

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 5 Term 1

QUALITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY

26 FEBRUARY 2014

A special event will take place on Thursday morning at school. To launch our Breakfast Club program all students are invited to come to school and have a healthy breakfast with their friends. Our great, but small, band of volunteers have organised a wonderful menu including cereals, fresh fruit, Milo, and some small baked items for our students to have.

This is the second year the school has operated the Breakfast Club program for all students to access. As a school community we recognise that parents' lives can be very busy and for one reason or another we might not have everything ready to go at breakfast. Our Breakfast Club is supported by the wonderful people at the Singleton Community Centre whilst our kitchen was kindly donated by Singleton on Hunter Rotary Club. Breakfast each day is free of charge even though some parents like to provide a gold coin to assist with associated costs.

Our Breakfast Club launch will commence serving at 8.40 for all students from Year 1 to Year 6. Kindergarten students will be provided a special time after the morning bell to come as a class to have their turn without too many big kids around.

I hope you have noticed the 'noise' that I have been making in the Singleton Argus of late. The lack of awareness and inappropriate driving skills displayed each morning and afternoon is a great concern. I have been advised by Sgt Gray that she will be out and about over the coming weeks with her ticketing book. You have been warned! Please stay out of the bus zones especially at the end of the day.

The NRMA are currently offering \$5,000 grants to help community organisations improve safety and awareness. I would like to put in a submission, therefore I am asking you for ideas that may be attractive and beneficial for our students. If you have an idea please send the school a short note on the school email – singleton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Congratulations to our wonderful students for their consistently high level of behaviour. I am so impressed with the manner in which you all interact with each other both in the classroom and in the playground.

Well done kids – keep up the great effort!

David Crowe
Principal

Calendar of Events

Wednesday 26 February	Year 5 Surf Life Saving Program
Thursday 27 February	Breakfast Club Launch 2014
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 (details on Page 6) Hunter Basketball
Tuesday 11 March	Hunter AFL
Friday 14 March	Zone Winter Trials
Wednesday 19 March	Lion King Excursion
Friday 21 March	Supercover payments due Hunter Rugby League Harmony Day
Friday 28 March	University of NSW ICAS Tests payment due (see Page 5 for further information) Zone Cross Country
Friday 11 April	Canberra Final Payments due

This week's assembly will be hosted by the Year 6 Councillors at the starting time of 12.45pm. There will be no item. The School Swimming Carnival ribbons will be handed out as well as the Class Councillor badges for Years 3-5.

Breakfast Club Launch!

Tomorrow, Thursday, 27 February, the Breakfast Club will be hosting it's official Breakfast Club Launch for 2014. All students are invited for breakfast before school. Serving starts at 8.40 am for students in Years 1-6 and Kindergarten students can visit with their class after the 9.10 am bell.



**Education &
Communities**

Lion King Excursion Details

A note has been sent home to the children attending the Lion King excursion on Wednesday 19th March with the confirmed details. Children and parents need to **meet in the school hall at 8.15am** to have their names signed off. If your child suffers from travel sickness and requires medication, please hand it to Mrs Merrick in a clearly labelled envelope with the child's name and instructions. We will then board the two coaches and leave at 8.30am promptly. Please do not be late on the day. If for any reason you cannot attend the excursion please call the school as soon as possible.

We will arrive in Sydney at approximately 11.30am and head to the Royal Botanical Gardens to eat our lunch. We will then board the coaches again and make our way to the Capitol Theatre. The show starts at 1pm and runs for 2 hours and 40 minutes (which includes a 20 minute interval). Children are allowed to bring \$10 with them and if it is possible they may purchase an ice cream or drink in the interval. **They may not bring their own drinks and lunches into the theatre.**

Programmes cost \$25 and if you would like to purchase one for your child then please fill the form on the note and return it with the money to Mrs Merrick before the excursion date (cash only).

We will board the bus as soon as possible after the show finishes and head back to Singleton, stopping at Ourimbah for a very short toilet and snack break. Due to peak hour traffic I have been advised by the coach company that we will not return to Singleton until **approximately 7.30pm** (at the earliest).

As you can appreciate, it will have been a very long day so please ensure that you arrive on time to pick your child up. If you would like to have an update of our ETA then please visit our school website at approximately 6pm and it will let you know how we are travelling. It would be great if you could then text other parents with the information. The website address is www.singleton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Please ensure that your child brings a packed lunch, morning tea and recess, and at least two drinks with them. It is important that they are dressed appropriately in the correct school uniform.

This is Singleton Public School's first theatre excursion to Sydney to see a show. I know everyone is looking forward to having a magical experience and creating amazing memories.

Year 6 Canberra Final Cost

The final costs for the Year 6 Canberra Excursion have now been calculated on the number of children attending. The total cost for students is \$560.00 in total leaving a balance of \$510.00 after the \$50 deposit has been paid. The price per adult is \$650.00. The above amounts also include GST where applicable. Please have the payments finalised before Friday, 11 April 2014. Should you require any financial assistance, the school has funds available. Please contact Mrs Kerrie Burns in the school office.

Boys' PSSA Cricket Report

On Wednesday 19th February, the Boys' PSSA Cricket team played their first round match against King Street Public School. King Street won the toss and put us into bat. Harry Moore (11 runs) and Andrew Knox (20 runs) got us off to a great start with a 30 run partnership. At the end of the 15th over we were 2/55 and batting well. After some good bowling from King Street we were 8/66 after the 25 overs.

King Street then batted and where 1/60 when rain stopped play. The game was decided on a count back to the 15th over where we were 2/55, King Street were 1/57, as a result King Street won by 2 runs on the count back.

Well done to all the boys for their great behaviour and sportsmanship on the day.


Mr Andrews
Cricket Coach

Photo removed for internet publishing

Canteen News

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.

As a reminder, all profits made by the canteen go back to the P & C to help support the school. Therefore your support is greatly appreciated.

 Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

to make a healthy brekky!

Breakfast is one of the most important meals of the day, but did you know that many Aussie families skip it?

A healthy brekky improves energy levels, alertness and concentration, plus it's an easy way to throw in an extra serve of fruit & veg.



Here are some quick brekky ideas:

- Sliced bananas or avocado on toast
- Add chopped vegies to an omelette or savoury pancake
- Create a warm porridge or cereal with canned or fresh fruit
- Top a wholemeal muffin or toast with cooked tomato, mushrooms, baked beans or creamed corn

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



Uniform Shop Roster - Week 6, Term 1 2014

Mon 3/3/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am)

Fri 7/3/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am)

Please contact someone else on the roster if you need to swap your duty.

Canteen Roster - Week 6, Term 1 2014

Mon 3/3/14 Mary Franks, Anna Adamthwaite

Tues 4/3/14 Angela Johnston, Janine Justen

Wed 5/3/14 Pam Dicks, Di Cooke

Thurs 6/3/14 Deb Boston, **1 more helper please**

Fri 7/3/14 Natalie Moore, Heidi Moore, **1 more helper please**

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

Information from the DEC

Help with English

Does your child need help with spelling or writing? Here are some resources that may help.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english>

Maths

Struggling to remember everything you learnt in maths? If you need a refresher course, here are some tips and tools to help you to help your child.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/mathematics>

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

Thank you

Thank you to the Newcastle Permanent for their kind donation of \$600.00 to the school as part of the Introducer Program.

Zone Swimming 2014

The Zone Carnival was held on Friday 21st February at the Singleton Gym and Swim. Our school performed well on the day and had very strong performances in all the relay events. In particular our Junior Boys Relay Team who won their race and fell just short of qualifying for the Regional Carnival.

Thank you to all the students for your great behaviour on the day and to the parents for transporting the students to and from the pool.

Joel Andrews
Sports Co-ordinator

The following students participated in the Zone Carnival:-

Bailey	Callan	Cambell
Mick	Claire	Sophie
Ethan	Tess	Chloe
Brock	Evan	Will
Sarah	Braedon	James
Lucie	Lucy	Essie
Jordan	Faith	Keelie

Swimming Carnival Report 2014

The School's Swimming Carnival was held on Friday 14th February at the Singleton Gym and Swim. We were lucky that the weather held out for us and the carnival was able to be completed on the day. A big congratulations to all the students who participated in a race - remember that just by going in a race you are earning points for your house.

A big thank you to all the parents and family members who helped out on the day and made the carnival so easy to run.

A complete list of the race results can be found on Pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.

We will be presenting the Age Champions and race ribbons from the carnival at this week's assembly. Hope to see you there.

Joel Andrews
Sports Co-ordinator

Scripture

Every Wednesday after lunch, visiting members of various church groups take classes in Religious Instruction. This is done on an ecumenical basis with all denominations combined. Depending on scripture teacher availability some dominations such as Catholic, Bahai and Jehovah Witnesses have separate classes. Your child will be placed in the scripture class as indicated on the enrolment form.

In accordance with Section 33 of the Education Act, no child is required to receive any general religious education or special religious education if the parents/caregivers object. Objections should be made in writing to the principal of the school. At Singleton Public School we ask that parents renew their request each year.

Positive Behaviour for Learning – PBL

This week's PBL behaviour is "Demonstrating the core values of our school!"

RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – QUALITY! Three words that combine to make a fantastic individual. The majority of our students naturally display these traits on a daily basis.

Perhaps you could ask your child:-

- How they displayed Respect today at school?
- What was the piece of work they considered was their best Quality – and why?
- How did someone else display Responsibility to them today?

Wet Weather Procedures

Please be aware that the school has Wet Weather Procedures in place. Should it be raining solidly when your child arrives at school, they will need to go to their classroom. If it is a light shower, students will need to meet under the COLA. The teachers at the school have informed the students of the wet weather procedures during the day.

Child Collection Points

If you are collecting your child from school in the afternoon you will need to arrange to meet at one of four places:

- On the seats under the "Friendship Tree" (near the COLA on the Elizabeth Street side);
- On the seats outside of the classrooms near the "Enter to Learn" gates in Hunter Street;
- Under the tree at "The Parsonage" (school office),
- On the grassed area in front of the Kindergarten building (please do not wait on the verandah).

The verandah outside of the Kindergarten rooms needs to be kept as clear as possible as it is a thoroughfare. This is particularly important each morning and afternoon when the volume of people in the area increases.

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.

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: _____

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.

School Cross Country

Date: Friday 7th March (Week 6)

To help the school make selections for the Zone Cross Country, all students in Years 3-6 children will be taken to Cook Park on Friday, 7th March to compete in the cross country run. Children will run/walk in their age group for the appropriate distance (2km or 3km). Selections for the Zone Carnival will be based on these results.

Students and staff will leave school at 9.20 am and return to school by 11.10 am. Children must bring a bottle of water, hat, sunscreen, medications and appropriate footwear. There is no cost as the children will walk to Cook Park accompanied by teachers.

There is no permission slip for this event as students should have already handed in their 2014 General Permission Note which covers walking to Cook Park.

Please ensure that your child's Medical Information Sheet, which was sent home at the beginning of the year, has been returned to the class teacher. Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless this form has been returned.

✂-----

Cross Country Parent Helpers Return Slip (return to class teacher)

If you are able to assist at the Cross Country on the day please fill out the slip below and return to your child's class teacher. The job that is required would be to sit in a designated place along the track to ensure children are travelling along the course in the right direction and to provide encouragement for students who maybe struggling.

I am able to assist on Friday 7th March at the School's Cross Country Carnival.

Signed..... Date: / /

Contact Number _____

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.

17 February 2014

Workshops for parents and supervisors of learner drivers

An important component of the Graduated Licence scheme is that all learner drivers complete a minimum of 120 hours supervised on-road driving experience prior to presenting for their provisional P licence.

The Road and Maritime Services is holding a **FREE** two hour workshop for the **Singleton** area to offer practical advice to parents and supervisors on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers. These workshops provide information about:

- Understanding the new laws for L and P licence holders
- Completing the Learner Driver Log Book
- Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience
- Supervising learner drivers

WEA Hunter on behalf of the RMS will be conducting the workshop as follows:

Day: Wednesday
 Date: 5 March 2014
 Venue: Singleton Community College
 Address: 83 – 87 York Street, (TAFE Campus) Singleton
 Time: 6.00pm – 8.00pm

It would be appreciated if you could bring the workshop to the attention of your staff and parent organisation.

Also is enclosed is a selection of posters and flyers for display in the foyer or other appropriate locations around the school.

Bookings are essential and all enquiries should be directed to Jenny Cummings or any Administration Staff at WEA Hunter on 4925 4200.

Thank you for your assistance.
 Yours sincerely

Jenny Cummings
Administration Officer
WEA Hunter

T: (02) 4925 4202 | M: 0402 851 172 | F: (02) 4929 6845
 E: [jcummings@weahunter.edu.au](mailto:jcumplings@weahunter.edu.au) W: www.weahunter.edu.au

Congratulations to our assembly award winners for Term 1 Week 4, 2014

CLASS AWARD RECIPIENTS K - 6

Assembly Awards

KL	Dax Jasmine	KM	Jasmine Jacob
KS	Zoe Ruby	1A	Lillyan Alex
1G	Talan Cooper	1DL	Liam Koia Rata-
2B	Joe Lara	2P	Liam Gillian
2Z	Harry Shanae	3H	Nathan Brandon Mav
3P	Emma Coen Joel	3/4S	Ruby Ryan Lexie
4A	Charla Sam Whyatt	5E	Jules Sam Hayden
5RV	Tiani Jaidyn Darcie	6D	Cameron Jessica Lachlan
6M	Flynn Maddison Jordan	Support Unit	Noah Tomeeka

Singleton Stars

Early Stage 1	KS - Arthur	Stage 1	1G - Lachlan
Stage 2	3P - Faith	Stage 3	6D - Anthony

Super Citizens

KL	Nesha	3H	Mav
1A	Erin	4A	Ruby
2B	Sam	6D	Fynn

What's happening to our girls and boys?



A talk by Maggie Hamilton for parents of children and young adults.



Date: Thursday 20th March

Time: 6.30 - 8.00pm

Cost: Free

RSVP: Bookings essential

Maggie Hamilton is a writer and social researcher. Her many books include *What's Happening to Our Girls?* and *What's Happening to Our Boys?* The books put the lives of young people under the microscope, uncovering the issues they struggle with, how best they can be supported and provide numerous tips for parents and educators on how to create a more promising future for our children.

Books will be available for sale and signing courtesy of Singleton Books Etc.



Ph: 6578 7500 www.library.singleton.nsw.gov.au

Poetry Writing Workshop



Featuring Jean Kent, Hunter poet and Newcastle Poetry Prize judge



Date: Saturday March 15

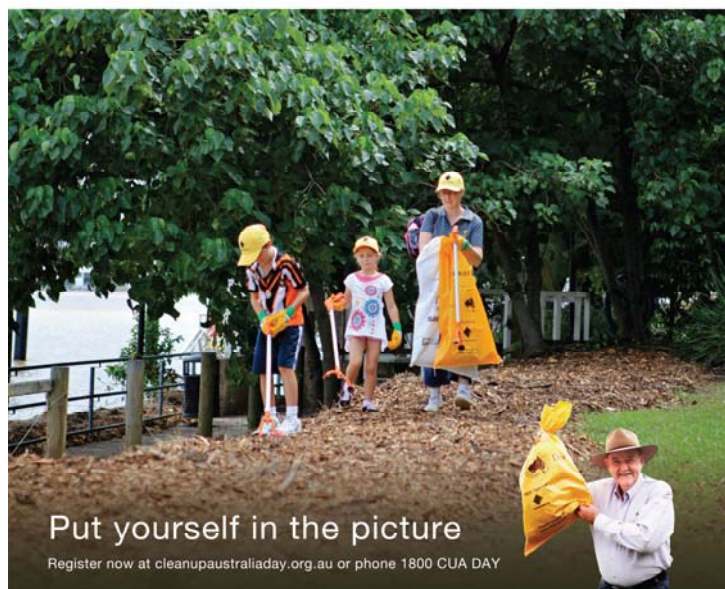
Time: 9.30am to 3.30pm

Cost: \$10 or free to all library members.

RSVP: Bookings essential

This workshop is appropriate for writers of all levels. It has the objective of preparing attendees to enter the Local Award section of the Newcastle Poetry Prize and possible inclusion in the anthology of the best entries.

Ph: 6578 7500 www.library.singleton.nsw.gov.au



Put yourself in the picture

Register now at cleanupaustaliaday.org.au or phone 1800 CUA DAY

SINGLETON & SURROUNDS

Sunday 2 March 2014

Registration 8am Rose Point Park Sundial - free BBQ breakfast



MAJOR SPONSOR



SPONSORS



COMMUNITY SPONSOR



SUPPLIERS



Autumn Village Fair

Broke Hall, Adair St, Broke

Free 10am to 2pm
Friday, 21 March 2014

Fully catered Market Stalls
Pamper stations Live entertainment
Historical Tours Displays and activities

Further Information
Cynthia Mulholland on
6578 7217