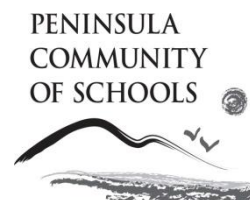




# NEWPORT NATTER



## NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Tuesday 26th June, 2012

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We have come to the end of another busy term. Students and staff have been involved in such a wide range of activities that have enriched school life. They have been involved in various sports, dance, music, public speaking, debating, excursions, Science Club, and choir. What a great term it has been. I am sure we are all looking forward to a well earned rest. I hope everyone has a safe and restful holiday.

### Industrial Action

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June teachers at Newport PS will be supporting the proposed industrial action. This will be a full day stop work action where teachers will attend meetings. With the current education reform in place (Local Schools Local Decisions), the Teachers Federation is asking the government to sign a "Putting Students First Charter" to secure certain guarantees including maintaining current class sizes, no decrease in funding for education, no decrease in staffing to schools, maintenance of the current award system for teachers and a commitment to cooperative decision making by principals, teachers and parents.

On Wednesday we will have insufficient staff available to provide supervision for students. **In the interests of the safety of students the school will be non-operational.** Parents and caregivers will need to make alternative arrangements for the supervision of their children on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

### Farewell Jennie Schwecke – Change of Date!

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 11.30am**

#### School Hall

It is with much sadness that we farewell Jennie Schweckie. Jennie has been a part of our Newport community, looking after the tummies of all our students for over twelve years. She has been an integral part of the school community always supporting our many and varied school events with such enthusiasm; from early morning breakfasts for our band children to school open days and Saturday working bees. She has always made sure that we have been well fed and supported. On behalf of the Newport School community I would like to thank Jennie for her years of service to our school. We will miss you.

We have had to change the date of **Jennie's Farewell to this Thursday** due to the proposed industrial action. I know many of our parents have worked with Jennie over the years and I would encourage you to pop in to say goodbye.

### Semester 1 Reports

Student reports have been sent home with children today. It has been wonderful to see the gains that the children have made over the first half of the year. Both students and staff have worked hard throughout the semester. Well done everyone!

I would like to remind parents that staff at Newport are accessible for parent interviews throughout the year. If you are concerned about your child's progress at any time, please contact your class teacher for an appointment to discuss your concerns.

### **Sydney North Dance Festival**

Last night I had the pleasure of watching our fabulous dance groups at the Glen Street Theatre. Once again the talented students from Newport shone throughout the night. Our Year 2 Dance group performed 'You Are My Sunshine' and shone in their fabulous costumes. Thanks to Mrs. Nicol for her work with this group. The Year 3 & 4 Dance group performing 'Le Jazz Hot', gave an outstanding performance. Thanks to Mrs. Nicol for all her work with this group. Called 'High Country Muster' our Year 5 & 6 Dance group gave a wonderful performance. Thanks to Mrs. Brandenburg for her work with this group.

Our children will be attending matinee performances this Friday at Glen Street Theatre. They will be in for a treat. The performances at the festival have been outstanding. Thanks to Mrs. Elliot for coordinating this. It is a huge organisational undertaking.

These fabulous performances could only be achieved through the great team effort of teachers and parents. A huge thank you must go to the wonderful parents for their costume design and production. The children looked wonderful; your support of our dance students is very much appreciated.

### **Congratulations to our Strings Orchestra**

Last Wednesday our Strings Orchestra participated in the Yamaha Instrumental Festival, achieving a Bronze award. They performed admirably and were fabulous representatives for our school. Congratulations, we are very proud of your efforts.

### **Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition**

#### **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June**

Good luck to Pippa Pryor, Jessica Deathridge, Edward Ashe and Jemima Thomas who will represent Newport in the Local Final of the Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition at Collaroy Plateau School on Wednesday. The Multicultural Public Speaking Competition is run by the Department of Education and is a state-wide competition. The competition includes a set speech on a multicultural theme. The most difficult part of the competition is an impromptu speech in which each competitor has five minutes to prepare. These students have been spending one lunch time a week with Mrs Clements practicing the skills of impromptu speaking and are looking forward to competing with other schools. I wish them all the best and can't wait to hear the results this Thursday. Thank you Mrs Clements for the time you have spent supporting and working with the children.

### **Gala Day Congratulations**

Last Friday Newport netball and soccer sports teams participated in the Manly Warringah Gala Day. The Newport Boys Soccer team played some really tough games and finished second in their pool. This made their road to the final a daunting task. The boys improved with each game beating Narrabeen lakes (2-0) in the quarter finals, Seaforth in semi-finals (3-1), and played Harbord in the Final, grinding out a 1 nil win to take home the trophy at the end of the day. The boys are to be congratulated on their behaviour throughout the day and how brilliantly they all played.

With strong winds prevailing all day, our netball girls played extremely well under very difficult circumstances, displaying great skill and sportsmanship on and off the field. Both Junior A and Senior A teams made it into the finals. The Junior A team played Balgowlah North and managed to secure a win of 13 to 4. The Senior A team played Bilgola Plateau in the final, and after a very close game, were triumphant 11 - 10. These two wins meant that Newport was the champion school. Congratulations to all teams and girls who played on the day.

All our teams showed great sportsmanship and excellent behaviour. They were a pleasure to take away for the day. Thank you to all our coaches; Mr Moran, Mrs Clements and Mrs Keogh. Many thanks also to parents for their support and assistance with our sporting program on the day.

### **Congratulations State Knock Out Soccer Team**

The State Knock Out Soccer team is also to be congratulated on making it through to the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the State Knock Out Competition. The boys beat Harbord 2-1 in extra time to progress to round 3 and then overcame a strong Manly West team in a dramatic finish to win by corners due to a nil all draw. Well done boys!!!

## Debating

Last week four students from Mona Vale Public School attended Newport School to compete in a friendly debate with our Year 5 Debating Team. Jayden Grech, Charlie Belic, Zane Farquharson and Charlise Walker made up the Newport team. The topic was "School hours should be longer" and we were the affirmative team. Both teams put forward some really interesting arguments and impressed the adjudicator, James Smith, with their ability to sustain valid rebuttal in what was their first debate. Mona Vale PS was named as the winning team on the day. Well done to all members of the team, we look forward to watching you compete again in Term 3.

## School Development Day

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Staff only return on the first day of term. On this day we engage in a range of professional learning activities designed to enhance our teaching and learning programs across the school. Staff will be participating in professional learning activities off the school site. **There will be no teaching staff or administrative staff at school on this day.**

### Term 3 dates

**Staff return** - Monday 16th July, School Development Day  
**Students return** - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July  
**Last day of term** - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Regards,  
Margaret Charlton

### CANTEEN NEWS

**Thank you to all the volunteers, teachers, administration staff, maintenance crew and the cleaners.** have been associated with Newport School since 1988 and in this time I have seen many changes.

For the last 12 years I have been running the school canteen. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone and especially the volunteers who have helped make my job as Canteen Manager enjoyable, with all your gossip and helpful suggestions. Just remember, without volunteers the canteen does not operate.

Thank you,

Jenny Schwecke  
Canteen Manager

### VOLUNTEERS DESPERATELY NEEDED FOR 2012

We need three volunteers a day in order to successfully run the canteen. Please consider helping, lunch, tea, coffee and lots of gossip are provided. Remember your children love to see you at the canteen. **Please come in or ring Jenny or Tammy on 9979 6504.**

### CANTEEN ROSTER

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

#### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

J. Cowper, C. Martin, T. Oetojo-Urban

K. Maguire, C. Borg, J. Paton, J. Luckman

V. Norman **'NEED HELP'**

J. Geeves, V. Watkin, I. Ambrosius

**If you are unable to come to the canteen for your rostered day, please ring 9979 6504.**

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July

**FAREWELL MORNING TEA FOR JENNY SCHWECKE 11.30am**  
**LAST DAY OF TERM 2**  
**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**  
**STUDENTS RETURN FOR TERM 3**

### **CHESS NEWS**

Last Friday Newport sent two teams to play in the Scots College Chess Challenge. This contest is arguably the hardest on Newport's chess calendar but certainly a very well organised and fun day. Newport A (Finn Lindley, Finnley Sadler and Thomas Poppleton) drew some tricky teams and finished 20<sup>th</sup> overall while Newport B Girls (Arnu Matthews, Anja Kastowsky and Nina Lindley) came 16<sup>th</sup> but also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the girls' division – beaten by Kambala Girls.

Yesterday Newport also sent four of its best chess players (Finn Lindley, Finnley Sadler, Arnu Matthews and Anja Kastowsky) to compete in the Interschools Chess Challenge run by the Sydney Academy of Chess. Newport came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall, winning a trophy for the school and from the 90 individual children, Finn Lindley came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall by just half a point. Many thanks to Irina Lindley and Lisa Sadler for transporting the players to and from these events.

MARK TICKLE

### **SNOW SPORTS NEWS**

Next week just over 20 of Newport's skiers and snowboarders will head to Thredbo for the Regional Interschool's Snow sports Competition. Our children have been training hard on the asphalt and the ice rink in the lead up to the event and are looking promising for a few titles. They will be representing the highest ranked Co-Ed school in the state (we'd like to say country but Falls Creek from Victoria beat us to that)! We wish them the best of luck in what looks like one of the best early seasons we've seen prior to an interschools event.

**Competitors are reminded to bring in their registration and race payment if they haven't already done so.**

Many thanks to the parents of our racers who helped out with our Winter Solstice Season Launch. It was a very successful evening all round.

MARK TICKLE, IAN WHITE & GREG MORAN

### **NEWPORT GOES TO THE THEATRE!**

This Friday, 71 Newport School students will travel to Glen Street Theatre to watch performances of the Sydney North Dance Festival. Our Years 3/4 and 5/6 dance groups will be performing along with other groups from the Sydney North area. It is wonderful that the students have the opportunity to see such a spectacular event and we thank Mrs Green, Mrs Rulli and Mrs Hurst for accompanying the students on such a wonderful excursion.

### **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!**

Every week, more than twenty volunteers come to our school and assist in the MULTILIT reading tutor program. This program assists students who are having some difficulties with reading. I would like to thank these lovely, generous people for their precious time and for the care they take when they help our students. We all very much appreciate your assistance.

Nicola Elliott

## **Canteen News**

### **Online Ordering is Here!**

Our school has now introduced a great new online ordering system for the **canteen** called FlexiSchools. This system allows parents, students and staff to place orders from home, work or school at any time. The payment is also done online, so **you no longer need to send cash or a paper order to school**. As well as being convenient for parents, the online orders are much faster and easier for the canteen to process - so it makes everyone's life a little easier. FlexiSchools is well established and tested, operating in hundreds of schools across Australia.

Getting online is easy and only takes a second to register. Simply go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and click **"Register Now"**. You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration. Once registered, you will be able to place orders for Term 3 – starting July 17th. If you have any questions, FlexiSchools provide a great help desk on 1300 361 769, or you can contact them via their website.

There are a variety of payment options supported, including Visa, Mastercard (credit and debit) and Bank Transfer. The system operates via a pre-paid account, so you don't need to scrounge for coins in the morning and can easily budget for your canteen spending throughout the term.

The system is now available for registration. The system will be accepting orders in TERM 3 from July 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please ask the canteen for more information.

## **Semester 1 Parliament Reports**

School Parliament has convened 3 times this semester. The meetings have been extremely productive, having students' ideas like compost bins and Stuart House fundraisers developed and initiated. The reports from each meeting follow.

### **Parliament Report, Term 1, Meeting 1**

On the 6th of March, Year 6 held their first parliament meeting. We were lucky enough to have Ms Charlton join us. We discussed the following topics:

In the Student Welfare and Safety portfolio, someone suggested that we have a gate at the bottom of the artificial turf. We voted and this motion was defeated.

In the Sport and Leisure portfolio, someone suggested that we have a Mini Olympics. We voted and this motion was carried. We passed this onto Ms B. and she said we will have this day in September.

In the Fundraising and Charities portfolio, someone suggested that we have a pyjama day to raise money for Stuart House. We voted and this motion was carried. We passed this onto Mr Hearne and he said we would have this day on the 4th of April.

In the Grounds and Environment portfolio, someone suggested that we have a vegetable garden on the infants' side to help them learn about the environment. We voted and this motion was carried.

The parliament award went to Zara Taylor for her comment on pyjama day.

This parliament was great. Thank you to Ms Charlton, teachers, parliament members and Year 6. Don't forget to put your suggestions in the suggestions box.

Written by Aiden Currie

### **Parliament Report, Term 1, Meeting 2**

In the last week of Term 1, Year 6 had their 2<sup>nd</sup> School Parliament and Year 5 was lucky enough to come along.

Natasha and Kyle, the ministers for Grounds and Environment, suggested that we should have an "Hour of No Power." This is where all the lights in the whole school get turned off for one hour every Friday. This motion was carried to Mrs Elliot who agreed on the suggestion. The Hour of No Power will start In Term 3. Ella and Charlie put forward a motion for Fundraising and Charities, saying that we should raise money for the "Shades for Aids" fundraiser. Students would bring in their sunnies on a particular day and everyone would donate a gold coin to support the people who suffer from Aids. This motion was passed on to Mr Hearne. He said that this was a very worthwhile charity, however, the school already supported many charities and we would be able to support Shades for Aids this year.

Elise and Harry, the ministers for Sport and Leisure suggested that all teachers should participate in the school cross country. All of Year 6 agreed and passed it on to Mrs Keogh. Mrs Keogh spoke to all the teachers, but sadly there were not enough participants so this will not be happening in the future.

The student Welfare and Safety ministers, Lucy and Zac, suggested that we sell slushies at the canteen. This motion was carried and was passed through by Mrs Charlton. Slushies will soon start at the canteen. The price is still undecided.

### **Parliament Report, Term 2, Meeting 3**

In week of Term 2, Year 6 had their 3<sup>rd</sup> School Parliament. Mrs Baldi and Ms Charlton came along.

Natasha and Kyle, the ministers for Grounds and Environment, suggested that we should have a worm farm in the school grounds. This motion was carried and Kyle and Natasha will talk to Mrs Elliot. The farm still doesn't have a starting date, but that will be decided soon.

Ella and Charlie put forward a motion for Fundraising and Charities about having a footy mufti day where the children get to wear their favourite footy clothes. The money raised would go to the Ian Thorpe foundation to help Aboriginal kids with their reading. Hopefully, it will be on at the end of Term 2 or in Term 3

Elise and Harry the ministers of Sport and Leisure, suggested that beach sports be an option for Friday sport. This motion was carried and we will talk to the teachers about this.

The Student and Welfare ministers, Lucy and Zac, suggested that all important notes be sent to parents via email. This motion was defeated.

### Music News

Congratulations to the Strings Orchestra who received a Bronze grading at the Yamaha Festival last week and to the Performance Band who were awarded Silver grade. Thanks to Mr Moran and Miss Shoebridge for accompanying the children to the Festival. Thanks too to strings and band managers Megan Moxham, Melinda Hall, Lee Van Dam, Rani Donohoe and Fiona Gudmunson and of course to Karen Leimbach and Andrew Laurich for their work to get the musicians to play to such a great standard.

The three wind bands also played on Sunday at the Northern Beaches Symphony Wind ensemble's Festival at Pittwater High School. The children were all very well behaved, looked smart in their band uniforms and played brilliantly. They are great representatives of Newport School. Thanks to band parents and particularly the band managers again for their organisation.

### Upcoming events

Sunday 29/7/12      **Performance Band** playing at William Lovelock Primary School Concert Band Event at University of NSW. Arrive 2.15pm.

Wednesday 1/8/12      **Music Committee Meeting.** All Welcome.

Thursday 30/8/12      Some members from the **Strings Orchestra** are playing at the Sydney Opera House at the Festival of Instrument Music "Mimosa Concert". Please see your band manager for more details.

Parents wishing to attend this concert are advised that the Festival organisers in consultation with the Sydney Opera House booking office, are trialing a quota system to enable as many parents as possible to attend the concert. In short there will be a:

- MAXIMUM OF 4 TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN ANY SINGLE TRANSACTION and
- NO RESERVED TICKETS

Please note that ticket sales for the Mimosa Concert will open at 9.00am on Thursday 19th July.

### IMPORTANT! – CHANGE OF OPENING TIMES

**We are no longer open on Wednesday mornings. Instead, our morning open is Mondays 9-10am.**

**Are you able to spare one hour of your time every second or third week?** We are looking for help every second or third Tuesday afternoon 3-4pm. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated. Please call Kate or Carla or drop by during one of our opening times.

Alice Hair Bands and Hair bows in the Winter Uniform material are now in stock. Price is \$10 each / pr.

Please feel free to drop any donations of second-hand uniforms to the uniform shop during our opening hours or if this is not suitable, the school office accepts them on our behalf.

The Uniform Shop is open every Monday 9-10am and Tuesday 3-4pm. For enquires, please contact [newportuniformshop@hotmail.com](mailto:newportuniformshop@hotmail.com) or Carla Pettitt 0413-804-015 & Kate Raffles 0413-519-872.