



Education
Public Schools



Charlestown Public School

Newsletter Term 4 Week 5 – Wednesday 9 November 2016

A proud partner of the Whitebridge Community of Schools

Dear Parents/Carers

CANBERRA EXCURSION

Our Year 5 and 6 students had a fantastic time at Canberra last week learning lots about democracy and Australian history. I would like to thank the students for their good behaviour and Miss Hale and Mr Overdijk for giving up their time to accompany the students.

FETE

Only two days to go now! Just a reminder that the fete will start at 3pm with a performance from our K-2 choir and Ukulele group. **Students can only stay after 3:15pm if they are accompanied by an adult.** A teacher will supervise students catching the bus as per usual. Please return raffle tickets as soon as possible. I'm sure it will be a great afternoon. Multiples of small change, rather than large notes, would be appreciated. Please support this great event. The P and C have put a lot of time and effort into the organisation and funds raised are used to support the students.



KIDSMATTER

Component 1 of our Kismatter training this year focussed on building a positive school community. Celebrating cultural diversity is a big part of this. This year we have celebrated Harmony Day and NAIDOC and included multicultural elements into our teaching units wherever possible. We currently have 23 students who speak a language other than English at home and this will increase next year with the enrolment of our new Kinders. Included with the newsletter this week is a fact sheet for families on cultural diversity. Please take the time to read it and speak to your children about celebrating diversity.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

	TERM 4 2016
9.11.16	Fete raffle tickets due back
11.11.16	CANTEEN CLOSED
11.11.16	School Fete 3.00-6.00pm
18.11.16	K 2017 1 st Transition afternoon
1.12.16	Last day for student banking
2.12.16	K 2017 2 nd Transition afternoon
7.12.16	CANTEEN CLOSED
7.12.16	Presentation Day
9.12.16	Last day for canteen and clothing pool
13.12.16	Year 6 Farewell
14.12.16	CANTEEN CLOSED
15.12.16	CANTEEN CLOSED
15.12.16	Party Day
16.12.16	Carols Last day of school for students
	TERM 1 2017
27.1.17	Staff Development Day (pupil free)
27.1.17	Clothing Pool open 8:30-10:30am
30.1.17	Students in Years 1 to 6 return
30.1.17	Pre-arranged Best Start Kinder to 1.2.17
2.2.17	2017 Kindergarten students start

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Our school has a three year technology plan which has been approved by the Information Technology Directorate, the School Council and P & C. This plan is available for you to look at on the 'Our School' section of our school website. We are currently in the second year of implementation of this plan.

This year we have made the following progress towards implementing the plan:

- The server and wireless network have been maintained with no major outages this year.
- New computers obtained through the Department of Education T4L program have been placed strategically to ensure that the computer lab has 26 in warranty computers and every other classroom has at least one in warranty computer. Kindergarten and Year 1 received three new PCs each this year.
- 7 laptops were purchased from school funds for teacher use with classroom Interactive Whiteboards (IWB).
- New projectors were installed in KM, 2/3D and 4/5J. The old projectors had been in use for a minimum of 7 years and were becoming unreliable.
- Staff completed professional learning around robotics, the use of Plickers and using technology for two way communication.
- A range of IWB activities have been added to the shared drive for use in classrooms across Key Learning Areas.
- Staff were provided with time to experiment with the apps already available on class iPads.
- New headphones were purchased to replace broken ones for the iPads.
- Extension activities were provided for students in robotics in Term 2 and the use of Adobe Flash in Term 3. Students indicated that they learnt a lot and enjoyed these activities.
- The school website was updated regularly.
- Parents, staff and students were all asked questions about technology in

the annual surveys. 65% of students think we make enough use of technology in learning. 90% of teachers are happy with the level of technology available. Parents were asked to write a written comment with most indicating that they were happy with the use of technology across the school. Several parents commented that they wouldn't want technology used more often.

- Miss Hale was provided with training and support to develop Information Technology management skills.

Focus areas planned for 2017

- Replace projectors in 1G, 3/4O and 5/6H rooms.
- Laptops have been chosen for distribution through the T4L program. These will be placed in the lab and older laptops from the lab will be moved to classrooms.
- The school Technology Scope and Sequence will be revised to include new technologies and technology skills to facilitate 21st Century learning.
- Staff will be provided with further support to develop skills in using technology for two-way communication with the community.

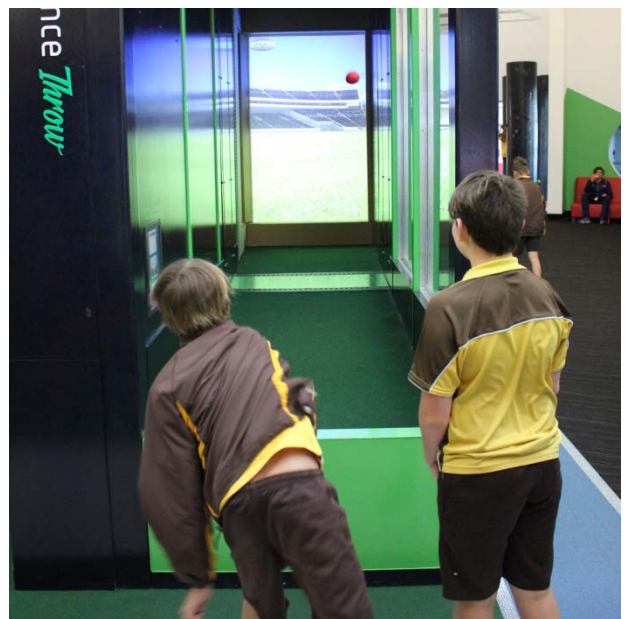
PARLIAMENT AND CIVICS EDUCATION REBATE PROGRAM

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Have a great week!

Trisha Gill, Relieving Principal





3/40 NEWS

So far Term 4 has been very busy with so much going on in the classroom and the school.

Everyone had a great time at swim school during the first 2 weeks of term. It was fantastic to see so many students improve their swimming survival skills.

We thoroughly enjoyed our excursion to The Hunter School of Performing Arts to watch the amazing Lion King performance. It was a great opportunity for our students and staff to appreciate a very impressive production.

Please remember our school fete this Friday afternoon. It should be a great opportunity to visit the school, watch some student performances and participate in some fun activities.

On the 15th of December we are having our school Party Day. Or class will be going to the movies. Notes will be going out soon, please return them as soon as possible.

We have been focusing on poetry this term. Here are some examples of the great work we have been doing on class.

Haiku Poem by Cam and Lily

**Curled up like a leaf
Perched quietly in a tree
Still as a statue**

Cinquain Poem by Koby

**Stars
Shining, beautiful
Hot, amazing, cool
Magnificent, bright, big, happy
Brilliant**

Simile Poem by Jacob J

**She is like a butterfly flying
She is as funny as a clown
She is like a clever scientist
She is as beautiful as a princess
She is like a kangaroo bounding with energy
She is naughty as a crook
She is my sister**

Acrostic Poem By Ryan D

Britannic

**Bad or not it still went down, it's not
Right and it's so bad. You can't go back
It's time to go, come on, come with me
it's never**

**The right time to go back with me, come
with me**

**And I'll show you how it's not that hard
Nerd or not I would still say it, through
time and space you can't leave**

**Now come with me and we will go far
away**

**I'll sail before a thousand moons, never
finding where to go.**

**Come, come with me, I love you so
come with me.**



CANTEEN

We are seeking volunteers for 2017, please return the form that was sent home last week to the office.

We have a vacancy on Wednesday 23 November, please let the office know if you can assist.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Thur	10.11.16	A Jeayes, L Jones
Fri	11.11.16	CLOSED
Mon	14.11.16	CLOSED
Tues	15.11.16	CLOSED
Wed	16.11.16	S Taylor, N Filo

CLOTHING POOL NEWS

With the warmer weather upon us we are looking for quality second hand dresses for the clothing pool. If you have any please drop them in at the office or the Clothing Pool.

CLOTHING POOL HOURS

Wednesdays	2:45 pm – 3:15 pm
Fridays	9:00 am – 9:30 am

P&C NEWS

Newcastle Permanent Building Society Introducer Program - We have joined this fundraising program through the NPBS.

When someone applies for a new Newcastle Permanent home or business loan, all they need to do is tell NPBS they were referred by Charlestown Public School P&C and provided their application is eligible the P&C will receive \$600 once the loan has been processed. Please tell your friends, families, work colleagues... basically anyone you know can participate!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Massive Toy & Ham Raffles
 Sunday 13 November & Sunday 20 November
 Ticket sales 11.30am • Draw starts @ 12.30pm
 62 Keneba Avenue, Keneba NSW 1542 2427 • 0800 646464 • www.keneba.com.au

For a chance to win delicious hams & awesome toys for Christmas \$1,000 worth of toys each week

Kahibach Sports Club



PCYC LAKE MACQUARIE
 Lake St, Windale
 49488 6622

**COME ON DOWN AND
 ENJOY THE FUN ACTIVITIES
 AT PCYC!**

BOXING 4 FITNESS
KINDERGYM ARCHERY
AIKIDO WEIGHTS JUDO
BOXING (14+) KIDZCARE
WOMEN'S SELF DEFENCE

MENTION THIS AD TO TRY ANY OF OUR ACTIVITIES FOR FREE!
 ALL VOLUNTEERS AND INSTRUCTORS HAVE WORKING WITH CHILDRENS
 CHECKS AND POLICE CHECKS
 (PCYC membership needed)

PCYC **TOIP** Traffic Offenders Intervention Program **SAFER DRIVER COURSE** **KIDZCARE**



Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way
 ...to pack a healthy lunch box.

Packing a healthy lunch box is as simple as including each of these food groups. And you can combine several in a single item.



Try a pita pocket (bread) with lamb kofta (meat) and tabbouleh (salad).

Or go for a tub of whole or *puréed* berries with natural yoghurt for a fruit and dairy combo.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
 or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

Eat It To Beat It



Cultural diversity: Suggestions for families

<https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/mental-health-matters/cultural-diversity-and-childrens-wellbeing/suggestions-for-families>

Parenting across cultures has particular challenges. Sometimes children and their parents or carers have different ideas about how to balance the values and expectations of two cultures. When children have a sense of belonging to both cultures it supports positive mental health and wellbeing. The following suggestions may assist you and your children to achieve a positive sense of belonging in both cultures.

Celebrate your own culture

Developing a positive sense of cultural identity supports children's self-esteem and their sense of belonging. By telling stories and sharing customs you can help children to connect with their cultural heritage. It is important to talk to children in ways that are appropriate for their age and interest. Knowing and taking pride in their own heritage can help children feel comfortable and secure with their identity.

Build social networks

Friendships and social networks are important both for children and for families, helping them to feel part of the community. Making connections with local people is important for feeling welcomed and building a sense of belonging in Australian society. Your connections may be with your own cultural group or you may prefer to build your connections with another cultural group. Your child's school can be a great meeting point for parents and carers where long-term friendships develop.

Get to know your child's school

Becoming involved in your child's school is a great way for families to feel connected to their community. There are often opportunities to participate in school events which may help you to get to know your child's school and the school community. Forming relationships with school staff can also help you to feel like you belong. For instance, having a good relationship with your child's teachers will allow you to ask questions about your child's progress, and share your cultural background with them. When families and teaching staff develop relationships, they are more likely to understand each other's perspectives, talk through concerns and support children together.

Learn about parenting in Australia

Some parenting practices may be quite different in different cultures. Finding out about parenting practices and expectations in Australia, including things like legal requirements of parents and supports available, can help you work out the best ways to manage problems that may arise. Many families from culturally diverse backgrounds find that blending the best parenting ideas and practices from both cultures is very helpful.

Be flexible

Children can feel confused when the values and behaviours expected at home seem to be different from what happens with their friends. It is helpful to be flexible when deciding on rules and expectations so you can take into account any difficulties your children may be facing. Listening to your children and talking openly about the concerns they may have regarding different expectations for school and home means that solutions can be found through understanding and compromise.

Be patient

Adjusting to a new life after migration has lots of challenges for both families and children. Establishing a secure and caring home environment helps to provide children with a sense of stability. Finding people who understand you and can support you as you settle in is really important. It is also often very important to access the help that is available through government agencies, community organisations and English language programs.

Seek support

Getting help in your own language can be especially important at times of stress or when dealing with complex issues. Many community organisations around Australia provide specific support and advice from a cultural perspective. Some organisations offer regular meetings or short courses to help with parenting or other family issues.

See also:

[Cultural diversity: Further resources](#)

CHARLESTOWN Public School FETE



FRIDAY 11th NOVEMBER 3 – 6 PM

Newsletter No. 6

With only **2 days** to the fete we still need HELP

- Please return all sold **RAFFLE TICKET** books to the office ASAP.
Remember, for every full book a student sells, they go into the draw for a **\$20 COLES MYER GIFTCARD**.
- All donations for the **CAKE STALL** need to be labelled with ingredients used.
- Children at the FETE must be under the **supervision of a parent** or other nominated adult.
- Children will be able to come to school **out of uniform**.
- It would be appreciated if children and parents had **small notes and change** on Friday.

TO DO

Muddle through the boxes in the **BOX MAZE**

Be amazed at the **LEGO** creations in the **HALL**

Grab a friend and get a happy snap at the **PHOTOBOOTH**

Win a prize at the **CHOCOLATE WHEEL**

Have a throw, toss and shot at **SIDESHOW ALLEY**

Have your **FACE PAINTED**

Get a surprise with a **LUCKY DIP**

Buy a **SHOWBAG**

Get a temporary **TATTOO**

TO EAT & DRINK

PIES/SAUSAGE ROLLS

SAUSAGE/STEAK SANDWICHES

Homemade SWEETS, CAKES & LOLLIES

COFFEE SNO CONES

DRINKS FROZEN YOGHURT

FAIRY FLOSS

POPCORN

BRIC A BRAC

PLANTS

**TO BUY
NOVELTIES/TOYS**

CAKES

**SHOWBAGS
BOOKS/DVDS**