

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you have had an enjoyable break; the students should be back to school feeling refreshed and ready to take on the academic demands of Term 2. This is the term when we will hold the NAPLAN tests and spend some time preparing for them. This is also the term when we will be writing reports.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

This week we will be practicing our emergency procedures. If you are in the school at the time, it is vital that you observe the instructions and procedures given by staff members for events such as emergency evacuations, lockdowns and lockouts.

ANZAC Day

Last Friday a strong contingent of Queanbeyan West Public School students and parents participated in the ANZAC Parade and Service. Our students looked great and our captains did a great job laying the wreath and helping the younger students.

We had a lovely ANZAC ceremony at school today, thank you to all the students and teachers who participated and thank you to all the families who remembered to send along flowers to be laid at our flag pole.



Easter Parade a Hit

On the last Friday of term our playground was filled with many colourful, sparkling and tall hats. We were thrilled at the number of students and families who participated in our parade; we had so many innovative designs.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Queanbeyan West community for their support of this event, our students for their creative hat designs and the staff for their hard work in ensuring the success of the day.

The SRC have raised \$900 for projects that they wish to develop over the remainder of the year.

Congratulations to the winners of our Easter baskets:

O Vragar, P Keddle, B Apostoloski,
D Hubbard, V Kaur, M Spannari, B Oliver,
K Cooper, S Gray, Skyan, C Smith, E Brennan,
N Bradley, S Reyes, T Cranmer, E Starr,
S Fernando.

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be held on the 13 - 15 May. The results of the test will provide important information for our schools future planning. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each child's level of achievement will be reported against the agreed national benchmarks of student achievement.

The tests will be conducted for students in Years 3 and 5 across Australia on the following days;

Tuesday, 13 May - Language convention and Writing tests

Wednesday, 14 May - Reading test

Thursday, 15 May - Numeracy test

Paperless Newsletter

At the start of Term Two we have indicated that we will move to a paperless newsletter. The newsletter can be emailed to those that have given us their email address. The newsletter will also be available on the website. There will also be limited copies at school, but before I do this I would like to survey our school community. Attached to this newsletter is a communication survey, please take a few minutes to complete it and return it to school by next Monday, 5 May. I will collate the responses. These responses will determine if we proceed with a paperless newsletter and will also be published in our annual school report at the end of the year.

Anaphylaxis

Allergic reactions are becoming more prevalent and can be life threatening to some people. Some students are very allergic to peanuts and have additional allergies to egg and dairy products. We have students and staff who have nut allergies.

What does this mean for us? To minimise the risk of contact with these foods we ask for your cooperation by NOT sending your child to school with: peanut butter, Nutella or other nut spreads. Also avoid muesli bars, cakes, biscuits and slices that contain nuts. Lastly, please avoid whole nuts or similar combinations with dried fruits as snack food for your child.

Even if your child enjoys these foods for breakfast make sure he/she washes his/her hands before coming to school.

Foods labelled, "may contain traces of nuts or contain egg" may be brought to school but would not be able to be eaten by the allergic children. We understand these requests could cause some inconvenience, but also know that if your child was diagnosed with anaphylaxis you would very much appreciate our support.

Parking

The Queanbeyan City Council Rangers have advised us that they will be increasing parking patrols around the school. Please be aware of the parking restrictions along Morton Street and Richard Avenue as fines for illegal parking are significant.

Fines range from \$135 to \$405.

Managing screen-time

Helping kids find the right balance between activities, homework and screen time is a challenge that only gets harder as they grow older. Common sense Media has lots of useful resources to help – from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screen time limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them. Read the article here: <http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk>

Books to boost brains

Literacy skills often progress suddenly in leaps and bounds. The secret is to keep kids of all ages reading over the weekends and school holidays. Even 20 minutes a night can make a huge difference to their reading, comprehension and general knowledge. It's also a great way to settle their minds down before sleep (for adults too!). If your child hasn't found a book that grabs their imagination, why not try them on a series book from the Premier's Reading Challenge list? Here are top suggestions for all ages, including young adult : <http://bit.ly/1dLSGCo>

Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?

It's no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that "everyone else is doing it", you can get the facts at a glance from School A to Z's technology glossary. You'll also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: <http://bit.ly/188OerY>

Voluntary Contributions

At the Annual General P&C meeting held in March it was decided that the school Voluntary Contributions would remain the same. The contributions are \$40 per child or \$60 per family. Payments can be made at the front office or via credit card if more convenient.

Credit Card Authorisation

Please Charge \$ _____ (total amount)

Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: __ / __

Verification No: _____ (on back of card)

Card Holder's Name: _____

Alternatively, a credit card authorisation can be given by telephone to the Front Office on 6297 2020

Cross Country

This Thursday 1 May will be our school Cross Country.

9.30am – Primary 12.15pm – Infants

All primary students and Year 2 students turning 8 this year will participate. Students can wear a coloured house T-shirt and should bring a picnic rug or tarp to sit on.

Have a great week
Vicki Muscat
Principal



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

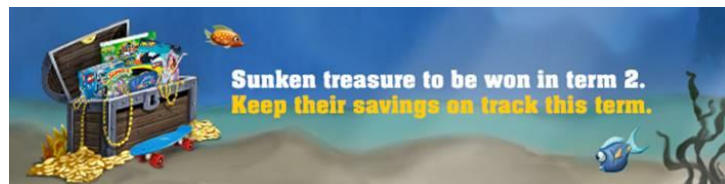
29/04/14 ANZAC Service at school
01/05/14 School Cross Country
02/05/14 Regional League Trials
05/05/14 Book Fair Begins
07/05/14 District Cross Country
07/05/14 Regional Touch Trials
07/05/14 P&C Meeting
13/05/14 NAPLAN
20/05/14 UNSW Computer Competition
29/05/14 School Athletics Carnival
30/05/14 Value Pin Assembly

Congratulations

to
Ellie 2B who has completed her
Premier's Reading Challenge 2014.

Happy Reading- take up the challenge!
Mr Lumley

**No Junior
Assembly this
week!**



School Banking – Term 2

The Dollarmites have found sunken treasure from the Lost City of Savings and they want to share it with students in the form of some amazing prizes.

Major student prize.

One student will win an underwater family adventure holiday including:

- Five nights' accommodation at the Sea World Resort & Water Park on the Gold Coast;
- VIP Passes for two adults and three kids to Sea World, Warner Bros. Movie World, and Wet'n'Wild Gold Coast;
- A Dolphin Family Aqua Adventure; and
- A \$3,000 travel voucher to get them there.

Runner-up student prizes.

130 Toys"R"Us Gift Cards to the value of \$250 each.

Sunken treasure for schools and you.

There will be a separate draw of \$1,000 cash for a school in each State/Territory of Australia.

Here's how to win.

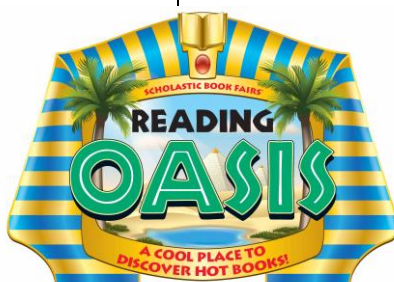
Students need to make three or more deposits through School Banking during Term 2 and they will be automatically entered into the competition.

QWPS BOOK FAIR

Books make
great presents
and expand
children's
minds.



**EFTPOS
available**



**Lucky Door Prizes
to be won - Book
Vouchers to the
value of \$60 book**

Monday 5 May - Friday 9 May, 2014

Family Night: Thursday 8 May, 2014 3.30 pm – 6.30 pm

Venue: School Library