

Thirlmere Public School

14 February 2017

Term 1 – Week 4



Principal's Message

The term has got off to a very busy start and it is hard to believe we are already in week 4. The term has begun with some of the hottest days in history and I was very proud of the manner in which the children coped in such extreme weather.

This year you will notice many changes occurring. These changes are taking place to ensure we utilise the expertise of the staff we have and to reduce interruptions to class learning time. Primary schools are extremely busy places with teachers needing to cover a very vast and content rich curriculum.

To ensure we provide our children with a schooling experience that focuses on developing the whole child while still ensuring we deliver the best possible education, we have made the following changes:

- There will be a reduction in the number of events and fundraisers held throughout the year.
- We will attend some events only every second year (such as the Camden Show, Extravaganza, Dance to be Fit)
- Most classes have specialist Physical Education and Science teachers during teacher release time.
- Major assemblies will only be held once or twice a term. *A handout has been provided and details are on our school website.*
- Merit awards will be handed out fortnightly on a Wednesday or Thursday afternoon . *A handout has been provided and details are on our school website.*
- An Instructional Leader has been employed to support our teachers and help implement research based 'best practice.'
- All beginning teachers will be mentored and supported by our Instructional Leader.
- Term 2 will see the introduction of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL). This is a new approach to student well-being and more information will be provided later in the term.
- Teachers will work collaboratively to ensure a consistent approach to quality teaching and engage in relevant and stage appropriate professional learning.

Coming Events

15 Feb	Scripture Commences Parent/Teacher Information Sessions 5pm and 6pm
17 Feb	Leader Induction Ceremony – 9.30am
21 Feb	Swimming Carnival Kindy Canteen Day
22 Feb	K-2 Awards - 2.30pm
5 Mar	Thirlmere Steam Festival
24 Mar	School Photos

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**The office is open from
8.30am to 3.00pm**

These changes will take time to be implemented and the new routines established. Your patience and understanding during this time, is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns please contact myself at the school.

I would like to finish off by saying a huge thank you to all the staff at TPS who are working extremely hard to implement these changes and ensure all children are receiving an outstanding education. I look forward to seeing many of you at Wednesday night's parent information sessions.

Kind regards, Lisa Whitfield

Band

Last year's established band are to bring in their instruments on Friday to perform at the Leader's Induction Ceremony.

Mrs Byrne

Principal's Awards

Aiden A, Mara L, Damien L, Miles N, Katie R

Swimming Carnival

The Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday 21 February-Week 5, at the Wollondilly Leisure Centre. Students should wear house colours or their sports uniform and covered shoes-**no thongs**.

Students should compete in the age group that they turn this year. Only students competing will be able to swim, **no free time in the pool will be allowed**.

Please note that today was the last to pay for this event.

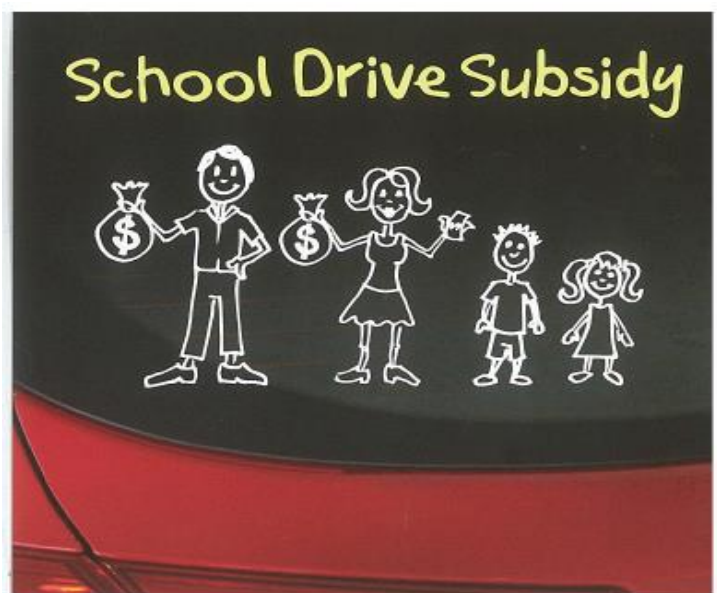
Mrs Pulbrook

Thirlmere Steam Festival

The 2017 Thirlmere Steam Festival will be held Sunday, 5th March. As the school is planning to be much more involved this year, please keep this date free. Your help will be very much appreciated.

Leaders Induction Ceremony-17 February

We would like to invite families and community members to attend our Leadership Induction Ceremony on Friday 17 February 2017 starting at 9.30am. During this event we will be acknowledging and present badges to our 2017 leaders. This includes our School Captains, Student Leaders, SRC Representatives, Library Leaders, Technology Leaders, Environmental Leaders and House Captains and Vice Captains.



If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport pick up point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.

The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.

To find out if you're eligible, and to apply online, visit

transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Can't get online?

Ask about the School Drive Subsidy at your school, or call **131 500**.



Transport
for NSW

SCHOOL FINANCE & OFFICE NEWS

Payments and Excursions

All excursions and sporting events have a **last day to pay date**. Parents are asked to have payments to the office before this date, as our system will not allow payments to be processed after the date. This will avoid any disappointment for your child.

EVENT	COST OF EVENT	YEAR	LAST DAY TO PAY
There are no outstanding payments!			

Have Your Details Changed?

If your details have changed, it is important that you advise the office of any changes of family circumstance. Information such as: change of address, phone numbers, emergency contacts or medical conditions and treatments are vital in allowing us to care for your children.

Please advise the office ASAP if any of your details change!!!

Notes Sent Home

Kindergarten

- Kindergarten Library/Sports Days

Stage 1

- Swimming Carnival (Students 8 years old only)

Stage 2

- Swimming Carnival

Stage 3

- Swimming Carnival

Selected Students

- Band 2017
- Tharawal Homework Club
- Learning Lab

All Students

- Steam Festival School Stalls
- Classic Car Club
- Meet the Teacher Sessions
- Tips for Cool Kindy Canteen Karma
- School Assemblies

Thank you
Administration Staff



Information for parents, guardians and students

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for you to submit school travel applications.

This means we will be able to process your applications online, making it easier and faster for parents, guardians and students to apply for school travel.

Applications for school travel in 2017 are now open, including for travel to Mascot and Green Square station and for private ferries. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to apply as soon as they are able via:

Applications for 2017 school travel are now open via www.transportnsw.info/school-students

A new application is required when:

- applying for a School Opal card or travel pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten, or
- requesting an additional entitlement as a result of a shared parental responsibility situation.

You will need to do an update application if the student has a current school travel pass and:

- is progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- is progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

Already have a School Opal card or travel pass?

- When you've updated, and you are eligible for free school travel next year, Transport for NSW will send you an email confirmation once your application has been processed. For travel in rural or regional NSW, we'll also inform your nominated transport operator(s).
- If you already have a School Opal card that does not need updating, or you've successfully re-applied, the Opal card will automatically be updated for travel next year. Do not throw it out as you'll be able to use it when the school year starts in 2017.
- If you currently have a printed travel pass provided by your transport operator, a new pass will be ready at the beginning of the new school year.

Term 1 Canteen Roster- 2017

Week 4			
Wed 15 Feb	Lee-Anne Armstrong	Millie Achis	Sarah Hicks (Orientation)
Fri 17 Feb	Bianca Long	Effie Lee	Annie Down
Week 5			
Mon 20 Feb	Robyn Green	Tammy Parker	
Wed 22 Feb	Neen Donnelly	Lani Nairn	
Fri 24 Feb	Jess Hayes	Cindy Hile	Tracy Digger (Orientation)
Week 6			
Mon 27 Feb	Sarah Fishpool	Julie Bird	
Wed 1 March	Diane Hunt	Meryl C	
Fri 3 March	Lea Blatch	Felicity Sneddon (Orientation)	Mel Anderson
Week 7			
Mon 6 March	Alison Tarrant	Lani Nairn	
Wed 8 March	Deb Parker	Millie Achis	Sarah Hicks
Fri 10 March	Christie Henry	Deb C	Sharon Phillips (half day)
Week 8			
Mon 13 March	Kerri Devine	Kathryn Davidson	
Wed 15 March	Neen Donnelly	Theresa Young	
Fri 17 March	Cindy Hile	Sam Billingham	Annelie Davis (Orientation)
Week 9			
Mon 20 March	Sarah Fishpool	Nicole Hepburn	
Wed 22 March	Lee-Anne Armstrong	Millie Achis	Fiona Groves (Orientation)
Fri 24 March	Lea Blatch	Annie Down	Mel Anderson
Week 10			
Mon 27 March	Robyn Green	Lani Nairn	
Wed 29 March	Deb Parker	Sarah Hicks	
Fri 31 March	Cindy Hile	Tracy Digger	Natalie Sharp
Week 11			
Mon 3 April	Julie Bird	Nicole Hepburn	
Wed 5 April	Diane Hunt	Meryl C	
Fri 7 April	Closed		

parenting ideas insights

Moving beyond asking, "What did you do at school?"

By Michael Grose

Ever found yourself asking your child the same bland question about school?

"So, how was your day? What did you do at school today? What did you learn?"

If these are your default questions the chances are that you'll get a one or two word reply along the lines, "Fine!" "Good!" "Okay" "Nothing much."

These answers don't really tell you a lot. On the other hand, these types of questions don't ask a great deal.

So how can you move beyond the mundane when you talk with kids about their school days?

Set the atmosphere

It helps to create the right atmosphere for conversations. A quick "How was your day?" as you pick a child up from after-school is a rapport-builder or mood checker, but little more.

If you drive you may learn a bit on the trip home, particularly if you keep the radio off and are able to keep some distance between kids and mobile devices. Alternatively, walking home together may loosen up your child's tongue and put them in the mood for talking.

Give kids a chance

Most kids need some time and space to unwind before expecting them

to talk about their day, particularly if you are going to launch and ask them questions. This makes sense as most adults would feel annoyed if they were assaulted as soon as they walked in the door about their day, "How was your day? What did you do? Who did you see?" Ahh! Stop!

Create conversations rather than ask questions

The dinner table makes a great place to talk, if all televisions are off, mobile devices are left behind and you take the time to make it more than a pit stop. One way to kick off a conversation is to ask kids if they'd like to hear about your day. From my experience kids are often interested in the most mundane things that go on in an adult's day so don't think you have to make it sound grander than what it is. This gives kids permission to talk about their own days; your story can stimulate conversations which provides openings for kids to ask questions and share a little or in some cases a lot about their own day at school.

Interesting questions lead to interesting conversations

The questions you ask to prompt a conversation will often say a great deal about you and what you value. If you focus only on academic or learning questions then it indicates that's what you value.



parenting*ideas

Moving beyond asking, "What did you do at school?"

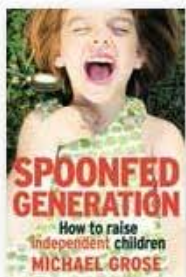
It helps to take conversations and your questions in different directions to get a multi-faceted window into your child's school life but also an indication of your child's interests, social skills and welfare. Here are some examples of question starters that may prompt different responses from kids about their time at school:

- 1 Tell me what made you laugh today?
- 2 Who did you play with at recess today?
- 3 Did you do anything that was brave?
- 4 If I spoke to your teacher, what would she tell me about you?
- 5 What did your teacher talk about today?
- 6 Is there anyone in your class who needs to be in time out?
- 7 Where's the best place to hang out/play at school?
- 8 Tell me one good thing that happened to you today?
- 9 Who were you nice/kind/friendly to today?
- 10 Did anyone push your buttons today?
- 11 What did you do that you were proud of/happy with today?
- 12 What's something you learned with a friend today?
- 13 What's your teacher's most important rule?
- 14 If today was a musical instrument what would it be? Why?
- 15 If you were a teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?

Next time you ask a clichéd and dull question about your child's day stop yourself before you utter the words. Instead think outside the square and ask questions that may stimulate a response beyond "Fine" or "Nothing." And remember they may not feel like talking, which is fine too. Like adults, kids need to be in the right mood and the right environment if they are going to share a meaningful conversation about their day.



**Visit our website
for more ideas and
information to help you
raise confident and
resilient young people.**



Special note: I'm thrilled to announce that my latest book *Spoonfed Generation: How to raise independent children* is out. It's available at parentingideas.com.au

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The CommBank School Banking program is available at your school.

Ensure your child starts two great journeys at once.

The program teaches kids about money and smart saving – and the rewards they can bring. It's also a great fundraising activity, as CommBank offers your school commission for your child's first School Banking deposit as well as deposits made as a part of the program.

Having taught Australian children the value of saving for more than 80 years, the program is not only a great opportunity for your kids, it's great for your school as well.

To be involved, all your child needs is a Youthsaver account. They can then make regular deposits at school on banking day and will even be rewarded along the way. So, get ready to meet the Dollarmites and keep your eyes peeled for more School Banking information at the beginning of Term 1 next year.



To find out more about the program, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking



Three simple ways to open your child's Youthsaver account.

1. If you are a CommBank customer apply online through NetBank.

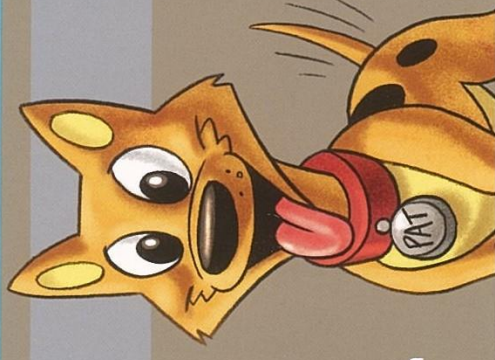
2. Visit any CommBank Branch.

Please bring along your child's birth certificate and identification for yourself.

3. Call 13 2221.



Receive a Dollarmites wallet when you open a Youthsaver account.



Things to know before you Can: As this advice has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs, you should, before acting on this advice, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. Full terms and conditions for the Youthsaver account are available via 13 2221 and should be considered in any decision about the product. If you have a complaint in respect of this product, the Commonwealth Bank's dispute resolution process can be accessed on 13 2221. Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124.



PATRICIA YVONNE ACADEMY OF DANCE, DRAMA & THEATRE ARTS



THIRLMERE

THIRLMERE PUBLIC SCHOOL HALL
MONDAY & THURSDAY AFTERNOONS.

CLASSES RESUME from MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2017

**BALLET- SPEECH & DRAMA – TAP – JAZZ
MODERN – LYRICAL BALLET
HIP HOP - MUSICAL THEATRE**

Students trained for EDTA Examinations & Stagecraft
Beginners from 4yrs to Advanced

MONDAY AFTERNOONS

3-15pm Mini Tap/Jazz/Ballet (7-10yrs)
4-30pm Mini Speech & Drama (7-10yrs)
4-30pm Junior Hip Hop (10-13yrs)
5-00pm Junior Jazz/Tap (10-13yrs)
5-50pm Junior Ballet (10 to 13yrs)
6-15pm Senior Ballet/Pointe
7-10pm Senior Jazz/Tap
8-00pm Finish

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

3-30pm Novice Dance (6yrs & under)
4-00pm Junior Ballet (10-13yrs)
4-45pm Junior Speech & Drama
5-15pm Advanced Classes (B/T/I)
7-00pm Finish

Fully qualified and caring Teacher who believes in correct and careful training.
EDTA Inc. President/Organiser/Syllabus Creator/Examiner/Life Member.

ENQUIRIES & REGISTRATION: contact Miss Patricia EDTA, AISTD, SATD.
(02) 4647 7728 or 0418 273115 (Mornings best)
Email: pyaddta@bigpond.com



Gymtastic Kids provides schools with fun, exciting and challenging opportunities to develop their love of sport.

We provide a wide range of programs, catering for children from 1 year to adults over 50 years. With fun classes, fitness classes, team classes and competitive classes, we're sure you'll find something you'll enjoy.

All classes are run at the Wollondilly Community Leisure Centre, Picton.

For a full list of classes check out our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/gymtastickids.picton

Contact Ph: 0408 203 468



*Provide a quality rugby experience for your students
with curriculum aligned content and outdoor skills-based activities*

Game On is the national rugby union initiative for schools. It promotes fair play, diversity and inclusion, and focuses on preparing school students for a healthy and active lifestyle.

Find out more and register your interest at www.rugby.com.au/gameon



- Game On is delivered through Sporting Schools
- Promotes rugby's core values and a healthy, active lifestyle
- Select rugby union, Game On
- \$90 a session / class

- Five week non-contact rugby program
- Caters for all ages and abilities
- Register at www.sportingschools.gov.au

Mittagong Blue Light Disco

Venue: Mittagong RSL

Date : Saturday 25h February 2015

Times : 4pm to 6.30 pm

Cost : \$5.00 per child 4 – 14 years

Parents and children under 3 free.



Chris Sellar

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