Principal’s Update

Week 1, Term 1

Welcome Back

Welcome back to 2015. I am very excited to start my first full year as Principal, and I am finding it difficult not to explode with ideas and plans for the future. We have such a wonderful school and the thing I love the most is how our students respond with such enthusiasm to new opportunities to learn. It was great to see our students come back safe and healthy from the holidays. A special welcome to our two new students, Jett in year 2 and Ella in year 4, and of course to our newest learners, our kindergarten for 2015. We can’t wait to see your progress as you learn and grow.

Lunch First

After a lively discussion with staff, a decision has been made to trial a change of internal class times. Starting and finishing times will remain the same, but the morning session will extend until 11.15am, and we will have our long lunch break first. Fruit break will still take place about half way through the morning session, depending on the timetable of each class. The trial will begin on Monday of week 2, and continue for term 1. We will seek feedback from the school community towards the end of term. Our new class times will be as follows:

- Morning session: 8.55am - 11.15am
- Eating time: 11.15 - 11.25am
- First half lunch: 11.25am - 11.45am
- Second half lunch: 11.45am - 12.05pm
- Middle session - 12.05pm - 1.25pm
- Recess: 1.25pm - 1.50pm
- Afternoon session: 1.50pm - 2.55pm

Homework Survey

There has been some discussion in the media recently about the role and value of homework in primary school. There are a range of views on this topic, and there is very little research based evidence that supports the value of anything other than reading at home in improving student outcomes at primary school. We are currently reviewing our homework policy and procedures and would love to hear your opinion. It would be appreciated if you could complete the attached survey and return it to school by the end of week 2.

2015 Leaders Induction

Yesterday I met with our student leadership team and we negotiated roles and responsibilities for 2015. As advertised in the last newsletter of 2015, our student leaders for will be inducted at our assembly in week 2 of next term, on Wednesday 4th February. The assembly will begin at 2pm.

Starstruck & Choir

We have hit the ground running at PPS. Expression of interest notes have been sent home this week for students in years 3-6 who wish to participate in a Starstruck dance group and our very highly regarded school choir. If your child is interested in participating, please read the notes carefully as they detail the commitment and expectations that are relevant to each group. If your child has missed out on a note or you need more information, please see Miss Devin as soon as possible.

Continued on next page
Principal Report continued

**New Bus Route**

Our new bus route started this week and we have had a number of students from the Vacy area travelling both ways. The bus also means that students who wish to attend After School Care at Vacy Public School can travel directly to the service in the afternoons. If you have any questions about the bus route, please speak to Mrs Compton.

**Calf Handling and Cattle Judging**

Many thanks to Mark Watts and his team at Bernicia Limousin Stud for hosting training sessions in calf handling and cattle judging in the holidays. A group of students are training to enter local agricultural shows and they are learning the skills they need to join a Paterson Public School team.

**Class Information Meetings**

Our class information meetings will be held next Tuesday, 3rd February. This will allow you an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and find out about routines and expectations in their class. For those who are unable to attend, written information will be sent home. The times are as follows:

- 5/6 4.00pm  Mr Leary
- 1/2 4.30pm  Miss Potter
- 3/4 5.00pm  Miss Devin
- Year 2 5.30pm  Miss Hazell
- Kindy 6.00pm  Miss Authers

**Mr Marsh**

In very sad news for PPS, our much loved General Assistant, Mr Rob Marsh, will retire this year. His last day at school will be 25th February and he will take his long service leave prior to retirement. We will be holding a function at school to acknowledge the huge contribution that Mr Marsh has made in his 16 years here. I was very pleased this week when Mr Marsh expressed a wish to continue his involvement with the school through our environmental program. He will be very much missed.
Attn: Mums, Dads, teachers…… everyone!!

Outdoor Group Fitness Training Sessions.
Bring your kids along to play at the park, while you get fit.
Family friendly training sessions.
Where: Tucker Park, Paterson
When: 6.00pm Mondays & Wednesdays
Trainer: Chriss Hoffman, personal trainer

Circuit style high intensity, resistance and cardio training, plus boxing.
For all fitness levels. Train at your own pace.

$5.00 per session if more than 8 people, $10.00 if less than 8 people.

First session free, so come along and give it a go!

PATERSON RIVER NETBALL CLUB

Registration Dates for Season 2015
Saturday 31st January 10-12pm
and Wednesday 4th February
3.30-6pm at the Paterson School Library.
Follow PRNC
www.patersonrivernc.nsw.netball.com.au or like us on Facebook “Paterson Netball Club”.
Contact us
patersonnetball@gmail.com
or PO Box 136, Paterson NSW, 2421.

Kindergarten 2015
2015 SEASON WINTER COMP
SOCCER REGISTER NOW!

Play with the ‘SCORPIONS’
Under 6’s to All Age Men’s & Women’s
(children turning 5 in 2015 can now play as Under 6’s)
New players and beginners are always welcome!
You must register “On-Line” after 1st Feb

Information and instructions will be found on the Gresford/Vacy website.

www.gresfordvacyfc.sportingpulse.net

Registration fees may be paid on-line or at the club but must be paid in full by April 1st, 2015
Information/sign-on sessions: for new and returning players will be held at:-
PATERSON - Monday, 9th February @ St Paul’s Church Hall 3.15pm to 5.30pm
VACY - Wednesday 11th February @ Vacy School of Arts 3.15pm to 5.30pm
GRESFORD - Friday 13th February @ Gresford Sporting Complex 3.15pm to 5.30pm

"SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER ~"
Under 6’s & Under 7’s pay no registration fee if they sign-up before February 28th - save over $70 Includes free training ball & shin pads.

More information or help: Contact Damien Crouch on 0413 305961 or Fritz Woller on 49385386 or email:gresfordvacyfc@outlook.com

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome to the start of another year.

I want to thank everyone who has volunteered this year to help out in Canteen. Without you we would not be able to provide such a valuable service within the school. Please see attached roster for this term. If you are unable to do your shift feel free to post on our facebook page to see if you can swap with someone else or you can use the contact numbers on the back of the roster. If you have any dramas please let me know.

The canteen will be open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday as of 2 February 2015. As advised by Ms Hazell lunch will be held first and then recess. Therefore the canteen procedure will vary from previous years. I will provide the new procedure in the canteen.

We are hoping to do two meal deals this term and if anyone has any suggestions please send me an email or pop a comment on our facebook page.

The menu for this term is attached.

If you would like to buy a cloth lunch order bag please see Rhonda or the canteen staff. A cloth bag is $7 and an insulated bag is $9. These bags are reusable and allow the money to be kept separate from the food products.

Amy Merchant
amymerchant@bigpond.com