" steps and try new things so I can feel really proud of myself. Making a Step Plan will help me. I can reward myself for each step I climb.

N = NURTURE.

There are many special people in my life. They can help me in lots of ways. My family, my friends and my teachers can all help me learn and try new things.

D = DON'T FORGET TO PRACTISE.

I can use the FRIENDS plan to feel confident and brave about all sorts of things. I can practise my relaxation games so that when I feel tense and stiff, I can relax my muscles straight away. I can also practise GREEN thoughts.

S = SMILE! STAY CALM FOR LIFE!

I can stay cool and calm, because I know the steps of the FRIENDS plan, which will help me to be confident and brave.