

The Surveyor

A Newsletter for the Surveyors Creek Public School Community

Term 1

Week 6

Wednesday 4th March 2015

Dates to Remember

12/03/2015	Cake Stall Stage 3
12/03/2015	Girls Oz Tag Day
19/03/2015	Cross Country School Carnival
23/03/2015	Interviews begin this week for K-2 and Support. Further details to come regarding days and times for each class
23/03/2015	P & C Meeting in the staffroom at 7pm
23/03/2015	Stage 3 Camp Day 1
24/03/2015	Stage 3 Camp Day 2
27/03/2015	Easter disco and P&C Easter raffle drawn. Details to come
30/03/2015	Interviews begin this week for 3-6. Further details to come regarding days and times for each class
02/04/2015	Last Day Term 1
20/04/2015	Staff Development Day. Staff only at school
21/04/2015	Students return to school Term 2
23/04/2015	Anzac Assembly
24/04/2015	Anzac Ceremony
28/04/2015	Interrelate Stages 2 & 3
01/05/2015	Zone Cross Country

PAYMENT/PERMISSION REMINDERS

All money should be placed in a clearly marked envelope in the secure box outside the Administration Block.

No late payments will be accepted.

Spare notes in the rack in the admin office foyer or on the school's website

Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6 in 2015) Canberra Excursion. Cost is \$210.00. A \$50.00 deposit is required if you wish your child to attend and is now overdue. The balance of the monies, \$160.00 is due by 9:10am this Friday 6 March 2015.

Balance of Year 6 Shirt money is due by 9:10am Friday 27 March 2015.

Reading Eggs K-6 permission slip and \$11.00 payment due by 9:10am Friday 27 March 2015.

Mathletics K-6 permission slip and \$13.00 payment due by 9:10am Friday 27 March 2015.

Years 3-6 Cross Carnival permission note due by 9:10am Monday 16 March 2015.

Receipts for school payments are issued by teachers to students each Friday.

Notes home this week

Mathletics K-6 P&C Introductions and Disco
Reading Eggs K-6 Working with Children
"Tell them from me" Student Feedback Survey
Anzac Day 100th Anniversary

All notes are on the Website

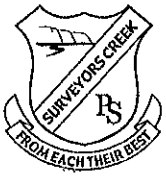
ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE HOURS 8:40am to 3:25pm

School Banking will be every Tuesday beginning Week 3, Tuesday 10th February, 2015

Clothing Pool will be every second Thursday (that's even weeks) in the Terms: starting 5/2/2015 at 2.30pm

ASSEMBLIES FOR 2015: K-2 even weeks on Friday afternoons at 2-15pm
3-6 odd weeks on Friday afternoon at 2-15pm



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Term 1 Week 6

From the Principal's desk

Change of Classes

For those parents who attended the information night I did mention the fact that there might be a change of classes if our numbers were to grow over the course of the year. Whilst this hasn't happened as yet I have decided to look at ways of re-establishing the Stage 3 class due to the fact that they are all sitting at 33 and we have had a number of issues with the clash of personalities in these classes. I must commend the teachers on their professionalism and commitment to teaching such large numbers over the course of as many weeks.

As Principal I have a responsibility to ensure that all students have access to a quality education, therefore I have decided not to wait until our numbers increase but to make some accommodations and adjustments within in the school to support the reorganisation of the Stage 3 classes. I tabled my reasons for this at our last Parents and Citizens meeting and have their full support. As a staff we have taken this opportunity to look at Stage 3 as a whole. We have considered students learning outcomes, personalities, peer groups and teachers when reorganising these classes. The reorganisation of classes has decreased the number of students in each class. Classes will be as follows.

Mrs Clerkę will be a Year 4 Class

Mrs Johnson & Mrs McLean will have a Year 5 Class

Mrs Wilson & Mrs Cracknell (Back by popular demand!) will have a Year 5 Class

Ms Lee will have a Year 5/6 Class

Mr Lister Jnr will have a Year 6 Class

Mrs Innes will have a Year 6 Class

Where possible the classes will remain largely the same however, there will be a small number of children in each class that this will affect. Please bear with us as we navigate through these changes. Smaller class sizes can only benefit the education of your children. Letters will be going home today with the children in Stage 3 and the changes will take effect as of Monday Week 7. This arrangement will stay for the remainder of the year. I thank you and appreciate your understanding and the complexities that go with staffing the school as it grows.

Attention Parents –Mornings

It is great to see our parents and school community gathering together in the mornings before school when children are being dropped off, however I have some concerns about the supervision of their siblings. Could you please make sure that little ones are kept with you at all times. A number of the littlies have been running around and playing with the flags and the cords on the flag poles and in some instances have been heading out towards the gates. It would concern me greatly if the little ones got caught up in the flag cords, knocked over by the bigger students or even found in the carpark etc. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure the safety and whereabouts of younger siblings when on school premises and not the teachers on duty. I thank you for your cooperation, support and understanding in this matter.

Working with Children Check

As of this year all parents and community members working as a volunteer in school activities are required to have Working with Children Check Clearance. Thank you to those who have already complied. If you have not done that as yet, below is a flow chart to help you complete it.

Step 1: Go on line to www.newcheck.kids.nsw.gov.au . You will be asked information and will be given a number to then take to the Roads and Maritime Services.

Step 2: Take your number to the RMS located in High Street Penrith or any other one of your choosing and apply to have your Working with Children Check done. There is no cost involved for volunteers.

Step 3: Once you have received your clearance letter you will need to bring it up to the school where we will enter it into the system and receive the official clearance.

Step 4: We will then issue you with a pass to let all staff know that you have been cleared to volunteer.

Unfortunately parents and community members working on a voluntary basis will be unable to do so if this hasn't been completed. I appreciate your understanding and that the safety of all our students on school premises is paramount. For all parents that have so far completed their check and handed in their clearance letters, your passes will be coming soon.

KISS and DROP

Please be reminded to move down as far as you can when dropping your children off at the Kiss and Drop zone. This allows for a free flow of traffic. Also please do not allow your children to exit from your vehicle on the road side. I would hate for a passing vehicle to hit your child as they alighted from your car. Make sure that they slide across the seat and get out on the curb side for safety reasons.

Mrs Kathy Browne
Principal

P & C News

Easter Raffle

Just a reminder, that the Easter raffle tickets and money are due in by Friday 13th March, 2015. Please return them in an envelope to the P & C Box inside the front office.

Disco

Please note the date has changed for the school disco. This will now be held on Friday 20th March, 2015.

Health Care Plans

Could you please contact the office if your child requires a health care plan for a diagnosed illness. If the school already has a current health care plan for your child, could you please inform the school if any amendments need to be made.

School Crossing Supervisor Positions

The Transport – Road & Maritime Services Department is currently advertising for School Crossing Supervisor positions in the local area. If any community members are interested in these positions please phone the School Crossing Supervisor Program on 1300 728 543.

NRMA Road Safety/Science Show

On Tuesday 10th March, 2015 the NRMA will be presenting a road safety show at the school. As road safety concerns us all, Parents are invited to attend the shows. There is no cost and times are as follows:- Stage 2 at 9.15am, Early Stage 1 at 10.15am, Stage 1 at 11.35am, Stage 3 at 12.20pm. Students are encouraged to bring their bike helmets if they have one. Parents and Caregivers can attend any session.

Interrelate

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years' experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skilful presenters. The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games. This year's Interrelate information evening will be on Tuesday 28th April, 2015. **Session 1: Where did I come from?** Is an hour long session for children in years 3 to 6. **Session 2: Preparing for puberty** is an hour long session for children in years 5 & 6 (children in years 3 & 4 can attend at their parent's discretion). Specialty books are available to purchase on the night. Notes will be sent home next week with details of times and the cost involved.

Canteen News

Mrs Lilley and the wonderful volunteers who run our school canteen need your help desperately! They are calling on Mums, Dads, Aunts, Uncles or Grandparents of our school community, who can spare a few hours on a Wednesday or a Friday either weekly, fortnightly or monthly to help fill student lunch orders and to serve over the counter. If you are interested in helping or know of a family member who can, please see the ladies in the canteen for details or ring the school for details on 47379571.

Please note, starting Friday 20th February, the canteen will **no longer** be able to offer pancakes as a lunch order choice on Fridays.

Tea Bag Tags for a Wheelchair

Mrs Maiden from 3ML is asking for our help! She is collecting tea bag tags (the paper tab off the end of all teabags). These tags, when collected in bulk, go towards a wheelchair for a child in the community. If you can help Mrs Maiden in her collection please send in your tags to the office or students can take them directly to Mrs Maiden in her classroom.

Vacation Care

The YMCA has a vacation care program that runs during the school holidays here at our school. If you are interested in vacation care for your child/children we have flyers available in the office with details.