

# Muswellbrook South Public School

Proud and Powerful to be a School in Partnership (SiP) school.

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Week Five Term One

**STOP PRESS:** Don't forget our School Photos are coming up very soon on March 5<sup>th</sup>!

## *Dear Parents and Carers of Muswellbrook South PS*

Thank you to those parents and carers who attended last weeks' information evening. It was a night where staff introduced themselves and presented information that is occurring in classes and stages. It was a pleasing attendance and showed how much you value your child's education.

Our core business is the education and well-being of children. This is achieved through having high quality teachers delivering quality teaching programs and engaging children in their learning in classrooms everyday. As Principal of Muswellbrook South Public School, I am committed to ensuring that every child receives the very best education we are able to deliver.

As I've moved around the school this week it has been great to see so many children following our expectations of being Safe, Respectful and Responsible Learners. Many of our children already have been rewarded with Pebbles and White awards for following the rules and values. Keep up the good work South!

Good Luck to our Zone swimmers this Friday, who will be competing at Singleton.

Yours in Education

*Rebecca Langdon*

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION** **REGARDING BUS ZONES AT SOUTH**

*The Bus Zone in Maitland St, out the front of the school, has been extended to **8:30 – 4:30 on school days**. New signs have been installed and infringement notices will apply to vehicles parked in the Bus Zone during those times.*

Congratulations to the following students who had 'Cup Cake' time with Mrs Langdon

**ES1** - - N. Turner, J. Correria

**Stage 1** – E. Chapman, T. Bradbury, T. Chapple

**Stage 2** - L King, E. Davie

**Stage 3** – D. Smith, K. Hull-Dillion

Please come and watch the talented students from **6M** present their class item at this Friday's assembly.

## Why must your child attend school every day?

The law in NSW states that all children between the ages of 6 and 17 are required to attend school regularly (Education Reform Act 1990). It is the legal responsibility of parents and caregivers to make sure that their children attend school every day.

For students in ALL years, regular school attendance forms a pattern for life.

Regular means **EVERY SCHOOL DAY**.

Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps build and maintain friendships with other children.

If students miss the basic skills in the early years of school there may be gaps in their learning and they may have problems later on.

### **Arriving at school and class on time:**

\*Ensures that your child doesn't miss out on the essential learning activities scheduled early in the day when they are most alert.

\*Helps your child to learn the importance of punctuality and routine.

\*Gives your child time to greet their friends before class and therefore reduces the opportunity for classroom disruption.

**REMEMBER:** Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained to the school the same way as other forms of absence.

When the music begins children need to move to their lines and be ready to be in class at 9:25am. Therefore lunch orders must be completed before this time so that the student is not marked late. If you have any questions about your child's attendance please see your child's teacher.

## **PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

Our school has been part of the Priority Schools Program for a number of years. The aim of the program is "reducing, with a view to eliminating the achievement gap in students learning outcomes for concentrations of students who may be adversely affected in schooling due to their socio-economic circumstances".

Priority schools receive additional resources for literacy, numeracy and participation programs for all students.

Last year we received approximately \$50,000 through the Priority Schools Program to support teaching and learning programs in the school. We used these funds to:

- Employ a teacher and 3 School Administration Officers to support guided reading in classrooms, ensuring that students worked in small groups or individually to receive reading instructions.
- Employ a School Administration Officer to promote the school in the wider community
- Provide an explicit language skills program, in conjunction with a Speech Pathologist who collaboratively planned and taught with class teachers. Individual learning plans for identified students with language needs were also devised.
- Organise and run the six week Kindergarten Orientation program and parent component. Pre-school children attended school for two hours per week during this program. Children became familiar and confident in the school setting.
- Provide valuable literacy and numeracy resources to supplement and enrich lessons in the classroom

Funding for the next 4 years will be determined this year.

Parents of children in Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 in our school will be asked to fill in a confidential survey. We need to get **100%** of all surveys back to give us the best chance of continuing to receive valuable funding through this program.

**SURVEYS WILL BE SENT HOME ON MONDAY 5 MARCH AND WILL BE DUE BACK ON FRIDAY 9 MARCH.**

Further information will follow in next week's newsletter.

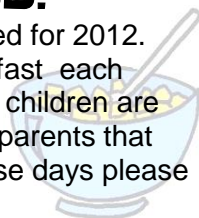
**Want me to know something? Email me at [muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or our schools Facebook page.**

### **Safety of our students**

Remember to keep our students safe. Only use the walk-in gates. Please do not walk through ANY car park as this puts our students at risk. Our gates are shut, but not locked.

### **BREAKFAST CLUB:**

Breakfast club has commenced for 2012. Come along and enjoy breakfast each morning 8.25am-8:50am. All children are welcome and if there are any parents that would like to volunteer on these days please call in and ask Mrs Gardiner.



### **School Canteen**

The canteen is open on **Monday and Friday** each week.

Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated!

Please contact Shellie or Megan on 0467 269 677.

### **UNIFORMS:**

Remember, Muswellbrook South is very proud to be a uniform school. This includes safe black shoes (not slip-ons). Joggers are suitable for sports day. Our uniform shop is affordable and well stocked. If you have any old uniforms they would be most welcome. Please leave at the school office.

The uniform shop is open **Monday and Tuesday afternoons, 3:00 – 3:30pm and Friday mornings, 9:00am – 9:30am.** Please feel free to call and arrange a time to visit if these days don't suit you.

Craig Rossaw: 0488 999 068

*Please note that parents are **NOT** to be using the Student toilets of an afternoon. If you need to, please use the staff toilets located outside the library.*

### **MSPS P&C**

P&C is a great opportunity to meet new people and find out what is happening in your child's school. Come along next **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> February at 2:30pm to the Heritage Hall** and have a chat.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** MSPS is holding a **Purple** fundraising day in support of Relay for Life.

For a **gold coin donation**, students are able to come to school out of uniform, wearing at least 1 item of purple clothing.

The valuable funds raised will go to the Cancer Council for their research and support families and those touched by cancer.



**Selective High Schools Placement Test****15 March**

The selective high schools test is held annually for Year 6 students wishing to enter a selective government high school. For key dates, online applications and more information for parents, see [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php)

**School Photos**

Don't forget to bring your smiles to school on **March 5<sup>th</sup>** for school photos. Notes will be going home today with details about packages and pricing.

**StudentCover Insurance**

Please see attached flier for information about taking out a StudentCover Policy for your children.

Additional information can be obtained from [www.studentcover.com.au](http://www.studentcover.com.au)

**Financial Support for your Children**

Our school contributions have not increased this year, they still remain at **\$20 per child**. These funds are collected from all families and form a vital part of our school budget. In order to provide for the quality and variety of opportunities at MSPS we need families to continue to support the Contribution Scheme. We thank all families in advance for their support.

**Muswellbrook Netball Association's Registration Days 2012.****Registration Days**

- \* 25th Feb & 10th March – 10am to 2pm at the Muswellbrook Marketplace
- 17th March – At Karoola Park
- \* Team Registration Forms **MUST** be in by the 25th Feb so players can register against their team.
- \* Season starts on the 17th March. Players will incur a \$20 late fee for Registrations after this date.
- \* Costs: Senior (18+) – \$136.50, Junior (Max Age 17yrs) – \$88, Netta (Max Age 10) – \$69, Fun Net (Max Age 7) – \$53 and Non-Player – \$34.
- \* Fun Net will start after the April school holidays.

**Other Items**

- \* Level 1 Umpires Course – Friday 2nd March
  - \* Mixed Twilight Gala Night – Saturday 3rd March – Age 16+ – Get a team together, come & have some fun!
  - \* All Schools Carnival – Friday 9th March
- More information, registration and team entry forms can be found on our website [www.muswellbrook.netball.asn.au](http://www.muswellbrook.netball.asn.au). To contact us e-mail [muswellbrook.netball@hotmail.com](mailto:muswellbrook.netball@hotmail.com) or phone Tracey on 0437 507 751.

# DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2012

<b>24 February</b>	Zone Swimming
<b>29 February</b>	2:30pm – P&C Meet and Greet in Heritage Hall
<b>1 March</b>	Zone Girls Cricket
<b>2 March</b>	Purple Day Fundraiser for Relay for Life
<b>2 March</b>	Hunter Tennis
<b>4 March</b>	Clean Up Australia Day
<b>5 March</b>	PSP Surveys for Kinder – Year 4 families
<b>5 March</b>	School Photos
<b>6 March</b>	Zone Rugby League
<b>8 March</b>	Hunter Swimming
<b>9 March</b>	Cross Country
<b>14 March</b>	Stage 2 Surf Awareness Excursion to Nobbys Beach
<b>21 March</b>	Harmony Day
<b>23 March</b>	Bursting with Energy Expo
<b>26 March</b>	Goal Setting Meetings and Parent Interviews start this week
<b>26-28 March</b>	Parent Interviews
<b>2 April</b>	Zone X-Country
<b>4 April</b>	Term One Ends
<b>5 April</b>	Staff Development Day
<b>23 April</b>	Students Return (Term 2)
<b>24 April</b>	School Anzac Day Ceremony
<b>25 April</b>	Public Holiday, Anzac Day March, Main Street Muswellbrook