



Newsletter

Important Dates

**Monday 12th-23rd
November 2018**
Swim Scheme

**Tuesday
27th November 2018**
Parent Focus Group Meeting
with Mrs Bax. 2pm in office

**Thursday
29th November 2018**
Digital Media Festival
Callaghan WARATAH

**Friday
14th December 2018**
Presentation Day/
Christmas in the Gully

**Monday
17th December 2018**
Book Pack Orders Due

**Wednesday
19th December 2018**
Last day of Term 4 for
students

**Tuesday
29th January 2019**
First Day of Term 1
for Students

Principals Message -

This week I have been analysing survey data. We asked K-2 and 3-6 to respond to a series of questions on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering Mathematics). K-2 responses were funny, insightful and full of enthusiasm for their STEM lessons. They love experimenting, controlling the robot and working outside. To test their critical thinking skills they were asked to identify between two toy cars which one would go the furthest when blown by a hair dryer. One car had a cardboard sail attached the roof. This was a yellow car. The other car was red and had no sail. The responses were amazing and there were a few students who felt red was the 'fastest colour'. Below are a couple of Year 2 responses that I believe show critical thinking:

"The yellow car because the wind from the hair dryer will hit the cardboard creating movement which will create less drag."

"The red car should win because the cardboard would be too heavy for the yellow car."

Survey data K-6 shows high levels of enjoyment with STEM activities, particularly robotics and experiments. Our kids have solved all sorts of problems, built bridges with paddle pop sticks, made towers with plastic cups and raced a balloon on a string. They're very clever. How about asking them to solve a problem at home or ask them why they think something works the way it does? Maybe even have a balloon race in the kitchen. It's fun and you learn at the same time.

FOCUS GROUP MEETING

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

Voice your ideas for the future or opinions on the present. Whether negative or positive, have your say at our focus group on Tuesday at Plattsburg Public school.

**27th NOVEMBER 2018
2:00 P.M.**

Meet at the office tea/coffee/bickies

Choir

This Thursday, a very excited group of performers are off to entertain some of our local aged residents. They have been working very hard on their singing and playing and I am sure will delight our audience.

Well done to all the girls involved.

Here are a couple of pictures of them rehearsing hmmm. Mrs Buxton



Online Safety

On Wednesday 14th November Year 3-6 Plattsburg students were presented with online safety presentation by internet safety expert Mr Brett Lee.

The presentations were well received by the students and Mr Lee mentioned many of his experiences from his time working in online safety with the police in the USA and Australia.



SWIMMING

Students have been enjoying the School Swimming and Water Safety Scheme at Wallsend Pool. The students have learnt water safety and survival skills.



LEADERSHIP

TEAMWORK

Leadership Day 2018. On Monday 12th November, Year 5 students who are interested in a Leadership position in 2019 participated in the Leadership Day. Well done to all students for a successful day!



Executive Leaders 2019 Announced!

Congratulations to our executive leaders for 2019 that were announced at Tuesday's school assembly. Ben, Brody, Charlotte, Sami and Scarlett along with the other year 5 applicants underwent leadership interviews from an independent representative. They have prepared their speeches and will present them to the school on Monday at 12pm. Captains, Vice Captains and Prefects will be announced at Presentation Day on 14th December.



Everyone Belongs Day

On Friday 16th November Plattsburg celebrated Everyone Belongs Day. All students heard presentations from, Multicultural Community Liaison Officer, Patricia Owen and Rebecca and Simon from the Refugee Council of Australia. Simon spoke of his journey to Australia as a Syrian Refugee and also played some classical piano in the library for the students.

After lunch the students watched our Cultural Dance Group and Didgeridoo Group perform.

The students were treated to a variety of experiences on the day and the theme of everyone belongs is very relevant to our school as we have many students and families from all over the world who are an important part of our school and wider community.

Regards, Mr Hopson



After School Alert

A number of students are loitering on the play equipment in Federal Park after school, either waiting to be picked up by their parents/carers or not walking directly home. A number of unsupervised students are engaging in dangerous behaviour putting other students at risk. **School pickup time is STRICTLY 3pm.** Staff have their own families to go home to and the number of parents that turn up to school late (in some cases up to an hour late) is increasing.

PICK YOUR CHILD UP ON TIME

It is important for parents to arrive on time to collect their child in the afternoon or make alternative arrangements for after school care. The bell rings at 3.00pm. For the safety and wellbeing of students we ask that you are on time to collect your child.

Attendance

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for home schooling. Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

Learning for Life Scholarships

Learning For Life Scholarships are now available. Meeting the costs of education can be tough. The Smith Family is offering education scholarships to assist your family to cover these costs and to help your children to get the most out of their education. If you are in possession of a Health Care Card or Pension Concession Card, and your child has excellent attendance, you are eligible to apply for a place on the Learning for Life Scholarship Program. Please contact the office for a referral form as soon as possible. The Smith Family will be in

touch to arrange a scholarship interview with you, and you will be eligible for your first payment in January 2019.

School Counselling

In every school, school counsellors, teachers, executive staff and the principal are available to assist students and their families. In our school there is also a Chaplain, Aboriginal Education Assistants and Community Liaison Officers. All work to create safe, caring schools, free from violence and discrimination. All can help you or your child in different ways. School counsellors are experienced teachers who have a degree in psychology and postgraduate qualifications in school counselling. They work with students of all ages, and their families, from pre-school to Year 12. District guidance officers also provide school counselling services and, in addition, co-ordinate a team of school counsellors. Every government school has access to a school counsellor or district guidance officer.

School counsellors work with students, parents or carers and teachers in a variety of ways. Their work includes:

- counselling students
- assisting parents or carers to make informed decisions about their child's education
- assisting schools to identify and address disabilities that affect students' learning
- liaising with other agencies concerned
- assessing students' learning and behaviour with the well-being of students.

School counsellors are members of schools' student welfare and learning support teams. With the agreement of parents or carers, school counsellors will pass on to teachers, information that will assist them to better meet the needs of their students. Students may refer themselves to the school counsellor or may seek an interview at the suggestion of a teacher, a parent or carer, or a friend. A student's reasons for seeing a school counsellor may include worrying about school work, conflict with friends, being in trouble at school or just feeling "down". Parents or carers may seek advice from school counsellors about their child's school progress, educational options, including access to special education services, behaviour and for information about help available from other agencies. Except when students refer themselves to the school counsellor, parents or carers will be involved from the outset. Their consent is required before any

psychological testing is undertaken. Whether working with students, parents or carers, or teachers, school counsellors will explain how they work, listen carefully to what is said, help clarify options and encourage informed decision-making. School counsellors are not at every school every day. It is necessary for parents or carers to make an appointment by telephoning the school. Students will be told of the arrangements applying in their school as to how they can see the school counsellor. Priorities for the school counsellor's time will be determined, in consultation with the school counsellor, by the principal.

Staff Development Day

Families would be aware that each year schools have specific days set aside for staff to attend professional learning. These days are usually at the beginning or end of the term. At the beginning of the year, families were informed of the proposal for staff to trade off their last School Development Days and instead attended workshops during four evening sessions throughout the year. This was done strategically so our staff could use the professional learning gained, throughout the year, in support of our students. This year the students will finish school on Wednesday 19 December 2019. Staff, having already used their Staff Development Days will also finish on this day. These changes to the staffs' timetable DO NOT affect dates for our students. queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Whooping Cough

Recent media releases have alerted the public to an outbreak of whooping cough, (Pertussis). PPS has not had a notification of any student with whooping cough however we urge parents to keep their children home if they are displaying symptoms.

The link below will take you to NSW Health Factsheet. <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/infectious/factsheets/pages/pertussis.aspx>

Tissue Donations

We are running low on tissues and asked that each family consider buying an extra box next time you are grocery shopping and donate it at the office. Our students go through a large amount of tissues and funds we save by our families donating a box or two frees up finances for other resources.



On Tuesday 13th November, Matilda and Charlotte went to Martin Place in Sydney and they set up near the Lindt Café. They were part of the Community Hair Project and we helped the homeless with haircuts, food and drinks.

Other people set up clothing and food for the homeless.

We met J.B who is the manager of Manly Sea Eagles and we sang Happy Birthday to Trevor who was one of the homeless people involved in the project.

We were there from 6:30 p.m. till 8:30 p.m.

45 people had haircuts and we were scared to start with but all the people we met were beautiful and kind. They were all friendly and grateful. The homeless people were saying things like thank you very much to us.

It has made us appreciate everything a lot more. Our Mum gave free haircuts and we are all going back in February 2019.

Regards, Matilda O'Brien and Charlotte O'Brien



Empowering kids to Manage Change and Transition

Change is an inevitable part of life and children's early experience of change provides the opportunity for adults to model and teach adaptive coping skills. Often children aren't the ones making the decision to change something in their lives. Rather, change happens to children, as the result of unavoidable life events (like transitioning to school) or decisions their parents make (like moving house). This can sometimes bring up feelings within the child of anger at the people making the decision to change, or perhaps feelings of fear around what lies ahead. Feelings of confusion are also common in children when faced with transition and change, so providing children with a sense of structure, routine and consistency (as far as possible) will help support them with managing change.

Change is often overwhelming for children, especially if the decision for change was not theirs. Parents can help children manage these intense feelings by creating a safe environment for them, and reducing the level of uncertainty around the change. Maintaining structure and regular routines helps with this, so children understand that not everything is changing, and that most important things in their world can still be relied on. This will help children to view change more optimistically and be more open to embracing the change.

One way to help children cope with these feelings is to give them the opportunity to be actively involved in the change process. For example, if the family is moving house, the child can be given the opportunity to decorate their new room. This might result in them feeling like they can control a small part of the change, and one that is important to them. This active role and engagement in the change process provides the child with opportunities to feel empowered and in control of the situation, thus assisting them with better managing and adjusting to the change.

Another way to involve children in a house move might be to give them jobs on the day of moving – bring the movers glasses of water, or look after the family pet, or check off boxes on a list.

Talking through the change in detail can also help children to feel involved. Open dialogue with children about upcoming change, what's to be expected and how this will impact them is important in assisting children to feel involved. Communicating what is going to happen and when removes some of the fear and worry about the unknown, and can give children the opportunity to be more engaged and feel a sense of empowerment and control in the change. This can also help children to feel safe and loved, and able to express the intense emotions they may be feeling at a point of transition.

Change is often accompanied with feelings of grief and loss, which can be upsetting for children. Depending on age, children will experience grief in different ways. Young children may lack the language to express this grief, so parents and carers play an important role in supporting their child with healthy emotional expression and regulation. Noticing changes in a child's behaviour and taking time to check-in are important. For young children supportive adults can label the child's emotions (eg "you are looking down, are you feeling sad?") and offer suggestions for strategies to manage. This not only assists children with building a dialogue for their experience but also allows opportunities for healthy expression of emotions.

Supporting children to feel empowered to manage change and have a sense of optimism about the future provides opportunities for developing resilience. Building resilience comes through the development of social and emotional skills, including coping skills. In order for children to build resilience they need to be exposed to life's inevitable ups and downs in the context of supportive adults, to allow children to learn practical skills for managing change. Resilience, developed through exposure to many little challenges, can be drawn on when larger challenges arise, like change and transition, and help a child feel more in control.



Callaghan College Waratah Campus

Gates Open
4:30pm
Entertainment and Stalls
4:30 - 7:30pm
The Marching Koalas
6:30pm
Film Premiere
7:30pm

Thursday 29 November

CEP Outdoor Digital Media Festival 2018

Supported by



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SILVER JEWELLERY

21c LEARNING HUB

ART EXHIBITION

SWEET TEMPTATIONS

AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING

LUCKY DIP

STALLS

CORN ON A COB

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

NACHOS

LOLLIES

CAKES

ENTERTAINMENT

HENNA HANDS

FAIRY FLOSS

SHOWBAGS

DRINKS

+ MUCH MUCH MORE



Tickets Available at Participating Schools

GlendorePS HamiltonNorthPS IslingtonPS

JesmondPS MarylandPS MayfieldEastPS MayfieldWestPS MinmiPS PlattsburgPS ShortlandPS TighesHillPS

WallsendPS WaratahPS WaratahWestPS

CCWallsend CCWaratah CCJesmond

CANTEEN PRICE RISE!

New Prices 2019 Term 1



Milk

\$2.20



Zooper Doopers

\$0.70



Chips

\$1.20

Plattsburg PS Uniform Shop

CLEARANCE SALE

Limited stock and sizes

Girls Tunics	\$20
Micro Mesh Tri-Stripe Polo	\$10
Micro Mesh Shorts Contrast Panel	\$10
Mesh Shorts	\$5

Opening Times
Monday, Thursday and Friday
2:30pm to 3pm

PosterMyWall.com

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FUNDRAISING GOAL

\$20 000

\$20 000
\$15 000
\$10 000
\$5000

Total Raised

\$7078

Our Aim

Thank you for supporting Plattsburg P&C

PosterMyWall.com



Meeting Notice

P&C Meeting

Monday 11th February 2019

9.30am in the library

All Welcome.

Breakfast Club Roster

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19/11/18 HELP Kristie O'Brien	20/11/18 Allison NM (Bread Collector) Kylee Burnett Michele Ryan	21/11/18 Kylie Evans (Bread Cutter) Michele Ryan Nabeel Tawfia	22/11/18 Carly Ackerman Nabeel Tawfia	23/11/18 Carly Ackerman Sheridan Uhrig
26/11/18 HELP Kristie O'Brien	27/11/18 Kylee Burnett Michele Ryan	28/11/18 Michele Ryan Nabeel Tawfia	29/11/18 Carly Ackerman Nabeel Tawfia	30/11/18 Carly Ackerman Sheridan Uhrig
3/12/18 HELP Kristie O'Brien	4/12/18 Anna Brinkley (Bread Collector) Kylee Burnett Michele Ryan	5/12/18 Kylie Evans (Bread Cutter) Michele Ryan Nabeel Tawfia	6/12/18 Carly Ackerman Nabeel Tawfia	7/12/18 Carly Ackerman Sheridan Uhrig
10/12/18 HELP Kristie O'Brien	11/12/18 Kylee Burnett Michele Ryan	12/12/18 Kylie Evans (Bread Cutter) Michele Ryan Nabeel Tawfia	13/12/18 Carly Ackerman Nabeel Tawfia	14/12/18 Carly Ackerman Sheridan Uhrig

Canteen Roster

Monday Sandra Moriarty Odette Radburn
Tuesday Amanda Mikulski
Wednesday Bernadette Jopp Kylie Evans
Thursday Sandra Moriarty
Friday Sandra Moriarty Amanda Mikulski Order online at www.quickcliq.com.au



PLATTSY CHRISTMAS APPEAL for the Salvation Army

Food: non-perishable, preferably with a long storage date, that can be used by families over the Christmas and New Year period. Christmas goodies.

Unwrapped gifts: The reason we request unwrapped presents is to allow parents to personally select suitable gifts for their children. This is a more dignified way of allocating gifts. Gifts can be placed in Christmas bags or just unwrapped.

Donations of Christmas wrapping paper, bags or decorations would be useful as parents of children receiving the gifts can wrap them themselves.....all the more fun and joy for those families

GIFTS URGENTLY REQUIRED THIS YEAR

Toddlers: 1-3 years, safe toys

Soft toys: The Salvo's have an abundance of soft toys so we ask that wherever possible you refrain from donating soft toys.

Boys and Girls: Age 12+

Teenagers

THANK YOU for your generosity in helping to make Christmas special for ALL children.

PLEASE DROP YOUR GIFT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE ADMIN FOYER TERM 4 OR GIVE TO

Ms Bridge before Friday 30 NOVEMBER 2018.

FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF PHONE 1300656336 or visit www.samaritans.org.au





Christmas Hamper Donations

We are asking for new and non-perishable donations for
Plattsburg Public School's
Annual Christmas Raffle.

We have outlined some suggestions for each class to ensure a variety of donations. Donate as little or as much as you like, every little bit is greatly appreciated. You can drop your donations off to the office or the canteen anytime. This is a P&C initiative and all money raised from the Christmas raffle will go towards the new playground.

Raffle will be drawn during Christmas in the Gully.

- ♦ KJ Lollies, confectionary
- ♦ K1M Christmas items eg Bonbons
- ♦ 1/2A Pretzels, nuts
- ♦ 2A Chips, Cheezles etc
- ♦ 2/3FH Biscuits, crackers
- ♦ 3/4K Soft drinks
- ♦ 3/4C Chocolates
- ♦ 5/6R Christmas items eg Candy canes
- ♦ 5/6H Poppers, pop tops
- ♦ 5/6L Chips, biscuits

Christmas in the Gully

Friday 14th December 2018

This year our Christmas in the Gully celebrations will be conducted between 2 p.m. and approximately 6 p.m. Please view the programme below

CHRISTMAS IN THE GULLY PROGRAMME

TEACHER SUPERVISION BETWEEN 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students with pre-purchased wristbands enjoy inflatable rides and activities in the Gully Those students who have not purchased a wristband will enjoy a movie/activities in the library
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PARENT/CARER SUPERVISION REQUIRED FROM 3 p.m. ONWARDS

2:50 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students return to the COLA where rolls will be marked Those students who have a nominated parent/carer to supervise them return to the Gully Those students who do not have a nominated parent/carer to supervise them go home as usual
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FAMILIES ARE ABLE TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION AT ANY TIME CONVENIENT TO THEM

4:00 p.m.	BBQ
5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities and inflatable rides will be packed up Class performances commence
6:00 p.m.	Pack up



PLATTSBURG Public School Student Packs

Plattsburg Public School - 2019

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ORDERING PACKS ONLINE

1. Go to www.kookaburra.com.au/login (you do not need to register)
2. Enter User Name: **PLATT002** (The first 5 characters are letters and the last 3 characters are numbers)
Enter Password: **Student9**
3. Select Student Packs.
4. Select your student's 2019 Year Level.
5. Add the quantity next to products required by your child, in the "Quantity" box.
6. Once you have added all items required, click "Add selected items to cart".
7. If you have another child to shop for, select their 2019 year level from the drop down and add their items to your cart.
8. When you've finished shopping for your child/ren, click on the cart icon in the header to go to the cart and complete your order.
9. Review your cart, then click "Continue to Checkout".
10. Select a Delivery Method from the drop-down and complete your delivery details.

Note: Please ensure someone will be available to receive the goods at time of delivery. All home deliveries require a signature, unless you have provided an Authority to Leave (ATL). Please be advised that once an ATL has been provided, Kookaburra can only guarantee delivery and quality up to the point that the track and trace advises us that the goods were left for you in the place indicated on your ATL.

11. Complete your child/rens names under "Student Information".
12. Add your phone number.
13. Click "Continue to Payment".
14. Select your payment method and click "Process Payment".
15. You will be emailed an order confirmation.

Your order has now been placed with Kookaburra. If you have any queries, please contact our Customer Experience Team support@kookaburra.com.au

PLEASE NOTE:

- * The cut-off date for all orders is 17th December 2018 for delivery by 30th January 2019.
- * Orders received after 17th December 2018 may not be delivered prior to Term 1 2019. Additional fees and charges may apply.
- * All orders are Firm Sale (i.e. non-returnable).



Phone: 1300 766 997 Fax: 1300 768 997
www.kookaburra.com.au



Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match
your savings, dollar for dollar,
up to \$500 for school costs.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| laptops & tablets | lessons & activities |
| uniforms & shoes | books & supplies |
| sports fees & gear | camps & excursions |

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.



Contact
Cynthia Culhane
your local Saver Plus
Coordinator

Phone
02 4032 4703
1300 610 355

Email
cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au

Web
www.saverplus.org.au



Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.dss.gov.au for more information.

BUNNINGS warehouse WALLSEND

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BUNNINGS BBQ

P&C Playground Equipment Fundraiser

WHERE: Bunnings Wallsend

WHEN: Saturday 1st December 2019

TIME: 8am until 4pm

(help for as little or as long as suits you)

Please let us know at the office, canteen or through our Facebook page if you are available to help cook and serve at Bunnings Wallsend to raise funds for our playground equipment.