



Newsletter

Shellharbour Public School

Sincerity Provides Strength

Website: www.shellharbour.ps.education.nsw.gov.au

Email: shellharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

A Word From The Principal

Dear Parents/Carers

22 February 2010

Term 1, Week 5

SCHOOL PHOTOS

This Wednesday, 24 February, school photos will be taken. It is important for all students to be correctly dressed in our school summer uniform, it adds to the quality of class and individual photos. **No tracksuits or leggings are to be worn.** Family photos will also be taken on the day. All photos **MUST BE PAID FOR BY TOMORROW, TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY.** *Thank you for your assistance in this regard.*

SCHOOL SAFETY ISSUES RE CROSSINGS

In the first newsletter of the term, I raised the issue of cars parking in areas that block the sight of pedestrians and drivers around school crossings. Despite this, the practice continues unabated. Last week I attended the Town Street crossing. Whilst there a white minibus pulled up in the 'No Stopping' area right in front of the crossing, thereby creating a very dangerous situation. These parents duly collected their child and drove off, unfazed by the danger they place all other pedestrians in. It only takes a second for an accident to occur, the results can last forever. **Please make and effort to park, walk a short distance and collect children in a safe manner.**

The fine for ignoring a 'No Stopping' sign is \$189 and demerit points. **From this point on I will be happy to report the number plate identification of cars to the relevant authorities.** Mr Barr

CLEAN UP LITTLE PARK SHELLHARBOUR

On Sunday, 7 March, Shellharbour Public School will be part of the 'Clean Up Australia' campaign. While learning about environmental issues is important, so is doing something about them, and this is one way that learning about the environment can be reinforced. We have decided once again to focus on Little Park, next to the harbour. This is a relatively small area, but one which is frequently used by Shellharbour students and their families. The clean up begins at **9.00 am** and finishes at **11.00 am**. If you would like to join in the effort to clean up this picturesque part of our community, please meet me at the rotunda in Little Park at **9.00 am**. Participants should bring gloves, a hat and sunscreen. After the clean up, all participants are invited to a "Dig for Treasure" with Shellharbour City Council where there is the opportunity to win prizes donated by Stocklands at Shellharbour Square. Details on this dig will be provided

on the day. If you are able to be part of our contribution to Clean Up, please complete the form below and return to me at school.

CLEAN UP LITTLE PARK, SHELLHARBOUR

Yes, I will be able to help Mr Barr clean up Little Park, Shellharbour on Sunday, 7 March from 9.00 am to 11.00 am.

Name: _____ (please print)

Class: _____

Parent/Carer Name: _____

CANTEEN SUPERVISOR

Vesna Stanojlovic, one of our wonderful Canteen Supervisors has regretfully had to give notice of resignation from her canteen work, in order to take up more permanent employment *I would like to thank Vesna on the fantastic work she has done in developing this healthy food canteen. The students and staff fully appreciate the dedication she has shown to providing nutritious food for everyone.*

This means that a part time position is available for an interested person to apply for a paid position working in our canteen. At present the job is shared on a 5 day a fortnight rotation with the other Supervisor. Any person interested in applying for this position should contact the school to receive further details.

SCRIPTURE

Each year the local churches offer Anglican, Catholic and Baha'i Scripture classes to all students. These occur at various times on a Tuesday morning. Your child will be placed into one of these groups. If you do not want your child/children to be part of these lessons, please write a note detailing your wishes and return it to class teachers by the end of this week. If we do not receive this from you, we

assume your child will be doing Scripture for the year.

ICAS (FORMERLY UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES) COMPETITIONS

If you would like your child to be part of these annual tests, please ensure that you have returned the note that was sent home last week with the appropriate amount to the school **before the end of term**. Tests start early in Term Two and the school does not receive any extra test booklets, so late applications cannot be accepted.

STUDENT ABSENCES AND STUDENTS ARRIVING LATE FOR SCHOOL

Please note that if your child is absent from school due to sickness, you **do not** need to telephone the school unless the absence will be for more than three (3) days or longer. A note to your child's class teacher will suffice upon return to school. If your child will be absent due to a family holiday, please send a note in to your child's class teacher prior to the leave.

There are an unusually large number of students arriving late to school each day. **Classes start at 8.55 am sharp**, and students are able to arrive at any time after 8.25 am where they can happily enjoy a supervised play/talk time. Please ensure that your child/ren arrive before the commencement of classes. The first 20 minutes are vital to classroom routines, students who arrive late unnecessarily waste vital learning time for fellow classmates and their teachers. If your child is late for school, they must report to the school office **with a parent** and complete a late note.

NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Parents wishing to receive the newsletter electronically should email the school on the address below and request to be added to the distribution list:

shellharb-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

EDUCATION TAX REFUND

Eligible families can claim up to \$375 per primary school student and \$750 per secondary school student for legitimate educational expenses under the Education Tax Refund (ETR), but according to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) only half have lodged a claim, leaving more than \$500 million in unclaimed benefits.

So save those receipts. Taxpayers still have until March/April 2010 to claim out of pocket education expenses for the 2009 school year, if they lodge their individual tax returns through a tax agent. For more information about the ETR telephone 132861 or visit: www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

FREE VACCINATIONS FOR SWINE FLU

If you have not already taken advantage of free vaccinations against Pandemic A H1N1 (Swine Flu), NSW Health is strongly advising everyone over six months of age to be vaccinated. NSW Health's Dr Kerry Chant says: "Children who are beginning school for the first time may be coming into contact with many more people than they normally would, so it is vital that parents and carers check that their child's vaccinations are up-to-date, and make sure they get their child vaccinated against pandemic influenza. Further information on H1N1 (Swine Flu) can be found at: www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp

NEW RULES FOR CHILDREN IN CARS

A reminder that from 1 March, children up to the age of seven must travel in approved child car seats or wear restraints. These new laws have been passed to address the high rate of injuries from children travelling in cars. Research shows that younger children using adult seat belts greatly increase their risk of injury. For around \$100 for a booster seat, families can reduce the risks and save lives.

The RTA has produced an information brochure to assist in choosing suitable child restraints and seats. The free Safer Child Restraints Guide is available from motor registries or on 1800 060 607 or www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/children/childrestraints/. This page also includes all information on the new laws.

Brendan Barr, Acting Principal

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

All parents please note that the new grey school shorts are now in stock. If you have pre-ordered the shorts, they will be sent home with your child today or they will be available from the Uniform Shop

SPORT NEWS

Our sporting year is off to a fantastic start. House Captains have been elected and taking on the responsibilities this year are: **Bass: Zoe & Tyler, Flinders: Olivia & Brendan, Cook: Kira & Jye, Phillip: Ashlee & Dylan**. There is no doubt that these children will keep house spirits alive at our upcoming Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals.

The school Swimming Carnival was a great day and last Wednesday 35 of our fastest swimmers represented our school at the Tongarra District Swimming Carnival. Miss Pattison and I had a wonderful day watching our competitors and cheering them on. Once again the family support was nothing short of awesome and we say a *special thank you* to **Mrs Freeman** and **Mr & Mrs Papadimas** for their help with timekeeping duties and to the numerous other parents who ensured that children were organised and at events on time. All the hours of training paid off for **Katie, Kira, Nicole, Olivia-Rose & Georgia, Emma** and **Harley** who all placed either 1st or 2nd in their events, securing them a place on the Tongarra District Swimming Team which will compete at the Regional Carnival on **Tuesday, 4 March**. A *super special congratulations* goes to **Katie** who placed 1st overall in the 12 year age group

making her the **Tongarra Senior Girl Swimming Champion for 2010**. *Well done to all competitors you have made us proud!*—Mrs Prisk

KID'S CAFÉ NEWS

A new Kid's Café price list is attached to this newsletter to assist with lunch orders, it will also soon be available on the school's website. From the 1 March, the following items will no longer be available from the canteen:

- Banana Milk
- Thick Shake Paddle Pop
- Chicken and Vegetable Pie
- Fried Rice

Kid's Café helpers/volunteers are needed urgently on some days, please contact the school if you can assist.

KID'S CAFÉ ROSTER REMINDER

TUESDAY, 16 FEBRUARY

Pilly & Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

WEDNESDAY, 17 FEBRUARY

Chris Natrass & Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY

Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

FRIDAY, 19 FEBRUARY

Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

MONDAY, 22 FEBRUARY

Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

TUESDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

Karen Mathews, Kim Burrows & Belinda

WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

Dina Guarnaccia & Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY

Peita White & Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

MONDAY, 1 MARCH

Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

TUESDAY, 2 MARCH

Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

WEDNESDAY, 3 MARCH

Regina Pass, Judi Westra & Belinda

THURSDAY, 4 MARCH

Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

FRIDAY, 5 MARCH

Vesna—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**

MONDAY, 8 MARCH

Belinda—**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY**