27th May 2015

EISTEDDFOD
Your offers to transport the children to the Eisteddfod at St James Primary School, Muswellbrook on the 28th May are greatly appreciated.

If your child is under seven years of age would you please supply their booster seat on the morning of the 28th.

Thank you everyone for returning your notes so promptly.

Many thanks
Pauline Bullock
National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week

Yesterday, National Sorry Day was commemorated around the country. Since 1998, the day has been recognised as a national day of healing and serves as one of the many steps towards reconciliation between Indigenous and Non Indigenous Australians. National Sorry Day has many different meanings to different people. But whatever feelings people have about Sorry Day, it is an opportunity to commemorate and remember those who have been impacted by government policies of forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families.

Students at our school will have opportunities this week to reflect on the practices from the past and the problems still faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people today. Developing empathy in our students is another step towards reconciliation. Reconciliation Week will continue until 3rd June.

Attendance

The Educational Act requires all children aged between 6 and 17 to be enrolled and attending school on a regular basis. They must attend for the full operational hours of the school. Regular attendance at school ensures your child is receiving the maximum opportunity to learn. It enables them to develop a sense of belonging to a peer group and allows them to build important coping and friendship skills.

If children miss out on building the foundations of their learning, which takes place in the first two – three years, they may experience learning problems in later years. It is also important that your child arrives at school on time. Late arrivals cause disruptions to the class. Being on time allows your child to greet friends, learn the importance of punctuality and routine, and ensures they do not miss out on important learning opportunities. Late arrivals are marked as partial absences.

The school has a duty of care to monitor attendance, with roles being checked by the Department at least twice a term. We monitor whole day and partial absences.

Christina Darlington - Principal

Justified reasons for being absent include:
- Unavoidable medical appointments.
- Attending a recognised religious holiday.
- Exceptional family circumstances – such as a funeral.
- Being sick or having an infectious disease.
- If your child is sick please do not send them to school
- Head lice.

Unjustified reasons for being absent:
- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings
- Minor family events – such as a birthday
- Hair cuts
- Regular family holidays

Did you know…. missing even one day makes a difference?

If your child misses a day each week, they miss a whole term of school every year.
By the end of Year 6, they have missed 1 ½ years of school. By the end of Year 12, they have missed 2 ½ years of school. It is very difficult for a child to keep up with the rest of the class, when they are absent for this period of time.

Book Fair

Our first book fair will be held in week 6, starting on Monday 1st June. Students will have the whole week to purchase books.

Walkathon

Sponsorship forms have been handed out. They will need to be returned to school on Friday 12th June when we will hold our walkathon at the back of the caravan park. The P&C will provide each student with a sausage sandwich on their return to school.

Weekly Awards
- Abby Cooper - improved book work.
- Reece McCandless - working well in all areas.
- Nicholas Terrell - consistent effort in all areas.
- Dustynn Turner - reaching level 6 in sight words.
- Bill Chambers - fantastic effort in mathematics.
- Noah Adams - wonderful work on measurement activities.
- Austin Adams - using his sounds knowledge when writing.

Workers of the Week
K/1/2 - Marshall Hinze and John Ward.
3/4/5/6 -

Student of the Week

Isabella Wallace - having a positive attitude towards all areas of school.

Sportsperson of the Week

Andrew Harris - showing great sportsmanship

Pittman Cup Cake Stall

Next Wednesday (3 June) is Pittman Cup day and the P&C will once again be running a cake, tea and coffee stall. To make our stall a success we would like to ask all families to bring a plate of cakes, slice, biscuits, scones and other yummy goodies for us to sell. All money raised goes back into the school to benefit our children. Just bring your cakes into school on Wednesday, and we’ll be able to return containers, plates and platters to you by the end of the day.
Thank you.

Pie Drive

Thank you to everyone who ordered pies. They will be delivered on Friday 12th June. We will know pick up times closer to the date.
Michelle Walker
Co-ordinator

Additions and Attachments

- Some receipts.
- Pittman Cup cake stall request.
- Come and Be Loud flyer.

AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Will be held on Friday 29th May 2015 at the Sandy Hollow Hall
9am to 1pm
Everyone Welcome

Hostesses:
Denise Cox and Colleen Baas

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