



Weeks
7 & 8

Newsletter

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Dudley Public School

Monday 9 March, 2015

School Strategic Directions 2015

- Consistent, high quality student learning.
- Consistent, high quality teaching and leadership.
- Cultivate consistent, high quality collaborative processes within the Whitebridge Community of Schools to enhance the quality of teaching, learning & leadership.

What's Happening This Week

Week 3, Term 1

- Mon 9 Mar - **P & C Meeting 7pm**
- Creative Arts Groups
- Tues 10 Mar - Scripture & Ethics
- Staff Meeting
- Debating workshop
- Wed 11 Mar - **School Photos**
- Zone Trials
- Thurs 12 Mar - Learning Support Team
- Yr 7 Selective H.S Testing
- Fri 13 Mar - Assembly Item 3/4CP
- District Principal's Meeting

P & C Meeting

Our P & C will meet tonight, Monday 9 March in the school Library (above the old hall) commencing at **7.00pm**.

This meeting will commence with an **AGM meeting** to elect new office bearers.

During this meeting we will discuss:

- School Plan 2015
- School Budget & P & C input
- OOSH After School Care
- Creative Arts Day
- ANZAC Mural Grant
- Committee reports

Our P & C are very keen to gain the support and input of new parents as well as our continuing parents. Please come along and help support your children's school through the fantastic efforts of our P & C.

GIRLS TO WEAR THEIR TUNICS FOR THE SCHOOL PHOTOS

Principal's Award - Week 5



Congratulations to Finn Todhunter who received his Principal's Award for wonderful leadership skills and being a great role model.

School Photos

Newcastle School Portraits will take our whole school photos this Wednesday 11 March. Parents need to select from the packages outlined and **order online** or place the money inside the envelope and return to the **class teacher on the day of the photos**. Please don't send the envelopes to the school office, the photographers handle all the money and the correct money must be sent in on the day. **If you require a family photo, please collect a family photograph envelope from the school office.**

We have some senior students attending zone sporting trials on this day therefore Yr 5/6 class photos will be taken first, so they can attend.

Creative Arts Day—Wednesday 27 May

We have had a fantastic response from parents to assist with activities in classes, so much so that the only classes still needing some assistance are: **KW - 2 activities unfilled & Yr 3/4M - 1 activity unfilled**. Could interested parents please contact Mrs Wild & Mrs Murphy. Thank you to all those parents who have volunteered their time to assist in this wonderful event. More information will be sent home shortly.

Selective High School Testing

This Thursday 12 March we have twelve of our Year 6 students who will complete the Selective High School Testing to gain entry into Merewether Selective H.S for Year 7.

They will complete 4 tests. Three of the tests consist of multiple-choice questions in reading, mathematics and general ability. The fourth test is a 20 minute writing task. These tests will be conducted at Hunter Sports High School from 9.00am to 1.30pm and we wish these students all the best in this endeavor.

Cross Country

We have commenced practice for the upcoming school cross country carnivals in week 9. Students are completing laps around the school grounds on Tuesday & Thursday from 10.55 - 11.10am on these days with all teachers supervising.

Our K-2 Cross Country is set for Tuesday 24 March and our Year 3-6 Cross Country will be held on Friday 27 March. Both these cross country events will be held at Dudley Oval this year.

Debating Workshop

Our Premier's Debating team will attend a special training day at Jewells PS this Tuesday 10 March. They will travel by parent cars and Jason Horadam will attend and support them on the day. This training is designed to further develop their debating skills and they will receive advice and instruction from experienced adjudicators and coaches.

Easter Raffle

It's on again!



Tickets for our monster Easter Raffle will be coming home soon. It would be greatly appreciated if each family could donate Easter egg/s (and baskets) for prizes, please leave them in the box provided located in the office foyer. The raffle will be drawn at our assembly on the last day of term, Thursday 2 April. The Easter assembly will run from **10.15 - 11.10am** in the Fairleigh Hall.

Parents are asked to return raffle tickets & money to the school office area by the final Thursday morning please.

P&C NEWS—NSW STATE ELECTIONS

At the NSW state election on **Saturday 28 March**, our **P & C** will run a **BBQ and cake stall** at the Pensioner's hall on the day. We would appreciate if families could bring a cake on

Principal's Award - Week 6



Congratulations to Sarah Rees who received her Principal's Award for showing great effort with her class learning & great getting along.

Friday 27 March and leave it in the old school hall, to be sold on the day. The P&C will also require assistance to run the cake and barbecue stalls, so please let the school office know if you can assist in any way and what times you ARE available.

P&C—Rebel Sports store at Charlestown

Parents are reminded that if you purchase at **Rebel Sports store at Charlestown** and let them know you are from Dudley PS, our P & C group will receive a \$5.00 rebate from each sale.

From the Library...

Our kinder students have settled extremely well into their library routine. Eager borrowers, attentive listeners and a delight to have at our school.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is off to a flying start with almost 200 students registered and we are confident that the remaining 70 students will register soon. Our library has many PRC titles and we encourage all students to "have-a-go" and get involved, as they have almost 6 months to finish the required reading. We reward students with 3 school merit awards along the way of completing the PRC.

*Annie Croal
with the 1st
Bronze Award
for 2015*



What's Happening Next Week**Week 8****Mon 16 Mar - Life Education Lessons**

- Creative Arts Groups
- School Financial Audit !!

Tue 17 Mar - Life Education Lessons

- Scripture & Ethics
- Staff Meeting
- Whitebridge HS Yr 7 2016 Parent Night

Wed 18 Mar - Stage 3 Writer's Festival

- Executive Meeting

Thurs 19 Mar - Learning Support Team

- Principals Inservice on New Finance System
- SRC Meeting

Fri 20 Mar - Assembly Item 3/4M

- School Sport

Life Education Lessons

Next Monday 16 & Tuesday 17 March all classes will attend their Life Education lessons. These will be held at the Hunter Life Education Centre at Edgeworth. Lessons will take place on the following days:

Mon 16 March - 9.45am—5/6H & 5/6S
 - 11.30am—4/5AM & 2/3G
 - 1.15pm—KP & KW

Tues 17 March - 9.45am—3/4CP & 3/4M
 - 11.30am—1H & 2B
 - 12.45pm—1/2S

These lessons are an integral part of the PD/Health/PE curriculum and therefore all students would need to attend the lessons. Parents have received further information outlining the focus areas of each program together with a permission note. Cost of these lessons is \$10 per student. Please send in the permission note and correct money to the school office by this Thursday 12 March.

High School Parent Meeting

Year 6 parents received an information note last week from Whitebridge H.S regarding a meeting for 2016 Year 7 at their library from 7.00 - 8.30pm. This will outline information on their Stage 4 program and other aspects of the curriculum.

Newcastle Writer's Festival

We have 50 students from year 5/6 who will attend the Newcastle Writer's festival next Thursday 19 March. Students will hear two authors speak about the writing and illustrating process as well as looking at an illustration exhibition with an Anzac theme. They will travel

by bus with Jason Horadam & Kate Sullivan supporting them on the day. Cost of this workshop is \$15.00 per student which should be sent into the school office as soon as possible.



Congratulations to our State Swimming reps.

Regional Swimming

Congratulations to all our regional swimmers who competed at Maitland last Thursday. We have 2 students who qualified to compete at the State swimming carnival in Sydney. Congratulations to **Jayden Wright**, **Aarkey Kneen** and **Ella Osborne** whose times at zone qualified her automatically.

School Audit

Next Monday & Tuesday we will have a financial audit by the Department which will review our financial transactions for 2014.

New Finance & Administration System

This year all Hunter public schools will implement sections of the new Learning Management and Business Reform (**LMBR**) program. This will include a new finance system and student administration system to be introduced.

The new computer systems will involve training for principals and School Admin Managers over a 10 week period.

WCoS Dance Ensemble Audition Reminder

This is a reminder that there is a new dance opportunity for students in the Whitebridge Community of Schools. If your child is learning dance outside of school or shows promise in dance, this group will develop a range of skills and provide some wonderful performance opportunities. It will run on Monday afternoons at Charlestown Public School.

If you would like more information email sarah.c.byrne@det.nsw.edu.au or collect a

note from your school. Auditions will take place on **Monday 23rd March** in the **hall** at **Charlestown Public School**.

International Competitions For schools

The Australian Schools Competition has been renamed the "International Competitions & Assessment for " to reflect its growing international status.

Each year our students in Years 3 - 6 are encouraged to participate in these competitions. This year there are 6 competitions: **Digital Technologies** (Computer Skills), **Science, Mathematics, Writing, Spelling and English**. Each competition is presented in individual year levels (3 - 6) and are generally 40 minutes in length involving multiple choice questions. The competitions are **not** just for the most academic students in the school, rather they can be a wonderful indication to all parents. They provide an opportunity for students in Years 3 - 6 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. Many of our Year 5 & 6 students use the results to support their application to selective high schools.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for National tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child's strengths and weaknesses.

I am aware that these competitions have become more expensive and understand if parents decide not to support.

We would like students in Years 3 - 6 to discuss with their parents and decide if they intend to enter a competition and indicate on the note below. **Payment** is to be sent in with the note to the school office.

If we have less than 3 students completing a competition, the price increases dramatically .e.g Science from \$8.80 to \$ 26.40 in which case we would inform parents in this situation (we have always had at least 3 students in the past).

✂.....

Competition Name	Competition Date	Cost	Selected Competition
Digital Technologies	Tuesday 19 May	\$8.80	_____
Science	Wednesday 3 June	\$8.80	_____
Writing	Monday 15 June	\$18.70	_____
Spelling	Tuesday 16 June	\$12.10	_____
English	Tuesday 28 July	\$8.80	_____
Mathematics	Tuesday 11 August	\$8.80	_____

International Competitions for Schools

I give my child permission to enter the following competitions indicated above and have included payment for the entry fees. **Please return by Friday 3 April to the school office.**

Student's Name: _____ **Class:** _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____



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Catering for Ages 3 – Adult. Beginner – Experienced dancers welcome!

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Email: bodyrockdance@optusnet.com.au

Visit our website:

www.bodyrockdancestudio.com

Dudley Parents!

Come and check out our life-changing kids karate classes. Starting 4pm, 19th March in the school hall.

Limited Time Offer: 5 Classes and a FREE karate uniform (uniform valued at \$65) for just \$29.99!

Register Online Now! www.kangakarate.com



CHARLESTOWN UNITING CHURCH Kid's Holiday Fun Club

WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2015
(Children in Years K-6)

All Day 9.30am to 3.30pm

Cost: \$10/child (maximum family payment \$20) includes morning tea/lunch/afternoon tea

Registrations & payments are essential by 8/4/15

Charlestown Uniting Church
PO Box 449
Charlestown 2290

24-26 Milson Street
Charlestown

(Office opening Hours: Tues, Wed & Frid
9.30am – 1.00pm)

All enquiries, please phone:

Laraine on 4944 7826

Cathy on 0409 445 933

Registration Form available from the School office

DUDLEY REDHEAD UNITED FOOTBALL

**Extra Registration Day from 12.30pm
THIS SATURDAY 14TH MARCH**

Need Under 6's

You can also register online at
myfootballclub.com.au



RANGERS

at Charlestown Public School

Friday nights 6:45 - 8:15

Kindergarten - Year 12

Leadership development

Build confidence • Life skills • Make friends

New experiences with trained leaders

games - crafts - cooking - awards - camping and more!

An activity of **vivid life church**



Enquiries 0413 886 796



Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Helping kids deal with rejection

A bit of rejection and disappointment is good for kids, as long as they learn how to cope with it...

One of the keys to functioning socially and emotionally is the ability to deal with disappointment and rejection.

Most children experience some type of rejection from their peers throughout childhood. One study found that even popular children were rejected about one quarter of the time when they approached children in school.

Paradoxically, children's experience of rejection and disappointment at school is good for them, as long as it's balanced with successful experiences too. They learn that they can cope and solve problems in their own way and that bad experiences don't last forever.

And they learn that sadness and disappointment can be managed too, which is an important lesson to learn to take into adolescence and beyond, when life is full of ups and downs.

Helping them move on

Most children recover from such rejection. They move on and form constructive, worthwhile relationships but some children need help. They often take rejection personally, blaming themselves. As a parent it is useful to challenge children's unhelpful thinking and encourage them to look for new friendship opportunities. Parents can help children understand that rejection may

happen for any number of reasons that are unrelated to them.

In the course of a school day children will meet with a number of challenges and even setbacks. They may struggle with some schoolwork. They may not do well in a test and they may not be picked for a game that they wanted to play. Children grow stronger when they overcome their difficulties. The challenge for parents is to build and maintain children's confidence levels to help them get through the rough times.

One way to help children deal with rejection and disappointment is to talk through problems or difficulties, recognising and accepting their feelings. Talk about various scenarios, discussing possible outcomes. The age of your child will determine the amount of detail. Keep things simple and avoid burdening a younger child with concepts he or she doesn't understand.

Your attitude as a parent can make a huge difference to how a child reacts. If you see rejection or disappointments as problems then your child will be hamstrung by this view. See them as challenges then your child, in all likelihood, will pick up your upbeat view and deal with disappointments easily. After all, confidence is catching!

To help children handle rejection and disappointment try the following four strategies:

- 1 **Model** optimism. Watch how you present the world to children, as they will pick up your view.
- 2 **Tell** children how you handle disappointment and rejection. Not only is it reassuring for children to know that their parents understand how they feel but they can learn a great deal by how their parents handle situations.
- 3 **Help** children recognise times in the past when they bounced back from disappointment. Help them recognise those same strategies can be used again.
- 4 **Laugh** together. Humour is a great coping mechanism. It helps put disappointment in perspective. It helps them understand that things will get better. They always do.

The stronger the wind the stronger the trees is the notion here. Supporting kids to handle life's hurdles helps them to develop a lasting sense of resilience, which is essential for good mental and emotional health.

Michael Grose 



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



parentingideas.com.au

