

Narwee Public School

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Term 4 – Week 8

Wednesday 27th November 2013

Principal's Report

Last Friday we held our Annual Helper's Morning Tea to thank all our wonderful volunteers who make our school a better place for our children to learn and play.

Many helpers may think they go unnoticed but I would like to formally say how much we all appreciate their tireless efforts and support and value the time they regularly give to our students and staff.

Some volunteers help by listening to children read and some help out on sport afternoon. Our scripture teachers are here every Friday providing religious instruction, our P&C have had many successful fundraising activities and our Hang 40 group are always planning great social activities during lunch each Wednesday.

As a community minded school our volunteers also play an important role in actively teaching children about the importance of good role models in our community. A huge thank you to all our volunteers.

Rene Demos - Principal

Planning for 2014

To assist us in planning for 2014 could you please notify the front office if your child will not be returning to Narwee Public School next year.

This does not include Year 6 students going to high school next year.

Current Payment & Notes

- **Year 6 Farewell** permission note and payment due back by **Friday 29th November**
- **Book Club** order form and payment due back by **Monday 2nd December.**
- **Swimming Carnival 2014** permission note and payment due back by **Friday 6th December**
- **Presentation Day Sausage Sizzle order and payment** due back to the canteen by **Friday 6th December**



Term Calendar

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

Term 4, Week 8

Friday 29th November	Christmas Walk
Friday 29th November	PSSA – Semis & Finals

Term 4, Week 9

Friday 6th December	Reports Sent Home
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Term 4, Week 10

Tuesday 10th December	Presentation Day
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Term 4, Week 11

Monday 16th December	Year 6 Farewell
Tuesday 17th December	Acknowledgment Day
Wednesday 18th December	Talent Quest
Wednesday 18th December	Last Day for Students

School Security

If you see anything unusual happening in the school grounds please call School Security on:

1300 880 021

Important Message

The last day of school for all students will be Wednesday 18th December.

Classes will not operate on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th December as all staff will be involved in Staff Development.

Important

Christmas Safety

Keep your children safe this Christmas

Christmas trees, decorations and lights are particularly fascinating for young children. Make sure they are kept out of reach as they may pose choking hazards.

Remember that Christmas trees can tip over when tugged. Christmas lights can also pose electrical hazards for inquisitive young children.

School Holiday 2014

Parents and teachers get concerned when students fall behind in their studies because of long absences.

Families who plan to travel are encouraged to travel during school holidays. Parents are reminded that they must seek permission from the Principal to take a student out of school during term time.

To help you organise your holidays for next year we have included the term dates below:

Term 1: Tuesday 28th January to Friday 11th April

Term 2: Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June

Term 3: Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

Term 4: Tuesday 7th October to Friday 19th December

Road Safety

Avoid traffic congestion around the school

- Allocate enough time to get your child to the school gate safely and without rushing.
- Always observe the parking signs outside the school. They are designed to keep children safe.
- Never park illegally. This includes in the school driveway, on or near the school crossing, in the bus zone and in the 'No Parking' zone.
- Never double park. This blocks the vision of other drivers, forces children onto the road and obstruct the flow of traffic.

Kids need a hand in traffic

A child's perception, judgement and awareness of potentially dangerous situations is generally not sufficiently developed to properly cope with the road environment until they are least 10 years of age.

Children need adults to set a good example and to supervise them closely in and around traffic, including roundabouts, traffic lights and car parks.

School Holiday Tips

School holidays are fast approaching. Here are some helpful tips to help you plan your festive season.

Plan ahead this Christmas

Take charge of your holidays in advance by making lists of things to do and setting aside some time each day for them – nothing creates more stress than last minute shopping and preparations. When entertaining children, one different activity each day will keep them excited.

Money – Holiday Savings

If you are going out for the day during the holidays don't forget to pack a picnic lunch. Lunches out can wind up costing too much money.

Minimise stress by staying in budget. Draw up a budget to make sure you don't overspend over the festive season. Choose simple, thoughtful or useful gifts rather than elaborate more expensive surprises – even Santa Claus has limited funds.

Coping Skills for Children

- Children need to feel loved and lovable just for being themselves, not only when they do things well.
- They need to feel they have some control in their lives.
- They need to feel that they can be successful at something.
- Children need to have a sense of belonging.
- Children are helped by having people apart from their parents who care about and support them. Grandparents can be a special support for children and teenagers.

Balancing Commitments

It is important for your child to maintain balance. Balancing commitments is especially important if your child is starting high school next year.

Your child needs to be able to balance school commitments with social, recreational and family life as it is important for a happy and healthy lifestyle.

Areas that you should remind your child to help them balance their commitments are:

- Time management
- Planning and discipline
- Keeping fit
- Managing their stress
- Learning to say no



K – 2 Home Readers

Just a reminder that all Home Readers for students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 need to be returned by **Friday 29th November**.

If you have lost your child's Home Reader a \$10.00 replacement fee will be charged.

Thank you to all of our parents for your ongoing support shown towards our Home Reading Scheme this year.

We look forward to your continued co-operation and support for our reading scheme in 2014.

Ms Muffett



Authority to Publish

Please find attached to this newsletter a new Authority to Publish form for your child.

This is a new form sent out by the Department of Education and Communities and will replace the existing form we have on file for your child.

We ask that you complete the permission form and return it back to your child's class teacher no later than **Friday 13th December**.

Contact Details

Please ensure all contact details are up to date for your child. This includes your phone number and address.

If your emergency contact details have changed please notify the office of this as well. It is important we are able to contact someone in the event that your child becomes ill at school.

2014 Payment Information

The cost for next year's workbooks and resources are listed below for each grade. This amount does not have to be paid this year. Notes will be sent out with further information at the beginning of the 2014 school year.

Kindergarten -	\$35.00
Year 1 -	\$45.00
Year 2 -	\$45.00
Year 3 -	\$50.00
Year 4 -	\$50.00
Year 5 -	\$60.00
Year 6 -	\$60.00



Attendance

There are a number of sound reasons for you to ensure that your child attends school regularly.

Attending school every day makes learning easier. For younger students, missing the basic skills often leads to learning problems later on and for older student's absenteeism often interferes with academic progress. Friendships with other students are also easier if your child attends school regularly.

The law in NSW states that all children between the ages of 6 and 17 years are required to attend school. Sickness or injury, attendance at a special religious ceremony or a serious family situation are satisfactory reasons for non-attendance. Please let the school know why your child is not at school and provide a written explanation on your child's return to school.

Birthdays, haircuts, pension days, Monday etc are not satisfactory reasons for absence from school.

Writer's Festival

Last week 15 students travelled to Grays Point Public School to attend the Annual Sutherland Shire Writer's Festival, organised by Mrs Wells.

In the morning, they met and listened to James Roy, a very funny man who talked about the three things writers needed to be. They also listened to Kate Forsythe who grew up near a castle and shared how this inspired many of her stories, Dan McGuinness who told the students about his experiences of becoming a graphic novelist and Susan Gervay who shared experiences of her childhood, her family and why she is motivated to write about them.

Students received an ice block at lunchtime and could purchase books that the authors had written.

After lunch they were introduced to Geoffrey McSkimming, a novelist who included magic tricks in his books. Students were entertained by Sue-Anne Webster, Australia's leading female magician, with all the magic tricks, and a few more, that were included in the novels written by Mr McSkimming.

The day concluded with the authors signing their books for the children.

It was a very enjoyable and educational day, despite the rain. Many thanks to Mr Yap, Mr Gibson and Ms Hunter for helping with transportation on the day.

Mrs Rizzov

