

Paxton Public School

Member of the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools

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"Safety, Teamwork, Achievement, Respect"

Term 4 – Week 8 Friday, 2 December 2016

Principal's Report

This newsletter is our last one for the year and contains information about the remaining events for the year as well as some information for 2017.

Last assembly for the term

Next Wednesday 7th December at 2pm is our last assembly for the year. We are hoping to have it under the COLA but this will be dependent on the weather. If it is too hot we will hold it in the 4/5/6 room in air conditioned comfort. At this assembly we will hear from Year 5 students who are interested in being school leaders for 2017. We will also hand out our usual assembly awards. If your child has 10 merit awards please hand them into the office so we can organise a gold award for them before the assembly.

Presentation Night

Our annual end of year ceremony to support student achievement will be held on Monday 12th December from 6pm. The assembly will be held under the COLA and a disco will be held after the disco. There is no cost for students to attend the disco, but we will have cans of drink and packets of chips available to purchase.



Year 6 farewell

Our Yr 6 students along with their families, Yr 5 students and staff will get together on Thursday 15th December to celebrate their achievements at Paxton Bowling Club. Food orders went home with students this week and need to be returned by Tuesday 6th December and payment needs to be finalised by Thursday 8th December.

Last day for students 2016

The last day for students to attend school in 2016 is Friday 16th December. This is the class party day and where we farewell our Yr 6 students before they head off to high school. Please join us for our tunnel of farewell at 2:50pm to farewell our lovely Yr 6 students.

Lost property – jumpers, jumpers, jumpers

The pile of lost property items is getting bigger and bigger. We do hold up jumpers and other items for students to identify as theirs but we still have a pile. If you know your child has misplaced a jumper or two please look through the lost property box in the office.

Staff Development Day

Monday 19th December and Tuesday 20th December 2016 are designated professional development days for staff to engage in programs to support learning programs. On Monday 19th December teaching staff will attend the professional development course *Stronger Smarter*. This course will provide teachers with strategies and information to support all students in our school. Earlier this year, the teaching staff attended a course linked to 21st Century Learning on a Saturday. We took this day in lieu of Tuesday 20th December. Please note that the school office will open on both Monday and Tuesday in accordance with Department of Education requirements. Students are not to attend either of these days.



Class structure for 2017

I am currently talking to teachers about the structure of classes for next year. This year we had 3 classes (K/1/2, 2/3/4 and 4/5/6) and this gave us flexibility in planning classes to best suit student needs. We appreciate your support with this and hope to have as much information to parents as we can before the end of the year.

Enrolment in 2017

If your family is planning on going on a holiday in the first few days of school next year, please contact our office so that we can make arrangements for your child to be counted as part of our 2017 enrolment information. This information is submitted in the first few weeks and is vital for our planning procedures.

Returning dates for 2017

- Staff return to school on Friday 27th January 2017 and this is a staff development day.
- The first day for students is Monday 30th January 2017.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our students, families, staff and community for their contributions to what has been a terrific 2016 school year at Paxton Public School. A special mention to our canteen volunteers and P&C, who give their time freely to provide services to our students and staff. We appreciate everything you do for our school.

Kind regards, Michelle Murphie – Principal

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements at last week's assembly.



| K/1/2 | |
|---------------------|---|
| Noah Grunsell | Building an excellent house in Science |
| Riley Young | Phrased and fluent reading |
| Cameron Oxenbridge | Phrased and fluent reading |
| 2/3/4 | |
| Isabella Ling | Improvements in writing |
| Caleb Martin | Enthusiasm during our Maths song |
| Benjamin Ling | Achieving his pen licence |
| Jacob Ball | 10 nights of home reading |
| Dominic Peace | Achieving his pen licence |
| Nicole Siggins | Achieving her pen licence |
| Hamish Membrey | Using great thinking skills to build a house in Science |
| 4/5/6 | |
| Jamie Dawes | Excellent effort in Geograhpy |
| Chaise Grunsell | 20 nights home reading |
| Jordan Macey | Improved expression in reading |
| Amy-Sky Cruickshank | Demonstrating creativity in everything she does |
| Hayley Ball | Achieving a pen licence |
| Paxton Star Award | |
| Girls Cricket Team | |



-Preloved Uniform Pool-

Do you have Paxton Public School uniform items you no longer need? Why not pass them on?

If you have clean items in good preloved condition and would like to donate them to the Uniform Pool, please leave them at the school office. All items will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C

~ Together we can make a difference ~



| Wk | Date | Upcoming Events |
|------|-----------|--|
| 8 | Fri 2/12 | Bike Day |
| 9 | Mon 5/12 | Kindergarten Orientation 9am-3pm |
| | Wed 7/12 | Last assembly & school leader speeches 2pm |
| | Thu 8/12 | Nobby's Beach K-6 Surf Safety Day |
| | Fri 9/12 | Mini Fair 2pm-3pm |
| 10 | Mon 12/12 | Kindergarten Orientation 9am-3pm |
| | | Presentation Night 6pm |
| | Tue 13/12 | K/1 & 2/3/4 Movie Day |
| | Wed 14/12 | Year 6 Fun Day |
| | Thu 15/12 | Year 6 Farewell Dinner 6pm |
| | Fri 16/12 | Party Day |
| 11 | | Last day of term for students |
| | Mon 19/12 | Staff Development Day |
| | Tue 20/12 | Staff Development Day |
| 2017 | | |
| 1 | Term 1 | |
| | Fri 27/1 | Staff Development Day |
| 2 | Mon 30/1 | Students return to school |

K/1/2 News

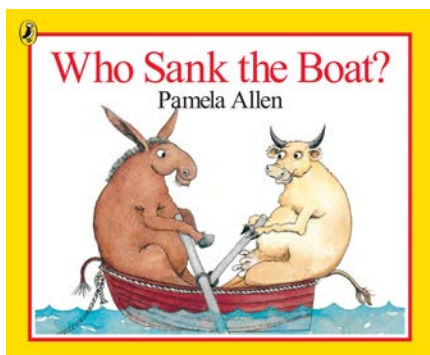
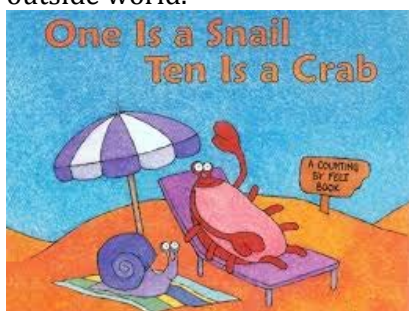
Linking Children's Literature to Math

This week in K/1 we have focussed on linking a book to our maths lessons. We used the texts *One is a Snail Ten is a Crab* by April Pulley Sayre, to enhance the children's understanding of Friends of 20 and 30 and Friends of 40 and 50 for Year 1. We also used *Who Sank the Boat?* By Pamela Allen to help develop the children's problem solving skills. These two books have now become favourites in K/1 as they really made our maths lessons come alive. ☺

According to research, using children's literature in math lessons can enhance learning in many ways. It can help build an intangible perception of math skills through illustrations, as well as help students build problem solving skills. In addition to that, children's literature can:

- Provide meaningful context for mathematical content.
- Review a mathematics concept or specific skill.
- Promote the development of number sense.
- Model an interesting problem.
- Explain a mathematics concept.
- Promote critical thinking.
- Increase the level of interest.

Math becomes more interesting when a child can make a math connection in a story. When children are reading or listening to a book, they learn to recognize that math is used all around them. They begin to use their prior knowledge to connect math concepts to the outside world.



Regards,
Corrin Shoesmith

Learning with Miss W

Around the World Day

Last week students, parents and teachers went on a journey around the world. We were lucky enough to see 3 different countries, with our passports ready we visited Fiji, Japan and Mexico.



Miss W took us on a tropical vacation in Fiji where we learnt how to say hello, good morning and goodbye in Fijian. As our craft activity we made flower leis for around our necks and some students made head pieces.

Our next stop was Japan with Mrs Clark and we got to immerse ourselves in the Japanese culture. Mrs Clark taught us the Japanese art of Origami, which we loved. We also made the Japanese flag to take home.



Our final destination was Mexico with Mrs Murphie. We got our dance on as Mrs Murphie taught us the Mexican Hat Dance.

Miss Lampe and Bailey cooked us a traditional Around the World Day feast. We had tacos from Mexico, jam biscuits from Japan and tropical fruit punch from Fiji.

In the afternoon we played traditional Around the World games, which included learning how to play marbles and dance statues.



Thank you, Miss W

2/3/4 "RAP UP"

Our last newsletter for the year! What a wonderful year we've had in 2/3/4!

Mathematics

Last week on assembly, the class were FANTASTIC at their performance of "Parallel Lines" (including singing, rapping, dancing and robotics). We had a whole lot of fun practising and I would be surprised if we ever forget the song – and more importantly, the definition of parallel, perpendicular, intersecting and rectangular lines! This week, we have been revising about angles. And yes, we found a song!

Literacy

We have been busy renovating our room to create our 'In Class Library' and our inviting learning space. It has improved the feel of our Literacy Groups, which have been very productive. Have a look at our little readers! ☺



Around The World Day

2/3/4 enjoyed 'Around The World Day' and like always, I took a beautiful photo of them! We won't point out that a few were camera shy! ☺

Thank you for a wonderful Year 2/3/4!
Mrs Clark☺

What's the Scoop from 4/5/6

Debating

We've been practising our debating skills this past fortnight, findings positive and negative arguments for a range of different topics. We haven't always agreed with the topic or side of argument we were given but we did hear some good points of view.



Christmas activities

Next week we are starting our Christmas activities. This involves a grid with 20 activities that include writing, maths, sport, craft and cultures of the world.

Mini-fair

Our annual mini-fair is on next Friday 9th December from 2pm – 3pm. Most students have returned their stall permission notes. I will be talking to students about their stall over the next few days as we need to get everything organised.

4/5/6 fun day

Our Year 6 students have chosen to spend the day at Charlestown Square playing laser tag and the arcade games at TimeZone. Because of all the fantastic fundraising we've had this year, these activities are free to the students in our class. Students can choose to bring lunch from home or they can purchase lunch from one of the takeaway restaurants in Charlestown's food court – Subway, KFC, Oporto, McDonald's etc... Staff will provide transport and the permission note will come out at the end of next week (wk 9).



As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to say a big thanks to the students of 4/5/6 for always making my days enjoyable. One of the best rewards of teaching is watching young people grow over the year in all areas. Teaching is certainly a rewarding career. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your children's lives – they certainly have put many smiles on my face throughout the year.

Regards, Michelle Murphie

COMMUNITY NEWS

Funky Junk Flea Markets Presents
Christmas Twilight Markets





FRIDAY DECEMBER 16
4PM - 8PM

Donate A Gift For The Hospital Christmas Appeal

Peden's Hotel Cessnock

E: mclennancharlie@yahoo.com.au



will oneil
tennis

XMAS TENNIS CAMP

Tuesday 20TH & Wednesday 21ST DECEMBER
9AM – 3PM
 (Ages 5 – 16yrs all levels)

All are welcome to come along and join us for some fun packed days of tennis coaching, lots of games & Xmas Cheer!!

AS IT'S A BUSY TIME OF YEAR BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL BY 6TH DEC

Cost Per Child - \$45 per day (can come either 1 or 2 days)

\$25 half day for the younger ones (9am – 12pm)

Children are to bring along: racquet (we can provide a racquet if needed) hat, sunscreen, comfortable clothes, joggers, morning/afternoon tea & their own water bottle

Fruit will be provided throughout the day

Sausage Sizzle lunch will be provided on both days

CESSNOCK TENNIS COURTS
 Aberdare Rd, Cessnock
Bookings are essential

sonya 0433 782284

Email: willoneiltennis@bigpond.com

Summer holiday activities @ your library

Pre-booking essential - no phone bookings, tickets on sale early December.
 Numbers strictly limited

Santa Story time - ages 2-6

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|------|
| Tuesday December 20 | Cessnock Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | FREE |
| Wednesday December 21 | Kurri Kurri Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | FREE |

Christmas themed storytime with a very special visitor!

Christmas Craft - ages 5-12

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|------|
| Monday December 19 | Kurri Kurri Library | 3.00 – 4.00 | FREE |
| Tuesday December 20 | Cessnock Library | 3.00 – 4.00 | FREE |

Come along to this free craft session and make some special Christmas decorations

Kids Code - Introduction to HTML and CSS - ages 9+

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|------|
| Thursday January 12 | Cessnock Library | 12.00 – 1.00 | FREE |
| Friday January 27 | Kurri Kurri Library | 2.00 – 3.00 | FREE |

Learn the basics of computer programming, and how HTML and CSS work together to create web pages - sponsored by Cessnock Leagues club. **YOU NEED YOUR OWN EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THIS WORKSHOP**

Xbox and Board Games - ages 7+

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|------|
| Monday January 9 | Kurri Kurri Library | 2.00 – 4.00 | FREE |
| Tuesday January 10 | Cessnock Library | 2.00 – 4.00 | FREE |

Bored? Join us for an afternoon of board games and battling it out on the Xbox!

Superheroes Cartooning Workshop - ages 7+

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|------|
| Thursday January 12 | Cessnock Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | FREE |
| Thursday January 12 | Kurri Kurri Library | 3.00 – 4.00 | FREE |

Learn how to draw your favourite superheroes, and maybe create a few of your own!

Alien Mask Making Workshop - ages 5-12

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------|
| Wednesday January 11 | Kurri Kurri Library | 2.00 – 3.00 | \$3.00 |
| Friday January 13 | Kurri Kurri Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | |

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|----------------------|------------------|--------------|--------|
| Monday January 16 | Cessnock Library | 12.00 – 1.00 | \$3.00 |
| Wednesday January 18 | Cessnock Library | 2.00 – 3.00 | |

Create a papier mache alien mask that's out of this world in this two-part workshop

Robotics Coding Workshop - ages 7+

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|------|
| Monday January 16 | Kurri Kurri Library | 3.00 – 4.00 | FREE |
| Tuesday January 17 | Cessnock Library | 2.00 – 3.00 | FREE |

Meet Cessnock City Library's new robots! Learn how to make them move in this introductory robotics workshop, sponsored by Cessnock Leagues Club. **YOU NEED YOUR OWN EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THIS WORKSHOP**

Superhero Science Experiments - ages 7+

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|--------|
| Thursday January 19 | Cessnock Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | \$3.00 |
| Friday January 20 | Kurri Kurri Library | 10.00 – 11.00 | \$3.00 |

Explore superhero powers in this action-packed (and possibly messy) workshop for keen young scientists!

Movie and Craft - ages 5-12

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|------|
| Tuesday January 24 | Cessnock Library | 2.00 – 4.00 | FREE |
| Wednesday January 25 | Kurri Kurri Library | 2.00 – 4.00 | FREE |

Enjoy an afternoon at the movies - bring along a large t-shirt and make your own superhero cape and mask!

Please ring Cessnock Library 49 934399 or Kurri Kurri Library 49 371638 to enquire, or visit our website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/library.

Sandy Ryan
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 EMAIL: Sandra.ryan@cessnock.nsw.gov.au