



PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

11 September 2015

"Quality Learning in a safe and happy community"

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



EXCELLENCE - RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY

ISSUE 8 | TERM 3 | WEEK 9

OUR STUDENTS EXCEL

State Dance Workshops

The State Dance Workshops are coordinated by The Arts Unit and aim to extend the skills and knowledge of dance students from NSW Public Schools.



Two students from our school, Zoe and Lexi, recently attended workshops at Sydney Dance Company Studios and were taught various ways to develop their technical and artistic dance skills in areas such as Performance and Composition.

As a result of their involvement in the 1 day workshop, students developed their confidence in dance under the guidance of supportive tutors, whilst making new friends. These opportunities enable students to develop an understanding of the different teaching methods and styles of dance. The more variety students are exposed to, the more rounded they become as a dancer.

This event featured 50 students from 20 NSW Public Schools. The Arts Unit identifies student potential and provides opportunities to build knowledge, skills and understanding through programs that enhance learning at the school and beyond.



OUR STUDENTS EXCEL cont.

PSSA Netball Gala Day

On Friday, 21 August the Pacific Palms School netball team participated in the Netball Gala day in Forster. The girls showed off their incredible skills winning a total of 3 out of 4 games which is very impressive. We were very lucky to have such a lovely sunny day to compete on. A huge thank you to the team's umpire and coach Jill McSweeney and Jayme Galante. The amount of support shown by parents and community members was also greatly appreciated.



*Front Row: Jia Li, Bella, Ms Murray, Grace, Gemma.
Back Row: Jayme, Natasha, Tamzyn, Minna, Charlee.*

WELCOME TO TERM 3

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

| UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDER | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Sat, 12 Sept | P&C Trivia Night - Theme: the letter "P". |
| Mon, 14 Sept | P&C Meeting @ 7pm at the Recky. All welcome. |
| Fri, 18 Sept | Adidas School Fun Run - Meal Deal lunch. Last day of Term 3. |
| Tues, 6 Oct | Students return for Term 4. |



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OUR STUDENTS EXCEL cont.

2015 Young Scientists Paper Plane Challenge

At the completion of our School's Paper Plane Challenge there were eight Palms students who qualified to attend the 2015 Young Scientist Paper Plane Challenge at the University of Sydney Open Day. Over 1000 children from 100 schools participated in the two events held; Furthest Distance and Longest Airtime. To add to the excitement of the day World Championship Paper Plane finalists, Dylan Parker and James Norton, ran paper plane making demonstrations. The Palms students were star struck meeting Dylan and James, who were the inspiration behind the Aussie hit movie, Paper Planes.

All students performed well, even in the breezy conditions. Taj had an excellent result in the Longest Air Time Event, making it to the grand final and placing 4th out of 800 students. Congratulations Taj!

Qualifiers: Flynn, Corey, Taj, Jack, Sam, Marley, Falilou, Jasper



Taj with his fantastic plane that flew for 11.36 seconds.



Jasper and Jayden get some tips from Dylan Parker.

OUR STUDENTS EXCEL cont.

School Band - Band Workshop

Members of our school band travelled to Taree West Public School recently to take part in a band workshop with other local school bands. The students worked with the other bands throughout the morning, with the day culminating in a live performance. There were lots of smiles from our band members who enjoyed working with larger, more experienced bands in the area.





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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Celebrate Book Week

Our Book Week enthusiasm again this year was amazing. It was wonderful to see our students and staff embrace the book character dress up and parade.

Families and students were very supportive of the book fair which was another great success, earning our Library around \$1500 income from book sales.

Book week provides a special focus for the library, with the opportunity to showcase the best of children's literature for 2015, chosen by the Children's Book Council of Australia. Each year our Library orders all of the shortlisted books of the year and students focus on these texts throughout term 3.

Special thanks goes to the very supportive parents who helped with the book fair and the catering on the day.

A huge hoorah for our parent and extended community for their wholehearted support with this fun and exciting event.

Thank you
Michelle Lowry & Tash Macarthur



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS Cont.



Father's Day Raffle

Congratulations to the Drane family who were the lucky winners of our Father's Day Raffle. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket we raised \$608. Again a special thank you to the Hardy family who kindly donated the fabulous Ziggy Barbecue from their BBQ's Galore store in Forster.





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SCHOOL HAPPENINGS Cont.

Adidas School Fun Run

This is a major fundraiser for our school to raise money for sports equipment. Students will be involved in physical activity throughout the day and participate in a 45 minute fun run/obstacle course that will begin at 10:15 am followed by a meal deal lunch.



You can help your child reach their sponsorship goals through online sponsorship at <http://www.schoolfunrun.com.au/students>. The date to finalise sponsorship has now been extended to Friday, 18 September so please keep encouraging your child to support this event.

Parents are welcome to participate in the fun run. We also need parent volunteers to help run the obstacle course on the day. If you are able to help out, please contact Lani Williams on Lani.S.Williams@det.nsw.edu.au

INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS

Pacific Palms Parent Survey - Your Feedback Is Valued!

Earlier in the year students in Years 4, 5 and 6 completed the *Tell Them From Me* survey. Their responses have given the school some good data and information for our planning.

This term we are taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* parent survey which will help to clarify and strengthen the important relationship between our parents and our school.

INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS cont.

Like the student survey, the parent survey focuses on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. This survey will help us to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will help the school identify ways to improve student outcomes.

Please read the *Tell Them From Me* parent survey Frequently Asked Questions. http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/images/TTFM_Parent_Survey_Final.pdf

Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, The Learning Bar, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual parent responses. We encourage you to take part in the survey. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

The survey takes 30 minutes or less to complete and can be done directly at home by using the link that was sent home in a separate note. To ensure all parents have the opportunity to complete the parent survey a **COMPUTER will be available in the front office.**

To Complete Survey search *Tell Them From Me* or use this address <https://www.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm>

If you need a new password and logon please contact the front office.



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INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS cont.

Stage 2 Camp

Our Stage 2 camp is coming up from Wednesday, 14 October to Friday, 16 October. A medical note and payment reminder notice was sent home recently. If your child is attending the camp, please ensure that their medical note is returned to school and payment is finalised by the end of this term.

P & C NEWS

Trivia Night - This Saturday Night!!

Our P&C Trivia Night is on this Saturday Night. Theme: Use the letter "P" as your inspiration. Doors open at 6:30 pm for a 7:00 pm start. Tables of 8 @ \$10 per person. BYO drinks and a plate of nibbles to share at the table plus plenty of gold coins for bribes!! For enquiries, please contact Kate McLean on 0405 757 582. (See attached flyer for further information.)

School Fete - Friday, 23 October 2015

Stage 2 are now encouraging students to start bringing in items for the Chocolate Wheel. Items may include packets, tins of food and other useful items. We will also be encouraging local businesses to donate prizes. We are hoping to receive a great response from our families, so please encourage your child to bring in some items each week.

Ride Sponsorship: Each year we ask local businesses to support our school by sponsoring the awesome rides at our school fete. Sponsorship is \$100 per business and includes a family rides pass for two adults and two children.

PARENTING TIPS FROM SUE COLDITZ, COUNSELLOR

Self-Esteem

Self-esteem is very important for everyone. Healthy self-esteem is feeling good about yourself, that you are a worthwhile person. It is not conceit or boastfulness but a belief in self. It enables children to try new things, to make friends and to manage problems. It helps them cope with life! Children are not born with self-esteem - it is learned and can be changed.

Some ideas that may help:

1. Give time, hugs and smiles
2. Laugh with your children
3. Show and tell your child you love them, not just when they have pleased you
4. Spend time with them doing things they like to do
5. Show respect by talking to them the way you want to be spoken to
6. Encourage friendships - make their friends welcome in your home
7. Support school work without taking over
8. Help them explore hobbies of interest to them
9. Help them feel they're needed - eg age-appropriate house chores
10. Get involved with extended family (if suitable) to increase sense of belonging
11. Keep special mementoes of their successes and milestones
12. Take photos so they have a sense of growing up and being valued
13. Keep little family rituals eg bedtime story
14. Celebrate achievements and successes
15. Encourage/support to solve their own age-appropriate problems



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PARENTING TIPS FROM SUE COLDITZ, COUNSELLOR cont.

16. Teach personal safety - to say 'no' to protect themselves if necessary
17. Teach them to trust their feelings and recognise they don't have to keep secrets which frighten or hurt them
18. Look after your own self esteem too!! It lets them know you feel good about yourself; take time out to do what you like to do, eg spend time with friends or partner

Things that are not helpful for self esteem:
constantly nagging; using negative messages, eg 'You are.....lazy, untidy, naughty, shy, a bully, a sook...!', 'I love you but I don't like you' (Dislike the behaviour, not the person), 'If it weren't for the children we could have a good holiday' or 'I wish you had never been born'; threatening to leave them or give them away if they are not doing as told.

*School Counsellor: Sue Colditz
Dep Health SA Gov*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2016

Forward planning is now underway. If you have a child who will start school next year, or you know someone who does, please obtain an enrolment form from the school office as soon as possible. Kindergarten students need to be 5 years of age on or before the 31st July 2016 to be eligible to enrol in Kindergarten in 2016.

You will need to present the following documentation:

- A completed enrolment form
- A birth certificate or current passport

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont.

- Proof of residency (licence, council rates notice etc.)
- Immunisation certificate

Thank you to those parents who attended the Kindergarten Information Night last week, we had a great response. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment if you require further support.

New Teacher for 2016

Our school recently listed an unfilled vacancy permanent teacher position with the Department of Education. An appointment has been made, who has accepted the full time permanent position, starting in January 2016. Her name is Katrina Punton, she has worked for the last 3 years at Wilcannia Central School and we look forward to her joining our team.

Staff Professional Learning update

Our school has a strong practice of supporting teachers with professional development. Throughout Term 3 our staff have been involved in many professional learning opportunities to keep us current with modern educational practices, new departmental reforms and current research.

- Habits of the effective teachers - five teachers went to Port Macquarie this term to participate in a workshop designed for primary teachers to hone their classroom management skills; improve student outcomes; classroom management; develop a positive classroom culture; develop strategies to engage students and improve their effectiveness as educators.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont.

- Women in Educational Leadership - Mrs Merchant, Mrs Wood and Ms Williams attended the annual WIEL Conference in Sydney last month. Inspiring, thought provoking, engaging presenters Dr Michele Bruniges, Tara Moss, Lisa McInness-Smith and Robyn Moore.
- Great Teaching, Inspired Learning - Miss Murray and Mrs Lowry have been actively engaged with creative projects, professional learning sessions and mentor time to further develop their skills and knowledge.
- 21st Century Learning and technology in the classroom - this has been an ongoing focus for all staff meetings this term and will be an ongoing emphasis within our 3 year plan.
- Science and Geography syllabus - implementation of the new curriculum documents and programming and assessment to create scope and sequences and the teaching and learning cycle.
- Quality Teaching Rounds (QTR) - All our teaching staff have been involved in feedback from direct observation of teaching, through agreed, collaborative lesson observations.
- Professional Learning Circles (PLC) - All teachers have regularly been involved in sharing collaborative practices with colleagues, for example, curriculum and assessment development, consistent teacher judgment, school planning and self-reflection on the impact of professional learning.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont.

- Performance and Development Framework (PDF) This year is the first year staff have implemented the PDF and processes. The performance and development cycle is a dynamic process characterised by ongoing feedback, reflection and refinement. Teachers collaboratively develop and articulate professional goals, the strategies and support required to achieve those goals. They work with a supervisor to systematically and strategically review progress based on evidence, self-reflection and feedback from the previous cycle.

Principal's Award

- Jake Stuart for outstanding contribution to our school community. He is a Library monitor, classroom helper for Mrs Wood and Mrs Dorfling for art, kind to others, never excludes, respectful, choir member, hardworking, enthusiastic attitude across all aspects of school life.
- Mel Shoesmith for outstanding commitment to our school and a professional attitude to all she does. Mel's commitment to the wellbeing of our students is to be commended. She goes above and beyond in her role - her knowledge and skills are exceptional. She is a caring and compassionate staff member. She helps create a friendly school atmosphere and is an invaluable asset.

Book Week

THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone who contributed to making our Book Week celebrations so great. Your efforts with dressing were so impressive! The COLA atmosphere was fantastic!



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont.

Thank you to the Jellyfish (Mrs Lowry and Mrs Macarthur) for their hard work in organising the day.

Thank you to Papa Smurf (Miss Williams) for the MC/Stage work.

Thank you also to Dom, the P & C and all the parents who volunteered, cooked the BBQ, baked goodies and joined in.

As always, please contact the Assistant Principals; Lyn Wood, Rod Ryan, Lani Williams or myself, to clarify any issue of concern to you. The whole school team at Pacific Palms School is committed to working with our community to ensure our students have the very best opportunities to learn.

Mel Merchant - Principal (Rel)

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." Robert Collier

Pacific Palms School

TRIVIA NIGHT

Date: Saturday 12th September 2015
Time: Doors open at 6:30 for a 7pm Start
Where: Palms School Hall
Theme: Use the letter 'P' as your inspiration
Cost: \$10.00 per person on the night
Table: 8 people per table and feel free to decorate as you desire.
Things to remember: Book the babysitter. BYO drinks & a plate of nibbles. Book your table.
RSVP: To Kate McLean 0405 757 582

P P P P P

For enquiries email... holynamefete@gmail.com

HOLY NAME SCHOOL



FETE

TICKET to FUN!

SUNDAY 30
AUGUST 2015
10AM TO 3PM
92 LAKE STREET
FORSTER



Face painting, popcorn, jumping castle, train rides, white elephant, toys, books, clothes, chocolate wheel, sensational raffle prizes, guessing competitions, side show alley, plants, crazy hair and much more!!

Featuring a kids disco with DJ Pazzo from 1pm

Plenty of fabulous food, stalls & prizes

Come & see 'Skoolies Barnyard'



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Friday 30th Oct Moonlight Movie

John Wright Park Tuncurry



A night for all the family to enjoy.
Bring a chair... enjoy dinner and a glass of wine from one of our gourmet stalls.

PADDINGTON

Gates 6pm Movie approx 7.45pm
kids entertainment till movie starts.

Entry \$5 kids under 16 free.
This event is fully licensed.

Under 18's allowed only under direct supervision of parents. No BYO or pets.

For more info visit
www.lakesidefestival.com.au



what's on SEPTEMBER

Fri 11 - Sun 13
WILDSIDE FESTIVAL
HAWKS NEST COMMUNITY HALL

Sat 12
PADDLE NSW MYALL CLASSIC
MYALL RIVER, TEA GARDENS

Sun 13
FORSTER RUNNING FESTIVAL
FORSTER MAIN BEACH

MUSIC IN THE BACK Paddock - Sun 6, Great Lakes Paddocks - 1pm-4pm
PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS FAMILY FUN DAY - Sun 6, John Wright Park Tuncurry
SPRING FLING RACE DAY - Sat 12, Tuncurry Racecourse - 11am
SPRING BALL - Sat 12, Coomba Park Community Hall - 7pm
BEEKEEPING COURSE - Sun 13, Honeycomb Valley Farm - 9am-3pm
BOOGIE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CLINIC - Sun 13, Tuncurry Rock pool
HARVEST LUNCH/EDIBLE GARDEN TOUR - Sun 13, Garden to Table Permaculture - 12pm
WEDDING OPEN DAY - Sun 13, Mobys Weddings & Sundowner Tiona
SHOWCASE 2015 - Sun 13, Tuncurry Beach Bowling Club - 2pm
GREAT LAKES ART AWARDS - Thu 17, Club Forster - 5:30pm

MARKETS.....

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Sat 5 - Bulahdelah Market | Sun 20 - Krumbach Market |
| Sun 6 - Blackhead Bazaar | Sat 26 - Tuncurry Market |
| Sun 13 - Forster Town Market | Sat 26 - Nahiari Farmers Market |
| Sat 19 - Forster Farmers Market | Sun 27 - Stroud Heritage Growers Market |
| Sat 19 - Tea Gardens Market | Sun 27 - Pacific Palms Market |

For a full list of Events & School Holiday activities please visit our website or drop into Great Lakes Tourism to pick up a copy of the 'School Holiday Whats On'

Produced by Great Lakes Tourism
www.greatlakes.org.au/events