**Principal’s Update**

**Week 3, Term 1**

**Farewell to Mr Marsh**
An invitation to a farewell assembly and afternoon tea for Mr Marsh is in this week’s newsletter. We hope that you can join us to mark the very special place that he has held at our school for the past sixteen years. We will certainly miss him very much. A temporary replacement will continue in the position until later in the year when Mr Marsh has completed his long service leave.

**Working Bee**
Our environmental program is progressing well. We are currently working on the Remembrance Garden in preparation for the commemoration of ANZAC day early in term two, and the development of a vegetable garden for each class. We would love your help with either the donation of materials for the garden, or your labour at a working bee to be held on Sunday, 1st March from 8am.

If you are able to help us to source any of the following materials, it would help us very much.
- Strainer posts
- Stay posts
- Rabbit netting
- Good quality soil

Our chook run is also due to arrive at school soon, and following some modifications we will welcome some feathered friends to PPS. Our environmental leaders are currently planning a food scraps collection program to reduce rubbish, contribute to our compost and feed our chickens.

**Energy Monitors**
Last year, our school spent approximately $12 000 on electricity. This week we nominated energy monitors for each class. Their role is to ensure that lights, fans, air conditioners and smart boards are turned off when they are not needed, and to help their class think about ways in which our energy consumption could be reduced. We will report the impact on our consumption later in the year.

**Swimming Carnival**
Don’t forget that our swimming carnival is on next Friday, 20th February. Please return all notes as soon as possible. Miss Authers and Miss Potter will remain at school on the day with K-2 students and the office will be unattended.

**Volunteer Inductions**
Thank you to those parents who attended our volunteer induction sessions this week. It only takes a very short time. If you have been unable to attend either of the sessions, please see Mrs Compton to make a time to run through the process. All volunteers must sign in at the office before working with children.

**Interest Groups**
We have had some very kind offers to help with our Friday afternoon interest groups. Students will be able to make their choices in the next week or so. If you have a skill or activity that you would like to share with our students and were not able to participate in this round, we will run the program again in term 2.

**P&C Meeting**
A reminder that the first P&C meeting for the year will take place next Monday, 16th February at 7pm. I hope to see you there.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Sarah-Jane Hazell
What I love about Paterson Public School

I love the students who bring to school a wonderful attitude towards learning and life.

Mrs Halliday

BUDDY ART!

Our Year 6 buddies certainly have been fantastic! Every day they help their kindergarten buddies with everything from opening tricky lunch packets to reminding them to use their best school manners. They are absolutely outstanding buddies! On Tuesday afternoon, the Year 6 buddies came down to the Kindergarten classroom to help us make these fantastic geometric artworks. When we hung them together they made a bright, colourful curtain. The kindergartens listened to the instructions from Miss Authers and with careful one-on-one guidance from their buddies were able to make these wonderful paper designs independently by the end of the lesson. They love making them so much they are now making more and more, even at recess and lunch! Thank you Year 6 for being such encouraging, friendly, happy and responsible buddies.
Let’s Celebrate!

After 16 years of dedication as the much appreciated and adored General Assistant at Paterson Public School, Rob Marsh is retiring from our school. We would like to invite you to join us to celebrate his time at Paterson Public School.

Families past and present are invited to attend a special farewell for Rob:

**When:** Wednesday, 18th February, 2015

**Where:** Paterson Public School Hall

**Time:** 2.00pm (The afternoon will commence with our assembly and be followed with a lovely afternoon tea).

**What to bring:** Please bring a plate of food to share

**R.S.V.P.** paterson-school@det.nsw.edu.au

**Phone:** 4938 5114
**Wanted For Interest Groups**

Small to medium sized smooth river stones, decorative / coloured gravel, small outdoor ornaments eg: fairies, gnomes (aquarium ornaments would be ideal), terracotta or ceramic pots - damaged or intact - we will be using the pieces that have broken off as well, babies tears or any other low growing ground cover plant and succulent plants any variety.

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**Invitation to Carers**

Do you provide care & support to another person?  
You are invited to Carer Connections.  
Take the opportunity to connect with other Carers and listen to our Guest Speaker.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Kathie Nickerson, Clinical Nurse Specialist Hunter Integrated Pain Service (Hunter New England Health)  
**TOPIC:** “The Meaning of Chronic Pain: and Hunter Integrated Pain Service’s approach to Improving Life”

**VENUE:** East Maitland Bowling Club, Bank Street, East Maitland  
**TIME:** 10.00am - 12.00pm

**RSVP:** Wednesday 18 March 2015

For more information or to Register contact:  
HNE Carer Education & Support Program - Hunter on: 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776

Or email: Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au  
We ask that you RSVP for catering purposes.