

Penshurst Public School Newsletter

Quality Education in a Caring Environment



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Issue 1 – Term 1 – Week 3

Thursday 9th February, 2017

Principal's Message

Welcome Back

We hope that everyone enjoyed their holidays and are ready to aim higher in 2017, after achieving many great things in 2016. We welcome any new students and families to our school, including our Kindergarten students who commenced school on Monday.

Kindergarten's First Day

Congratulations to all our Kindergarten students and families for successfully starting at Penshurst PS on Monday 6th February. I was amazed at how settled they were in class and with writing their names and sounds/ letters. There were some tears but I mostly saw lots of smiles who were really happy to be at 'big' school, ready to exercise their brains and learn lots of things, making their brains stronger and smarter.

Our aim is for our little Kindergarten kids to grow into strong, successful and independent people who are able to make a positive contribution to society and themselves. Even at a Kindergarten level, in addition to learning, we expect our students to carry their own bags, feed and toilet themselves and ask for assistance if they need help. Kids are never too young to understand and learn responsibility.

For safety reasons, especially in the morning drop off and afternoon pick up times, parents are not permitted on the balcony, outside the Kindergarten classrooms, so as to minimise the level congestion as our little Kindergarten students put away their bags and settle into class, ready to learn and make new friends. If you need to see your child during the day, please come to the front office first where you will be required to sign in.



Classes 2017

We have formed preliminary classes for 2017. Please be assured that our teachers worked tirelessly to create these classes. At Penshurst Public School, our classes are what we call parallel classes. This means that the mix of kids in one class is no better than the mix of kids in the next class, on the same grade/stage.

As part of Department procedures, the school submits confirmed enrolments every year. This data is then used to calculate the number of classes the school is entitled to have. Enrolment data was submitted to the Department of Education yesterday. Confirmation of class structure will be provided to us on the 22nd February. As always, we aim to minimise any variation to class structures. Should there be any changes affecting your child on this issue, we will keep you informed. More information to come in a later newsletter.

Inclosed Lands Act

As a reminder to all our parents and school community, the school is an inclosed land and as such falls under the provisions of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act.

Primarily, this Act ensures that staff, students, parents and other visitors are safe and secure while on school premises.

This Act can be invoked if:

- Actual physical assaults or threatened physical assaults on students, staff, parents or community members at the school or during the course of school activities
- Inappropriate behaviour in the presence of students, staff, parents or other visitors that is so serious that it warrants action being taken immediately
- Behaving in a manner in the presence of students, staff, parents or other visitors to the school that could be reasonably be expected to cause alarm or concern
- Use of offensive language in the presence of students
- Use of abusive, threatening or offensive phone calls, text messages, websites or emails to or about staff, or directed towards staff or the school
- People persistently interrupt the learning environment of the school by entering classrooms without permission
- People persistently enter onto the school site without permission or legitimate reason

Between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm, all parents and visitors must present to the front office. Depending on the

Value of the month: Care and Compassion – Act fairly and safely at all times

matter, you may be required to sign in and receive a visitor's badge, prior to proceeding any further.

Please note that the school car park is for Department of Education staff and contractors only.

As Principal of Penshurst Public School I want to make sure that the school environment remains a safe, happy and productive learning environment. Your cooperation in this area will ensure that this is maintained.

Parent Information Sessions

Each stage will be hosting a parent information session to discuss the teaching and learning and events that will be happening this year. We look forward to seeing you at these meetings.

- Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) - Thursday 23rd February 2017 3.00pm -3.45pm in KW/ KR classrooms.
- Stage 1 (Year 1 & 2) – Tuesday 14th February 2017, 3.15pm – 4.00pm in the hall.
- Stage 2 (Year 3 & 4) - Thursday 16th February 2017, 3.15pm – 4.00pm in the library.
- Stage 3 (Year 5 & 6) – Wednesday 15th February 2016, 5.00pm- 5.45pm in 6G/ 6F classroom.

School Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Mrs Marshall, Mr Walker, Miss Errington and Ms Di Giorgio and all our teachers for their organisation, management and participation in the school swimming carnival last Thursday. With the warm weather that we have been currently experiencing, the opportunity to get wet and enjoy structured water based activities would have been appreciated.



School Merit Awards

At present, the school merit award system concludes with the end of every school year. As of this year, unrepresented school merit awards that have been received in Term 4, 2016 can rollover into 2017 and successive years. These unrepresented awards can be put towards the achievement of a higher award.

Please note that teachers will not be keeping a track record of each individual student's awards. Once received, students will be responsible for ensuring that any awards received are kept safely and securely and when ready, are then presented to their respective classroom teacher for conversion into a higher award. Further information is attached to this newsletter.

Playgroup

We will be hosting our first playgroup session on Friday 10th February. See you then.

Jeff Lie
Principal

Penshurst Public School Band Program

2017 Training band try outs will be in week 4 (time to be advised). Please return all yellow forms to Mr Metliss or Mrs Hodgson by the end of week 3 (Friday 10th Feb) for your child to be eligible to try out.

Mr Metliss and Mrs Hodgson



2017 Swimming Carnival

The PPS annual Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 2nd February at the Bexley Aquatic Centre. The weather was fabulous and all the students participated enthusiastically in both swimming and novelty events. Congratulations to Blue House for winning the day.

A big thank you to all parents who attended the carnival, it was greatly appreciated.

Several amazing times were swum, special mention to Luca B, Elektra B, Ty M and Callum C. Well done.

The District Swimming Carnival will be held at Roselands Swimming Pool on Thursday 2nd of March. Further details will be given to the team members who have qualified for this carnival closer to the date.

Jennifer Moseley and Jessica Errington

Kindergartens fun first day



CLASS 3T

3T have been getting to know each other this week.

We have had fun playing maths games.

We have learnt about place value by singing songs and working together in groups.

