PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL
As we are all acutely aware, parking around the school is quite difficult at the best of times. This week I had the great pleasure of meeting with Mrs Deborah Batey (Road Safety Officer Construction Planning & Management for Gosford City Council) to discuss our current situation for 2016 and the possible future issues we see arising. We discussed at length the current signage around the school and the possibility of making changes to facilitate more car parking. Mrs Batey had some quite innovative ideas and I will be presenting them to the P & C at our next meeting for further discussion. I believe that we can work with GCC to get better results for the school community and Mrs Batey was certainly appreciative of our current situation. Watch this space!

STUDENT WELL-BEING
The staff here at Point Clare Public School are talented in many ways. However, their collective management of student well-being is exceptional in my opinion. If you have any concerns at all about your child or children’s academic progress or overall wellbeing please always see their class teacher as the first contact. It is vitally important for teachers and families to have good communication channels and you will find that the teachers have quite good knowledge of most well-being issues relating to your children. Teachers are available for parental interviews simply contact the admin staff to book a convenient time for both parties.

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST BULLYING
The sixth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is being held on Friday, 18 March 2016. At Point Clare PS the children will be involved in a range of different activities from Kindergarten to Year 6. We are going to be reviewing the school policy regarding Bullying in the next few weeks. This Friday we hope to develop the children’s understanding that bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Conflict or fights between equals or single incidents are not defined as bullying.

BYOD - PARENT SESSION FEEDBACK
Mr McNeill and the technology team delivered a well-received parent information session based on the BYOD strategy last Thursday evening. The technology team have provided the school executive with a thorough outline of the evening and an overview the topics discussed. One of the interesting topics that arose was around homework. The school staff will be working hard in the coming weeks to address the issues with homework raised at these sessions including providing a more uniform approach from K- 6 and raising awareness of school based expectations. As part of our Community Consultation Grant we will also be holding forums around this very topic. Dates will be confirmed by Mrs Young in the near future.

EASTER HAT PARADE – CHANGE OF STARTING TIMES
The previously advertised starting times for the annual Easter Hat parade were incorrect. After discussion with the P&C executive we have decided to shift the starting time to 1:50pm on 23rd March. We expect that the total running time will be right on the school bell and that this will help families to maintain their afternoon routines. We are looking forward to once again seeing some truly awesome Easter hats from all of our students in the K-2 classes.

LMBR – Learning Business Management Reform
As mentioned at the Parent Information evening, the school is about to migrate its data management from the very old OASIS system to the new range of platforms collectively known as LMBR. There will be significant changes to the way that the school administration operates under these new LMBR programs. At this early stage we have been advised that we need to close off all payments for excursions and other events one week (1) ahead of the event taking place. This will be a significant change from our previous accepted practice. Additionally we wish to give you early notice that the school (and in fact, all schools moving onto LMBR) have a “Financial Freeze” from May 11th to May 17th 2016. During this period the school is unable to receipt any funds at all including POP payments. This is due to a “roll-over” process being conducted across the state.

P & C AGM
Just a further gentle reminder that the P & C AGM has been rescheduled to next Tuesday 22 March, 2016 at 7:30pm in the school staff room.

Scott Campbell
Principal.
**Important Dates**

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<td>Easter Mufti Day - Egg donations</td>
<td>Rugby Ball Skills - Years 1 &amp; 2 Harmony Day</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 18</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td><strong>Wednesday 23</strong>&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Anti Bullying Day</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade - Kinder, Years 1 &amp; 2 commences at 1.50 pm includes Easter raffle draw.</td>
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<td>Gymnastics - Years 3-6</td>
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<td><strong>Friday 25</strong>&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>GOOD FRIDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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**YOU CAN DO IT - Winners Week 7**

**K-2 - Golden Ticket**
- Zane KC - Organisation
- Ice Blocks
- Milla 2A - Getting Along
- Caytlin 1/2FN - Getting Along
- Ben 1/2FN - Getting Along

**Yrs 3-6 - Golden Ticket**
- Mitchell - 5/6W
- Ice Blocks
- Anya 3/4B - Organisation
- Caitlin 3C - Confidence
- Georgia 5/6W - Persistence

**School Band**

Our school band practice is now being held on Mondays from 9.00 am until 10.00 am with Mr Masters and myself. If you play an instrument and would like to try out for band please meet me in the hall Mondays at 9.00 am.

**Jenny Ricketts**

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Brisbane Water PSSA Soccer Trials** - congratulations to Lachlan, Floyd and Ryan on their selection in the Zone soccer team. Good luck boys in the next round of trials.

**School Cross Country Carnival** - will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May (Week 2, Term 2) at Fagan Park.

**Sport in Term 2** - this will involve practice and qualifying for our school athletics carnival. In order to access McEvoy Oval for this practice, sport for all primary students will be held on Thursday mornings commencing on the 19<sup>th</sup> May (Week 4). McEvoy Oval is also booked for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June - travel will be by bus the cost of which has been subsidised by a Grant from the Federal Government.

A permission note and sport term calendar will be sent home early next term.

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**Inter-schools Mountain Bike Riding** - Last weekend Linnhe M. travelled to Thredbo and represented our school in the cross country mountain bike race. Congratulations to Linnhe who finished 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Steve Rayner**

**Easter Hat Parade**

This year’s Easter hat parade for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March commencing at 1.50 pm and finishing at end of day. Children are asked to make their hats at home and bring in to school on the morning of the hat parade. A separate note will be issued shortly.

**Linda Atkinson**

**Harmony Day**

Next Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, the school will be celebrating ‘Harmony Day’. It is a day to celebrate and embrace our cultural diversity. Students have been exploring other cultures in class and are also participating in a stage poetry competition. Winners will be presenting their poems at the school assembly along with a special performance from the Senior Choir and a presentation from 5/6M. Students are able to wear orange clothes to school and the canteen has also organised a special multicultural menu designed for the day. The main message is reinforcing that ‘everyone belongs’ and recognising the importance of creating an atmosphere of inclusiveness to all Australians.

**Denise Bentlin and Juanita Lavelle**

**The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey**

This term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

The survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carerers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by **Tuesday 22**<sup>nd</sup> March. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.
BYOD Information Forum

Last Thursday night many parents attended an information forum in the staff room on our new Bring Your Own Device program. I would like to thank those parents that attended as it was a very productive session. As previously advised we are currently reviewing the program, based on advice from the Department of Education, to investigate which devices other than iPads could be brought to school to assist with student learning. Once we have investigated how other devices such as Android and Windows tablets would work within the program (i.e., wireless connectivity, availability of education apps etc) we will advise which devices will be included in the revised program. Our goal is to keep the focus of using these devices on improving teaching and learning within classrooms and avoid teachers losing time in class to dealing with technical issues.

The BYOD forum facilitated some interesting and robust discussion and gave us some great feedback on ways we could improve the program. This included providing more information to parents about aspects of the program. Once our review process is complete we will endeavour to do this via our school website, Skoolbag app, newsletter and Facebook page. Many parents also indicated that there was some confusion about the variety of online learning tools that students have access to. This is independent of the BYOD program and varies within each class so the best thing to do is to seek clarification from your child’s teacher if unsure about this. We are also developing some short videos to explain each of the tools that we are using (eg. Studyladder, Mathletics, ClassDojo etc) and will post these on our YouTube channel once we have finished them.

We have more parent forums planned for later in the year so please keep an eye on our communication channels for these dates as they are advertised. Some of these will focus on specific topics (eg. using Google Apps for Education) and some will provide general information.

Once again, thank you to the parents/carers who attended the session and we look forward to seeing you at our future forums.

Mitchell McNeill (for the Technology Team)

Stewart House

2016 Donation drive envelopes have been distributed to each family today. Please note, donation is voluntary. Families who make a donation of $2.00 or more will go into a draw to win a family holiday valued at $4,000.00. Please return your donation envelope to school before the end of this term.

Book Club

Scholastic Book Club orders now closed. Late orders will not be accepted.

SCHOOL BANKING

We are pleased to see even more students joining school banking. Every new account opened earns $5 for our school, and we also earn a commission as a percentage of monies banked each week. As an activity of the P&C, your support of school banking helps raise valuable funds for our school, as well as teaching financial literacy & lifelong savings habits.

Once you have made 10 deposits, you can choose a reward. Rewards currently on offer in term 1 are:

* Snake tail toy
* Outback Writer set
* ET DVD (2015 item)
* Outer Space money tin (2015 item)
* Underwater savers money tin (2014 item; larger capacity than Outer Space tin)
* Galaxy Glider (frisbee, 2015 item)
* Intergalactic rocket (2015 item)

To redeem a reward, please fill in the reward card, which is included in your information pack. For 2014/2015 items, please write a note with your name, class, banking ID and item wanted. Rewards take approximately 1-2 weeks to be delivered, and will be sent back in the class banking satchel.

Under Commonwealth Bank terms & conditions, we remind you that sharing tokens, even between siblings, is not permitted.

Consistent savers:

* week 6 - KB (12 bankers)
* week 7 - 1R (13 bankers)


If you have any questions about school banking, please contact Liz on 0411 497 567 or liz.post@icloud.com

Happy saving!

Liz & Odette

Roll Up Roll Up!

Stage 3 Movie Night Fundraiser

One night only!!!! Wednesday, 23rd March

Snuggle up and enjoy the luxury of an exciting movie in our own school hall!

Wear your PJs, slide on some slippers and we’ll provide the snacks!

K-2: 5.00 - 7.00pm
3-6: 7.00 - 9.00pm

$5.00 entry at door
YOUR P&C NEWS

G’day all, welcome to week 8! The lovely weather continues and we are still enjoying weekends outside.

Last week, we had a successful general meeting. There were lots of great discussions and some ideas to implement. Thanks to all members and non-members for attending and raising your voices concerns.

One of the areas of discussion was around the ‘Working with Children Checks’ (WWCC). All people who work or volunteer where children are involved need to undertake this check, including all volunteers who work on school and P&C events. This includes BBQs, Canteen, Uniform Shop, Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, carols, etc.

You can obtain more information at the following address

We are planning an information session for early in Term 2.

Cheers
Jen Moes
President, Point Clare Public School P&C

For any queries please contact us via email or our Facebook page
P&C for Point Clare Public School.

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
TUESDAY 22 MARCH, 7:30pm

All P&C executive and sub-committee roles become vacant at the AGM. This year we especially need the following positions filled.

- Vice President/Publicity Manager
- Fundraising Convenor
- Sustainable Gardens Coordinator

Nomination forms can be left in the envelope in the P&C folder at the school office - no later than Tuesday 22 March, 3pm.

Join our dynamic team! Contact us &/or come along to the AGM on Tuesday 22 March, 7:30pm.

FACEBOOK PAGE

P&C activities can be found on our Facebook page.
Here’s the link to stay up to date. Make sure to ‘Like’ us!
https://www.facebook.com/pages/PC-for-Point-Clare-Public-School

YOUR CANTEEN

GREEN PROMO LUNCH - Monday the 21 March

Green Promo orders due today!

Last week we sent home a note about our upcoming Green Promo Lunch, run in conjunction with Harmony Day on Monday 21 March. We run a Green promo each term in order to qualify for our Healthy Canteen status.

Green promos are aimed at encouraging students to try a Healthy Canteen option. We strive to make these nutritious and delicious.

Orders are due in today - Tuesday 15th March. If you haven’t ordered yet you can still do so online at munchmonitor.com.au

Full details on how to use MunchMonitor online ordering are available on the school website. We appreciate your support of our Green Promo Specials.

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERING

The Canteen needs your help!
We need some assistance to pack lunches on Harmony Day next Monday 21 March, 11:00am to 1:00pm.

Are you available any day Monday to Friday between 9:00am and 11:30am or 9:00am and 2:00pm?

For all details contact Anwyn in the Canteen on Thursday or Friday via the school office on 4325 0594.

Thank you
Canteen Committee

YOUR UNIFORM SHOP

Open Tuesdays during term 8:30am - 9:00am

The new Uniform Shop can be accessed from the carpark next to the school office building, parallel to the school hall. Follow the path as far as it goes, around the side of the building to the back of the Kindy classrooms.

UNIFORM SHOP ONLINE ORDERS

If you don’t need to try on please consider using our MunchMonitor (www.munchmonitor.com) online order system. Deliveries will be made to classrooms on Thursdays, see the school website for more details.

Orders can also be left at the office, and will be delivered to classrooms on Thursdays.

LOST PROPERTY & LABELLING

To avoid your child/ren losing items at school or your child being able to re-claim their misplaced items, please label all school items. We run a “That’s Mine” labels fundraiser all year-round where 20% of sales are returned to the P&C. Pick up a specially labelled form at the Uniform Shop, or purchase online at www.thatsmine.com.au and select POINT CLARE PS in the school drop down box.

Thank you
Uniform Committee
FUNDRAISING

Easter is Nearly Upon Us!

Mufti Day this Wednesday 16 March

Don’t forget to bring in an Easter item for donation to our hampers on Wednesday (16th) and wear mufti.

Raffle tickets went home last week for our Annual Easter Raffle. Tickets are $1 each. Please make sure the name, phone number and child’s class are listed clearly on the tickets. If you sell out and would like more there will be extra tickets at the school office.

All tickets need to be returned to school on or before Tuesday 22 March. There will be approximately 40 Easter hampers to be won.

Winners will be announced at the Easter Hat Parade on Wednesday 23 March. Winners who are not present at the parade will be notified by phone.

Important dates to mark on your calendar

Wed 16 March - Easter Mufti and Donation Day

Please bring an Easter item to donate to our Easter hampers and wear Mufti. We can always use extra baskets for the hampers too, so please send any you may not need in to school for donation.

Tues 22 March - Last day to return tickets

Please return tickets and money to school by this date to go in the draw to win a hamper. All but the three major prizes will be drawn on this day.

Wed 23 March - Raffle winners announced

Easter Hat parade and raffle winners announced/notified.

In the meantime, sell as many tickets as you can to raise money for our wonderful school.

Thank you

Fundraising Committee

ATTENTION - CATHOLICS

The Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula is about to start a programme to prepare baptised Catholic children who are currently in Year 2 or above and have reached the age of discretion (normally about 7 years of age) for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The parent or guardian who will accompany the child through the programme is required to attend an Information Night in order to enrol into the Programme.

Monday 4th April at 7.30 pm,
Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy.
Enquiries - Parish Office on 43 41 1073