



Living World in Literacy

We have been having fun incorporating our writing with our Science topic, Living World! During the last two weeks we have learnt about the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital and what its volunteers do to help care for sick and injured koalas. Students worked through the writing process to develop an informative text about a koala they had found. In the stories, the koalas were named after the location they were injured, as well as after the person who found them for example, Paxton Taleana (by Emi-Jay). Students learnt about the different diseases koalas can catch (like eye disease) as well as some of the common injuries they suffer. They also learnt about the rehabilitation process and how they are, if possible, released at the same location as they were found.



Revising Makes our Writing Better!

In the photos above, you can see work samples of our revising in 'Authorial' and 'Secretarial'. Students are getting used to using a blue pencil to make their writing sound more descriptive and informative and a red pencil to fix up spelling and punctuation. When students are having trouble spelling a word, they have the opportunity to complete 'Word Work' to get their brain in the zone. Keep revising Paxton C!

Subtraction in Mathematics

Students have been jumping and splitting all over the place in Maths! It's wonderful to see the connection students have made between addition and subtraction. Well done!

Mrs Clark—Paxton C



Personalised Learning Plans

A few weeks ago I sent home every child's Personalised Learning Plan that had 3 goals I believe would be a great focus for this term. The plans were sent home for parents/carers to have their view and to comment on the goals drafted up. Please make sure that you read the plan, make comments if you want to and then return them to school. The goals will direct the learning in the classroom and will be reviewed and adjusted ready for Term 2.



Sport Captains and Vice Captains

Last week we held the elections for our Sport Captains and Vice Captains. The successful students were announced and given their badges at our recent assembly. Congratulations to these students and I know you'll do a great job assisting with PE/Sport, handing out equipment and assisting with the upcoming carnivals.



Paxton/Mulbring Combined Team for PSSA

This year we have once again joined up with Mulbring Public School to make teams for a variety of sports within the PSSA competition. These sporting events are not compulsory so parents/carers can choose if you want your child to participate. We will always send a member of staff such as an SLSO to accompany the students, but sometimes the supervising teacher will be from Mulbring. Our students know the teachers at Mulbring PS due to both schools attending Small Schools excursions. As this is a school representation activity, student behaviour will play a role in whether a student participates in the activity. I will contact parents/carers if concerns about their child's behaviour could restrict their involvement. Participation notes will always be sent home for each event and if you have any questions about these events please contact the office or myself.



Regards, Michelle Murphie



Paxton Public School

SAFETY, TEAMWORK, ACHIEVEMENT AND RESPECT

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Term 1-Week 6 Friday 9th March 2018

Principal's Report

Staff Development Day Term 1 - change of date

Please be aware that the Staff Development Day for Term 2 which was scheduled for Monday 30th April **has been moved to Friday 11th May** (Friday Wk 2, Term 2). The date change is due to the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) holding a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Conference for teachers from our Cessnock schools to attend. **This means that all students and staff will return for the first day of Term 2 on Monday 30th April. Students will then not attend school on Friday 11th May.** We thank you for your support in this matter and if you have any questions about this please chat to Leanne or myself.



NAPLAN: disability adjustments

In May our Year 3 & 5 students will sit the NAPLAN. Parents/carers and schools can request special provisions such as a scribe and extra time for students with a disability. If you would like more information about this please speak to Mrs Clark (Year 3) or myself (Year 5).

School carpark

Earlier this term I received an email from the Department of Education related to parents parking on school grounds and the possible risks for student safety. To ensure we were meeting the needs of our families I had a meeting with the Department of Education's Work Health and Safety Consultant and Cessnock City Council representatives to discuss parking out the front of the school. We discussed the upgrades that Cessnock City Council made to our 'kiss and drop zone', kerbside parking that exists outside the school gates and the footpath which is great for students who ride their bikes and our walkers. We also discussed the possibility of a disabled parking space within the current school carpark. I will continue to have conversations with the Workplace Safety Manager about the disabled car parking and if any of our parents/carers believe that the creation of this space would assist you in bringing the child in your care to school more safely please come and speak to me. Parents/carers who do end up parking in this disabled parking area must comply with the council practices and display the related parking permit.



Voluntary contribution

Every year the Department of Education allocates a budget to schools to assist in the implementation of programs and activities aimed at improving student outcomes across curriculum areas and also wellbeing programs. To support these program further, parents/carers are asked to contribute \$25.00 per child which is capped at \$50.00 per family. This money will go towards the purchase of Literacy and Numeracy resources for classrooms. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Scripture

Scripture started again last week and is run in two groups (1) Paxton S and C classes and (2) Paxton M class. Scripture sessions occur approximately once a month and are provided by Leslie Wells from Baptist Church and Elsie Impey from Australian Christian Church, with teachers supervising the lessons. If you do not want your child to attend scripture sessions please contact the school.

Easter info



Parents/carers are invited to attend our Easter celebrations on Thursday 29th March. We will have an assembly from 2pm that will include our normal assembly awards, along with an Easter Hat Parade and the announcement of our colouring competition. The P&C will be selling cupcakes and announcing the raffle winners, while our Year 6 students will sell drinks as part of their fundraising this year. We hope you can join us!

Physical activity policy

This term staff will be reviewing our school's *Sport and Physical Activity* policy. A main element of the policy is that students in Year K-6 are provided with opportunities to participate in a minimum of 150 mins of physical activity per week. Students will participate in organised PE and sport activities to meet the requirements.



Kind regards, Michelle Murphie (Principal)

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements.



Paxton S class	
Jaxzen Ling	Always trying his best
Connor Membrey	Working hard in writing
Olivia Jobson	Always trying her best
Paxton C class	
Evan Nugent	Fantastic spelling
Phoenix Dening	Writing very informative texts on koalas
Deklan Martin	Giving his best when working on challenging tasks
Paxton M class	
Kaydence Brown	Great recall and application of trading skills in subtraction
Caleb Martin	Great demonstration of subtraction skills
Hamish Membrey	Demonstrating his knowledge of place value to solve subtraction questions
Principal's Awards	
Makayla Ball	Working extremely hard in all areas of her learning in Paxton C
Paxton Star Awards	
Noah Grunsell	A fantastic effort in Mathematics with addition and subtraction (Achievement)
Samantha Oxenbridge	Being organised to be a productive learner (Achievement)
Halie Armstrong	Consistently showing respect



Student Banking

Student banking day is every Friday. If you would like information on joining your child up with a Youthsaver account please see Leeanne in the office.



-Easter Hot Cross Bun Drive -

The P&C are hosting a 'Hot Cross Bun' drive for those interested in enjoying some delicious Thompson's treats, while helping the school at the same time.

An order form was sent home on Monday and must be returned to school with correct payment, by 9am Wednesday March 21st to ensure delivery before Easter.

Orders will be available for collection from the school canteen on Wednesday March 28th from 2.30pm.

- Easter Raffle -

During last week's general meeting, it was decided that in order to offer families a raffle and a Hot Cross Bun drive in the lead up to Easter, we will not seek donations for the raffle, as we have done in previous years.

The P&C will purchase Easter goodies to form 10 raffle prizes. Offering major prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd with minor prizes from 4th to 10th.

Raffle tickets are being sent home and extra books are available from the office on return of original allocation and payment.

- General Meeting -

Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday March 28th from 2pm in the school canteen.

A couple of items from last week's meeting require further discussion and confirmation.

If you have anything you'd like to discuss or you'd just like to stay informed, please join us.

- Canteen -

Sincere thanks to Andrea and Michelle, for volunteering their time to assist in operating the canteen. Your time is appreciated by all.

Thanks!



Medication practices

In line with the Department of Education's policy and practices relating to the administration of medication parents/carers need to fill out a form for every time our staff give medication to students. This involves long term administration as well as a one off. Please see Leeanne for more information and the required forms that need to be filled in before we can administer any medication.



Attendance practices and procedures

Parents/carers are reminded that they must provide a reason for their child's absence within 7 days or a notification of an 'unexplained absence' will be recorded against their child's attendance information. Thank you to parents/carers who have provided this information either in person, over the phone, by a text or in writing.



Wk	Date	Upcoming Events
7	Tue 13/3	PSSA girls cricket
	Wed 14/3	PSSA boys cricket School disco 5pm-6.30pm
	Thu 15/3	Kitchen Garden program starts for Paxton M
8	Mon 19/3	Yr 4-6 webinar National Day Against Violence 2pm
	Wed 21/3	Harmony Day
	Fri 23/3	School photos
9	Thu 29/3	Easter activities and assembly 2pm
	Fri 30/3	Good Friday-public holiday
10	Mon 2/4	Easter Monday-public holiday
	Thu 5/4	Writers Festival Yrs 3-6 Scripture 2.30pm
	Fri 6/4	PBL reward-Obstacool

Paxton S class

Guided Reading Groups

In the past weeks we have started guided reading groups in Paxton S. As the children build their word recognition and word attack skills, the resulting increases in fluency are reflected in a growing emphasis on comprehension of the text read. Literacy groups seem to be a favourite of the children and each they are very keen to get started! Reading is very much the core of our work in Kinder and Year 1 and I thank you for such a great start with home reading! The goal is to make reading a positive experience for all and to instill a love of reading in your child.

The Learning Environment

Our learning environment is looking fabulous as the children's work is being displayed to create purposeful learning walls. By sharing their work they are learning from each other and gaining a sense of identity and belonging in our space.



Paxton S would like send a big congratulations to the Armstrong family on the birth of their beautiful baby girl. Halie is a very proud big sister!

Regards, Corrin Shoesmith