Newsletter to Parents

SINGLETON PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Week 10 Term 4

QUALITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY

I find it hard to believe that we have completed another full year of school. 2013 seems to have flown by with a great mixture of teaching and learning, music, drama, excursions, sport and fun. I am constantly amazed at this time of the year to look at our children and reflect on their growth over the past year. This is especially true for Kindergarten as they have gone from being shy and timid to becoming confident members of the school community, however I am also conscious of the growth and maturity that has developed in (most of) our students across all other years.

Thank you to the hundreds of family members for your attendance at last night's presentation evening. It is always a special event for our students and this year's presentation was no exception. Thank you to Mrs Kylie Hamilton and our administration staff for their efforts to bring the entire presentation together. As explained last night, we have had difficulty with our book supplier; therefore a number of awards will be forwarded on to recipients as soon as they arrive at school. A full list of award recipients is included in this newsletter for your information.

I would like to congratulate our incoming School Captains and Leaders for 2014. I am confident that our new captains Claire and Mick will be ably assisted in their duties by vicecaptains Annaliese and Andrew, as well as our other school leaders Cameron, Sadie, Bridget, Cambell, Zaynab and Callum . Well done kids!

Tomorrow and Friday morning, our K-2 and Support Unit students will be performing their annual Christmas Concert in the hall. The extravaganza commences at 9.45am with admission being the donation of packaged food items that will be donated to the Singleton Community Centre to assist with making up Christmas hampers.

The last day for students is Wednesday, 18th December 2013, with all students Year 1 to Year 6 returning on Wednesday 29th January 2014. Due to uncertainty about enrolment numbers students will commence school in the same classes that they are in for 2013. As soon as we are confident about the number of classes that we are able to offer we will settle into our new rooms.

On behalf of the students and staff of Singleton Public School, I would like to extend to all families and supporters of our school the very best holiday wishes. Enjoy the time together over the summer break and come back to school recharged for another "fanfabulous" year at the best school in Singleton.

David Crowe Principal



Calendar of Events			
Thursday 12 December	K-2 and Support Unit Christmas Concert starting 9.45am Year 1 Walka Water Works payment due Year 6 party day and night—Camp out		
Friday 13 December	K-2 and Support Unit Christmas Concert starting 9.45am Sports Presentation at 12.10 pm Intensive swimming concludes 2014 Canberra Deposit Payment Due Year 2 Tocal Party Day Payment due Last day for Canteen		
Monday 16 December	Year 6 Farewell assembly 12.15pm Year 6 Farewell 6.00-8.30pm		
Tuesday 17 December	Year 2 Tocal Party Day Kinder Zoo Party Day Stage 2 Party Day		
Wednesday 18 December	Last Day for students for 2013 Year 1 Party Day Walka Water Works		
19-20 December	Staff Development Days		
2014 - Tuesday 28 January	Staff Development Day Uniform Shop open 9am-10am		
2014 - Wednesday 29 January	First day of school for 2014 for students in Years 1-6 Uniform Shop Open 8.30-11.30am		
2014 - Wednesday & Thursday 29&30 January	Best Start appointments for 2014 Kindergarten students		
2014 - Friday 31 January	First day for Kindergarten 2014		
The Sports Presentation Assembly will be held on Friday, 13 December at 12.10 pm. This is the last assembly for 2013.			

School Magazine

Order your digital copy of the

2013 School Magazine now.

See Page 9 for the order form.



Enter to Learn

11 DECEMBER 2013

Kinder—Hunter Valley Zoo

Kindergarten will be going to Hunter Valley Zoo on Tuesday 17th December.

The children and staff will be travelling by bus to Hunter Valley Zoo at Nulkaba. They will be leaving school at approximately 9.10 am and will return at approximately 1.30 pm. The total cost for the day will be \$17.00.

Children will need to wear their school uniform including their school hat. The children will need to wear sunscreen, and bring a water bottle and lunch.

The children are asked to bring a VERY small plate of party food to share at school when they return from the zoo. This can be left in the classroom in the morning.

The students may bring \$1 if they wish to buy a food bag for the animals at the zoo. Parent helpers are not needed on this day.

Year 6 Party Day/Night

On Thursday, 12 December, Year 6 are going to have a party day followed by a camp out at school to celebrate the end of the year. In the morning Year 6 students will walk to Cook Park where we will have sports games and then eat a packed lunch. The students will then walk to the Bowling Alley for two games of bowling at 1pm. They will then return to school at approximately 2.30pm and start to set up our camp for the night. There are a variety of activities planned for the afternoon. At approximately 6pm they will have a Pizza tea and then watch a movie under the stars and enjoy our night games. The following morning we will eat breakfast and clear up the camp. We will then have a relaxing day at school and a sausage lunch.

Year 1 Walka Water Works

For the Year 1 end of year party day on Wednesday, 18 December, students have a picnic day at Walka Water Works located in Maitland. The cost will be \$13.00 for the bus fare. Payment and the permission slip should be returned to the school office by Thursday 12 December 2013.

Year 2 Tocal Party Day

To celebrate the end of the year, Year 2 will be visiting Tocal on Tuesday 17th December, 2013. Children will be able to experience activities involving British Settlement of Australia. Parents are welcome to attend Tocal with the children. There is room on the bus and the cost will also be \$25.00.

Stage 2 End of Year Party

For Stage 2 end of year celebrations, children will be walking to Rose Point Park at 9.30 am on Tuesday 17th December.

The children will then walk to Majestic Cinemas to view an animated feature called The Smurfs 2 (PG). The cost is \$6.00. Permission notes have been sent home. Please return notes and money to the class teacher as soon as possible.

Note Correction

Year 5 parents received a note on Friday regarding the Year 6 Farewell supper. The correct date for the Year 6 Farewell is Monday, 16th December 2013. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Payments to school for end of year events

As you can see by the full calendar on the front page of this newsletter there is a lot going on at this time of year.

Many of the upcoming events require payment to be included with a signed permission note. We ask that you carefully read the permission note, the information in the newsletter and be prompt in returning the notes and money by the due date as stated. This ensures that your child does not miss out on attending any of these exciting events and allows the school staff time to collate attendance lists, confirm numbers and organise a timely payment to service providers.

Your assistance with this process is very much appreciated.

School Reports

Student reports will be sent home on Friday, 13 December. Please take the time to read and explain aspects of these reports to your child/ren. The teachers have spent many long hours assessing, evaluating and monitoring each student to eventually develop these reports.

Enter to Learn

02 6577 3191 if you need to swap your duty.

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rostered day.



Information from the DEC

Choosing school shoes

Are expensive school shoes the best option for happy feet? Let's face it. School shoes have never been at the cutting edge of fashion. In fact if you look at what your parents were wearing, the humble school shoe really hasn't evolved much at all.

Tips for choosing shoes: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/choosing-the-right-school-shoes

Teach your kids to be waterproof

As temperatures rise, the risk of drowning increases too. Review these water-safety tips to help keep your family safe this summer.

Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/water-safety-tips

Credit Card Payment Slip				
The school can accept credit card payments (Visa and Mastercard only) over the phone or by mail. Please note, this is not an EFTPOS facility. EFTPOS (Savings or Cheque a/c) can only be paid over the counter.				
This facility can be used to pay school contributions, excursions, uniforms or P&C levy etc. The minimum payment is \$20.00. Building Fund and Library Fund cannot be paid by credit card.				
Student's Name: Class:				
What are you paying for?				
Credit Card Type (please tick one) UISA Mastercard Amount paying \$				
Cardholder Name (as shown on card) Please print in capitals				
Credit Card Number				
Expiry Date /				
CSV (last three digits on back of card)				
Signature of Cardholder				

Year 5 Life Saving Day

Year 5 had a wonderful day in Newcastle on Monday, 9 December for their Life Saving Skills Day. They also incorporated their party day into the days activities. On Tuesday, 17 December, the Year 5 teachers will organise pizzas for lunch for the Year 5 students at no cost to the children.

Photos removed for internet publishing

House Captains for 2014

Last week students in Years 2-5 attended house meetings to elect their new House Captains for 2014. The captains and vice captains will be receiving their badges at this week's Sports Assembly.

Congratulations to the following students:-

HOUSE CAPTAINS 2014					
LAWSON (blue)	KENDALL (red)	GORDON (yellow)	PATERSON (green)		
Captains	Captains	Captains	Captains		
Tess Orton	Chloe Justen	Ella Blackaby	Reece Robinson		
Will Partridge	Mackenzie Brown	Cooper Andrews-Stockdale	Braedon Messenger		
Vice Captains	Vice Captains	Vice Captains	Vice Captains		
Keelie Bell	Jordan Harrop	Gracie Russell	Riley Somervell		
Braith Tritten	Jeremy Ferricks-Bellamy	Isaac Alder	Patrick Duncan		

Talent Quest

The school Talent Quest was held on Thursday, 5 December. Congratulations to all students who participated, it was a great achievement to get up on stage and perform. There were also some very entertaining performers!! The winners for 2013 were:-

- * 1st Year 5 girls dance group Reece Robinson, Tess Orton, Annaliese Kirsten and Ella Blackaby
- ★ 2nd Ameila Burns and Ruby Taylor
- ★ 3rd Ashlee Brown and Caroline Mexon

Photos removed for internet publishing

Sports Presentation - Friday, 13th December

The school will be holding a Sports Presentation Assembly on Friday, 13 December at 12.10 pm. The assembly will include awards to students for sports participation - any student who has represented the school in PSSA knockout events, gala days, zone, hunter carnivals and state carnivals, the announcement of house captains for 2014 and Coaches Awards will be presented to students who have shown great sportsmanship and commitment to the team. All are welcome to attend.

Invoicing

The 2014 school financial year began on 1 December 2013. All families have now been invoiced for the 2014 Voluntary General Contribution and the P&C Levy. Payments can be taken at the school office.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has been a great success in 2014 with over 700 breakfasts served since May as well as hundreds of sandwiches, Crunch and Sip vegetables and pieces of fruit. All students of Singleton Public School are welcome to attend Breakfast Club every day between 8:40-9:10am

Thanks must go the Singleton Neighbourhood Centre for funding the food, Rotary on Hunter for providing our fabulous kitchen and appliances, and Chemmart for supplying toothbrushes and toothpaste to every child that attends Breakfast Club.

An even bigger thank you must go to our tireless volunteers that come once EVERY WEEK to provide our hungry students with nutritional food. Our regular volunteers include El, Penny, Kerrie-Anne, Stacie, Natalie, Teena, Jenna, Susan, Teresa, Ali, Maree, Amanda and Liz. There are others that drop in on an occasional basis which is great, especially when we are overwhelmed with more than 20 students on some mornings. If you wish to come and help just drop by any time as we're up and running from 8:40-9:10am Monday to Friday.

Breakfast Club will continue to run up to and including the last day of school on Wednesday, 18 December and will reopen early in Term 1 2014. We have already planned our next 'Big Brekky' for Thursday, 27 February next year when the whole school is invited to come and have breakfast to try it out and see what it's all about.

If you have any questions regarding Breakfast Club, or if you wish to volunteer, please contact Penny Clancy on 0432 073430.

School Supplies

In 2014 the school will be supplying all students with exercise books and some limited stationery needs. Parents and carers are asked to supply basic requirements such as rulers, eraser, coloured pencils, lead pencils, pencil case, glue sticks, sharpeners, textas, pens (for older grades), etc and replace these items throughout the year. Parents will be advised of any other requirements when classes are formed in early 2014.

Home Readers

Can all families start to return their home readers for the year please. They will now be sorted in readiness for 2014. If your child still has home readers at home, please send them into school as soon as possible.

Library News

As we approach the end of the year our Library team needs to ensure that all of the books on loan are returned prior to the end of the year. We ask for assistance from both students and families in encouraging all borrowed books to be returned to the library as soon as possible. For this reason last week was the last opportunity for students to borrow new books to take home but as always the library collection will continue to be available for use during school hours.

As I am sure you all would be aware we have had an exciting year with many different titles being added to our collection and lots of borrowing from all of our students. The library staff would like to extend a big thank you to all of the families that have supported us in making reading a valued past time for our students.

Canteen News

The canteen will closed for the year as of Friday, 13th December.

The Canteen's Volunteer Christmas Lunch and Dinner is on 17th December 2013. Please contact Nicole in the canteen for details.

2014 Year 6 Canberra Excursion

The Year 6 major excursion for 2014 is a 5-day trip to Canberra. The excursion is confirmed for Monday, 12th May to Friday, 16th May 2014. To secure a place, students are required to pay a non-refundable deposit of \$50.00, which must be paid by 1:00pm on Friday, 13th December 2013. If no deposit is paid by the due date it will be assumed that your child will not be attending. The approximate cost of the excursion is \$560. This amount includes your deposit of \$50.00, so when you pay a \$50.00 deposit, you will owe \$510. You may pay in weekly/fortnightly instalments if you wish.

Garden Club and Produce

Over the holidays fresh eggs and produce will be available from Garden Club. Please ring Trish Bailey on 02 6573 1230 or Fiona Moon on 02 6573 3673 to arrange a suitable pick up time.

K-2 and Support Unit Christmas Concert

On Thursday, 12 December and Friday, 13 December the K-2 and Support Unit Christmas Concert will be held in the school hall. **The concert will begin at 9.45 am and should conclude by 11.10 am.**

The concert is repeated on both days to allow for parents and family to come on the day that suits them best. The concert will finish with a finale performance by all children in K-2.

Each year the school supports local charities with donations of non-perishable food items for Christmas.

We would appreciate a donation of a food item from those families who attend the K-2 Christmas Concert. The items kindly donated will be used in hampers that will be distributed to targeted families for Christmas by the Singleton Neighbourhood Centre.

Uniform Shop

the Year 6 camp out.

The Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday 28th January 2014 (Staff Development Day) from 9.00-10.00am and also on Wednesday 29th January 2014 from 8.30am—11.30am.

Unfortunately size 12 polo shirts will not be available till mid Term 1 next year.

A big Thank you to Singleton Heights Bakery for their kind donation of cup cakes and muffins for

A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely.



Singleton Public School Canteen Volunteer Roster 2014

Thank you to all the wonderful Volunteers who are supporting the Canteen and their children. There are still a few days where volunteers are needed. So if you are interested please contact Nicole on 65712250 or come and see me in the canteen. I am so looking forward to working with you in 2014. Thank you!

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3rd	Anna	Nicole Furness	Renee MacDonald	Louise Cuttriss	Kim Carter
	Adamthwaite				
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SPS Canteen Volunteer Roster 2014 Page 2

School Magazine 2013

Our school magazine is a collection of photos of activities and events that have happened throughout the year.

This year's magazine is being offered in digital format again instead of a paper copy to help saving the cost and the planet. See it on a screen! The digital format offers colour photos for viewing that can be zoomed in for further detail for better experience.

You will receive a CD containing school magazine in PDF format that can be viewed on desktop, notebook or tablet computers by using Adobe Acrobat Reader or a similar application.

Order your copy today for only \$5.00

Magazine orders will be handed out to children before the end of the year.

School Mag	gazine 2	2013 (Order	Form
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Tracy and Donna of the SHS canteen would like to welcome all Year 7 students starting high school in 2014.

Parents we encourage you to become a volunteer at our canteen. If you have been a helper throughout primary school we hope you continue to support your child's new school. If you have never volunteered before, please consider giving it a go as we are sure you will be pleasantly surprised.

Because we are a large school we try to offer a wide variety of foods to cater for everyone therefore we are very busy. "Many hands make light work", so why not join our lovely but small group of mums, dads and carers. It is a great way to be involved in your child's schooling life. You will socialise and meet new people, you can also bring a friend along.

We are proud to say that our students are extremely well mannered and are a delight to serve. We have a very happy friendly work environment which we believe you will really enjoy. If you are able to spare a few hours a month, keeping in mind we are very flexible, we would love to hear from you, so please phone Tracy or Donna on 65722373 or 0439384484 to let us know your availability.

Many thanks

Tracy and Donna SHS Canteen







3/4H's Wishes for 2014

- *I have another great year with my friends
- *I wish the poor and unlucky get help
- *I wish poor African children a better life
- *I wish to have Mrs Hackett again
- *I wish no one hurts one another
- *I wish for pollution to be stopped
- *I wish for the Phillipines to get back their normal lives
- *I wish the human society would donate \$20 each for a better lifestyle for poor people
- *I wish more people could have a better life
- *I wish that people would stop polluting the surf
- *I wish everyone is safe and happy
- *I wish for poor people to have good food
- *I wish people have better homes and food
- *I wish for peace to the world and for others to understand how the poor live
- *I wish for my friends not to fight
- *I wish for my friends to be super students and nice to everybody
- *I wish all the wars would stop and no-one had to risk their lives for a country.
- *I wish everybody in the world was treated equal.
- *I wish no-one would fight
- *I wish there was a cure for incurable diseases like cancer.
- *I wish that the families who lost people in the world a wonderful life.
- *That the poor of the world get what they need.
- *I wish for world peace and that those who had bad storms get what they need
- *I wish the poor and homeless would get more money
- *I wish all the sick kids would get better
- *I wish everyone is happy in the world