

# Nords Wharf P.S. Newsletter

Forever Onward



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Term 2 Week 3

Thursday 7 May 2015

## *Principal's Message*

### **School Hours**

We are in class from 9-15 am – 3 pm each day. We have teachers on duty from 8:45 am each morning and a teacher on bus duty each afternoon until the bus arrives. I've spoken to a couple of parents who for various reasons have discussed with me having their child at school early. However, other students should not be at school until 8:45 as they are not under direct supervision before that time. Can you please support the school in this and ensure that your child arrives at 8:45 or later. Students should depart for home at 3 pm unless they are catching the bus or going to the green shed.

### **CAPapillar Day**

The Galgabba schools all participate in a day of Creative Arts once a year at Caves Beach PS. This is a fantastic opportunity for our older students to further develop their area of talent. Selected students received their note today. The students will be participating in band, dance, drama, guitar, sketching, painting, or digital technology.

### **Weekly Assembly**

Our weekly assembly was held today as Year 6 are out of the school tomorrow.

### **Mother's Day**

On behalf of the staff and students I wish all our mothers a happy Mother's Day. We hope you have a wonderful relaxing day on Sunday. Thank you to the P&C and all of today's helpers for your wonderful effort this morning and to all the families who donated gifts for the stall.

### **Kindergarten 2016**

We are now open for enrolments for 2016. If you have a child ready to start school next year please come and get an enrolment form from the office. If you know other families in the community with young children then please encourage them to come and see us as well. Our drawing area is Nords Wharf, Cams Wharf and Catherine Hill Bay.

### **Working memory**

Students who struggle with literacy and numeracy in the first few years of school often become disengaged and lose self-confidence. When we refer these students to the school counsellor for further testing it often comes back that these students have an issue with working memory. This means that they have difficulty remembering and manipulating information in their short-term memory. They may have difficulty remembering a series of three or four instructions and will only do the last thing that they were told to do. Or, from a learning perspective, they may be told the name of a character at the beginning of a book but as they are reading the story they keep getting it wrong.

What can you do to support your child if this is the case? Following is a list of 8 Working Memory Boosters suggested by Amanda Morin on the [www.understood.org](http://www.understood.org) website. I hope you find these useful.

#### **1. Teach visualization skills.**

Encourage your child to create a picture of what he's just read or heard. For example, if you've told him to set the table for five people, ask him to come up with a picture in his head of what the table should look like. Then have him draw that picture. As he gets better at visualizing, he can start describing the image to you instead of drawing it.

#### **2. Have your child teach you.**

Being able to explain how to do something involves making sense of information and mentally filing it. If he's learning a skill, like how to dribble a basketball, ask him to teach it to you after his coach explains it to him.

### **3. Suggest games that use visual memory.**

Give your child a magazine page and ask him to circle all instances of the word “the” or the letter “a” in one minute. Alternatively, play games in the car in which one of you recites the letters and numbers on a license plate you see and then has to say it backwards, too.

### **4. Play cards.**

Simple card games like Crazy Eights, Uno, Go Fish and War improve working memory in two ways. Your child has to keep the rules of the game in mind, but also has to remember what cards he has and which ones other people have played.

### **5. Make up category games.**

When words and ideas are put into categories, they’re easier to remember. Playing games in which you name as many animals as you can think of can eventually lead to playing games with more complicated concepts. For example, you may ask your child to name as many clue words for addition as she can (such as “all together,” “in all,” “total” and “plus”).

### **6. Number your directions.**

Beginning a sentence with words like “I need you to do three things...” can help your child keep all of the different points in his head. You can do the same thing with other information, too, like shopping lists (“We need to buy these five items...”).

### **7. Connect emotion to information.**

Processing information in as many ways as possible can help your child remember it. Help him connect feelings to what he’s trying to remember. For instance, if he’s learning about how the pyramids in ancient Egypt were built, ask him to think about what it felt like to have to climb to the top of one of them pulling a heavy stone in the hot sun.

### **8. Help make connections.**

Connections are the relationship between things. Finding ways to connect what your child is trying to remember with things he already knows can help him learn the new material. For instance, show him that the twos times table is the same as his doubles facts, such as  $4 \times 2 = 8$  and  $4 + 4 = 8$ .

**Karin Hird**

### **K/1 News**

In our science unit, we have been discovering things that move both inside and outside the classroom. We will be exploring what makes these things move.

Students continued to learn about halves and quarters this week in maths. We cut up and shared lolly snakes, marshmallows and Maltesers. We discovered that you can cut snakes and marshmallows into halves in more than one way. We know that when you cut something into halves that the 2 pieces have to be equal. The students taught Ms Hook how to 'share' her lollies with them fairly!

Thank you to the weekly support from Anna Ditchburn and Heidi Clark, who help our 20 students all log on to the computers every Monday to complete Mathletics. We couldn't do it without you!

Just a reminder about the SSP Sound Cloud

orders. Please send any orders in by Friday. If you need a new order form, please contact the office.



**Trinity Hook**

**1/2 News**

The Star of the Week is Evie P! This term our talking and listening focus is public speaking in preparation for the school public speaking competition. When giving a speech we have discussed making sure you talk slowly, are loud enough for the audience to hear and use eye contact.

This week we began writing a 'practice speech' for the students to deliver to the class. Students are able to take this home to run through it before they present it to us next week. Information about the public speaking competition, which occurs later in the term, will be sent home next week.

It is wonderful to see so many students home reading! It is really supporting the SSP work and reading we are doing in the classroom and I know the students enjoy receiving their reading awards. Well done 1/2!

**2/3/4 News**

I trust that everyone had a good holiday although we were all a little blown away during the storms. Unfortunately I missed last week's newsletter due to being away at the Zone Cross Country. All of 2/3/4 were very happy to see that we were all safe and well with no major injuries or broken bones. The proposed schedule for Term 2 was sent out last week. If you did not receive a copy please let me know so I can get one to you.

On Tuesday, all Year 3 and 4 students were given notes about camp. These need to be returned as soon as possible. Just two and a bit weeks till we go! Please make sure you fill this in and send it back quickly.

Next week, students from Year 3 will be undertaking the NAPLAN exams over 3 days. Please try to ensure that your students are not too worried about this and have had a good breakfast each morning so they are happy, confident and have every chance to be as successful as possible.

Congratulations to the students who scored 100% in their spelling. They were Aliyah, Maggie, Alex, Daniel, Annie, Koby, Lachlan, Darcy, Max, and Sunny. It would be great if all students had their own whiteboard markers. Could you please check their pencil case. Don't forget to record your child's reading each day that they complete a 10 minute reading session. It would be fantastic if all students achieved their bronze this term. Next week our class will be looking at 3D Space during maths and our news topic is about the funniest thing they have ever seen.

As always please feel free to come and discuss anything that you like, or, if time is making such a conversation difficult please send a note in with your child and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you to the parents that have already come in to help our students. I trust that we are looking forward to another great term in class 2/3/4.

**Carl Derbyshire**

**4/5/6 News**

I visited Swansea High School recently and the Principal spoke about the Enrichment and Independent Learners Classes for next year. In the last two weeks of this term Year 6 students will be given a task to be completed in class. On Wednesday, 15 July 2015, Year 6 students wishing to be in these classes will sit a literacy and numeracy test at Swansea High, beginning at 9:30am. Using the results of these and input from teachers as to work ethic, students for these classes will be selected.

NAPLAN begins next week for the Year 5 students. It will be even more important for these students to get a good night's sleep and to eat a good breakfast each day. It is unclear what text type the students will be asked to write but it is likely to be a narrative or persuasive text, both of which they have been practising. Some key words they should be able to spell include; first, secondly thirdly, finally, further more, conclusion, important, believe, vital, sure, and agree. Check with your child that they can spell these words.

Don't forget the major school excursion is being organised for Monday, 7 September, 2015. This will be a combined trip with Pelican PS students and will be over three days with the children returning on Wednesday, 9 September, 2015. A note will go home soon about this. An initial instalment of \$50 will be due in the next fortnight.

On Friday, Year 6 students are going to Swansea High to participate in some science activities. They can then prepare a science project for the science fair to be held on Thursday, 30 July. For examples of science projects there are many on the web.

As part of the science fair there will be a paper plane competition. The categories are the greatest distance and the longest time in the air.

As some of our Year 6 students were absent on school photo day, The School Photographer will be visiting the school next Thursday to take their photo. Please ensure your child is in correct uniform.

**Peter Westcott**

**Library News**

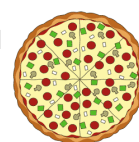
Thank you to the families that so kindly purchased books from the Book Fair. Book sales totalled approx. \$1,044. The library received about \$313 in commission. The students will enjoy the books purchased. It is greatly appreciated.

**Maria Stoppini**

**Canteen News**

With the cold weather creeping up on us, why not order a nice warm and healthy lunch. Homemade Spaghetti Bolognese or a mini pizzas on pitta bread. Ham, Cheese and Pineapple or Ham and Cheese. Both items only \$3.

Don't forget our new healthy snacks: Fruit and Veggie cups, slinky apples and popcorn.



**Zone Cross Country**

Last week around 20 students represented our school at the Zone Cross Country which was held at Baxter Oval in Belmont. The students were very well behaved and had a great time even though it was very wet underfoot. Every student tried their best and completed their race. They were also very supportive of their fellow school peers and also competitors from other schools. I was very proud of all of our students; students that finished in the top 20 were Ben B, Kaitlyn G, Samantha H, Madison G and Jesse K. A special mention should also go out to Stanley S who finished 4<sup>th</sup> thereby earning the right to go to the Regional Cross Country. I am sure you would join me in wishing him the best of luck. On a personal note I would like to thank all of the parents that were able to help with transport and also stay at the oval to help and encourage and support the students throughout the day.

Carl Derbyshire

## Stewart House Day—Friday 8 May

Every year 1,800 public school children in need visit Stewart House from many parts of NSW and the ACT. During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and to promote a healthier lifestyle.

The NSW Department of Education has been providing support to Stewart House and every year encourages families to donate to this wonderful cause. Donation envelopes were sent home yesterday.

Every donation of \$2 or more goes in the draw to win a \$4000 Holiday to a destination of your choice, so remember to fill in your details on the back of the envelope. Please return envelopes to the school office by Friday, 15th May.



### Merit Awards Term 2 Week 2

Class	Name
K/1	Callum, Sophie, Delilah, Tilly, Tyler ,Caitlyn
1/2	Felix , Sari, Chase, Evie, JAce, Sophie
2/3/4	Sunny, Annie, Thai, Nathan, Jack, Alex
4/5/6	Jack, Sophie, Todd, Keeley, Jesse, Stanley

### Reading Awards

<b>Bronze</b>	K/1 - Mya 1/2 - Bailee, Hollie
<b>Silver</b>	K/1 - Tilly, Sophie, Delilah 1/2 - Kyan, Chase, Talia, Billy 2/3/4 - Darcy, Nathan, Max
<b>Gold</b>	1/2 - Joe 2/3/4 - Darcy, Ruby, Billy



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