

Newsletter to Parents

SINGLETON PUBLIC SCHOOL



Enter to Learn

Find us at: 8 Hunter Street, Singleton NSW 2330
Phone: (02) 6571 2250 Fax: (02) 6572 3076

email: singleton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
website: www.singleton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Week 4 Term 1

QUALITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY

19 FEBRUARY 2014

Congratulations to all of our fantastic students that participated in the swimming carnival last Friday. Even though the weather was grey and drizzly, it could not dampen the enthusiasm and fun that was had by all of the students, staff and family members in attendance. Thank you so much to the wonderful group of parents that assisted throughout the day. Your assistance helped to make the carnival a great success.

You may have noticed in the Argus that I have attempted to raise the issue of school crossings as a community awareness issue. In the past few weeks we have had reports of dangerous conditions around our school as children have attempted to cross either Elizabeth or Hunter Street.

As one measure, I am asking all bus drivers to park on the John Street side of the 'Children's Crossing' when possible to help increase visibility of the crossing for vehicles proceeding down Elizabeth Street. To be effective all parents and carers must not park or stop in these areas. There is more information inside this newsletter that I would ask you to consider to help improve safety for our students.

At the commencement of this year the P&C have been supplying a new style of shorts that can be worn by all students. These navy shorts are embroidered with the school logo and have pockets plus a coin zipper. I am assured that parents have found the cost associated with these shorts as being very competitive. To clarify any confusion, this style of shorts may be worn five days a week and should be worn as school sports shorts for representative teams etc.

I hope that the wet weather continues for a few more days at least, especially if it falls during the night. Please check that you have labelled all of your children's property as little minds are very adept at forgetting where jackets, hats and the like were put down during play times.

David Crowe
Principal

Calendar of Events

Friday 21 February	Payment due for Year 5 Surf Life Saving Year 6 Teen Talk Payment Due Zone Swimming Carnival
Tuesday 25 February	Zone Rugby League Trials
Wednesday 26 February	Year 5 Surf Life Saving Program
Thursday 27 February	Breakfast Club Launch
Friday 28 February	Hunter Tennis
Monday 3 March	Year 6 Teen Talk
Tuesday 4 March	Year 6 Teen Talk
Wednesday 5 March	P&C Meeting - Annual General Meeting - 7 pm in School Library
Thursday 6 March	Hunter Swimming
Friday 7 March	School Cross Country Hunter Basketball
Wednesday 19 March	Lion King Excursion
Friday 21 March	Supercover payments due Hunter Rugby League Harmony Day
Thursday 27 March	Breakfast Club Launch 2014
Friday 28 March	University of NSW ICAS Tests payment due (see Page 5 for further information) Zone Cross Country

This week's assembly will be hosted by the Green Team at the starting time of 12.45pm. There will be no item.

Breakfast Club Launch!

Next Thursday, 27 March the Breakfast Club will be hosting it's official Breakfast Club Launch for 2014. All students are invited for breakfast before school. Full details will be in next week's newsletter.



**Education &
Communities**

Road Safety

Are you aware of the increased penalties that apply in school zones for driving infractions? The following list summarises just a few offences that occur around our school (hmmm!). I wonder if Inspector Langdon might wander down one day with his ticketing book!

• Disobey no stopping sign (school zone)	\$304	2 demerit points
• Disobey no parking sign (school sign)	\$169	2 demerit points
• Stop on/near children's crossing (school zone)	\$405	2 demerit points
• Stop on/across driveway...	\$169	2 demerit points
• Stop in a bus zone (school zone)	\$304	2 demerit points
• Not stop at Children's Crossing (occupied)	\$506	4 demerit points
• Proceed at Children's Crossing (ped. at crossing)	\$506	4 demerit points

Imagine the up roar if the school was to start naming and shaming drivers in our newsletter (hmmm!)

One last point – do you really need to walk your child to the gate? There are a number of people that park next to the school then proceed to walk their children into the school. If you wish to do this please consider parking across from Burdekin Park and then walk down together. By doing this, more parents will be able to 'kiss and go' by dropping their children closer to the gate.

Alternate Sports Payments

Children were drawn out for the Alternate Sports Program last week and another note was sent home with the successful children. Please return your payment to the school no later than TODAY, Wednesday, 19 February.

Positive Behaviour for Learning – PBL

Every fortnight our school focuses upon a new behaviour to reinforce our school values of RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – QUALITY. All classes engage in small discussions about the various behaviours and students are rewarded for acting in an appropriate manner. We will endeavour to keep families aware of the various behaviours each week through our newsletter.

This week our behaviour is **“Quality students are prepared for school”**.

Zone Tennis Trials

Four students represented Singleton PS at the Zone Tennis Trials held at Howe Park last week. Ethan Van Zyl and Braedon Messenger both performed extremely well finishing first and third respectively. Tess Orton and Amy Little showed huge improvement over the day and both finished equal third.

Good luck to Ethan Van Zyl who will represent the Upper Hunter Zone at the Hunter trials in Newcastle next Friday.

Swimming Carnival Ribbons

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the school's swimming carnival last Friday. A full report of results will appear in next week's newsletter. The ribbons and medallions will be presented at next week's assembly.

Lion King Excursion

It is only a few weeks until the exciting SPS Lion King excursion to the Capitol Theatre in Sydney. Tickets are now completely sold out and a waiting list has been formed. A letter with group information and bus allocation will be sent home shortly. The excursion will be leaving school at 8.30am promptly and travelling on two separate buses. Both children and parents attending are asked to meet in the school hall at 8.15am. We will arrive in Sydney at approximately 11.30am and have lunch at Darling Harbour before heading to the Capitol Theatre. The matinee performance begins at 1pm. The coaches will leave promptly after the musical and return to school at approximately 5.30pm. A letter with further details will be sent out shortly.

Year 6 Hoodies

This year, to celebrate the end of the Year 6 students' Primary education, the school is offering "school hoodies" for Year 6 to purchase. The hoodies will have all of Year 6 names on the back with a '2014' design on the front.

This year students in Year 6 have a navy blue hoody (which is a medium weight fleece jumper with hood) with yellow print priced at \$43.00. Please return your order and money by **Friday 21st February**. To decide on sizing it is best to measure around your child's chest, then refer to measurements on the note sent home.

 **Nutrition Snippet**

The simplest way

to include all 5 food groups in a Lunch Box

A well packed lunch box will provide your kids with the energy they need to learn and play. Remember to include lunch box items from the **5 food groups**:



Breads and cereals: Try wholemeal bread, wraps and pita. Or try pikelets, rice cakes or homemade muffins and slices.

Fruit: Should be a lunch box staple as its high in fibre, vitamins and minerals. Serve fruit in fun ways: try fruit kebabs or fruit in jelly.

Veggies: Pack carrot and celery sticks with hummus or salsa, or a cold zucchini slice.

Low Fat Dairy: Cheese slices, yoghurts and custards are all great lunch box items.

Lean Protein: Include a variety of sandwich fillings: cooked chicken, tuna, egg or roast meat. Legumes like red kidney beans and chickpeas are a good source of protein and fibre.

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
 or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)



Uniform Shop Roster - Week 5, Term 1 2014

Mon 24/2/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Lyndal Barry, Amy Warton
 Fri 28/2/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Melinda Grant, Kirsten Roxburgh
 Please contact someone else on the roster if you need to swap your duty.

Canteen Roster - Week 5, Term 1 2014

Mon 24/2/14 Sally Menere, Anna Adamthwaite
 Tues 25/2/14 Leane Knox, Rebecca Hobbs
 Wed 26/2/14 Tammy Cox (half day), Shaelie Carrol
 Thurs 27/2/14 Tanith Bell, Teresa Mexon
 Fri 28/2/14 Carmen Lee Williams, Kathy Lamph, Renee Mouser

Please advise Nicole Gray if you have any changes to your rostered day.

Information from the DEC

Helping with homework

How much should you help your child with homework? When your child makes a mistake, should you fix it? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/helping-your-primary-school-child-with-homework>

Back to school

Homework, hot weather and class sizes – here are some answers to frequently asked questions about going to a NSW public school. Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/back-to-school-2014>

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) ☐ VISA ☐ 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

Band Program and Music Lessons

The school band program has begun in full swing this year with more students joining the 'Early Notes' Band and others moving up to the Concert Band. There are also students currently learning instruments who will join Early Notes later in the year.

If you tried out an instrument with Mrs Dibley last year and still want to organise lessons and instrument hire, please return the forms you were given, or see Mrs Dibley (Staff Band Coordinator) Mon, Tues or Wed, or call the P&C Band Representative, Jan Fallding 6571 1348.

Benefits of “Kiss and Go”

There are a number of benefits from adopting a “Kiss and Go” approach to dropping your child at school. These include;

- ★ the building of independence skills for the child as they will quickly learn the morning routines and expectations;
- ★ increased free play and social building opportunities – without Mum or Dad in the playground children quickly find a friend to interact and play with. It is amazing how much energy young children can burn in five minutes;
- ★ reduced anxiety and stress for other students – often it is not your child crying in morning lines, it is another child who is ‘missing’ their parent. The presence of additional parents in the school grounds can increase this anxiety;
- ★ improved traffic flow around the school and increased pedestrian safety – we all know how hectic and difficult it can be to get a park around school grounds in the morning;
- ★ increased opportunities for your child to interact with teachers and staff at the school in a relaxed, informal setting.

Canteen News

As many have realised, the menu has gone out missing the drinks section from the first newsletter but it was repeated last week with the drinks section included. Thank you for your feedback on this.

The drinks are still the same price as last year. For future reference, our menu is also available on our school web site. If you have any queries or other thoughts on the menu or the canteen, feedback is always appreciated.

Our canteen is endeavouring to offer foods for as many special dietary requirements as possible. For example, this year we have two gluten free options on our menu. If you have a child with special dietary needs and you would like to use the canteen please contact Nicole in the canteen to explore the options.

Breakfast Club

NOW OPEN

Breakfast Club is up and running! All students of Singleton Public School needing breakfast are welcome to attend Breakfast Club from 8:40-9:10am Monday to Friday. We offer breakfast cereals, toast and Milo as well as top up sandwiches, Crunch and Sip Vegetables and pieces of fruit.

THANK YOU

Chemmart has generously donated 100 toothbrushes to go with the toothpastes donated last year.

Thanks also to the Singleton Neighbourhood Centre for day to day funding of food and Rotary on Hunter for providing our fabulous kitchen and appliances.

VOLUNTEERS

The Breakfast Club is run by a small band of parent volunteers and 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.

HELP! We are also seeking volunteers to assist with the BIG BREKKY on Thursday 27 February between 8:15 and 10am. Please contact Penny Clancy 0432 073430.

Thank You

A huge thank you to Huntwood Cleaning Services for their kind donation towards the Sports Honour Board. It will be displayed in the school hall when it arrives.

Cattle Judging 2014

Term 1 is a busy time for Cattle Judging as our local shows are very close together. The following dates and information may help families plan for the term.

Newcastle Show: 28th February. Information not yet available. Check the site as it gets closer.

Muswellbrook Show: 4th April. Entries close Friday 21st March. Forms and waivers available on the show site.

As our cattle judging numbers have dwindled, interested parents are asked to take their children on the day.

Teresa Price

Expanded opportunities for entry to the virtual selective class provision

Applications for Year 7 entry to the virtual selective class provision are now available for gifted and talented students at this school. Students successful for entry to this virtual class will be enrolled at a local class for the majority of their subjects but will be taught English, mathematics and science in a virtual environment together with other gifted and talented students in rural and remote areas through the creative use of communications technologies. This means that they can access a challenging academic program without leaving home and friends to do so. Further details are available on the following web sites:

http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/ss_virtual.php, or <http://www.xsel.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

If you wish to apply for this provision on behalf of your child you will need to complete an online application at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement urgently. Although the web site indicates that these are late applications they will not be considered late by the selection committees if you apply before 28 February 2014.

All candidates for the virtual selective class provision must take the Selective High School Placement Test on 13 March 2014 and you will be advised directly by the High Performing Students Unit about the test centre you will have to take your child to.

If you have already applied for a selective high school on behalf of your child and now wish to change one of your choices to the virtual selective class provision, please do not complete another application but write directly to the Unit to make that change. If you do not have access to the Internet please contact the school office for assistance.

University of New South Wales Tests

Each year the University of New South Wales offers students across the world the opportunity to participate in a number of tests across a number of curriculum areas for children in Year 3-12.

These tests are the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) and occur through the year. A new ICAS test is developed annually for each subject in each year level by our team of subject matter experts.

All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students' skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Each test is sat at the student's school and is invigilated by teachers under normal examination conditions.

This year we are offering for any interested children from Years 3-6 the chance to participate in the following UNSW competitions:

- Computer Skills: Tuesday, 20th May
- Science : Wednesday, 4th June
- English: Wednesday, 29th July
- Mathematics: Tuesday, 12th August

Each of these tests costs parents \$8.80. If you would like your child or children in Years 3-6 to participate in any of the tests please complete the form below and **return it to the school by Friday, 28th March**. Unfortunately we will be unable to accept late entries.

✂ _____

Childs Name _____ Child's Class _____ (return to office by Friday, 28th March 2014)

Tests I would like my child to participate in:

English / Mathematics / Science / Computer Skills

(Please cross out whichever is not applicable)

Each tests costs \$8.80

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Signed: _____

YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

Dear Parents

Australian Government assistance for National Capital excursion

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participate in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist you in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and has already been taken into account for costing.

.We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour include visiting

* Government House	* National Capital Exhibition	* Embassies
* Australian War Memorial	* Questacon	* Australian Institute of Sport
* Old Parliament House	* Australian Electoral Education Centre	* Telstra Tower
* Royal Australian Mint	* CSIRO Discovery	* Parliament House

We hope that the excursion is a rewarding experience for all students.

Upper Hunter PSSA Zone Selection Dates

Dear Parents,

The following dates are for the Upper Hunter Zone, PSSA Selection Trial for 2014. The criteria stipulated by the selectors are that the student is competent and knowledgeable in the sport. If you think that your child fits these criteria and you would like him/her to attend the selection trials please let either of us know in writing and we will send you a permission and information note closer to the date. These trials are for open age teams and the students competing will be up to 13 years of age. Participants are selected from Years 5 and 6.

Please be aware that it is the parent/caregiver's responsibility to provide your child's transport to the venue and to provide supervision during the day. There will be no teachers from Singleton Public School attending the trials.

2014 Selection Trial Dates

Sport	Date	Venue
Zone Tennis	12/2/14	Singleton
Zone Basketball	20/2/14	Singleton Heights
Zone League	25/2/14	Olympic Park, Muswellbrook
Zone AFL	27/2/14	TBA
Winter Trials	14/3/14	Muswellbrook
Zone Touch	14/5/14	Aberdeen
Zone Rugby Union	TBA	TBA

These dates and venues are subject to change.

2014 Active After School Sports Program

✂-----

Active After School Sport (please return to school office)

I give permission for my child/ren listed below to attend and participate in the activities of the Active After School Sports Program on Monday and Thursday afternoons at Singleton Public School in 2014. The attendance times are from 3:10 pm until 4:10 pm SHARP.

Child's Name: of class

Child's Name: of class

Child's Name: of class

Emergency Contact Phone Numbers:

.....

Does your child have any health or medication issues? Yes / No

.....

.....

Parent's Name:

Signed Date

✂-----

Supercover

PERMISSION NOTE – Supercover (please complete even if you have already paid)

Return to class teacher by Friday, 21 March 2014 if you would like to use Supercover.

I give permission for my child of class
to :-

- Attend the visiting show at the school;
- Attend the Hunter Life Education Van at the school;
- Attend an excursion to the Military Museum where students will travel by bus.

Signed:

Parent/Guardian

Enclosed: \$ \$17.00 for Supercover if you have already paid your School Contribution
OR \$77.00 for School Contribution and Supercover

My son/daughter has the following special needs (please provide full details and include any relevant medical details).

.....

.....

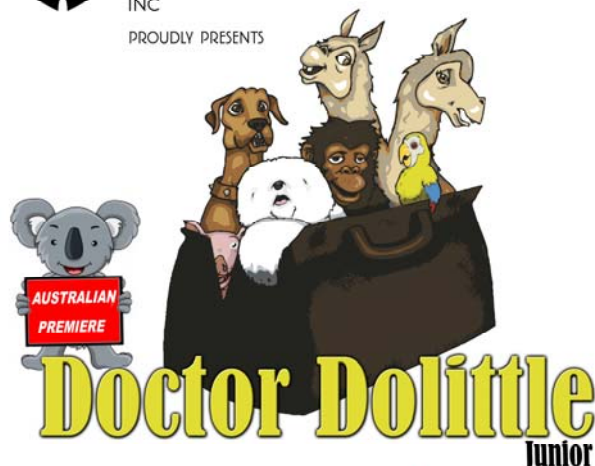
Swimming Carnival 2014

Photos removed for internet publishing



THE NATIONAL
THEATRE COMPANY
INC

PROUDLY PRESENTS



Friday FEB 21 – 7:30pm
Saturday FEB 22 – 10am and 2pm
Sunday FEB 23 – 2pm
Friday FEB 28 – 7:30pm
Saturday MAR 1 – 10am and 2pm
Sunday MAR 2 – 2pm
Friday MAR 7 – 7:30pm
Saturday MAR 8 – 10am and 2pm

Tickets on sale at
All 4 U
Fashion & Accessories
SHOP 11, TOWN SQUARE
159 JOHN STREET, SINGLETON
0408 733 630

Singleton Civic Centre - Opens February 21



www.tntc.org.au

SINGLETON NETBALL ASSOCIATION

We are still looking for players aged 12 this year to play in our 12 years representative team. Trials will be held for this team on Thursday 20th February at 5.30pm. Further information can be found on our web-site at www.singletonnetball.com

Our net set go activities program is for girls and boys aged 5 to 7 years and will be held Saturdays during the winter competition at 12.30pm. Girls and boys receive a gift pack and a t shirt as part of their registration. We will hold come and try days on the 15th and 22nd March for all children to come along. You will not have to be registered for these two days but all players must be registered by week 3, 29th March.

We are still taking names of players looking for a team, and if your team still needs some players you can contact us. Team nominations are the 26th February from 4 to 7 pm so don't leave it much longer to get organised. Our online registrations are progressing and if you need any help please email us at singletonnetball@hotmail.com

SWIMATHON FAMILY FUN

WHEN: Sunday 2nd March
WHERE: YMCA Singleton Gym and Swim
TIME: 10:00—3:00pm

Join us at 12:00pm for the official opening of our new pool mobility hoist!

ACTIVITIES:

- Sponsored swimming
- Jumping castle
- Face painting
- Grit Launch Preview
- Rowing Challenge
- Chuck a Duck
- BBQ lunch

COST: All pool entry fees will be donated to the Swimathon

PLENTY OF FUN FOR EVERYONE!

Singleton Gym and Swim
14-16 Civic Avenue Singleton NSW 2330
P: 6572 1359
www.ymcansw.org.au/singleton

Singleton Council YMCA

**THE
BULLS
WANT
YOU
in 2014**



CLUB REGISTRATIONS

Every Tuesday in February
4.30pm to 6.00pm
Alan Bull Canteen



Call 0432 170 417 or 0422 308 344 for more information

The Australian Red Cross Mobile Blood Service is visiting Singleton

Monday 24 February, 10.00am – 3.00pm (21 more donors needed)
Tuesday 25 February, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (31 more donors needed)
Wednesday 26 February, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (14 more donors needed)
Thursday 27 February, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (37 more donors needed)
Friday 28 February, 10.00am – 3.00pm (36 more donors needed)

If you haven't already made an appointment to give blood, you can make an appointment online or call us on 13 14 95.

1 in 3 Australians will need blood, but only 1 in 30 donate. Donated blood helps cancer patients, people with blood disorders, mothers-to-be and newborn babies, as well as trauma and surgical patients. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

2P Class Work—Happy Faces



By Emma



By Ruby



By Kaitlin



By Jeremy



By Lucas



By Joshua