



IMPORTANT DATES

Term 3 Week 8

Event	Class	Activity Date	Cost	Note Home	Due Date
School Assembly – Excursion photo presentations	All Students	Monday 8 September	No Cost		
JOG-A-THON	All Students	Thursday 11 September	No Cost	✓	Sponsorship money due 18 September
P&C Meeting	P&C	Tuesday 16 September: 3pm		✓	
Touch Football Gala Day	Year 2 to Year 6	Wednesday 10 September	\$2	✓	As soon as possible
Debating Workshop at Blacksmiths Public School	Year 5 & 6	Thursday 18 September	No Cost	A note will be sent home when details are finalised.	
Bahtabah Aboriginal Excursion	All Students	Friday 12 September	No Cost	A note will be sent home when details are finalised.	



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Congratulations Mrs Hoogwerf

Congratulations to Mrs Hoogwerf on the birth of her Grandson Archer this week. We're all so happy for you and your family.

Certificate of Excellence



At our last assembly Bella received the prestigious Certificate of Excellence award for her effort and application to her learning, her outstanding leadership skills and the kindness she always shows to her fellow students. Bella is an outstanding role model for our school and should be as proud of her own achievements as we are. Well done Bella!

Father's Day

Happy Father's Day to all of our Fathers, Grandfathers and all the other special men in our lives! Today we held our Father's Day Breakfast at school and it was wonderful to see so many of our loved ones here. Thank you to everyone who came along to help organise the morning and help cook the BBQ.

Thank you to Sharon and Lynne for organising our Father's Day stall today. All of our students were able to buy something special to give their fathers or special people on Sunday.

We hope you all have a wonderful day on Sunday!

Canberra

Last week Year 5 and 6 travelled to Canberra with our friends from Nords Wharf. We all had a fantastic time and students had a ball making memories together. Every experience was fantastic however I personally enjoyed our visit to the Australian War Memorial most. Bella and Chelsea participated in the Last Post Ceremony, laying a wreath on behalf of our school. The experience was very humbling and I want to say thank you to the girls as they represented Pelican Flat Public School beautifully. I couldn't be prouder of all of our students; each and every one of them should be commended on their impeccable behaviour throughout the trip. Thank you to Miss Bugbird for coming along on our excursion this year, your help was appreciated.

Canberra Pacer Rebate

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. The rebate reduced the cost of the excursion for our students this year and we appreciate the support.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN results went home with all students yesterday. If you wish to discuss your child's results please ring the school and make an appointment.

Club Grants

I'm so pleased to announce that the Pelican RSL Club donated \$2500 to our school through the Club Grants. We had previously received \$3000 from the Belmont 16s to go towards building a new sport shed for our school. Thank you to both clubs for your support of our school.

Term 4 Sports

Next term we are offering some new and exciting sporting options; skateboarding at school with Playgrounds Park, Spring Loaded Trampolining, beach walking and beach games. Students will be split into 3 groups and each teacher will supervise a group. Spring Loaded will be the only activity that we cost money and the cost will be \$80 for the term. Sport will run on Friday morning from 10am to 11.30am. Lunch times will be altered to accommodate sport in Term 4. Please return all expression of interest notes to school as soon as possible to ensure students get their first choice.

Notes

A reminder that all notes can be found on the school website in the school notes tab. If you need a copy of any notes you are able to download and print them

Entertainment Books

The P&C still have some Entertainment Books left if you would like to purchase them. Our school receives a percentage of the \$60 book cost so the money is going back into the school. The costs of the books are \$60 and from my experience they are well worth the \$60. If you would like to purchase a book please see Kelli in the office.

JOG-A-THON

Our Year 6 students will be holding a JOG-A-THON next Thursday 11 September 2014. All funds raised will go towards the purchase of new computers for our computer lab. Students will be running around the outside perimeter of the school. Full school sports uniform is to be worn with appropriate shoes and school hat. The JOG-A-THON will begin at 1.30pm. If you are able to assist us on the day please put your name down at the office.

School Assembly – Monday

Our next assembly will be held next Monday 9 September at **2.15pm**. The assembly will be held in the Primary room as we will be presenting our Canberra Excursion and Australian Reptile Park photo displays. Please come along as our students share their memories.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C meeting will be on Tuesday 16 September at 3pm. The agenda has been sent home with students but can be found on the school website if you have. We hope to see as many parents there as possible.

Presentation Day

I can now confirm that our Presentation Day will be held during the day this year and it will be held here at school. The date of the Presentation Day will remain on Tuesday 2 December and will be held at 10am.

Exciting Swansea High News – Gallipoli 2015 School Tour

Swansea High has been selected out of a ballot to travel to Gallipoli to mark 100 years since the first landing of ANZACS at Gallipoli. 4 very lucky Swansea High students and one teacher will be selected to travel to Gallipoli next year to represent NSW at the official ANZAC Day commemorative services.

Attendance Information

Absentee information

When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building up friendships.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administrative assistant at the school, or explain the reason by phone, email, SMS or written note as soon as possible, or within seven days.

Once children are enrolled parents are legally required to send them to school every day that the school is open for instruction or participation in school activities, such as sports days. A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- has to go to special religious ceremony
- is required to attend a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- Is too sick to go to school, or has an infectious illness.

Failure to explain an absence within this time will be recorded as an unjustified absence on a student's record. Schools will inform parents if a student is absent from school without explanation.

What should I do if our family is going on holiday in school time?

Families should try to arrange holidays during school vacations. If they can only be arranged during school time, you should contact the school principal in advance to discuss the matter.

When to get help

The department has implemented a number of attendance programs to support parents in ensuring their children attend school regularly. If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, you might like to talk to the school principal or the school counselor.

DEC Complaints Handling Processes

This is the guide for parents, carers and students when making a complaint. It is important that the process of making a complaint is clear to all school community members.

We encourage you to contact the school to talk about your concerns, as most problems can be solved by talking to the school office staff, your child's teacher or the school principal. They know your child and are best placed to help you. Also, it's best if you let them know about your concerns as early as possible.

What can a complaint be about?

You can make a complaint about:

- any aspect of the services we provide
- the behaviour or decisions of staff
- Practices, policies or procedures.

How to make a complaint

It is best to discuss your concerns with your child's teacher first. Make an appropriate time to meet with them or phone the school and ask for an appointment with the teacher.

If you are not happy with the result, or if you do not feel it is appropriate to talk to them, phone and make

an appointment to discuss your concerns with the principal.

You may bring a friend or relative to be your support. If you need an interpreter, we can arrange that - just ask beforehand.

If your complaint is about the principal you will need to contact the school director in your area. Ask the school office staff at your school for their name and number.

If your complaint cannot be resolved in an informal way, we may ask you to put it in writing. It is important that you include specific details of the situation and tell us what you would like to happen as a result of your complaint. We can help you to put your complaint in writing, if you require it.

Will my complaint be confidential?

The person dealing with your complaint will advise you if confidentiality applies to your case, but generally it can't be guaranteed. If your complaint is about another person they have a right to know the allegations and be given a chance to respond.

Can I make an anonymous complaint?

Yes, you can make your complaint anonymously. However, it may be difficult to resolve an anonymous complaint if you do not provide your contact details and further information is required.

What you can expect

How your complaint is managed depends on what it is about.

Most complaints can be resolved quickly and informally to everybody's satisfaction simply by talking to the teacher concerned or the principal.

Some complaints are covered by a particular policy or by special legislation (eg occupational health and safety or anti-discrimination policies). You will be advised if this is the case with your complaint. You will be told the name of the person who is dealing with your complaint and their contact number.

Occasionally more serious or complex complaints require investigation. These can take a longer time to resolve. If this happens, you should be informed of the progress and the result of your complaint by phone or in writing at regular intervals until the matter is resolved.

If you have not heard from the person handling the complaint within a reasonable time, call to ask them what is happening.

What are the possible results?

- The complaint is upheld and one or more of the following actions may be offered to you:
 - action to fix or improve the situation
 - an apology
 - an explanation
 - an admission that the situation could have been handled differently or better
 - an assurance that the event complained of will not recur
 - an explanation of the steps that have been taken to ensure that it will not happen again
 - An undertaking to review the department's policies in light of the complaint.
- Your complaint is not upheld. The reasons for this should be given to you clearly.

What if I am not happy with the result?

If you are not happy with the result, you may ask for a review of your complaint by contacting the school director or the section of the department that assessed your complaint.

You can get the name and number from the administrative officer at your school or the department's switchboard on telephone number 02 9561 8000.

What if I am still not satisfied with the outcome?

If you feel that you haven't been treated fairly or that the result is unreasonable, you may wish to seek a review from an independent organisation. External bodies that may be able to assist include:

NSW Ombudsman Ph: 02 9286 1000 www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW Ph: 02 9268 5555 www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/ADB

2.3.4 News

We had a terrific trip to the Reptile Park on Tuesday. It was such an exciting place; even the rain didn't want to stay away! That didn't deter us though, it just added to our adventure. We discovered so much new information about different species of animals and got to see some real-life examples of the interesting facts we have been finding out about through our classroom research and scavenger hunts. If you haven't had a chance yet, make sure you check out our 'Did You Know?' movie on the class website. It is a stop-motion animation we created to share some of what we have found out about various dinosaurs. We hope you enjoy watching it as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Mrs. Mac Donald



K.1. News

The rain came down on our trip to the Reptile Park for a little while but that did not dampen our enthusiasm and inquiring minds. Our raincoats went on and off we went marvelling in The Lost World, terrified in the Spider House by the enormous mechanical tarantula, intrigued by Elvis, amazed by Hugo. But our favourite was interacting with the dingo pups, wallabies, koala, tawny frog mouth and so much more. Take a look on the school website for some great photos on what was a fabulous excursion with a group of fantastic students.

Julie Heath

Belmont Junior Cricket Registrations

Saturday 30th August

Sunday 31st August

Saturday 6th September

from 2-4pm at the Belmont Sporties Club.

All new players to club need to bring birth certificate.

