



Education
Public Schools



Charlestown Public School

Newsletter Term 2 Week 3 – Wednesday 11 May 2016

A proud partner of the Whitebridge Community of Schools

Dear Parents

Welcome to Week 3. The term is flying past at an incredible rate! Many activities are planned in the coming weeks so please ensure you read the newsletter to keep informed.

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

Next Wednesday a team of 28 students from the primary grades will represent the school at the Zone Cross Country at Barton Oval, Belmont. We wish you all the best for a day of fast running and great sportsmanship. Thanks to Mrs Nolan for organising the students and officiating on the day.

NAPLAN

It is almost finished! The results will be back in schools sometime during September. The students have managed the Reading, Language Conventions and Writing tasks well without too many nerves and I'm sure have done their best work. Congratulations to all our Year 3 and Year 5 students for showing resilience and persistence during this week. I am very proud of your efforts!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank the whole staff on the work they do in ensuring the learning needs of each individual child is catered for. Although the tests happen in May each year, it is a dedicated whole school Kinder to Year 6 approach that is the focus – NAPLAN is only one of the markers used to indicate each student's progress as well as the progress of the school as a whole. The data provided helps the school to adjust programs, practices and procedures to ensure a smooth continuation of learning for each individual.

It is important to put NAPLAN into perspective; the assessments don't reflect whether your child is great at Sport or Science, whether they have a beautiful singing voice or can play the piano or even be a wonderful friend who is always there to support their mates. It is really just one way of helping us get to know some of your child's academic ability.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| TERM 2 2016 | |
|-------------|---|
| 10-12.5 | Y3 and Y5 NAPLAN |
| 12.5.16 | School Council Meeting 6:45pm |
| 13.5.16 | Last day for Book Club orders and money |
| 15.5.16 | School Working Bee 9-11am |
| 18.5.16 | Zone Cross Country |
| 25.5.16 | P&C Meeting 9:30am |
| 27.5.16 | Last day for Cookie Dough orders and money |
| 31.5.16 | Last day for payments prior to new finance arrangement |
| 14-18.6 | Star Struck Week |
| 15.6.16 | ICAS Spelling P&C Meeting 9:30am |
| 16.6.16 | Payments can again be made Expected date for Cookie Dough orders to be delivered |
| 22.6.16 | Y3-6 Netball Gala Day |

WORKING BEE

Please join us for two hours this Sunday 15 May 9am-11am. There is a lot to do; moving the red bridge, cleaning out the fridges/freezers in the canteen, mulching the gardens, rebuilding the sandpit and planting seedlings in the veggie garden. Looking forward to seeing you there, as many hands make light work!

WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL

Walk Safely to School Day is an annual community event and will be held this year on Friday 20 May. This day encourages us to consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. Although walking all the way to school is not realistic for some of us, a walk can be built into your family's daily routine. Consider the following options for walking:

- Walk the whole way to school
- If your child catches the bus to school walk with them past your usual stop to the next bus stop
- If you have to drive, park a few blocks away from the school and then walk

Regular walking is a great form of exercise and gives you the opportunity to reinforce road safety messages with your child. Road safety lessons were undertaken in Term 1 and your child should be able to demonstrate the safe way to cross a road. Please note that the RMS suggests that children up to 10 years of age need to have their hand held to cross the road.

Remember, active children are healthy children so start planning your walk to school now.

HALL OF FAME

Each year on Presentation Day we award a past student with a very special Hall of Fame award. Nominations are now being called for this year's award. Please contact the office if you know of a suitable recipient so that the nomination paperwork can be completed.

TELL THEM FROM ME

Last term the students in Years 4, 5 and 6 participated in the "Tell Them From Me" survey. The survey provided our school with valuable and quick feedback on what the students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Two of the components about bullying and teacher interaction and relationships showed enormous improvement on last year's results. There were many other issues raised about homework, the apparent "easiness" of a task and the amount of learning time each day. Teachers spent time with students in a "student forum," discussing the results

and looking at areas that can be improved throughout the school. It was a really healthy discussion and students had many ideas from marking new handball courts on the playground, changing the homework policy and expectations for homework, as well as the insight that "busy students are always more organised with their time and always hand in their homework, whereas students who don't do a lot after school, don't do their homework." All students enjoy group work especially in Maths, but admitted that at times they became distracted and socialised in preference to learning and staying on task.



PEER SUPPORT

What a wonderful two days last Thursday and Friday during Peer Support training! The Yrs 5 & 6 students responded extremely well to the many leadership tasks asked of them and quite a few students displayed hidden qualities and stepped up more than 100%. Great work everyone and special thanks to Miss Hale and Mrs Nolan for the many hours preparing the days.





Jayne Thompson
Principal

MUSIC BUS

The Music Bus has been a wonderful addition to our school in assisting your child learn an instrument. There are some timeslots available this term. Please contact Chris English on M: 0415 555 602 if you require more information.

1G NEWS

This term is off to a great start with everyone excited for the learning ahead. We have welcomed Mackenzie as a new student to our class this term. We have also welcomed Mr O'Brien who will be working with us all term as he completes his internship.

1G continue to start each day with our literacy groups. Every student is making progress. We are working hard to read in a phrased, fluent and expressive voice, rather than stilted like a robot. We read independently, in small groups and as a whole class. We read and view picture books, factual texts, ebooks and multimedia texts and are learning about the main features of each.



1G has experienced a big improvement in our writing. We are writing longer texts and including a lot of descriptive language. This term we are learning to write Descriptions and Explanations.

iPads continue to be a popular addition to our literacy groups. The Skoolbo app allows us to practise our maths and literacy skills at our own levels.

In English this term we are completing a unit on Aboriginal Culture. We will learn about traditional life, the Dreamtime and about how Aboriginal people have influenced our current life. We will read lots of Dreamtime Stories and some biographies of famous Aboriginals. Our Art will also focus on the Aboriginal culture this term.

Mrs Wilks continues to teach us Science each Friday. This term we are doing a unit called "All Mixed Up".

We have had fun making pieces of art and craft with paint, paper, dye, and crayons. Our creations are displayed in our room and it looks fabulous.

In Maths we have started the term with work on time and subtraction. We are working hard to learn the days of the week, months of the year, tell the time on the hour and half hour, subtract groups of objects and find the difference between two groups. We had a lot of fun playing skittles and recording a subtraction number sentence to represent our turn.



Here is some samples of writing we completed last term.

Sea stars by Olivia

How do they breathe?

They suck up water through their tubed feet.

How do they move?

Sea stars stay on rocks until the current comes and they move with the current.

How do they reproduce?

If one ray breaks off a new sea star will grow from the single ray.

Spiders by Okyanus

There are many different types of spiders.

What spiders look like?

Spiders have 2 main body parts. Spiders have eight legs. Most spiders have eight eyes.

Where do they live?

Spiders live in rainforests, leaves, deserts, webs and alps.

How do spiders make their webs?

All spiders can draw out strong silk threads from the silk glands in their bodies.

CANTEEN NEWS AND ROSTER

| | | |
|-------------|---------|--|
| Thu | 12.5.16 | A Lee, J Battle |
| Fri | 13.5.16 | No orders—counter service at lunch only T Black, K Style |
| Mon | 16.5.16 | CLOSED |
| Tues | 17.5.16 | CLOSED |
| Wed | 18.5.16 | K McAlister, E TenBohmer |

CLOTHING POOL HOURS

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

P&C NEWS

Mother's Day Stall

Thank you to those mothers who assisted on Friday and also to those families who donated gifts.

Cookie Dough orders – due Friday 27 May

Order forms will be sent home today, please return the order forms, money (if required) and your preferred instant prize/s to the office by Friday 27 May. Delivery is expected to be on Thursday 16 June.

Netball Gala Day - Wednesday 22nd June

We will be catering at the Netball Gala Day. If you are able to assist on the day, please leave your details at the office.

Entertainment Books

Entertainment books are now available for sale and collection from the office. Each book costs \$60 and has hundreds of dollars' worth of savings at local and national businesses. Now choose from traditional Book or Digital Membership!

Election Day BBQ and Cake Stall – Saturday 2 July

Given the recent announcement, we will require assistance on the day to serve bacon and egg rolls, sausage/steak sandwiches and drinks. We will also be selling cakes/biscuits/slices and of course lamingtons! Please let the office know if you can help out.

If you are able to supply any homemade cakes/biscuits/slices that can be sold on the day we need all goods to be clearly labelled with the ingredients that were used. These can be delivered to the school on the Friday afternoon or early on the Saturday morning.

'You Can' Mobile Phone recycling

If you have any old mobile phones, please drop them into the recycling box in the foyer.

CLOTHING POOL

Brown Jackets

We have a small number of the old plain brown jackets for sale. These are brand new but we are no longer stocking them as we have a new jacket that is jersey lined for extra warmth. These plain brown jackets will be sold from the Clothing Pool for \$20.

New Jacket Orders

For those parents who ordered jackets - they are available for payment and collection from the Clothing Pool Wednesday afternoons 2:45-3:15pm or Friday mornings 9:00-9:30am.

Girls Brown Ponte Pants

We have a small number of girls brown long pants available in sizes 4 to 16 for \$10 each.

Girls Dresses

We are looking for any second hand girls dresses that you no longer need. If you have any it would be greatly appreciated if you could please drop them into the office for the clothing pool.