

NEWSLETTER

CASTLETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

INSPIRE, EDUCATE, SUCCEED



Issue 2

From the Principal's Pen

7th March 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

ASSEMBLY

Mrs Paterson's Room 5 Year 3 class conducted the assembly last week with poise, maturity and confidence. Each student spoke clearly, and with excellent diction. Room 5 had been learning about city versus country life in class. A finale to this learning was their rendition of the song, "My Island Home," sung with much pride and gusto! Well done Room 5 on an excellent item and superbly run assembly. P.S. Aren't we glad we live in the country!!

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

As part of a new approach to becoming an Independent Public School we have been exploring our readiness to take on the additional flexibilities and the increased empowerment that will be available to us. Principal, Mrs Lisa Helenius, Deputy, Mr Todd McElroy and Mr Geoff Chambers from Esperance Primary School recently spoke to staff on their experiences of their school's journey and the positive benefits they have gained as a result of becoming an Independent Public School. It is important for our school community to fully understand and be conversant with what it means to be an Independent Public School.

So what is different? Why change? What does it mean for parents and for our students?

241 schools have expressed interest to proceed to the development program workshops offered in 2014 by the Department of Education. Castletown is one of these schools. Frequently asked questions for parents and the community about IPS can be found online on the Department's website.

Our Annual P & C meeting on Monday 24th March at 7.30 p.m. will also be an opportunity and forum for parents to come along and ask questions about Independent Public Schools. Please come along and be part of the discussions.

SCHOOL PLANS AND PRIORITIES

Reviewing our plans, resources and targets for 2014 has been a key priority for this term. As a Teacher Development School in English we will be continuing to provide professional learning opportunities using the Australian Curriculum to improve classroom instruction and student learning to all staff and to networks. Our other major curriculum priority for 2014 is maths.

NAPLAN NEWS

All students in years 3, 5 and 7 will sit the NAPLAN test in week 3 of term 2 commencing May 13th. NAPLAN is a national assessment used for assessing student's skills and knowledge in Language Conventions, Writing, Spelling, Reading and Maths. Individual child reports become available some time in September. Please see the accompanying 'Information for Parents' brochure.

Pauline Grewar, Principal



Virtue for the Fortnight - Unity



CERTIFICATES OF MERIT and CERTIFICATES OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT



Congratulations to all students who received certificates at our Assembly on 27th February 2014. Well done!

EC 1	Meela Schmidt	Riley Anderson		
EC 2	Emily Crawley	Taj Neill		
Room 00	Mikayla McLean	Lachlan Henderson	Thomas Bailey	Sally Wilson-Hilton
Room 1	Stephanie Kouw	Bryce McDonald		
Room 2	Justin Roads	Alex Beeby		
Room 3	Kennedy Holdaway	Ruben Wakeham		
Room 4	Joshua Hall	Paige Skelton		
Room 5	George McCrea	Tailah Bain		
Room 6	Mikaela Muir	Brianna Timms		
Room 7	Travis Shearer	Tayla Warren		
Room 8	Kaden Wallwork	Anella Fissioli		
Room 9	Hayley Gallop	Emmalee Wood		
Room 10	Layne Varea	Vaughan Clarkson-Jones		
Room 11	Benjumen Kloeden	Joshua Ryan		
Room 12	Lylah Heather	Blayden Coussens		
Room 13	Jessica Teede	Ryan McBride		
Room 14	Olivia Hilton	Daniel Ainsworth		
Room 15	Cooper Fontanella	Libby Phelps		
Room 22	Chloe Seivwright	Cayde Nell		

Cleanest Room Award: Room 6



Reading In Bed Is Terrific

The Home Reading program **RIBIT**

Congratulations to the following children who have read for 20 Nights:

- Rm 2:** Shaj Varea, Lachie Stewart, Justin Roads
- Rm 3:** Isha Cook, Sally Barz
- Rm 4:** Ben Hobson
- Rm 5:** Sophie Garvey, Eloise Fels, Tailah Bain
- Rm 6:** Brianna Timms, Michaela Muir
- Rm 8:** Katie Crawley
- Rm 13:** Jessica Teede, Sydney Milling
- Rm 14:** Bella Walter, Lucy Wilson, Ella Wilson



Around the Classrooms.....

Castletown Primary School was very lucky to have a visit from the "Constitutional Centre" to learn more about how our political system works. Classes from Year 3 to Year 7 were taught various subjects ranging from "Rules and Bylaws" to the three levels of government; local, state/territory and Federal. The students were involved in quizzes and a variety of engaging hands on activities. All were great sessions of information.



Lachie McGrinder, Katelyn Read and Libby Savory with Jacque from the Constitutional Centre.



MEDICAL NOTE – If your child suffers from Asthma or any other medical condition, please inform the office and return a medical form. Please ensure your child brings to school their asthma inhaler if it is required and inform their teacher.

Dates to Remember.....

Monday 10th March
Wednesday 19th March
Thursday 20th March

Cycle to School Day – Bike Week
Junior Sports Carnival
P & C AGM 7pm
Senior Sports Carnival



Reminder!



THE VIRTUES PROJECT - UNITY

WHAT IS UNITY?

Unity helps people work and live together peacefully. When you practise unity, you feel connected to everyone and everything. Unity brings harmony, like music made by different instruments in an orchestra. Unity comes when we value each person. The joy of one is the joy of all. The hurt of one is the hurt of all. The honour of one is the honour of all.

WHY PRACTISE UNITY?

Without unity, differences scare people and drive them apart. Without unity, each person stands alone. When we come together in unity, we cooperate. We work together to accomplish more than any one of us could by ourselves. We feel a sense of unity with all living things, and do our part to care for the earth.

HOW DO YOU PRACTISE UNITY?

When you practise unity, you look at your prejudices and are willing to let go. Unity doesn't mean being the same. Just as every leaf on a tree has a unique design, each person on this earth is someone special. When you practise unity, you see the specialness of each person, not a reason to fight or be scared, but as a gift. Working in unity with others gets things done efficiently. Unity is solving conflict peacefully by listening and finding solutions.

SIGNS OF SUCCESS

You are practising **unity** when you...

- treat all people as members of one human family
- see the gifts in differences
- refuse to join in when others express prejudice
- solve conflict through listening and finding solutions
- care for the earth and all living things
- act like a peacemaker wherever you go

Lesley Mather – Associate Principal



RIDE TO SCHOOL DAY

Get your bike out of the shed and Ride to School to get involved with fun *Bike week* activities and win some prizes.

Cycle to School Day 2014 will be held on **Monday 10th March** to encourage students to cycle to school more often.

We would like to see many students joining in on the day by cycling (or other active transport) to school. The school will not be providing supervision for students on their journey to school. The level of supervision required for children cycling, skating or walking to school should be decided by a parent/guardian. Before children cycle, skate or walk independently to school, their parent/guardian should have supervised them on at least two morning and afternoon journeys to ensure they understand road safety rules. Regular supervised journeys are recommended as traffic conditions change over time.

Children who ride to school must:



- Wear a helmet and bright clothes when riding.
- Watch for cars near driveways, gateways and intersections.
- Ride a safe distance from other bikes.
- Keep left and ride in single file on a shared path.

- Give hand signals clearly.
- Ring their bell to let others know they are approaching.
- Walk with their bike on busy paths around the school.



Cycling is free and helps improve the environment while keeping our bodies fit and healthy. There is real potential to increase the number of children actively getting to school, especially for those who live within a 10-minute cycle (2-km) and a 10-minute walk (less than a kilometre) from school. Students, parents and teachers are all encouraged to consider active transport as a means to travel to school as often as possible.

Bike and helmet safety checks will be conducted from 8am at the bike racks

(Those students who participate in the safety checks will go into a prize draw to win great prizes.)

Make sure you ride your bike safely to school and wear your helmet!



COMMUNITY NOTICES



Esperance Senior High School Parent and Community Open Day School tours

Monday 10th March, Monday 24th March, Monday 16th June

9:30 – 11:00 am - Meet at the front office to the school at 9.30am. Tour of the school conducted by Neville Clifton (Deputy Principal) or Alison Snow (Follow the Dream Coordinator) to see students and teachers at work and to view the school grounds and facilities.

11:00 – 11:30 am - Tea/coffee/juice and light morning tea in the Arts Exhibition foyer provided by the year 11/12 Hospitality students. Principal Ms Cathy Bamblett will briefly welcome you.

The school grounds are extensive so be prepared for moving around without cover for small parts of the tour.

RSVP to Mrs Anne McCleave, Junior Campus Office 90719555.



ESPERANCE DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION – Registration Day for Auskick (Grades 1-4) and Junior Football (Grades 5-12) Saturday 22nd March at Ports Clubrooms 9am until 11am.



Please **DO NOT** send your child to school with food containing nuts or nut products.



SCHOOL CANTEEN

Volunteers are always needed to assist in our Canteen. Please contact Janice at the Canteen or phone 9071 3148

Remember to Crunch'n'Sip

Drink Water and eat 5 veg 'n' 2 fruit each day for a healthy diet.

The Canteen proudly uses Brumby's preservative free bread.



Canteen Helpers for 2014

If you would like to help in the canteen, please fill in the form below and return it to the canteen as soon as possible.

Helpers are required Monday to Friday between 9.30am and approx 12.45pm. You can volunteer for one, two or however many times you would like each term. Some people choose to come in on a weekly or fortnightly basis.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at the canteen on 90713148.

Thank you,

Janice Spencer



NAME PHONE NO

ELDEST CHILD ROOM NO

PREFERRED DAYS

TIMES PER TERM weekly / fortnightly / one / two / three times per term (**circle**)



Canteen Helpers (Junior or Senior Athletics Carnival)

Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th March 2014

Are you available to help in the canteen on either day? Could you help all morning, or for an hour or so? If you can help, please fill in the form below and return to the canteen as soon as possible. Thank You.

Janice Spencer



Help in Canteen on 19th or 20th March 2014

Your Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Eldest Child: _____ Room Number: _____

Date: Wednesday 20th March or Thursday 21st March

9.30am–12.30am, 9am–10am, 10am–11am, 11am–12noon, 12noon–1pm

(Please circle the time & date you are available to help)