

Narwee Public School

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Term 1 – Week 1

Wednesday 29th January 2014

Principal's Report

Welcome back. Another great year is ahead. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our Kindergarten children, new students and all new families to our school.

Currently students are in their 2013 classes until student numbers are calculated. The students will be placed in their 2014 classes beginning Week 4. Classes and teachers for this year will be listed in the newsletter once they have been finalised.

Student and community safety around our school is a priority. Most parents and carers follow the rules when entering our school and park outside the school grounds and walk in through the pedestrian gates. Parking within the school grounds is for staff and deliveries only. There are some parents/carers who have special permission to park within the school grounds.

Please remember we are all responsible for being good role models around children. Following rules is for the good of everyone.

Each year we purchase work books for all students. We sell these at school to make it easier for parents and to be more cost effective. Please see the Workbook & Resources payment note attached to this newsletter. It is imperative you have paid for these books prior to the Workbook Sale Day which is being held on **Wednesday 19th February**.

Rene Demos – Principal

Notes Due Back

- **Contact Details Form** – due back by **Friday 14th February**.
- **Work Books** – note and payment due back by **Friday 14th February**.

School Security

Please help keep our school safe

If you see anything unusual happening in the school grounds please call School Security on:
1300 880 021

Term Calendar

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

Term 1, Week 1

Thursday 30th January	Group 1 Kindergarten Start
Friday 31st January	Group 2 Kindergarten Start

Term 1, Week 2

Thursday 6th February	Swimming Carnival
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Term 1, Week 4

Wednesday 19th February	Stage 2 Parent Information Morning
Thursday 20th February	Stage 3 Parent Information Morning
Friday 21st February	Scripture Begins

Term 1 Week 5

Wednesday 26th February	Stage 1 & Early Stage 1 Parent Information Morning
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Contact Details

Have you changed your address or contact numbers during the holidays?

It is important that the school has up to date details in the event that your child becomes ill at school. Children often become distressed when we are unable to contact their parents.

We ask that all parents complete the Contact Details form attached to this week's newsletter and return it to your child's class teacher. This will enable us to check that all information we have is current for all families in our school.



Uniform Spot Checks

Uniform Spot Checks will commence in Week 3.

Students are awarded house points for wearing their correct uniform to school. The class with the most children in uniform earn a privilege during assembly each week.

At the end of each term, students in the winning house receive a Merit Certificate for making the effort to come to school dressed in the correct school uniform.

Please encourage your child to come to school dressed in their full school uniform. This includes wearing the correct school hat, shoes and socks.

Mrs Rizzov

Information Mornings

Attached to this newsletter is a schedule for our Parent Information Mornings.

These mornings are a great opportunity to meet your child's class teacher for 2014 and hear about class activities, programs and routines. We hope you are able to attend.

Money Collection

It is important that all money for excursions, work books, book club etc be sent to school in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class clearly printed on the front.

Please do not send loose money as it can easily be lost on the way to school. Please ensure your child hands all envelopes to their class teacher.

Important Notice

It is essential that parents read all notes that are sent home very carefully. Teachers put a great deal of thought into all notes and therefore we ask that you read them thoroughly and contact the school if you need help understanding them.

All permission notes for excursions, book club, sport etc have a closing date clearly printed on them. All notes and money must be returned by this date.

If you are unable to return a note or money to the school by the closing date we ask that you let the school know why they cannot be returned on time so that your child does not miss out on any event.

If your child pays for an excursion and is absent on the day we are unable to offer a refund as excursions and bus hire are paid prior to the day of the outing.

Surviving the First Weeks

- Your child's teacher will let you know when to pack items for activities such as sport, library etc.
- Children are often tired in the first weeks of school. They will need lots of sleep.
- Start your child's day with a healthy breakfast.
- Make sure your child always knows how they will be getting home and who will be picking them up.
- Check your child's bag each night for leftover food. Check for the school newsletter and notes which are sent home every Wednesday.
- Try to establish regular morning routines.
- Be early for the afternoon pickup.
- Start a home reading routine every afternoon.
- Talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.
- Chat to your child about their day at school.
- It is very important that your child still has time to relax, play outside and do things that they enjoy.

School Hats

School hats are available to purchase from the school's front office.

Hats are \$14.50 each.

Please ensure you write your child's name inside their hat to avoid it being misplaced.

School Start Times

Teachers are not on duty until 8.50am

If children arrive before 8.50am they could be alone and unsupervised. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their child/children before 8.50am. If your child arrives before this time they need to be in the care of an adult for their own safety and not be left unsupervised.

Before and After School Care is offered for students of Narwee Public School by Pole Depot. This care is offered on-site. Please contact Pole Depot on **9580 0688** if you would like more information.

Absences from School

If your child is absent for any reason, please send a signed note explaining the reason for their absence within seven days.

If your child will be absent for more than three days due to illness please notify the school office on **9153 9756** or **9153 5578**.

Swimming Carnival

Our Annual Swimming Carnival is being held on **Thursday 6th February** at Greenacre Pool.

All students in Year 2 who are turning 8 this year along with all Year 3 – 6 students are expected to attend.

Please ensure children wear their sports uniform and bring all necessary items including sunscreen to enable them to participate fully in the days activities.

Parents and family members are welcome to come and cheer on the children. An entree fee is payable for all spectators.

Mrs Rizzov

Scripture

Religious Instruction/ Scripture lessons will commence on **Friday 21st February**.

We ask that all new families to the school complete the green scripture form that has been sent home and return it to your child's class teacher no later than **Friday 14th February**. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Miss Seitaridis

School Band

Auditions are being held for new band members on **Tuesday 4th February** at lunchtime in the music room.

Auditions are for students in Years 1 – 6 only.

Please come prepared. Bring your instrument and music that you have been practicing.

Mrs Weedon

Helping Out

Children love to see their parents and carers at the school whether it be helping out in the classroom or being involved in other ways.

Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents/carers take an active interest in the school work and school life.

Your contribution to the school is valued. Ways you might get involved include:

- Listening to children read
- Helping with sport on Friday
- Being a part of the P&C

If you are able to help out in any way please see your child's class teacher.

Label Belongings

- Use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes or sew iron-on personalised labels.
- Go through your child's bag with them each night and make sure they have all of their belongings.
- Check that labels haven't faded with washing.
- If your child misplaces anything ask their class teacher as all labelled items are returned to their classroom.

Safety around our School

- The main purpose of signs around schools advising parking restrictions is for the safety of our children and other road users. In order to encourage adherence to safety, fines are imposed when drivers refuse to obey these signs.
- Children must be restrained in age and weight appropriate child restraints between 0 – 7 years of age.
- Ensure that both child restraints and seat belts are secured prior to starting up the car and driving off.
- Where possible, always use the pedestrian crossing to cross the street.

Sports Houses

The four sports houses at Narwee Public School are:

Currawong – Yellow
Kingfisher – Green
Kookaburra – Red
Magpie – Blue

All new students will be allocated a house and house captains and vice captains will be elected ready to lead their teams at the swimming carnival.

School News

From time to time issues or disagreements may occur between students. It is the responsibility of school staff to deal with these matters.

I would ask all parents/carers to bring these matters to the attention of a staff member or myself rather than approaching students and discussing matters directly with them.

Mrs Demos

Work Book & Resources Sale Day

Work Book & Resources Sale Day will be held on
Wednesday 19th February.

Notes are attached to this week's newsletter. All notes and payment need to be returned by **Friday 14th February**. A receipt will be issued to all students for their workbooks and resources.

Core Rules

Student Discipline in NSW Government Schools

All students in NSW government schools are expected to:

- Attend every school day, unless they are legally excused and be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Maintain a neat appearance including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform or dress code policy.
- Behave safely, considerately and responsibly including when travelling to and from school.
- Show respect at all times for teachers, other school staff and helpers including following class rules, speaking courteously and co-operating with instructions and learning activities.
- Treat one another with dignity and respect.
- Care for property belonging to themselves, the school and others.

Behaviour that infringes on the safety of others such as harassment, bullying and illegal or anti-social behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated.

Online Help

Practical help for parents/carers is available online at the School A to Z website. Created by the Department of Education and Communities, this is a thriving online community with comprehensive homework and school-life support for parents that is easy to use, relevant and engaging.

There are free apps to download, informative podcasts, videos and articles by experts in the field. Check it out and save it to your favourites.

www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

Allergies

If your child has an allergy or medical condition please ensure the school is aware of it. Please see the front office if you require a medical form for your child.

Sun Care

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Remind your child to protect themselves from sun and heat exposure while at school by:

- Reducing their exposure to the sun wherever possible
- Wearing their school hat in the playground to protect their face, neck and ears
- Playing in shaded areas particularly during peak UV levels
- Drink plenty of water
- Use 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen

Birthday Cakes

We understand that students like to celebrate their birthday by bringing in a birthday cake to share with classmates.

With the rise in the number of students suffering from food allergies we ask that no cakes, lollies or chocolates be brought to school to share with other students.

We thank you for assisting in helping us to keep all of the students at our school safe and healthy.

Holidays

Parents and teachers both 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 they must seek permission from the Principal to take a student out of school during term time.

If you are planning to take your child out of school during term time, please see your child's class teacher or the front office as a form will need to be completed depending on the length of time your child will be absent.

School terms for 2014

Tuesday 28th January to Friday 11th April
Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June
Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September
Tuesday 7th October to Friday 19th December

Staff Development Days are held on the first day of Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3 and the last two days of Term 4. Students must be supervised at home on these days as all staff are involved in professional learning.