



INGLEBURN NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Macdonald Road
INGLEBURN NSW 2565
9605 2459

'THE BUGLE'



Term 1 – Week 6 – 2014

Message from the Principal

Dear members of the Ingleburn North Public School community,

Year 6 Expressions of Interest for high school placement due to be returned to the office before Friday 14th March.

Classes are now fixed and will not change in Term 1 or Term 2. *Should* the school receive sufficient enrolments to allow us to move to an 8th class, consideration will be given to whether this should be an infants class or a primary class. In any event the change of classes would not commence until the beginning of Term 3. Changing classes around may be unavoidable but at least it will occur at the commencement of a new semester, thereby reducing any possible disruption.

Labelling of student uniforms now available:

Thanks to Mrs White (ordinarily our Student Learning Support Officer – SLSO) we are now able to embroider the students hats and jackets, etc., with their initials. We will keep a list of students and their initials and, should we need to, we will use a number system. To recoup the cost of the cotton, stabiliser, needles and the servicing and cost of the machine, the cost per item of clothing embroidered will be \$3. Should you wish to have personal items of clothing embroidered the cost will be \$1.50 per letter (gold lettering only). Mrs White has completed the first two bucket hats and they look great! AT LAST, NO MORE LOST CLOTHING!

Coming Events

March

- Thur 6th Year 6 IHS Visit
- Wed 12th P&C Meeting 6.15pm
- Thur. 13th Whole School Assembly
- Thur. 27th Whole School Assembly
Harmony Day

April

- Tue 8th Term 1 Student Interim Reports
- Fri 11th Last day of term 1

TERM 2

April

- Tue 29th First day of Term 2
- Tue 29th Camp open to Year 4 (if places still available)
- Wed 30th ANZAC Day ceremony

May

- Tue 13th NAPLAN
- Wed 14th NAPLAN
- Thur 15th NAPLAN
- Fri 16th NAPLAN

Disclaimer:

Ingleburn North Public School does not endorse any product or services advertised in this newsletter.

Eftpos now operational in the school administration office – \$1 per transaction fee

INPS students in years 4 to 6 to take part in a special survey *Tell Them From Me*. What do our children really think about life, learning and the quality of their education? Only 50 DEC schools across NSW have been asked to take part in this special survey. The combined results (not individual student results) of the survey will be made available to the school so that we can better plan learning experiences for our students. Please see the information flyer below. A permission note will be sent home this week.

Attendance: more than simply showing up! Between the ages of 6 and 16 attendance at school in NSW is compulsory by law. Putting this stick aside for a moment, regular attendance ensures a child is getting the most from his/her education. It is also a legal requirement that the school document and report on all student total and partial absences. The procedure for 2014 will be as follows:

1. If your child arrives to school late he/she must go to the office first. The child should present a note to the office from you explaining why they are late. If you arrive with your child you can simply state to the office staff your reason for being late. So **GO TO THE OFFICE FIRST WHEN LATE**. If there is no reason for being late this is recorded as an “unexplained absence”.
2. If you wish to take your child home early, once again, go to the office and simply explain your reason for taking your child home early. No teacher is permitted to allow a student to leave the classroom without a note from the office. So **GO TO THE OFFICE FIRST WHEN GOING HOME EARLY**.
3. Should a student be absent for a whole or partial day without an explanation from you, the following will occur:
 - i) Day 1, student given a verbal reminder
 - ii) Day 2, if no written note or telephone call to school from you, student given a verbal reminder
 - iii) Day 3, if no written note or telephone call to school from you, student given a yellow reminder note for you to complete
 - iv) The following Thursday following no written note or telephone call to school from you, a formal letter is handed to your child for you to complete
 - v) The following Thursday following no written note or telephone call to school from you, a formal letter is posted to your home for you to complete
 - vi) Should you fail to provide a reason for the absence after all this, the DEC’s Home School Liaison Officer may contact you – especially if there is a history of your child being late or absent.

Chaos in the arvos: For unknown reasons quite a few students are seeing the afternoon bell as a time the school rules no longer apply. It is obvious that a child will be hurt, or worse, if the school rules are not followed. Can you please support our efforts to keep your children safe by reminding them of the following:

1. Any student catching the school bus, or one of the mini-buses, must go straight from class to the line-up area. They should not be playing any games at this time.
2. No student should be on the play equipment without *direct adult supervision*. Also, the equipment is rated for use by infants only.
3. Should a parent be late to collect their child, the child must go straight to the office and wait.

Students caught breaking any of the above rules will face consequences at school the following school day.

Swimming Carnival the best ever! Thanks to Ms Morgan’s organisational prowess, the swimming carnival was orderly and a lot of fun. Congratulations go to our student competitors for “having a go” and to our fantastic teachers for their hard work in the heat! I was particularly impressed with Mrs Wyber and Mr Cosis for finding almost any thread of a reason for jumping in the pool and ... err ... ensuring that our students were safe.

Mr Moseley’s Question(s) for the week:

Congratulations to Jack Risnes who answered the following: What colour is a polar bear’s skin? *Its skin is black. Its fur is not really white, it is clear! It dries itself by shaking and rubbing itself on snow. It eats seals, birds and fish. It*

weighs as much as a small car. No one came up with an answer to: Is white a colour? The answer is yes. It is a combination of all colours. Black is the absence of colour so it is not a colour.

This week's primary school question: How many times does a single bee have to leave the hive and return with pollen to make one teaspoon of honey?

This week's infant's school question: How many cents are there in one dollar? How many legs does a centipede have?

Raising children in the 21st century – not easy! Stranger danger, cyber bullying, Facebook, drugs, coward's punches (formerly known as king hits), binge drinking, speeding in cars, 25% youth unemployment in South West Sydney - whew! I do not envy you your challenges in helping your children to reach the relative safety of adulthood. What can we do? Certainly the fact that generally children today display poor resilience, inappropriate risk taking and relationship insecurity is as obvious as it is at school as it is when they "go it alone" in their adolescence. And certainly we do them no favours with "helicopter parenting", "wrapping them in cotton wool" and generally failing to use the NO word. The days of "tough love" are disappearing fast. But can we really return to the good old days? See the attached article – for your interest only – reminds me of my children on Xmas Day, discarding their new toys and playing with the cardboard box (better for their imagination anyway).

School ditches rules and loses bullies

Published: 6:31AM Sunday January 26, 2014 Source: Fairfax

Ripping up the playground rulebook is having incredible effects on children at an Auckland school.

Chaos may reign at Swanson Primary School with children climbing trees, riding skateboards and playing bullrush during playtime, but surprisingly the students don't cause bedlam, the principal says.

The school is actually seeing a drop in bullying, serious injuries and vandalism, while concentration levels in class are increasing.

Principal Bruce McLachlan rid the school of playtime rules as part of a successful university experiment.

"We want kids to be safe and to look after them, but we end up wrapping them in cotton wool when in fact they should be able to fall over."

Letting children test themselves on a scooter during playtime could make them more aware of the dangers when getting behind the wheel of a car in high school, he said.

"When you look at our playground it looks chaotic. From an adult's perspective, it looks like kids might get hurt, but they don't."

Swanson School signed up to the study by AUT and Otago University just over two years ago, with the aim of encouraging active play.

However, the school took the experiment a step further by abandoning the rules completely, much to the horror of some teachers at the time, he said.

When the university study wrapped up at the end of last year the school and researchers were amazed by the results.

Mudslides, skateboarding, bullrush and tree climbing kept the children so occupied the school no longer needed a timeout area or as many teachers on patrol.

Instead of a playground, children used their imagination to play in a "loose parts pit" which contained junk such as wood, tyres and an old fire hose.

"The kids were motivated, busy and engaged. In my experience, the time children get into trouble is when they are not busy, motivated and engaged. It's during that time they bully other kids, graffiti or wreck things around the school."

Parents were happy too because their children were happy, he said.

But this wasn't a playtime revolution, it was just a return to the days before health and safety policies came to rule.

AUT professor of public health Grant Schofield, who worked on the research project, said there are too many rules in modern playgrounds.

"The great paradox of cotton-woolling children is it's more dangerous in the long-run."

Society's obsession with protecting children ignores the benefits of risk-taking, he said.

Children develop the frontal lobe of their brain when taking risks, meaning they work out consequences. "You can't teach them that. They have to learn risk on their own terms. It doesn't develop by watching TV, they have to get out there."

The research project morphed into something bigger when plans to upgrade playgrounds were stopped due to over-zealous safety regulations and costly play equipment.

"There was so many ridiculous health and safety regulations and the kids thought the static structures of playgrounds were boring."

When researchers - inspired by their own risk-taking childhoods - decided to give children the freedom to create their own play, principals shook their heads but eventually four Dunedin schools and four West Auckland schools agreed to take on the challenge, including Swanson Primary School.

It was expected the children would be more active, but researchers were amazed by all the behavioural pay-offs. The final results of the study will be collated this year.

Schofield urged other schools to embrace risk-taking. "It's a no brainer. As far as implementation, it's a zero-cost game in most cases. All you are doing is abandoning rules," he said.

Commonwealth Student Banking

Student banking at our school is Wednesday mornings **before the bell**. All students with a Commonwealth Bank account are encouraged to bring their banking to the office window. If your child does not have a Dollarmite account new applications can be made online or by visiting your nearest Commonwealth Bank.

This year the Commonwealth Bank have introduced a new range of reward items. These include a moneybox, scented pencils, projector cup, handball, sea streamers pool toy, penguin or shark plush toy keyring and a swimming bag.

Ms Keen - School Banking Co-ordinator

P&C NEWS

I would like to announce and welcome the following new P&C members -

VICE PRESIDENTS – Kristy Richardson and Venessa Kuk

SECRETARY – Helen Brown and Nicole Vera

P&C TREASURER – Sharyn Haige

CANTEEN TREASURER – Bianca Papanikolaou

CANTEEN MANAGER – Ruth and Byrand Nitto

UNIFORM MANAGER – Wendy Freeman

I would personally like to thank all of you for donating your time and giving the P&C a go.

Canteen

A wonderful way to be part of the school community is through volunteering.

We currently have some amazing volunteers in our canteen to ensure we maintain a full-time canteen for our students.

However, through volunteers' children moving on to high school and work commitments, the canteen is in desperate need for some new volunteers.

No experience necessary.

If you are able to donate any of your precious time, please contact the canteen or office staff.

Your children also gain a sense of pride when their parent helps at the school.

Many Thanks
Andre Yusuf
P&C President

CANTEEN NEWS



Dear parents,

While we strive to keep prices low at the canteen for all our customers, it has become necessary this year to increase our prices slightly due to increased supplier costs. To avoid embarrassment please check our new price list which is available for download from the school website www.ingleburn-p.schools.nsw.edu.au or hard copies are available at the canteen.

Please be aware late lunch orders are difficult to accommodate. Can all parents ensure orders are placed when arriving at school and not at recess. Your help in this matter will be much appreciated.

Exciting new additions to the canteen menu:

Breakfast will start Monday, 17th March, 2014

Toast with jam, honey or vegemite - \$0.50 per slice

Small glass of Milk or Juice - \$0.50

New additions Term 2

Pancakes with optional syrup

Noodle soup chicken or beef

Regards

Ruth and Brad Nitto

Canteen Managers

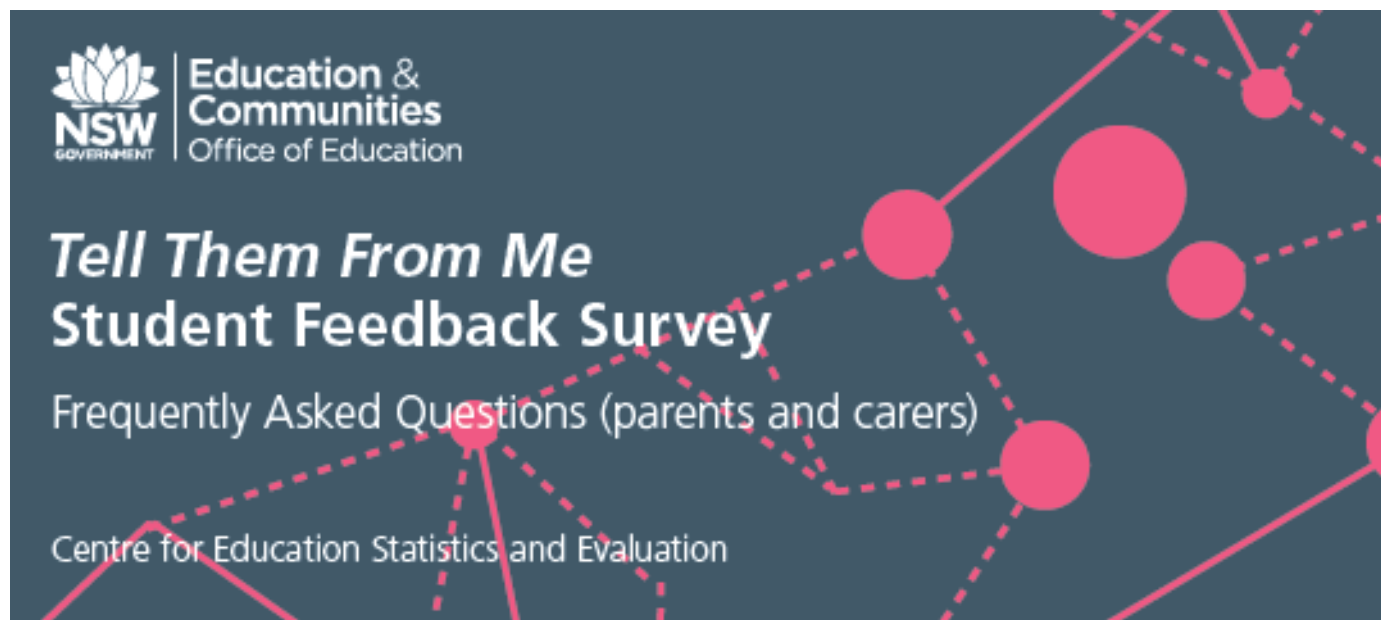
Tissues



Last year our supply of tissues dwindled. It would be appreciated if families would pop a box into their shopping trolley next time you are shopping to build up our supply. Boxes can be sent to the office.

Thank you in anticipation.

Office staff.



What is the *Tell Them From Me* student survey?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW pilot project is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey will ask students questions about:

Participation in Sports	Homework Behaviour	Expectations for Success	Teaching Rigour
Participation in Clubs	Behaviour at School	Experiences of being bullied	Positive Teacher-Student Relations
Sense of Belonging	Interest and Motivation	Effective Learning Time	Positive Learning Climate
Positive Relationships	Effort	Teaching Relevance	

How have schools been selected to take part?

Around 50 schools have been invited to participate in the primary school pilot. Schools are of various sizes and in diverse locations across New South Wales, ensuring broad representation.

How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes around 35 minutes and is conducted entirely online. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

Does my child have to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

Will my child be identifiable from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password and where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed.

A small number of staff in the Department's Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) will have access to individual student responses for the purpose of state-wide analysis. Individual students' data will be held on a secure server with access strictly limited to CESE researchers. The researchers are interested in trends only – not in individual student responses. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any publication or analysis of the data.

What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within two business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student performance. This supports the Department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

Can all school students participate in the survey?

The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in these Year groups to participate.

When will the *Tell Them From Me* survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 10 March and Friday 11 April 2014 (Weeks 7 – 11 of Term 1).

What is the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE)?

CESE is part of the Department of Education and Communities, within the Office of Education. It has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in NSW.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education sectors.

What is The Learning Bar?

The Learning Bar is a Canadian education company that specialises in school surveys. Its survey, *Tell Them From Me*, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar has conducted surveys in Australia before, with schools helping to adapt surveys, ensuring they are appropriate to an Australian context.

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.thelearningbar.com

Contact Details

For more information about the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, please contact us:

E

cese@det.nsw.edu.au

W

www.cese.nsw.gov.au

Zone Swimming Carnival

Heats for the Zone Swimming Carnival were held on the Tuesday 25th February at Macquarie Fields Pool. Ingleburn North were represented by a team of 8 students: April Watt, Illori Platten, Jade Dawson, Michaela Heavey, Andrew Kelly, Jordan Watt, Jack Bailey and Emilia Nitto. These children are to be congratulated on their beautiful behaviour and the enthusiasm and determination they displayed against other schools.

A big THANK YOU to the parents who helped out on the day, in particular Michael Heavey who assisted in marshalling children for their events and keeping them entertained throughout the day.

Illori, Jade, Michaela and Jack successfully qualified for the Zone night finals on Thursday 27th February and WOW did they impress against some incredibly strong swimmers.

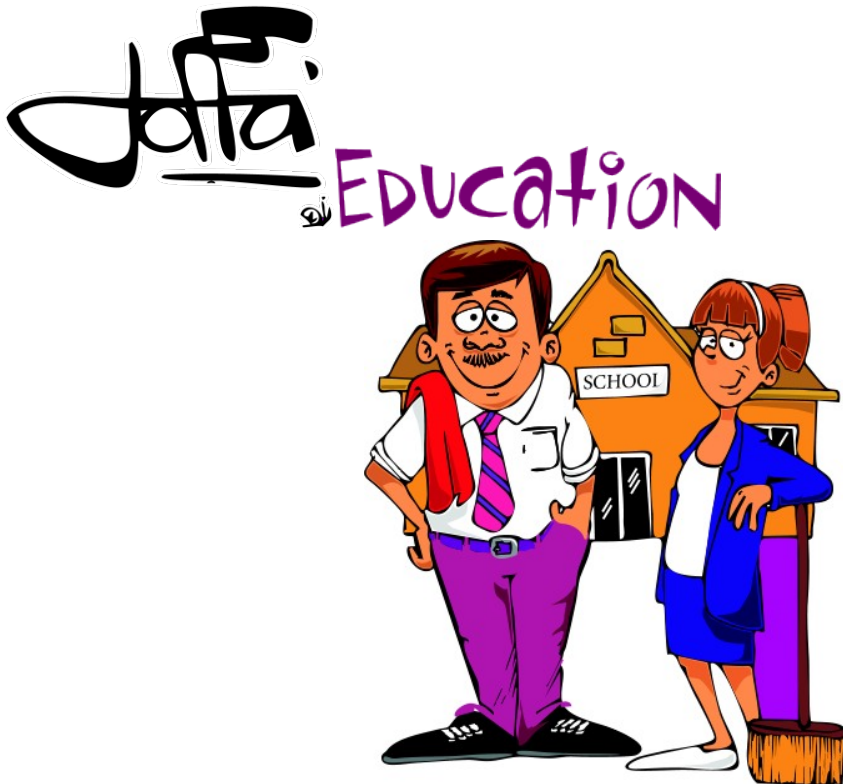
200m Individual medley	1 st Jade Dawson 2 nd Illori Platten
9yrs Girls 50m Freestyle	1 st Illori Platten
10yrs Girls 50m Freestyle	2 nd Jade Dawson
11yrs Girls 50m Freestyle	4 th Michaela Heavey
Jnr Girls 50m Breastroke	1 st Jade Dawson 5 th Illori Platten
11yrs Boys 50m Breastroke	4 th Jack Bailey
Jnr Girls 50m Backstroke	1 st Jade Dawson 5 th Illori Platten
11yrs Girls 50m Backstoke	6 th Michaela Heavey
11yrs Boys 50m Backstoke	3 rd Jack Bailey
Jnr Girls 50m Butterfly	1 st Jade Dawson 5 th Illori Platten
11yrs Girls 50m Butterfly	4 th Michaela Heavey
11yrs Boys 50m Butterfly	4 th Jack Bailey

As a result of a very special performance, Jade Dawson was awarded Junior Girls Zone Swimming Champion for 2014.

Congratulations to all members of the Zone Swimming Team!

Miss Morgan

We have booked 'Joffa' on 24th March, 2014 for the students to participate in TOONSCHOOL. To enhance our anti-bullying program we have organised this engaging presentation about accepting challenges, achieving goals and building resilience. Joffa utilises his exceptional cartoon talent to present to the students. Permission slips will be sent out later this week.



SCHOOLS, STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Jeff Taylor – (Joffa) – has extensive experience working with staff and students in schools and educational facilities right around Australia.

From inner suburban Melbourne to the dusty goldfields of Kalgoorlie, from the Red Centre to the rugged north coast of Tasmania, from the edges of Kakadu to the bustling inner suburbs of Sydney, the name Joffa' is synonymous with positivity and self belief.

During his travels he has interacted with over 1000 school principals, more than 3000 teachers and approximately 350,000 students and has accumulated extensive knowledge on how schools, no matter how diverse operate.

Although the demographics of the schools he visits are poles apart, one thing is common amongst the Principal and staff – the wellbeing and quality of education to the kids in their care.

The programs he offers to school staff and students are quite unique in its content and presentation.

His anecdotes on the rigors of travel, the diversity of people he has met and how he uses his life experiences make for riveting listening.

**HAVE YOU
CLAIMED YOUR
FREE T-SHIRT
YET?**



There is still time for you to claim your free t-shirt with MLC Tennis Hot Shots and, for a limited time, they are also giving away SpongeBob backpacks (while stocks last).

To take advantage of this offer simply:

1. Log onto MLC Tennis Hot Shots website:
<http://hotshots.tennis.com.au/claim>
2. Ignore “My Tennis ID login” and scroll down to the bottom of the page to “MLC Tennis Hot Shots Venue”.
3. Type in school postcode (2565) or school name and click blue search button.
4. Find ‘Ingleburn North Public School’ and click blue select button.
5. Complete the fields. NB area code (02) required before phone number with no spaces between numbers.
6. Once all fields have been completed your child’s free t-shirt and backpack (while stocks last) will be sent to the school for distribution.

Every registration earns the school \$2.00. Forty three students have already registered earning our school \$86.00 dollars to go towards purchasing additional tennis equipment for the school. Well done!