School News

Principal’s Report

Term One, Week 6

Staffing

I have no further updates on staffing, other than Mrs Smallwood is continuing on sick leave until further notice. As advised in the week 4 newsletter, Mrs Collier will continue in Mrs Smallwood’s role.

Student enrolments & classing structure

As at 22.02.16, our current student enrolment was 711. I am awaiting the release of the revised Actual Student Enrolment Return which will reflect any increase in our entitlements. As at 22.02.16, our current student enrolment was 711.

Committee updates

The WHS committee has had a number of meetings so far this term & I thank members of the WHS committee for their attendance & involvement. My thanks to Mrs King & Mr Shah who represented Colyton PS at the Pemulwuy Local AECG (Aboriginal Education Consultative Group) meeting on Tuesday 23.02.16 This was not only an opportunity for our staff to gain an insight into the dynamics of the AEGC but more importantly to establish networks with other schools & also to have notification of upcoming professional learning. The ICT committee met this week. My thanks to Mr Clark for moving this committee into gear for 2016. BYOD will remain within the OC & Stage 3 area of the school at this stage. Mrs Bacaes is working behind the scenes on a proposal to upgrade the technology infrastructure across the school. My thanks for her work in this area.

The Learning Support Team, Kidsmatter Team, Key Learning Area team & PBL team are operating and supporting students across the school.

Sport teams and Performing Arts groups have been organised and programs are up and operating for 2016. My thanks to all members of these active teams.

Our Wednesday afternoon professional learning, for much of 2015, and certainly this term has focused on KidsMatter. As a school we have committed to this as a major initiative in relation to student mental health and wellbeing. In term 2 we will be launching into the next phase of this project with a number of activities planned to support Harmony Day & Multi-Cultural Day.

Greg O’Neill
Principal

Cash Payments

Parents are reminded that it is vital that all payments sent to school are placed in a sealed envelope, marked clearly with the child’s FULL name and class.

A number of excursion notes have also been sent to school without the child’s name on them, this can make it extremely difficult to ensure the correct child is receipted and can lead to children missing out on excursions, please be thorough when completing these forms.

It is also extremely helpful to place the correct amount of money in each envelope as change for large notes is very limited as we do not keep cash onsite.

Please note that any change larger than $5.00 will be kept in our safe and will need to be collected by a parent from the front office.

We are in the process of amending our cash handling procedures and will update parents as information comes to hand.

Thank you for your understanding,

Ainslie McMillan
Senior Administration Manager
Selective High School Placement Test

Applicants for Year 7 placement in a selective high school in 2017 are required to take the Selective High School Placement Test to be held from **9.00am to 1.30pm on Thursday 10th March 2016**.

The test centre for students from our school is:

**Colyton High School Trade School**
37-61 Carpenter St  
Colyton NSW  
Ph: (02)9623-2789

Parents were sent a letter telling them which test centre their child is required to attend. They were also sent a copy of a document called, Test information for parents and students.

Panthers Visit Colyton PS for the NRL Community

On Monday 22nd February, Rob and Emma from the Penrith Panthers joined first grade players Dallin Zeleznjak and Suaia Matagi (pictured below) at Colyton as part of the NRL Community Initiative. They taught us about how we can ensure we remain healthy in mind and body and gave us some great tips to ensure we keep healthy. We even challenged them to a push up competition!

Thank you to the players and supporters for visiting Colyton Public School!

Colyton students make St Mary's PSSA Representative Teams

This term students from Colyton have attended trials to become part of various representative teams through St Marys PSSA. Fale (6J) was successful in making the Senior Boys Basketball team and Makajini (6H) was successful in gaining a position on the Girls Soccer team. Congratulations, Fale and Makajini!

In the upcoming weeks there are students also trying out for other sports such as Rugby League, Hockey and Softball. Good luck to all these students and keep watching this space for updates!
School Photograph Day

School Photos will be held on Thursday 17th March.

All students have been issued with an envelope from Advancedlife Photography that you can use if you want to place an order using cash or cheque. If using cash, correct money is required, no change will be given.

Envelopes must be returned to class teachers on or before the 17th March, no orders can be placed by the school after this date.

Sibling photographs will be available; order envelopes for sibling photos can be obtained from the front office.

School photos are a lovely keepsake of school years and look best when all students are well presented and in full school uniform. We ask parents to endeavour to have students at school on time.

Your cooperation and understanding in this matter is greatly appreciated.

K-2 Playground Equipment

Parents and friends of Colyton Public School. It has been noticed that an increasing number of non-school children are using the playground equipment located in the K-2 area. It is important that in the morning prior to school commencing, preschool and toddler children remain with their parent/caregiver.

The equipment is for the use of Colyton Public School Students only. Toddler and preschool students will be asked by supervising staff to move off the equipment.

After school ends at 3pm, it is an expectation that all students and siblings remain off the equipment. Students need to be making their way home or moving to appropriate pick up areas.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Amanda Cooper
WHS Chairperson
Colyton Public School

Parents Day at CLC Sport - Week 8

On Friday 18th March, parents who have students participating in CLC sport will be invited to come along to Colyton High School and watch their children represent Colyton in their chosen sport. More information will become available shortly.

Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2016

Mrs. Cumberland and Mrs Cox would like to take this opportunity to inform parents Colyton Public School will once again be participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2016.

Students from Kindergarten through to Year 6 are able to take part in the challenge.

All K-2 classes will be participating in the challenge. Class teachers will be reading various titles from the PRC book list for children to experience. The school will then ensure this information is logged onto the PRC website.

For students in Years 3-6, it is an individual choice whether to take part in the challenge. If students wish to participate in the challenge, reading log sheets are now available to pick up from the library and many books that appear on the PRC book list, shelved and ready to be borrowed.

The challenge opens online from Monday, 7th March. Students must complete their online Student Reading Records by Friday, 19th August (11:59pm).

Students entering and successfully completing the Challenge will receive a PRC certificate and appear on the PRC Honour Roll.

Remember: Students entered into the PRC competition four years in a row receive a gold certificate for their efforts.

Book Club Update

Your child has just received issue 2 of book club and there is a new way to order.
LOOP is now activated for parents who like to order by credit card. LOOP allows you to do all the ordering and paying online without sending back to school any paper stubs. Once the school finalises each order, these LOOP purchases are automatically added to the schools account and sent to the school. Class teachers will continue to give out orders once they come in.

Please note: As of issue 2, this will be the only way the library will be accepting credit card payments.

If you are a parent who would like to continue paying by cash and sending your paper forms and money to school, then this option is still available.

ALL ORDERS, EITHER LOOP OR CASH PAYMENTS, MUST STILL MADE BY THE DUE DATE SET BY THE SCHOOL.

Please read the flyer attached to the end of this newsletter. Thank you for your support in ordering resources from Scholastic Book Club.

Regards,
Mrs Cox and Mrs Cumberland

P&C News

AGM

Our A.G.M and election was held with the committee on Tuesday 1st March. Thank you to those who came along to participate. All parents/carers are welcome to attend any and all P&C meetings.

The P&C were able to fill 4 of the 5 positions necessary for a fully functional P&C. For 2016, the P&C have established the following positions:

President Grant Pickering
Vice President Yvonne Manera
Vice President Nabiha Abu Zer
Treasurer Gemma Marks
Secretary Vacant

This leaves a vacancy to be filled, at the request and on behalf of the P&C I write to seek an interested and willing parent to take up the position of Secretary in 2016.

If you are available and willing to assist please forward your contact details to either the front office, one of the committee members or email me at grantpickering@y7mail.com.

The P&C will be donating 21st century furniture to the school. This furniture will be a wonderful addition to classrooms and will reflect 21st century learning.

The minutes of the A.G.M will be available on the notes wall in the foyer of the front office from Mon 7th March.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on:

3rd May at 9am in the Residence

Thank you again for a wonderful turnout at our AGM and I encourage parents to come along and help build a strong P&C.

Calling for Volunteers

We are in need of some parents volunteers help with uniform shop and helping circle on Tuesday 8th March. If you are able to help please see Melanie Taylor in the playground or in the Residence on Tuesday morning.

Easter Competition

If you are able to assist on any mornings between Monday 7th March - Thursday 17th March with selling colouring in pages for our Easter Competition please see one of the committee members, Melanie Taylor, the office or email myself.

Seeking School Banking Volunteers

On behalf of the P&C I would like to thank Linda Bradley for all her help with school banking. In order for our wonderful school banking program to continue running, we require volunteers who can help on Thursday mornings between 830 and 10am.

Training will be provided to you, and a staff member from the Commonwealth Bank will be there to assist you until you are trained. If interested in helping please contact a committee member or give your details to the front office.

Thank you for your support.
P&C Committee
## Term 1

### Week 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7(^{th}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8(^{th}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9(^{th}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10(^{th}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 5 - Selective High Test</td>
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### Week 8

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Issue 2 Book Club payments due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 17(^{th}) March</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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### Week 9

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21(^{st}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Harmony Day/KidsMatter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22(^{nd}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23(^{rd}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24(^{th}) March</td>
<td>CARES Year 6 - Regional Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Good Friday - No School</td>
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### Week 10

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 28(^{th}) March</td>
<td>Easter Monday - No School</td>
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### Week 11

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8(^{th}) April</td>
<td>Last day of school for Term 1</td>
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</table>
ENROLLING NOW
Limited Vacancies Available

Brand New State of the Art Facility
Specialising in Child Care Early Learning, currently taking enrolments.

To Book an Enrolment Tour
Call 9670 1522, or Visit www.oldmacdonaldschildcare.com.au

- Catering for all kids aged 6 weeks-6 years old
- Beautiful rural setting with its very own farm animal nursery suite including: sheeplings, chooks, lambs, goats, pigs, donkeys, & much more
- Fresh & healthy food prepared daily
- Boasting an abundance of outdoor play areas complete with sandpit & variety of play equipment
- Providing large horticultural areas for children to experience the joy of growing their very own plants from seedlings

21A Mandalong Close, Orchard Hills
NSW 2748
What your child needs from you.
By Dr Justin Coulson

Monday 7th March 2016
10am-12pm
Mount Druitt Hub near Dawson Mall
RSVP: wshscransw.org.au or 1300 403373

In this session, Justin takes you from confusion to clarity.

Combing through the past several decades of parenting research and literature, Justin will share the three essential keys to get to the heart of raising a happy child and creating a connected family.

After a highly successful radio career, Justin returned to school in his late 20s where he earned his psychology degree from the University of QLD and his PhD in psychology from the University of Wollongong. He has written multiple peer-reviewed journal articles and scholarly book chapters, as well as several books and ebooks about parenting, including the forthcoming ‘It’s Me, Daddy’ (Harper Collins, 2016). Justin has acted (and continues to act) in an advisory capacity to well-known organisations including Beyond Blue, Relationships Australia, and SSI.

SSi presents a special charity screening of The Crow's Egg
Proceeds support SSi to help transform the lives of refugees and asylum seekers living in NSW

Settlement Services International, in partnership with Event Cinemas and Transmission Films, is providing an opportunity to see acclaimed Tamil film The Crow’s Egg at a special screening in Parramatta on March 7.

The Crow’s Egg is an entertaining Indian Tamil comedy-drama about two slum children of Chennai, Tamil Nadu, whose desire is to taste a pizza. The Times of India gave the film 4 stars out of 5, saying it was warm and inviting but with a hard edge, “an allegory of the effects of globalisation, and even a satire on media’s obsession with sensationalism.” This charity event will raise vital funds for SSi’s community engagement programs for refugees and asylum seekers.

Monday March 7, 2016 at 7pm
Event Cinemas, Parramatta
Tickets $24 plus booking fee
BOOK online at www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ss-i-presents-the-crows-egg-tickets-21382356383

Generously supported by Transmission Films and Event Cinemas
Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School
OPEN DAY Tuesday 8th March 2016

Year 6 students entering Year 7, 2017 & Year 5 students (Year 7, 2018)
Student Morning session 9.15am – 1.00pm
Evening session 5.00pm – 7.00pm - School tour and open house.
7.00pm – 8.00pm - Formal presentation in the hall.

Enrolments for Years 8-12, welcome.

AUDITIONS FOR 2017, YEARS 7 TO 12
Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School has a long tradition as a centre of excellence in the Creative and Performing Arts. An exciting opportunity is available for talented students to audition for placement in our outstanding CAPA programs.

Students in the specialised streams are afforded a wide range of opportunities to excel in their chosen field with extensive co-curricular programs and a whole school approach to fostering our gifted students’ talents.

Auditions will be held for Dance, Drama, Music, and Visual Arts on Monday 14th to Friday 18th March 2016. The cost of auditions is $50.00.

Applications close and forms need to be submitted to NCAPAHS by Monday 7th March 2016.

For application forms, please contact Mrs Stepic on 9630 4116
Forms can also be obtained via our school website.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Year 7 Scholarships
• Creative and Performing
• Academic
• Sporting

GIFTED & TALENTED ACADEMIC PLACEMENT TEST FOR 2017
Date: Thursday 24th March 2016 at 9.00am
Cost: $65.00 payable to the front office by Wednesday 16th March 2016.

Principal: Narelle Vazquez
www.northmead-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
28 Campbell St, Northmead NSW 2152
Ph: 9630 4116
Erskine Park High School is the outstanding choice of school for every parent in our area of Western Sydney. We offer every student the opportunity to excel and to achieve their personal best through outstanding teaching and learning practices in a safe, happy and purposeful environment where full school uniform is the clear expectation. Erskine Park High School is a modern, vibrant comprehensive 7-12 high school with rich relationships with the primary schools of our learning community.

Our school enjoys a highly supportive and involved parent group and community. Our ethos is one of collaboration, teamwork and consultation. We provide an ordered and inspiring atmosphere where strengthening student well being and enhancing academic, cultural and sporting student outcomes is our motivation. Innovative and strategic programmes to engage our students and enhance their spirit and involvement are at the forefront of our daily work.

Serving the Erskine Park learning community, the school motto of 'Pride In Achievement' sets us apart as a school of high expectations, energetic achievement and excellent results. Erskine Park High School boasts an enthusiastic, committed staff whose outstanding qualifications, experiences and achievements deliver a quality classroom product each day.

COME ALONG TO OUR YEAR 7 2017
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH AT 7.00PM
IN THE SCHOOL HALL

A SCHOOL TOUR WILL OCCUR ON THE EVENING
AT 6.00PM.
MEET AT THE SCHOOL HALL

Ms Leiza Lewis
Principal
Phone: 9834 3536
Web: www.erskinepk-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, LOOP makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child’s class
- Add your child’s first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogues
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child’s classroom if you order by the close date
- There’s no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!

For a quick how-to-order video, log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP and click on HELP in the top menu.
29th Annual
Penrith Working TRUCK SHOW
Sunday 20th March 2016
8am - 4pm
Presentations 4pm - 5pm
Australia’s Best Value Family Day

THE BEST IN COUNTRY MUSIC

ADAM BRAND AND THE OUTLAWS

THE GIRLS OF COUNTRY FEATURING AMBER LAWRENCE

ARTIST NETWORK
FUN AND EXCITEMENT!
PLUS MUCH MORE!

- Direct access from Penrith Station
- Unlimited FREE amusement rides all day (20 rides)
- Concert sound & full stage
- Specialist trade stalls & displays
- Entertaining games & competitions
- Free Balloons & Fairy Floss
- Free face painting
- BBQ, drinks & beer tents
- Major prizes & trophies
- Price includes entry to Museum

Adults $35
up to 3 Children FREE
with paying adult

www.pwts.com.au

6th Annual Sydney Classic & Antiques Truck Show
on 29th May, 2016 (See website for more details)
Kids’ fishing workshop

Kids 8–14 years old are invited to come and learn to fish safely and responsibly. Instructors are experienced volunteers and staff from the Department of Primary Industries.

The day runs from 10 am to 2 pm and involves fishing techniques, bag and size limits, and fish handling for best release techniques.

COST is $40 PER CHILD, and includes a rod and reel combination, shirt, hat, tackle box, and show bag—all to take home!

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. Maximum 25 participants.

Locations and Dates

Bundeena
Penrith
Balmain (Mort Bay Park)  
Tuesday 12th April 2016
Thursday 14th April 2016
Thursday 21st April 2016

To book: e-mail carl.bevilacqua@dpi.nsw.gov.au or ring Carl Bevilacqua, 62 9741 4848 or 0448 837 677

NSW DPI fishing workshops are run with the assistance of the Fishcare Volunteers and are supported by funds from the Recreational Fishing Trusts.