

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 2 Term 2

QUALITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY

7 MAY 2014

Term 2 is a very busy one for the students and staff of Singleton Public School. We have many special events scheduled including NAPLAN assessments, the Year 6 excursion to Canberra, the Life Education Van visit, school photos, and much more. As always, I encourage you to check our weekly calendars and jot down specific dates on your personal calendars.

To assist in the communication between home and school we are currently working on a new "school app" that people will be able to access via their mobile device. This app will include many useful tools including links to the newsletter, reminder dates, travel alerts, the ability to send reasons for student absence and to send photos to our school email from sport or other school related events! We are approximately 6 weeks away from going live so keep watching this space for more information.

Tonight our students have the opportunity to dance and have fun at our Term 2 school disco. The theme for tonight is "Crazy Hair". Fittingly, one of our school leaders, Callum, will be cutting his hair to donate his locks to a charity that makes wigs for children going through chemo therapy. Callum has been growing his hair for several years with this one goal in mind. It is very admirable that such a young man can think so unselfishly about others! Well done Callum. Please read Callum's article in this newsletter.

As you may have read or heard through the media, Singleton Public School is the first in the Upper Hunter to offer Ethics Classes for students that do not attend scripture. We have received the names of a few more people that are considering training to be a facilitator of this program which would be useful as we have several children that would find the program stimulating and worthwhile.

Thank you to the parents of our Aboriginal students that attended the morning tea last Friday. It was wonderful to share our ideas for future development of our Aboriginal programs at Singleton Public School. I would like to encourage all parents to become actively involved in our school because if we work together we can achieve a great deal for the benefit of our children.

With the change in weather PLEASE ensure that you have written your child's name on all clothing that may be removed throughout the day; this includes pullovers, scarves, hats and skivvies! Enjoy the week and I hope to see you at the P&C meeting being held tonight in the school library.

David Crowe - Principal



Education & Communities

Calendar of Events

Wednesday 7 May	School Disco - K-2 5-6 pm, 3-6 6-7.30 pm P & C Meeting in School Library
Friday 9 May	Hunter Cross Country Book Club payments due
Monday 12 May	Year 6 depart for Canberra. Be at school hall at 5.30 am sharp (entry via Elizabeth Street gates). More info on Page 5
Tuesday 13 May	Guitar lessons commence Yr 6 Canberra NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5 Language Conventions and Writing
Wednesday 14 May	Yr 6 Canberra NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5 Reading
Thursday 15 May	Yr 6 Canberra NAPLAN - Year 3 and 5 Mathematics
Friday 16 May	Year 6 return from Canberra at approximately 5.30 pm. Updates will be on school website.
Monday 19 May	Rugby Union PSSA Zone Touch Trials at Aberdeen 4.30pm-7.30pm
Tuesday 20 May	ICAS (UNSW) Computer Test Knights Knockout
Wednesday 21 May	5-6pm Parents/Carers Maths Workshop for Stage 1 and Stage 2 parents/carers
Thursday 22 May	Girls and Boys Soccer PSSA
Friday 23 May	Girls Cricket PSSA
Tuesday 27 May	School Photos - return the photo envelope on the day. Office closed from 8.30-9.00 am for staff photos

This week's assembly will be hosted by 2Z the starting time of 12.45 pm.

School Crossing Near Miss Register

All parents and community members are encouraged to register with the school all cases of near misses on the School Crossings on Elizabeth and Hunter streets. The school is working with Singleton Shire Council to develop a proposal to upgrade the safety of these crossings and we need to produce relevant data.

When you contact the Office please list the street you were on; the approximate time; and the direction the vehicle was travelling. The Office can be contacted on 6571 2250.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2015 Open

Is it time for your child to commence their school education? Our books are now open to take names of all siblings and family members for Kindergarten 2015. If you would like to start your child at school next year please do not hesitate to contact the school to record your interest.

Positive Behaviour for Learning – PBL

Independent Problem Solving

Our children are very capable to attack challenges when we give them a chance. To assist them to become responsible citizens, our children should be provided the opportunities to consider problems and come up with suitable answers. I realise it can be simpler (and faster) to do tasks for our children (after all I have a 16 year old daughter) – however we will be doing them more good by letting them deal with situations in an independent manner.

P&C News

The next meeting of the Singleton Public School P&C will be held tonight:

Wednesday 7th May

in the School Library

at 7pm

All parents and carers are welcome to attend and participate in the P&C meetings. Please consider coming along to find out more about our wonderful school and how we can all help to make our children's education even better. Ideas on how we can make further improvements to our school are always most welcome.

Topics to be discussed include:

Election of P&C President (due to current President relocating for work commitments)

School Council Parent Member - election of 2nd parent representative

Uniform Shop Co-ordinator - confirmation

Formation of 2014 Fete Committee

Commitment to projects for 2014

Minutes from previous P&C meetings for 2014 are available on the schools website under Our School / P&C Information.

Zone Touch Trial

The date for the Zone Touch Trials have been changed again to Monday, 19 May. The trials will still be held from 4.30 pm till 7.30pm at Jefferson Park, Aberdeen. Permission notes have been sent home with further information.

Change of Athletics Carnival date

The date for the Singleton Public School Athletic Carnival for Years 3-6 has been changed to Tuesday 17th June. Permission notes and further details will be sent home closer to the date.

Maths Parents/Carers Workshop

Due to changes in dates for the Zone Touch Trial, the Maths Parent Workshop can now go ahead.

Date: 21st May 2014

Where: School Library

Time: 5 - 6pm

The workshop is targeting parents of Stage 1 and 2 but all are welcome! Parents and carers will be learning about jump, split and compensation strategies in addition and subtraction.

PSSA Tennis Knockout win!!

Congratulations to our School Tennis Team who defeated Muswellbrook South PS 8-0 in the 3rd round of the PSSA Knockout competition. Our boys were very dominant on the day and our girls started to rally and become quite consistent with their play. Our next match is against Barrington PS or Forster PS in a couple of weeks.

Thanks to our parents who took the time to drive our students to and from Muswellbrook. It was much appreciated.

 **Nutrition Snippet**

The simplest way

...to make Australia's Biggest Morning Tea healthy!

Date & Muesli Slice

Ingredients
 Olive or canola oil spray
 2 medium apples, skin on, core removed, coarsely grated
 1/3 cup water
 1/4 cup margarine
 2 cups dates, seeded
 2 cups natural muesli
 1/2 cup plain flour
 1/2 cup wholemeal plain flour
 1 tsp ground cinnamon



Method
 Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan forced) | Lightly spray a slice tin (approx. 25x30cm) with oil | Add apple, water, margarine and dates to a small saucepan and bring to the boil | Reduce heat, cover and simmer for a further 5 minutes until the apple is soft | Cook uncovered for a further 5 minutes and stir occasionally until mixture thickens to a paste-like consistency | Meantime, place muesli in a large frypan. Stir over low heat until lightly browned | Sift flours into a large bowl, returning husk remaining in the sieve to the bowl | Add cinnamon and muesli to the flours and mix to combine | Stir into the date mixture then spoon into prepared tin | Bake for 20 minutes until firm. | Cool in tin before cutting.

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

Eat It To Beat It

Uniform Shop Roster - Week 3, Term 2 2014

Mon 12/5/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Jackie Marsh, Renee MacDonald

Fri 16/5/14 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Kathy Lamph, Leane Knox

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

Canteen Roster - Week 3, Term 2 2014

Mon 12/5/14 Lyndal Barry, Penny Clancy

Tues 13/5/14 Rebecca Hobbs, 1 more helper please

Wed 14/5/14 Kerry Anne Baker, Kellie Della-Ca

Thurs 15/5/14 Karen Bull, Louise Cuttriss

Fri 16/5/14 Paula Stokes, Kim Carter, Mandy Ward

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

Information from the DEC

English refresher from School A to Z on Homonyms

Homonyms (also known as homographs) are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings.

They can be nouns, adjectives or verbs. The context gives them their meaning.

Ask your child for an example, like this one:

I prefer a fine *tip* on my pen.

He gave me a *tip* for the Melbourne Cup.

Don't *tip* the water on the floor.

You gave the waiter a generous *tip*.

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 Contact Number:

Boys and Dads Program

Our Boys and Dads program will start back up this term in Week 4 with some afternoon trips around town being a priority. An itinerary of the term plan will be sent out at the start of Week 4.

Active After School Sport

Active After School Sport started back this week (Monday 5th May) for students in Years 1-6. Students who are in Kindergarten will start from Week 3. Students who are in Kindergarten and who are doing Active After School Sport will need to meet at Miss Moon's classroom at 3.10pm each week and will be walked over to sport by Miss Moon.

A reminder that all students who participate in Active After School Sport need to have filled in the permission note which is available on the school website.

Thank you.

Joel Andrews

Active After School Sport Co-ordinator

Statement of Accounts

During the first few weeks each school term, the school sends home Statement of Accounts. These accounts have been sent home this week and may include outstanding voluntary School Contributions and voluntary P&C Levies. Other items that may be listed on these Statement of Accounts throughout the year include excursions, sports carnivals, visiting shows, etc. Thank you to those families who have already paid. The invoices were printed on Monday, 28 April so please disregard if you have made any payments since this time.

School Photos - updated

School photos will be taking place on Tuesday, 27 May for Kinder to Year 6. Family photos and group photos, eg, Student Leaders, Student Council and House Captains, will also be done on this day.

Personalised photo envelopes have been sent home to every child.

The photos will be taken by MSP Photography who use a pre-pay system for their photographic services either cash (correct money only), cheque (payable to MSP Photography) or you can now also make online payments (see the instructions on the photo envelope for full details).

The personalised photo envelope will give you the opportunity to order and pay for your children's photographs. **Please do not misplace this envelope.** MSP Photography offer a 100% money-back guarantee if you are not completely satisfied with photographs. This envelope needs to be filled in correctly and **returned to school on Photo Day Tuesday, 27 May for Kinder to Year 6.**

The correct money for each student can be placed in their individual envelope. However the payment for all students in a family can also be placed in one envelope providing ALL envelopes are handed into their class teacher with it clearly marked on each envelope the name and class of the child who has the money enclosed. The photo envelopes have a section towards the bottom of the envelope to include this information (eg "This envelope is empty, payment is enclosed with Joe Smith, 5R"). **THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR CANTEEN DOES NOT HANDLE MONEY OR CHANGE.** If paying for the whole family in one envelope, only one cheque is required for the total amount.

Family envelopes are now available from the school office. These envelopes will also need to be returned to school on the day. The family photos are for Singleton Public School students only.

Other group photos will be taken on the same day. Parents and carers will be able to order these later in the Term. A notice will appear in the newsletter when they are available to be ordered.

Please note that the school office will be closed from 8.30-9.00 am on Tuesday, 27 May while the staff photo is taken.

Full school winter uniform must be worn by all students, including navy socks and black shoes.

Premier's Reading Challenge

It is on again. Children can log on to the site to record the books they have read. Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 children will complete the challenge through their class. Year 3 to 6 students need to record their books individually. They need to read 20 books to complete the challenge and 15 of these books should come from the reading list.

Year 6 Canberra

On Monday, 12 May Year 6 depart the school for their Canberra excursion. Students are required to be at the school hall at 5.30 am sharp on Monday morning. The bus is expected to arrive back at school on Friday, 9 May at approximately 5.30 pm. The school will be updating the school website with the bus location and estimated time of arrival periodically on Friday afternoon. Notes with further information will be sent home with the Year 6 students.

Read More in May

Do you want to win some great prizes? Scholastic Australia is running the Read More in May competition. Go to this site for more information and to register. Not only will the child who reads for the most minutes win, but the school with the most minutes wins too! <http://readmoreinmay.scholastic.com.au/>

Singleton Town Library Visit

On the 21st and 22nd of May, Year 5 and 6 students will have a visit from Laura Bush from the town library. Laura will show students how to use the databases and other online services the library offers. Students also have the opportunity to become members of the library if they are not already. A membership form will be sent home with the students from Years 5 and 6. Forms need to come back to school by the 12th May. Membership is free to Singleton residents. Parents wishing to join can request a membership form from the town library or school library.

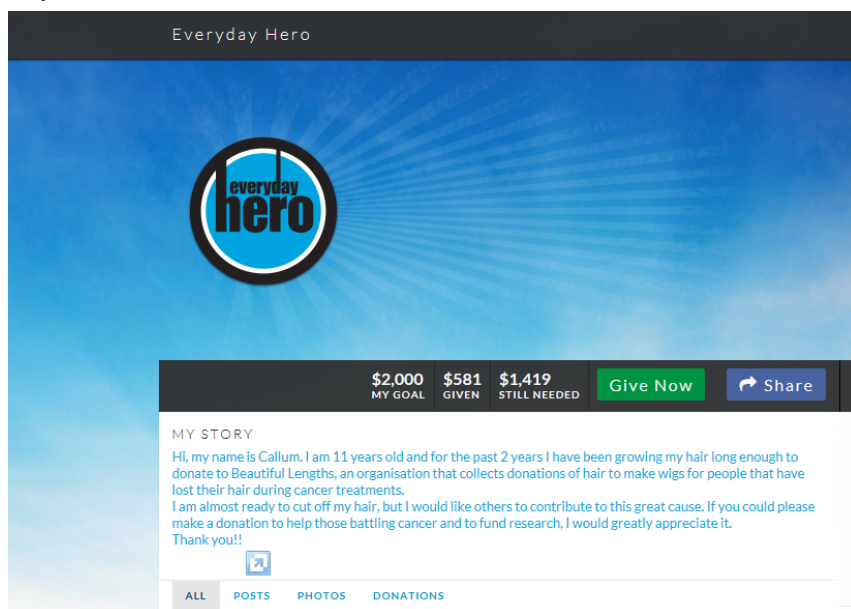
Callum's Hair Cut!!

Callum of Year 6 is raising money as well as donating his hair to Beautiful Lengths for people who lose their hair during cancer treatments. Callum will be having his hair cut at the School Disco tonight!! The funds raised will also be donated to this worthy cause. Please see below the information that Callum has on the internet on the Everyday Hero website - <https://give.everydayhero.com/au/rebecca-26>.

Hi, my name is Callum. I am 11 years old and for the past 2 years I have been growing my hair long enough to donate to Beautiful Lengths, an organisation that collects donations of hair to make wigs for people that have lost their hair during cancer treatments.

I am almost ready to cut off my hair, but I would like others to contribute to this great cause. If you could please make a donation to help those battling cancer and to fund research, I would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you!!



Uniform Shop

All Polo Shirts sizes are back in stock from size 4 through to 16.

Volunteers are always welcomed with open arms, if you can spare some time please call our new co-ordinator Nicole Furness on 0428889552 or leave your details with the ladies in the front office.

Please remember there is a uniform shop price list and order form on the Singleton Public School website, www.singleton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. Then simply click on 'Our School' and then 'P&C Information'.

Canteen News

Welcome back to school for Term 2! If you are able to come in and volunteer in the school canteen, please contact Nicole in the Canteen.

NAPLAN Information

"The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 May, students will take the 2014 NAPLAN tests.

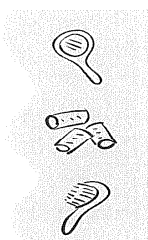
NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with a disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html>.

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child's results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au."

Disca



Theme: Crazy Hair

When: Wednesday 7th May

Time: K-2: 5-6pm 3-6: 6-7:30pm

Cost: \$4

See you there with crazy hair!

FREE MOVIE & FOOD!!!

ARE YOU AGED 16 – 18 YEARS?

Do you help

look after a Family Member or Friend who has a disability, mental illness or chronic medical condition?

Then...Chill Out at the Movies

"The Amazing Spider Man 2"

Meet New Friends
Enjoy Hot Finger Food
Feel Supported
Gather Information



WHERE: Event Cinemas,
Stockland Drive,
Stockland Super Centre, Glendale

WHEN: Saturday 24th May 2014
TIME: 12.00pm in Foyer for Lunch

COST: FREE!! - Includes Movie + Hot Finger Food
RSVP: ESSENTIAL - Monday 19th May 2014

Email: EduCare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au
Ph: 4921 4895 or Text: 0407 938 572

Proudly Sponsored by

nib foundation

Respite may be available by
contacting Commonwealth
Respite & Carelink Centre on
1800 052 222



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health District

Scholastic Bookclub

The school receives bookclub order forms from Scholastic which are sent home throughout the year via your child's class teacher. The children are given the return date by their teacher which is usually one or two weeks after the forms are received. The due date will also appear in the calendar on the front page of the newsletter. Should you wish to make an order, please complete the order form on the last page of the brochure and return to school with payment in an envelope or zip-lock bag. You can send cash, a cheque made payable to Scholastic Australia or alternatively pay by credit card direct to Scholastic using the instruction below.

Paying Bookclub by Credit Card??

If you would like to pay for your Scholastic Book club orders by credit card please note the following steps to take:

- To make credit card payments faster and more secure you must either pay Scholastic direct by phoning Freecall 1800 557 908 or;
- Online at www.scholastic.com.au/payment;
- A receipt number will then be provided, which needs to be recorded on the bottom of the order coupon and returned to the school office as normal;
- The school then sends that receipt/coupon to Scholastic so they can marry up your order with the payment.

Primary Ethics

Commencing in Term 2, Singleton Public School will become the first school in the area to offer Primary Ethics as part of its Special Religious Education (SRE) program. The program will initially be offered to students in Stage 1 and will be delivered by authorised presenter Mr Geoff Matthews during our regular scripture times. Mrs Jan Fallding is acting as the programs coordinator and she welcomes interested parents and carers to discuss the program with her if you have questions. Please note that for any child to participate in a Primary Ethics class that is offered, the school MUST receive a signed and dated note that clearly states that the child is to attend Primary Ethics.

Jan Fallding - Volunteer Primary Ethics Co-ordinator for Singleton PS - primaryethicsatps@gmail.com

Guitar Lessons Commencing

We have 15 students enrolled for guitar lessons with the guys from Singleton Sound Solutions. We have room for two more primary students if people are still interested in learning this instrument. Lessons will commence on Tuesday, 13 May 2014.

For a term cost of \$44 students will be able to access a weekly 30 minute lesson with four peers. Students will also be able to purchase a guitar on a payment plan so that they can learn and practice on their own instrument. Singleton Sound Solutions will also have 'borrow' instruments available at each lesson for students to use prior to committing to the purchase of an instrument.

Please return the attached interest slip to the school to register your interest in this program. Our tutors will be Nick Gibbs and/or Josh Hogan.

Guitar Lessons with Singleton Sound Solutions (return to school office)

My child _____ of class _____ is interested in being involved in the guitar lessons offered by Singleton Sound Solutions to be held at Singleton Public School. This program is supported by the school but is conducted solely by Singleton Sound Solutions on a group lesson basis.

Name _____ Contact _____ Signature _____



2013-2014 Family Energy Rebate

**DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!**

Apply before 5pm
Friday 13 June 2014



\$125*
TOWARDS
ENERGY
BILLS

2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM
<https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/>

* eligibility criteria apply

**APPLY
ONLINE
NOW!**

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the costs of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2013 – 2014 the rebate gives:

- A \$125 credit against electricity bills for eligible applicants who receive electricity from an electricity retailer.
- A \$137.50 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a caravan or mobile home park and receive electricity from the park operator.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

To be eligible you MUST:

- Be eligible for Family Tax Benefit A or B during 2012-2013 and have received a relevant payment; and
- Be the primary account holder of an electricity retailer, OR a long-term resident of a caravan or mobile park home, whose name appears on the electricity bills supplied by the park operator.

YOU CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO APPLY FOR THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE

- **ONLINE** – it takes a few minutes to submit and processing starts immediately.
- **PAPER** – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88

EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au

WEB www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate

FREE BBQ & DJ!

Families Week at Your Local Y!

Here at the Y we think it's important for all families to spend time together and have fun! So come and join us for our families week roller disco!

WHERE: Singleton Heights Sports Stadium
WHEN: Friday 16th May
TIME: 5:00pm–8:00pm
COST: \$5.00 per head or \$15 for a family of five
Prizes and giveaways for best dressed!

Come in your best disco gear and don't forget your roller skates or scooters! If you don't have any, that's okay! You can still come just to get down and boogie!!

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

Bushwalking

Guided bushwalks in Mt Royal National Park (50kms north of Singleton), Sat 17th May
Join our 3pm afternoon bushwalk and/or 6pm evening spotlight walk. Suitable for families. Each walk is 2 hours.

An opportunity to see world heritage rainforests and rare wildlife.

Conducted in association with National Parks Association of NSW.

Free, but bookings are essential.

Contact Martin & Jan at Callicoma Hill Cabins & Camping, Mt Royal Road, Carrowbrook

Ph 6571 1208 info@calli.com.au

www.calli.com.au



YOUR LOCAL PCYC PRESENTS

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

Thurs 8 May 2014

When: 6pm to 8pm

Where: Singleton PCYC
(High st, Singleton)

Primary school age: K to year 6

Cost \$5 per child

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES | DANCE COMPS

NO ALCOHOL | NO DRUGS | NO PASSOUTS

All Blue Light events are drug and alcohol free and supervised by Police Officers



www.pcykansw.org.au

Uniform Shop

Our P&C Uniform Shop is open on Monday and Friday mornings between 8.30 am and 9.30 am.



Congratulations to our assembly award winners for Term 2 Week 1, 2014

CLASS AWARD RECIPIENTS K - 6

Assembly Awards

KL	Nesha Ciah	KM	Sophie Jessica
KS	Nash Danny Boy	1A	Dominic Charli
1G	Lachlan Riley	1DL	Shayla Seth
2B	Jett Makayla	2P	Alicia John
2Z	Jack Shanae	3H	Hamish Alaura Jordan
3P	Elyse Liam Dustin	3/4S	Hannah Emily Aaron
4A	Ruby Ashlee Angus	5E	Hayden Charlie Hannah
5RV	Ethan Natalie Sophie	6D	Lachlan Jessica Darcy
6M	Steve Bridget Keelie	Support Unit	

Singleton Stars

Early Stage 1 Kaitlin KS

Stage 1 Nick 2B

Stage 2 Coby 4A

Stage 3 Olivia 5RV

Super Citizens

KS Kayley

3/4S Tairawa

1G Hamish

5RV Olivia

2Z Hamish

SU Ashton

Class work from 2B

