

Narwee Public School

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Term 1 – Week 3

Wednesday 13th February 2013

Principal's Report

Many important notes are sent home each Wednesday in our school newsletter. These can also be found on the school's website.

When we are holding a special event or excursion and notes or money are required there is listed on our notes a closing date for students to return notes and money. A small number of students unfortunately continually need to be reminded about the closing date and often have to be chased up by their teacher, office staff or myself. This is not satisfactory as it wastes our time and creates unnecessary administration work.

I kindly request parents and carers make a priority of reading our newsletter and adhering to the closing dates set. It is unfair on those who do the right thing for latecomers to attain the benefit of participation in many of our activities.

Please remember that parking in our school grounds is **not permitted**. A number of people have been disregarding our request and are driving into the school to drop off or pick up their children. This is causing safety issues for students and community members. It is important we all follow the rules and be good role models to our children.

Last week I listed classes and staff for this year. I would also like to welcome back Mrs Wells our Librarian and Ms Cairnduff who will be filling different roles and will also be taking dance groups. An error was listed in last week's newsletter and should have read Mrs Tucker as our ESL teacher and Mrs Muffett as our Learning Difficulties teacher.

Rene Demos – Principal

Notes Due Back

- **Contact Details Form** – due back by **Friday 17th February**.
- **Work Books** – note and payment due back by **Wednesday 20th February**.
- **Book Club** – order form and payment due back by **Wednesday 20th February**.

Term Calendar

Upcoming Events at Narwee Public School
Please put these dates in your diary.

Term 1, Week 3

Thursday 14 th February	Swimming Carnival
Thursday 14 th February	Eye Screening

Term 1 Week 4

Wednesday 20 th February	Work Book Sale Day
Wednesday 20 th February	P&C Meeting – 7.00pm
Wednesday 20 th February	Book Club Due Back
Friday 22 nd February	Scripture Commences
Friday 22 nd February	PSSA Commences

Term 1, Week 5

Tuesday 26 th February	Evacuation Drill
Wednesday 27 th February	Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 Information Morning
Friday 1 st March	Clean Up Day
Friday 1 st March	PSSA – Round 2

Term 1, Week 6

Friday 8 th March	PSSA – Round 3
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Term 1, Week 7

Friday 15 th March	PSSA – Round 4
Friday 15 th March	Stewart House Bags Due

Term 1, Week 8

Tuesday 19 th March	Harmony Day
Wednesday 20 th March	P&C Meeting – 7.00pm
Friday 22 nd March	Combined Easter Service
Friday 22 nd March	PSSA – Round 5

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at our last assembly.

Bill (3L)	Ismail (2C)
Benjamin (1/2C)	Zahra (3L)
Anson (4/5B)	George (4/5B)
Amira (2C)	Omar (3L)
Layla (1L)	Demi (5/6K)
Lillian (4/5B)	Savvas (5/6K)
Mohamad (5/6K)	Pauline (1/2C)
Ethan (1L)	Ashleigh (5/6F)
Shareef (2/3S)	Aimee (2/3S)
Jacquie (3/4R)	Aivy (3/4R)
Pafusi (3/4R)	Corey (5/6F)
Brandon (2/3S)	

Stage 3 Community Helpers - Reading

As you are aware, reading skills are essential across all Key Learning Areas and form an important part of class programs. Stage 3 teachers are asking for volunteers to support specifically targeted students with one on one reading practice sessions.

As this program is based on student needs, it is possible you may not be working with students from your own child's class. Any support would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs Koletti – Assistant Principal

PSSA Sport

Season 1 of PSSA for students in Years 3 – 6 will commence on **Friday 22nd February**.

Once teams have been chosen permission notes and code of conduct notes will be sent home. Please read through these notes with your child.

All notes must be returned to school no later than **Thursday 21st February**. Without the return of these notes your child will not be able to participate.

Mrs Rizzov



The Construction Club

I have set up a new club this year called 'The Construction Club'. The club aims to promote cooperative learning and creativity through building and designing models.

The club will meet once a week for an hour and will allow students to create models out of Lego and other building materials. The group will work on large diorama together in order to develop important modelling skills and techniques.

Last Thursday was the first meeting and already the club has over 20 members. I would like to encourage all students in Years 5 & 6 to join.

Mr Forman

P&C News

Hip Hip

Hoorah and Halleluiah – thank goodness for school. I cannot tell you how excited I was when there were 'no more sleeps' and the first day of a new school year was here. I can't believe I actually missed the morning drama (screaming) of getting my girl up, lunch made, dressed, fed, teeth brushed and ready for school.

To those students and parents/carers who are returning for another great year – welcome back. To the new parents/carers and students that have joined our little school this year.....welcome, welcome. I remember my daughter's first day at school. It was only last year and since that day we have both learnt so much and made so many great friends.....we are both big fans of school.

The P&C has a very full calendar of fundraising events planned and our committee of committed (a little crazy) parents would like to let you know who we are. The first P&C meeting for 2013 will be held in Café 52 (new café opposite Caltex) on Wednesday 20th February at 7.00pm. We welcome all parents/carers to come along and meet the members of the P&C committee and participate in some general discussion about what is on our agenda for Term 1. We really look forward to seeing you there – the more the merrier we say.

Parents/carers – it is very important that you read the school newsletter every week. The newsletter is the best way to find out what is going on in our school and also to keep up with what the P&C are doing. The P&C will let you know what we are up to and even more importantly when we have meetings. Again I can't stress how much we would like to see you attend one or all meetings – life is busy but our children and their education is so important.

Cerise Packer – P&C President

House Captains

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected to lead their sports houses this year.

Currawong

House Captain – **Mohammed** (5/6K)

Vice Captains – **Danial** (5/6K) & **Sadek** (5/6F)

Kingfisher

House Captain – **Aliyah** (5/6F) & **Kalvin** (5/6K)

Vice Captain – **Livai** (5/6F)

Kookaburra

House Captains – **Fatima** (5/6F) & **Kaine** (5/6F)

Vice Captains – **Demi** (5/6K) & **Kauthar** (5/6F)

Magpie

House Captains - **Ashleigh** (5/6F) & **Jack** (5/6F)

Vice Captain – **Kalib** (5/6K)

Work Book Sale Day

Work Book Sale Day will be held next Wednesday 20th February.

All notes and payment need to be returned by **Wednesday 20th February**. A receipt will be issued to all students for their books.

Books will not be issued to students until the school has received payment. If you have misplaced your child's note, a new one can be downloaded from our school website.

2013 Homework Planner

Kids and families run more smoothly when there's a plan. The 2013 homework and study calendar includes key dates and school holidays.

You can print it out month by month, or by the whole year.

Find out more at:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner>

Doing Well In Class

An expert panel shares tips about how parents can help their younger and older kids reach their full potential at school and motivate them for learning. Watch the video at:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/getting-off-to-a-good-start-chapter-one>

Stewart House Bags

Stewart House Bags have been sent home with all students. Stewart House conducts two clothing appeals throughout the year.

All wearable clothing collected is used for welfare work while the remainder is used for industrial purposes.

If you have any clothing that you no longer wear, please place it in the bag provided and return it to school no later than **Friday 15th March**.

Please do not leave bags after this date.

When returning the bags to school, please place them outside the disabled toilet which is located on 'D' Block next to Mrs Rizzov's classroom

8 Ways To Get Your Kids Organised

Are you ready for morning madness, late homework, yesterday's half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.

Find out more at:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/eight-great-ways-to-get-your-kids-organised-for-school>

Book Club

Book Club Orders are due back by Wednesday 20th February. If you are ordering a book for your child please ensure the order form is filled out correctly with your child's name and class on the top.

The order needs to be returned to your child's class teacher in an envelope with the correct money enclosed.

School Tip

Let us know if you have any special circumstances.

Any changes to your child's family situation can impact on their emotional and academic well-being. Inform your child's teacher or principal about any changed circumstance so that your child can be supported if necessary. Examples of special circumstances include the birth of a sibling, divorce or the death of a loved one.

Travel Passes

The School Student Transport Scheme can provide free travel on trains and buses to and from school for eligible students.

If you are unsure if you are eligible please see Mrs Dewsnap in the front office who will be able to help you.

Mobile Phones

The use of mobile phones and other electronic communication devices is not permitted during school hours.

All students that bring these items to school must sign them in at the front office each morning and then collect them after school.

School Attendance

Did you know that if your child misses as few as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a whole year of education?

By law, you are required to send your child to school every day. If your child has to be away from school for any reason, please send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence as soon as possible.

If your child arrives at school late or needs to leave early, you will need to go to the office to sign your child in or out. If you are having problems getting your child to attend school regularly and on time, please talk to your child's teacher or Principal.

Cyber-Safety Tips

Safe Passwords

Encourage your child to set passwords that are easy to remember but hard to guess. The best passwords mean something memorable to you, but wouldn't be randomly guessed by others. Selected passwords that are:

- **Long** – the more characters your password has, the lower the probability that it can be randomly cracked.
- **Diverse** – use a range of different characters including capital letters, numbers and special characters (like a \$).

More tips at:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/technology/cybersafety/yr2009/passwords.php

Homework

Homework reinforces work done at school and helps develop skills such as research and time management.

Parents and carers have the opportunity to help through a positive and supportive approach to homework.

Some homework tips include:

- Support your child in setting aside time each day for homework.
- Provide a dedicated place for homework and study if possible.
- Encourage your child to read and take an interest in current events.
- Take an active interest in your child's homework.
- Plan the work to be done and the time to be spent on each task.
- Taking short breaks between homework tasks.
- Praising your child for their efforts, not just their results.
- Alert the school to any domestic circumstances or extracurricular activities which may need to be taken into consideration when homework is being set or marked.
- If problems occur, talk to your child's teacher.

Reading Tips

When your child sees you reading in everyday life – following a recipe, using a shopping list, using the computer etc, this teaches children that reading is useful for a range of reasons.

Reading with your child at home will help your child in all of the learning areas at school.

- Listen to your child read every day
- Read aloud to your child. This helps them to learn the language of books. Read together and make reading an enjoyable, shared activity
- Have a wide range of reading material at home, including fiction, non-fiction and computer based information
- Read to your child in your home language – using their home language also helps children learn to read English
- Talk with your child about what they read and ask what new information they found
- Before starting to read a book, talk about the cover, the title, the pictures and discuss what the book is about
- During reading, stop and ask questions about the story and talk about what has happened and what might happen next