



TORONTO PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

17-03-2015

"Quality and Excellence.....Learning Together"

OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

Connecting our community and our school through newsletters, photos and information.

www.toronto-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

From Our Principal

Welcome to Week 8 Term 1.

It's amazing to think that we have only three weeks left this term before the first school holiday break for 2015.

Numeracy at TPS

We have had an incredibly busy term and teachers have been focusing on developing the numeracy skills of our students. All classes K-6 have introduced "Ninja" groups. This is an ability based approach to grouping students dependent on their skills and understandings in numeracy. Students participate in explicit direction of numerical concepts and strategies and then complete a variety of fun games based on the day's focus area. The aim is to move along the numeracy continuum of learning which in TPS classrooms means gaining different coloured "Ninja" belts along the way! Students are thrilled when they achieve success in their colour group, and then move up to the next colour.

Games often involve use of dominoes, cards or dice. Whilst classrooms are a hive of activity during this time, the progress students are making is outstanding, with many already having moved onto another coloured "ninja" level. All staff are currently undertaking professional learning in the Targeted Early Numeracy (TEN) program to ensure our kids have the very best numeracy teaching.

John Fleming

This year we have been extremely fortunate to secure the support of John Fleming (pictured) to mentor and coach our teaching staff in Explicit Instruction.



Mr Fleming is Director of the Haileybury Institute and Deputy Principal of Haileybury. He has been at Haileybury since 2006. His roles include quality control of the Junior School in his role as Deputy Principal and consulting with schools across Australia in his role as Director of the Haileybury Institute.

Mr Fleming previously taught in the Victorian Government School system for nearly 30 years. His most notable achievement was transforming Bellfield Primary School, a significantly disadvantaged school servicing a low socio-economic community, from a low achieving school to one of the highest performing schools in Victoria.

At the core of Explicit Instruction is the belief that all students can learn the skills they need to reach their full potential.

It's the role of the teacher therefore, to make sure these skills are learned through step-by-step teaching. That is, breaking down essential skills into their many parts and guiding students repeatedly until they have mastered each step.

John Fleming is an Explicit Instruction expert. Change in students' literacy and numeracy results happen under this model – often quite quickly. Results show that after only a short time under this model, students cannot only catch up to state and national benchmarks, but exceed them.

At TPS, we are truly excited about the change John's leadership, expertise and support is going to facilitate.

P&C AGM

A reminder that our P&C AGM is on tonight at 6.30pm in the teachers' staffroom. All executive positions will be declared vacant and then open for nominations.

Please come along and join our wonderful P&C group to continue supporting our school.

All welcome.

Have a safe and happy week everyone and remember –

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think" – Albert Einstein

Mrs Van Egmond ☺

Morning supervision of students

We have had a number of students arriving very early to school. Please also note that students should not be at school before 8.35am. **Teachers are on duty in the playground from 8.35am.** If you require care for your children before school, please contact YMCA Lake Macquarie OOSH on 4959 4444 or 0459 988 196. Please help us to keep our kids safe.

Aerobics News

Our two aerobics teams are looking great and their routines are looking fabulous. Their hard work and dedication is definitely showing. We were extremely lucky last Friday to have the expertise and assistance of Deanne Brown from Tighes Hill Public School. Deanne has been coaching aerobics teams for over 5 years, with her teams making it to Nationals almost every year. A huge THANK YOU to Deanne for sharing her skills. We are very proud of how far the girls have come and are so excited to be heading to Sydney in May to compete in State pre-lims. We would also like to say CONGRATULTIONS to Lily Greig. Lily competed in Coffs Harbour last weekend and came 1st in her division.

Tracy Marsland & Francine Nilson

Starstruck 2015

Exciting news! Our audition for Starstruck 2015 has been successful and we are delighted to announce that Toronto Public School will be taking part once again in this extravaganza.



This year the theme is aMAZEing. The concept explores different mazes to infinity and beyond. We are very excited to be working with another group of young performers that will represent our school. The performance dates are Friday 12th June and Saturday 13th June and will take place at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

Miss Pichaloff

Star Student Awards

Week 8

KL: Aaria Tuhakaraina – Enthusiastic and confident worker. Mj Boswell – Speedy response in warm-ups.

K/1P: Noah Sulter – Always doing the 6 L's in class.

1/2G: Ben Pittman – Working hard in reading. Bonnie McKay – Working hard in reading. Joshua Jacob Harju – Trying hard in literacy. Deegan Newbold – Trying hard in literacy.

2/3B: Lillian Walmsley – Interesting news. Shaylea Smith – Polite class member.

3/4D : Jamie Dodds – Great bookwork. Lilli Holder – Participation in warm-ups.

4/5C: Dominic Wilson – Excellent effort in writing. Rhys Murray – Excellent effort in writing.

5/6Y: Steven Brady – Focused learning. Chloe Hill-McCartin – Respectful class member.

K/6M: Sean Kokany – Great learner during maths.

Ninja Awards: *Orange belt recipients* – Alex Lundy, Jack Tonks & Brianna McEwan.

P & C NEWS

Our next P&C AGM will be held at 6.30pm tonight, Tuesday 17th March. If you are interested in holding a position on our P&C for 2015 please come along tonight for more information. The meeting will be held in our school staffroom.

REMINDER – Our homemade spaghetti bolognese meal day is on Wednesday 25th of March. The cost is \$6.00 which will include a drink. Please get your order in before Monday 23rd of March. Thank you.

Also, remember that every Friday until the end of term we are having **Sno-Cone Fridays**. The cost is \$2.00 and has been very popular with the children.

Easter Celebrations

Friday 27th will be an out of uniform day and the donation is an Easter egg for the raffle. Please mark this on your calendars. **The Easter Hat Parade is on Thursday 2nd April.**

Keep an eye out for the Easter Egg Raffle tickets which will be going out this week. There will be one raffle booklet with 10 tickets in it, going home for each child. Extra raffle ticket books are available, if required.

We have a new canteen pricelist. You may notice that there have been some increases to our prices. This is the first increase we have had to our prices for three years and in order for our canteen to remain viable we must move with the times and cover our costs.

Our new stock of sport shorts have arrived. After many requests, we have sourced a more durable material. The cost of these new shorts is \$25.00 a pair. The current shorts will be offered at \$5.00 each while stocks last. The sports shorts are available at the canteen. Also, winter uniforms are available for purchase. If you require any uniforms, please call in and see Sue at the canteen.

We are looking for donations of second hand school uniforms. If anyone has uniforms that they would like to donate, please drop them off to the canteen.



Creative And Performing Arts Groups (CAPA)

This year our school has been enjoying CAPA groups. This takes place every Wednesday afternoon during last session. Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 move around the school to a designated group. Some activities include painting, drawing, creating, dancing, musical instruments and yoga. The student's responses to CAPA Groups are overwhelming with excitement. We will rotate groups this week to give all students a chance to try a different activity.

Miss Pichaloff

IMPORTANT DATES ***TO REMEMBER!!!!!!***

MARCH

- 17th P&C AGM and meeting
- 18th Parent Teacher Interviews
- 20th Harmony Day
- 23rd National Young Leaders day

APRIL

- 2nd Easter hat parade
- 2nd LAST DAY OF TERM 1
- 21st STUDENTS FIRST DAY OF TERM 2
- 21st P&C meeting
- 24th Zone cross country

May

- 3rd Aerobics competition in Sydney
- 12th – 14th NAPLAN

Cross Country

Last Friday, years 3-6 participated in Cross Country at the Lions Park. Although it was a hot afternoon, all students were very well behaved. We will have a large group of children attending Zone Cross Country next term. Those children will be notified by the end of this term.



Please Note*

SCHOOL DROP OFF ZONE

The area out the front of the school in Renwick Street is a "Drop off Zone" between 8am to 9.30am and 2.30am to 4.00pm. Drivers are permitted to drop off and pick up student only during these times; they are not permitted to park.

The Ranger from Lake Macquarie City Council regularly patrols this area and drivers will be fined if they park in this area during these times.

**STUDENT
PICK UP
AND
DROP OFF
AREA**

Our New Website

Please check out our new website at www.toronto-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. The website contains up to date information from the Department of Education and Communities and more specifically from our school. News articles, events, notes and photographs can all be found on the site. We are quite excited about the site and would like your feedback. If you have suggestions about how the site can be improved please talk to or telephone Mrs McPhee.

Community Notices

LAKE MACQUARIE DOCKERS AFL CLUB

Tulkaba Oval, York St Teralba

2015 Registrations are open now at Tulkaba Oval

Thursday's 5.30pm - 6.30pm

NAB Auskick - 4 Years to 8 Years

\$70 (Includes 2015 Auskick Pack)

Juniors - 8 Years to 17 Years

\$140 (Includes club polo shirt). No weekly fees)

Youth Girls - 12 Years to 16 Years

\$100 (Includes club polo shirt). No weekly fees)

Come along on a Thursday and have a try.

Games are played on Sunday.

SHIMJANG **TAEKWONDO**

Self-defence –join now for mums, dads and the whole family. Please let us know if you are interested in a morning class for parents (after school starts). For full details see our website www.shimjang.com or call Greg on 0411 155 510. Have fun, gain confidence and meet new friends.

Toronto Junior Girl Guides

invite you to

Come and Try Guides!

Wednesdays 6pm-7.30pm

For girls aged 7-10 years

Come for a night of fun! Make new friends!

Toronto Guide Hall, 11A William St Toronto.

Please call Rebecca Hale on 0422 553 324 to register for this free event.

Or to find out more visit our website

www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

Coal Point Physical Culture Club

Be Fit, Be Flexible, Have Fun

Classes for girls & ladies aged 3 to 103

Thursdays from 4pm

Multi Purpose Centre

Thorne Street

Toronto

Call Carolyn 0416080995

Jo 0402435569



Play Baseball

History

Toronto Junior Baseball Club was formed in 1972.

We are located on the western side of Lake Macquarie with our home ground is Waterboard Oval, Fennell Crescent, Blackalls Park.

We Provide a range of baseball activities for boys and girls with age groups between five and 16 years of age.

About the Game

Baseball is a winter sport in our area. The season commences in April and finishes in September.

Tee ball for kids from five to nine years of age and Baseball for kids, from 10 to 16 years, is played on Saturday mornings.

Registration Details

Juniors - 5 - 16 yrs

To find out more information about the junior competition and or to register, please contact

Ian Mackey on ian@cre8inggrowth.com.au or call 0414 498 493

Seniors - 17+

To find out more information about the Seniors competition please contact

Pete 0411 183 145 or Joe 0439 697 062

