



PACIFIC PALMS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

20 November 2017

"Respect is the Key"

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



CARE – about yourself, others, learning and the environment

ISSUE 11 | TERM 4 | WEEK 7

OUR STUDENTS EXCEL

2018 Support Team Announced



Lachlan, Luke, Jake J, Jake K, Mrs Merchant, Miradee, Fern, Rhyana, Leila

It was very exciting to announce our 2018 Student Leadership team last Friday afternoon. Congratulations to Lachlan, Luke, Jake J, Jake K, Miradee, Fern, Rhyana and Leila. The 2018 Student Leadership team will present their speeches on Friday, 24 November at 9.15 am. Students in Years 2 to 5 then have the opportunity to vote. Badges will be presented at our Senior Celebration of Success night on Monday, 11 December 2017. We are very proud of all students who were prepared to try out for these roles. Voting was quite close so all children should feel very proud. Other leadership opportunities for next year include Sport House Captains, Green Team and our Kinder Buddies program.

U/12 NSW State Champion



Congratulations to Leila who was crowned NSW U/12 State Champion on the weekend. Cronulla Beach saw an action-packed day of surfing yesterday as the finals of the Havaianas NSW U/12 Grommet Titles wrapped up in challenging one-to-two foot waves. Leila fought a tight battle with her fellow finalists but was able to get the nod thanks to a respectable 10.5 heat total. All qualifiers for the Havaianas NSW Grommet State Titles were determined by eight individual regional titles, which took place up and down the NSW coastline earlier in the year.





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END OF YEAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following events are happening over the coming weeks:

UP AND COMING EVENTS CALENDER

Mon, 27 Nov	P & C AGM @ Recky at 6.30 pm. Come along, all welcome.
Tues, 28 Nov	Year 7 Parent Information Night @ Great Lakes College Forster campus
Thurs, 30 Nov	Whole school Assembly in the hall - all welcome
Tues, 5 Dec	Year 7 2018 Orientation Day @ Great Lakes College Forster Campus
Wed, 6 Dec	Year 6 Graduation in the COLA @ 5.30 pm. Kinder to Year 2 Disco @ 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm. Students wear school uniform. Senior Disco (Yr 3 - Yr 6) @ 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm in the hall.
Fri, 8 Dec	Junior Concert (Kinder to Year 2) @ 10.00 am in the hall. Family and friends please join us to celebrate the year.

FINAL WEEK OF SCHOOL - EVENTS CALENDER

Mon, 11 Dec	Senior Celebration of Success (Year 3 to Year 6) @ 6.00 pm sharp in the hall. Students please wear full school uniform.
Wed, 13 Dec	Reports sent home. Kinder to Year 2 Beach Fun Day/Picnic @ 9.00 am to 11.30 am. Students may dress in mufti but please remember sun protective clothing, covered shoes, a water bottle and hat.
Thurs, 14 Dec	Year 6 Shirt signing
Fri, 15 Dec 	Last day for students. Talent Quest Grand Finale @ 9.30 am in the hall. Year 6 march out @ 2.15 pm in the hall - parents invited.

- **K - 2 Home Readers** are now overdue - please return them to school as soon as possible
- Please return all Library books to school for stocktake - Overdue notices have been sent home.



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OUR STUDENTS EXCEL Cont.

Happy Start - Kindergarten 2018

Our 2018 Kindergarten students have been eagerly attending our Happy Start program over the last 4 weeks. Mrs Cunich and Mrs Marchmont are very excited about their new Kindergarten students and look forward to getting to know them next year. Thank you to our Year 5 students for being so very friendly and helpful in looking after their new buddies.





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INFORMATION FOR OUR PARENTS

2018 Kindergarten Enrolments

Enrolment for Kindergarten 2018 is now open. Information has been distributed to local kindergarten and child care facilities. Enrolment forms are available at your child's preschool or our school office. If you have any questions regarding enrolments for Kindergarten 2018, please contact the office.



High School Orientation Day for Year 6

On Tuesday, 5 December our Year 6 students are invited to attend the Year 7 Orientation Day at Great Lakes College Forster Campus. Students are required to wear full school uniform. A BBQ lunch will be provided. Children will need to bring their own recess. Please return your permission note and money by Monday, 27 November.

2017 Year 6 Farewell Dinner

The Year 6 Farewell Dinner will be held on Wednesday, 6 December in our school COLA from 5.30 pm for a 6.00 pm start. The cost for students is \$20 and parents \$20. Please confirm your attendance and make final payment by Wednesday, 29 November.

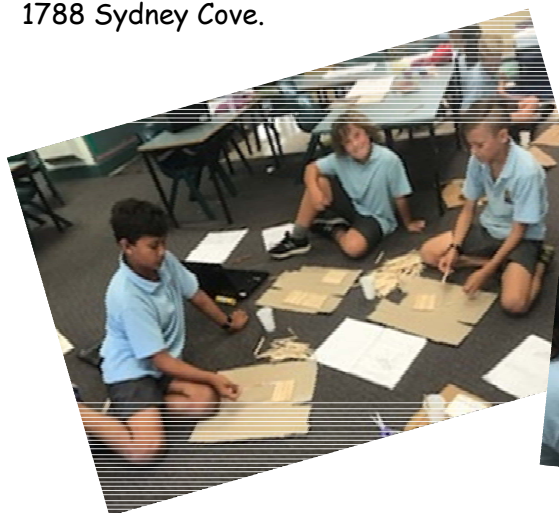
LIBRARY LISTENINGS

Library Stocktake

We are currently undertaking our end of year Library Stocktake so we would ask all our families to please return all library books to school as soon as possible.

Back to 1788

After studying the history of the First Settlement, Stage 2 students are now creating replicas of Australian Settlers huts and 3D maps of 1788 Sydney Cove.





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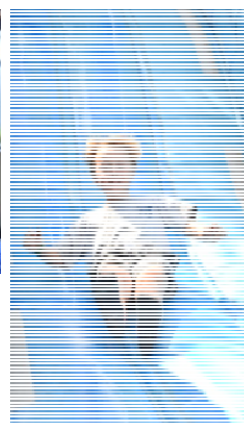
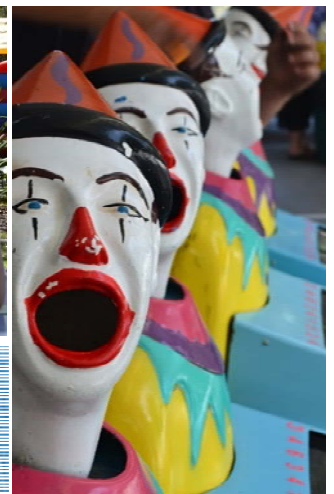
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P & C NEWS

Fete

The P&C would like to thank all our parents, carers, grandparents, school staff and community members for their amazing support at our recent school fete. We raised just over \$10,000 which will go a long way to upgrading teaching materials in the classroom and contribute to a projector for our school hall.





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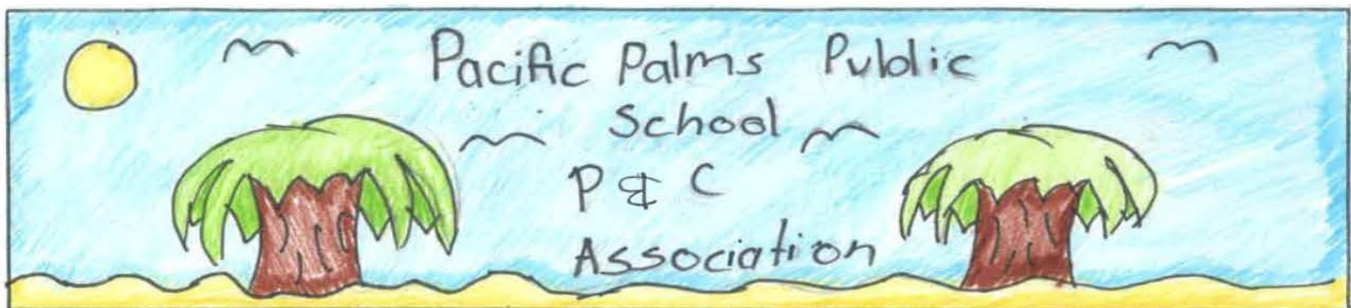
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P & C NEWS Cont.

Canteen/Uniform Manager Position 2018

We are currently seeking Expressions of Interest for our Canteen/Uniform Manager position for 2018. If you are interested please contact Mylee Cheers on mylee.cheers@det.nsw.edu.au or you can pick up a copy of the EOI and Job Description from the front office. Applications close midday Wednesday, 22 November.



Pacific Palms Public School P & C is looking for a

CANTEEN/ UNIFORM SHOP MANAGER for 2018

School Canteen - 20 hours per week - 4 days per week

Interested? Please contact Mylee Cheers for further details on 0408 550 182 or mylee.cheers@det.nsw.edu.au or pick up a EOI and job description from the front office.



P&C Meeting & AGM - Monday, 27 November 2017 at 6.30 pm

Our last P&C Meeting of 2017 will be held on **Monday, 27 November at 6.30 pm** at **Pacific Palms Rec Club** followed by the **AGM at 7.00 pm**. Please come along to support your school P&C, have your say and keep up to date with what is going on in your school community. All positions become vacant and this year there are members of the committee that will be moving on. To ensure the continuation of the P&C it is crucial that these roles are filled. We look forward to seeing you there.



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WHAT IS BULLYING?

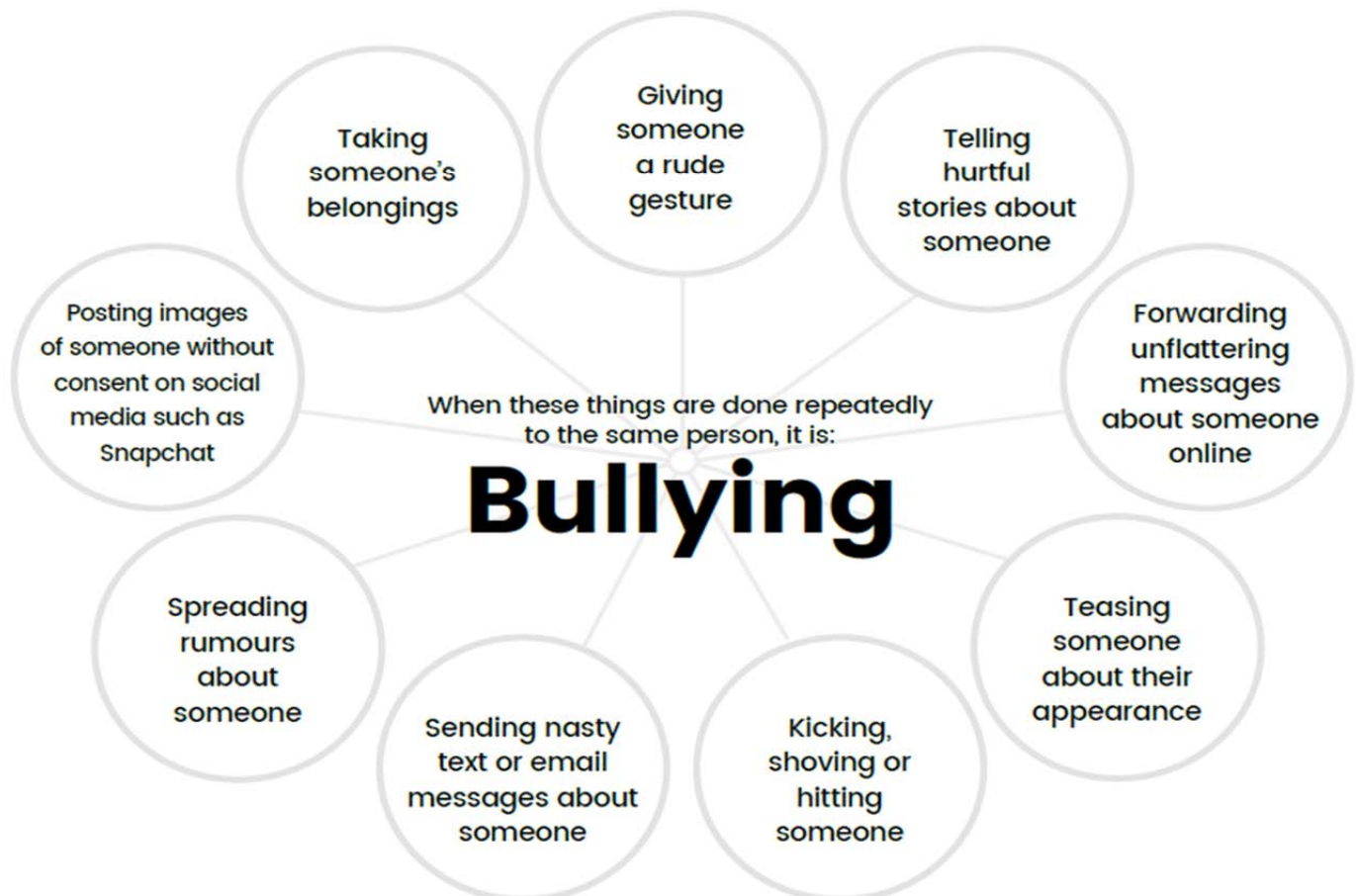
What is bullying?

Bullying has three key features:

1. It involves a misuse of power in relationships.
2. It is ongoing and repeated.
3. It involves behaviours that can cause harm.

It can be:

- verbal, physical or social
- in the open (overt) or hidden (covert)
- online bullying is using technology such as the internet or mobile devices to bully someone
- single arguments or fights are not defined as bullying. However they should be taken seriously and resolved.





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WHAT IS BULLYING?



Education

Anti-bullying
Parents and carers tips
Fact sheet



What is bullying?

Bullying has three key features. It:

- involves a misuse of power in a relationship
- is ongoing and repeated, and
- involves behaviours that can cause harm.

Bullying can also occur online. This is known as cyberbullying, which is using technology such as the internet or mobile devices to bully someone. It can include sending abusive texts and emails, posting hurtful messages and putting inappropriate comments on pictures of others.

Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in NSW schools, whatever the reason. Schools are committed to working with parents, staff and students to prevent bullying and respond quickly and effectively if it does occur.

What can you do if your child has been bullied?

Listen calmly and get the full story

Your child needs to know that they are being heard. Their feelings matter and their concerns should be taken seriously. Encourage your child to talk about what happened. Explain to your child that reporting the bullying is okay.

After listening to their concerns, ask questions to get more details if needed: who, what, where, when.

Reassure your child that they are not to blame

Children may blame themselves and this can make them feel even worse. Say supportive things like, 'That sounds really hard to deal with', or 'I'm so glad you told me. You should feel safe at school'.

Ask your child what they want to do – and what they want you to do

It is important to help your child to find their own solution as this will help them feel that they have some control over the situation.

If your child is not in any immediate danger and they feel confident, they could try these strategies:

- Ignore the bullying.
- Turn their back and walk away.
- Act unimpressed or pretend they don't care.
- Say "No" or "Just stop!" firmly.

If the bullying happened at school, support your child to tell a teacher. If your child wants to talk to someone other than the school or you think added support would help, you could tell them to go to the Kids Helpline website. They can also call for free on 1800 55 1800.

When do I contact the school?

Your child may be reluctant for you to speak to school staff. Discuss the idea and reassure them that the school would want to know and is able to help.

If needed, make an appointment to meet with your child's teacher. You could also ask to talk with the principal.

Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child's safety.

Support for parents and carers

Kids Helpline also has a parent line with trained teams who provide support, information and counselling for parents of children aged 0-18 years. You can call them for the cost of a local call from 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 4pm to 9pm on weekends on 1300 1300 52.

Telephone interpreter service

If you would like to contact the school or Parent Line NSW and need assistance with English please call the telephone interpreter service on 131 450, tell them what language you need and ask the operator to make the call. The operator will get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Principal's Message

Preparations are well underway for our end of year celebrations. We hope you have set aside the dates for the K-2 Concert, Year 6 Graduation and Yr 3-6 Celebration of Success Presentation Assembly. So much to look forward to!

Last week I attended a 3 day Primary Principal conference in Sydney with 560 delegates. This afforded me valuable time with other principals, discussing the nitty-gritty of our profession and providing support for each other. The keynote speakers were varied but all inspirational in their own way. One which resonated with me was the young men who set-up the Orange Sky Laundry - a mobile van that provides a facility for homeless people to wash and dry their clothes. It's a wonderful story of two extraordinary men who have been selfless and giving. Their journey provided them with obstacles aplenty but their persistence, determination, resilience and ability to problem solve kept them going. These are the skills we want our own children to demonstrate. The van based at Port Macquarie now visits Taree every Friday. Check out their website. It's a great story, very inspiring. <http://www.orangeskylaundry.com.au/>



2018 School Structure

It is that time of year again when our school starts planning for the school structure for the next year. How we structure classes for 2018 will depend on the total number of students enrolled for 2018, the staffing entitlement the Department of Education allocates and numbers in each grade. We are currently planning for 13 classes. As always teachers are in the best professional position to make the decision about where a child should be placed for the optimum possible benefit of a child's educational progress. We know that children grow and change as they progress through school. They change socially and their associations with other children change. Academically they may need support or face additional challenges. As always, it is important to remember that students are placed in classes to enhance their learning opportunities with sound teacher professional knowledge backed by assessment, work tasks and classroom teacher observations and expertise on the educational, social and emotional growth of a child. We do welcome your input in this process if you believe there are extenuating circumstances that need to be considered when placing your child in a class for 2018. If this is so you are welcome to make a phone call to discuss this matter. This process is totally confidential. Please remember that all these requests will be taken into consideration but we cannot guarantee that it will be possible to fulfil these requests, as numbers, teachers available and professional educational judgement will determine the final outcome. Classes will be formed at the end of the year for 2018 but as always may not be set until the beginning of 2018 when numbers of students on seats become apparent.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont.

Year 6, not long now!

It is a sad time of year when we all come to the realisation that our Year 6 students will be ending their primary school education and moving onto high school. Only four weeks to go for them. Some of them have been with us since beginning Kindergarten. That is seven years in the same school with many of the same friends and teachers. Our thoughts are with them as they come to terms with leaving the comfortable confines of our supportive little school to join the throngs of the larger population of a high school campus with multiple teachers and classrooms for the different subjects they will be learning. A huge change lies ahead not only with the school change but with growing up as well. It is not easy being a young person between childhood and adolescence. Our thoughts and wishes are with you, Year 6. Make these last weeks of primary school the best you can! Leave us with fond memories of you.

Student Reports

Teachers are currently working hard on assessment tasks, discussing work samples and writing Semester 2 reports. A copy of the written report will be sent home on Wednesday, 13 December.

School Plan 2018-2020

Thank you for your input and feedback from the various parent feedback surveys and focus groups we have conducted over the term. We will be sharing the draft 2018-2020 School Plan with you in the next newsletter.

P & C AGM

The P & C Association AGM is being held on Monday, 27 November at 7:00 pm after the monthly P&C Meeting at 6:30 pm at The Recky. All positions will be declared vacant. There are members of the current Exec that are moving on. This gives the opportunity for some new people to be on the P&C. To ensure the successful continuation of our P & C it is crucial that these roles are filled. Please join us, we look forward to seeing you.



Canteen Manager

Our P & C is looking for a CANTEEN/ UNIFORM SHOP MANAGER for 2018. School Canteen - 20 hours per week - 4 days per week. Interested? Please contact Mylee Cheers for further details on 0408 550 182 or mylee.cheers@det.nsw.edu.au or pick up an EOI and job description from the front office. Applications close Wednesday, 22 November at 12 noon.

Staffing

We are currently finalising teaching and support staff for 2018. More information in the next newsletter when we have positions confirmed.



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont.

safeplay



Safe Play at Palms

Focus: We are learning to keep our hands/feet to ourselves.

What this looks like:

Respecting the personal space of others

Not touching or pushing others—no rough play

Playing safely

Take personal responsibility for behaviour and actions

Avoiding unsafe behaviour

Showing CARE to others

Being friendly, kind and thoughtful towards everyone.

2017 SCHOOL CHAMPION

We are in the process of selecting our School Champion for 2017. If you have any suggestions please contact Melissa Merchant.

We are looking for ex-students doing great things!

Mel Merchant
Principal (Rel)

"We rise by lifting others."
Robert G. Ingersoll



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Girls 3 - 16

Girls **only** games, no pressure, non-competitive, fun based

When: Monday 27th November, 4th and 11th 18th December

Where: Tuncurry Cricket Oval

Time: 5:00pm sharp to 6:15pm

Cost: \$10 (first day), \$5 every day after

What to bring: Drink bottle and hat

E-mail: pre-registration trevmcb@bigpond.net.au or sign up on the day

Kids get a treat at the end of each day

