



Education
Public Schools



Charlestown Public School

Newsletter Term 1 Week 8 – Wednesday 15 March 2017

A proud partner of the Whitebridge Community of Schools

Dear Parents/Carers

This week we are holding our first “coffee and chat” afternoon in the chaplain’s room starting at 2:45pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to meet each other, have a chat about school happenings and any issues of concern. Please come along and meet some new faces. Miss Jodie and I look forward to seeing you there.

PARENT/TEACHER FEEDBACK

At our Parent/Teacher information night parents were asked about the strengths existing in the school. This is a summary of parent contributions:

Lovely school, child enjoys coming to school, staff approachable, low school/class numbers, wonderful, happy with the school, awesome, strong sense of community, dedicated, committed, organised teachers, family oriented due to small numbers, feels like a family being part of the school, innovative interactive classrooms, positivity in school, even though a small school there are lots of opportunities, inclusive and children can play with others in different years.

Thank you for your contributions. We gratefully appreciate the effort you put into your child’s education. Next week we will look at areas for improvement and opportunities for your child at CPS.

ATTENDANCE

As part of our normal accountability structures within schools, attendance is monitored not only within the school, but also by DEC personnel outside the school. Home School Liaison Officers monitor the students’ attendance with the goal of ensuring that all students are at school

every day that instruction is offered. Please note that partial absences (including even arriving 5-10 mins late) are considered an absence and are closely monitored. I appreciate every effort to ensure that students are here at 9:30 each day. If your child is absent from school, a note to explain their absence is required as soon as they return to school.

Did you know?

1 day off per fortnight equals 20 days per year and nearly 18 months of school (from Kinder to Yr. 12).

1 day off per week equals 40 days per year and over 30 months of school.

Give your child every chance to succeed!
Every day at school counts!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

	TERM 1 2017
Mondays	Y3-6 Ukulele Group 1:25pm
17.3.17	K-6 Harmony Day @ school (wear orange and bring a gold coin donation for Stewart House)
21.3.17	1H, 2D & 3/4O to The Place, Charlestown for Harmony Day celebrations
24.3.17	Y2-6 Orienteering
28.3.17	K-2 Pet Program
31.3.17	Y2-6 Orienteering
4.4.17	Easter Raffle tickets due
5.4.17	Y3-6 T-Ball Gala Day
7.4.17	Y2-6 Orienteering Easter Hat Parade Last day for students
	TERM 2 2017
24.4.17	Staff Development Day (no students)
25.4.17	ANZAC Day – Public Holiday
26.4.17	All student return to school

HARMONY DAY

Just a reminder about our Harmony Day activities this Friday. This is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

The children are encouraged to wear orange on 17 March.

Special thanks to the canteen ladies for their Lunch and Recess Meal deal.

Parents can find out more at the Harmony Day web site <http://www.harmony.gov.au/>.

Our Years 1-3 students will be performing at "The Place" next Tuesday at 10:15am as part of Charlestown Square's organisation for Harmony Day.

BULLYING

Most days teachers talk with their students about relationships with their friends and peers. Many times they talk to students about issues involving dynamics of power and control. Frequently they talk about:

- Exclusion
- Pecking order
- Incidents of hurtful and malicious behaviours
- Peer pressure to conform to various activities or behaviours
- Breaches of trust and
- Betrayal of confidence.

While conflict in interpersonal relationships can be approached from a perspective that encourages the child to use skills such as communication and assertion, bullying poses a different and more difficult problem.

The very dynamics of bullying involves a power relationship resulting in the target being especially vulnerable. Whilst it is important that we encourage students to develop resilience and skills to deal with conflict it is unreasonable to expect students to deal with bullying on their own.

At CPS we encourage students to:

- Tell someone and keep telling while the problem persists
- Keep a record of the incidents

- If you can, tell the person who is bullying you to stop
- If you have a friend tell them
- See if you can change your response to the person who is bullying you
- Think of ways to keep away from the person who is bullying you

There is often a fine line between conflict with peers and bullying, and it can often be difficult for counsellors, teachers and parents to discriminate between what is normal conflict and what is bullying.

Have a clear understanding of what bullying is... that it is repeated, with a deliberate intent to hurt, can help both adults and children deal with the situation more effectively.

It is extremely important that if you are being bullied at school you tell a teacher, if we don't know it is happening to you then we are unable to help!

This day, 17 March will also highlight BULLYING "NO WAY" DAY.

It will provide students with information and strategies to deal with the issue of Bullying. This focus supports the on-going programs the children participate in at our school. These programs include the "You Can Do It" program, the "Got It" program, special anti-bullying lessons and Child Protection lessons in Term 4. Students will also be given a special "Bullying No Way!" wristband.

SCHOOL APP

Just a reminder that the school app is available. I know that many families are already using this. We're trying to increase the use of the push notifications facility to ensure that you are getting timely information and reminders, and we hope that it is useful to you. If you do not have push notifications active on your phone, please do so for this application to be effective for you. Alternatively, if you don't have the school app, I would encourage you to download it. Our newsletter is also available on the school app.

KEEP OUR STUDENTS SAFE

The staff carpark is always kept open as it is a delivery area for the canteen as well as being a staff car parking area. It is not however a safe place for students/parents to walk through. Often students can't be seen as staff reverse and it is simply a case of an accident waiting to happen. Please keep our students safe by not walking through the staff carpark.

STAFF TRAINING

This afternoon staff will complete their e-learning module for anaphylaxis training as well as further discussions and training in Kismatter. Kismatter is the social and emotional learning program that the school implemented at the start of 2016. Along with helping students develop socially and emotionally we are aiming to build a positive school culture co-operating with parents and carers. This staff training takes the place of one of our staff development sessions at the end of the year.

BOYS KNOCKOUT CRICKET

We wish our boys Cricket XI all the best in their second round game next Tuesday 21 March against Charlestown East PS. The boys have trained hard over the past few weeks and are primed for a big game at Reay Park Dudley.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

I really enjoyed our Personalised Learning Support meetings held last Wednesday and Thursday as together we established learning goals for the students. Thank you for your valuable input and contributions whilst being encouraging and supportive of the programs put into place for your child. As part of the local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) I look forward to preparing for NAIDOC Week in early July.

Enjoy your week

Jayne Thompson
Principal

4/5N NEWS

Our class is a cooperative classroom. We share our ideas and thoughts with each other, through talking and listening.

We have been writing sizzling starts for persuasive and narrative texts.

These are the beginnings of our persuasive texts.

Topic **Summer is better than Winter**

Okay, let's think. Summer or Winter?

Winter – cold, wet, damp but there is more sport. Summer – hot, warm, beaches, holidays, friends and no school. So with that list, I definitely think Summer is better.

Cadell

Topic: **Buses are better to ride in than cars**

Start! Stop! Open the door! On, off they go. Start! Stop! People are yelling. The bus driver yells back. Start! Stop! The bus driver misses the stop and goes the wrong way. I'm going to buy a car. **Ryan**

Topic: **It's time to raise my allowance**

An Ipad! Wow! I will be able to play all my games. I could get my very own cat! What about a new trampoline just for me. Mum, Dad, you need to raise my allowance please. **Breanna S**

We have been looking at the cultural diversity of Australia and discussing the term, "Everyone Belongs". We've discussed the reason for wearing orange on Harmony Day. We also believe that Harmony Day relates to saying No to Bullying.

We listened to and discussed the lyrics to the Harmony song, "Orange Ribbon".

Some say we're different

It doesn't matter to me.

Sometimes things get difficult.

Who said it would be easy.

Race or colour

Sister or Brother

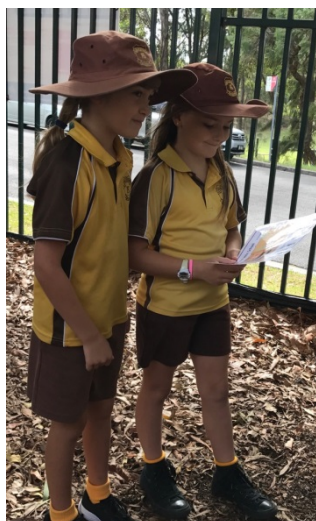
We built our home up from the ground.

We get together. Trust in each other.

Nothing's going to bring us down.

In the playground we played multicultural games played in other countries. Schlagball from Germany, Spearing the disk from Ethiopia and Keeper of the Fire from North America.

Checking our map at Orienteering



CANTEEN ROSTER

Thur	16.3.17	A. Jeayes, L. Jones
Fri	17.3.17.	No orders—counter service at lunch only J.Hope, L. Maddison
Mon	20.3.17	CLOSED
Tues	21.3.17	CLOSED
Wed	22.3.17	J. Hope, W Hope

CLOTHING POOL HOURS

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

P&C NEWS

Easter Raffle Tickets due Tuesday 4th April

A book of 10 tickets have been sent home today.

We would appreciate your support by purchasing the tickets and also if you are able to make a donation/s for prizes that would be great. Donations and tickets will be due to be returned by Tuesday 4th April with the raffle being drawn at the Easter Hat Parade. All students who return a book of 10 sold tickets will receive a small easter egg. Any unwanted tickets can be returned to the office so that they can be used for other students.

Clothing Pool

Girls Long brown dance pants

We have been able to secure a small number of Brown dance pants like the ones sold at Best & Less. They will be on sale in the Clothing Pool from this Wednesday for \$15.

Jackets

Given the recent change in weather, if you have any jackets that you no longer require we would appreciate them in the Clothing Pool.

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



FREE & fun program for fitter, healthier, happier kids!

Are you worried about your child's weight?

Go to www.go4fun.com.au to see if your child could do Go4Fun.

Go4Fun is a FREE 10 week program which runs over one school term after school hours. During the program children and their families get involved in fun games and activities and learn about delicious nutritious foods they can eat every day.

Children need to be 7-13 years old and a parent or carer also needs to attend. Younger and/or older siblings are encouraged to attend.

Go to www.go4fun.com.au or call 1800 780 900 to see if your child could do Go4Fun.