



# Kirkton Public School

## Newsletter

797 Standen Drive

Lower Belford NSW 2335

t: 02 6574 7152 f: 02 6574 7227

e: [kirkton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kirkton-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

w: [www.kirkton-p.school.nsw.edu.au](http://www.kirkton-p.school.nsw.edu.au)

Term 2, Week 1

Achieve With Pride

23rd April 2015

### Severe Weather



Thank you to everyone for their co-operation over the last few days. It is always a hard call for a school to not operate but the safety of students and their families comes first. Hopefully we will now have a busy, enjoyable and maybe less dramatic term.

At this stage there seems to be no damage to the school itself. Most phones, computers etc. seem to be working as usual. The grounds, although 'drowned' seem O.K. We will be keeping a close watch on trees over the next few weeks.

If you have a great 'shot' of the weather – its results to share drop it in and we can build a photo wall to share our experiences and record this event.

(P.S. Feedback about School App usefulness in this communication would be appreciated.)

### Annual School Report

From next week the 2014 Annual School Report and the 2015-2018 School Plan will be available for perusal on our school website. The Annual School Report is a snapshot of our school function throughout 2014. The School Plan is the strategic directions in which our school will be heading over the next 3 years.

At the P&C Meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> May I will 'walk through the plan' emphasising the most relevant issues.

### Calendar of Events

#### Friday - April 24th

- Canteen Open

#### Saturday - April 25h

- ANZAC Day March—Singleton

#### Tuesday - April 28th

- School Photo Day

#### Friday - May 1st

- Transition Day - Singleton High School
- Canteen open

#### Friday - May 8th

- Singleton Cattle Judging
- Mothers Day Stall
- Canteen Open

#### Tuesday - May 12th

- NAPLAN Yrs 3&4

#### Wednesday - May 13th

- NAPLAN Yrs 3&4
- P&C Meeting

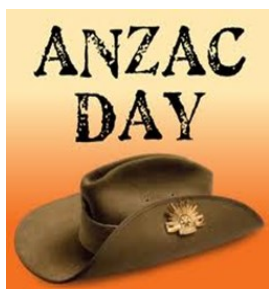
#### Thursday - May 14th

- NAPLAN Yrs 3&4

#### Friday - May 29th

- Athletics Training at Braxton

## ANZAC March



It would be extremely pleasing to have a big roll up for this very special event.

As in most years not all students can stay for the entire service but do take the time to

march for the school or other organisations.

We will gather at Bailey Park and join the march there. Starting time is usually 10.30 a.m.

School uniform is to be worn.

For those staying for the service drink bottles would be beneficial.

Also this year 5 students will be placing poppies on the cenotaph as well as our normal wreath.

Please return the Permission Note to school tomorrow.

## Welcome



A very warm welcome to Rebecca Tolmie, who will be joining us for a number of weeks. Rebecca is a practising teacher who will be assisting with the Yrs. 1/2/3 class. We all hope Rebecca has a wonderful and valuable stay with us.

## Stewart House Donation Drive 2015

Stewart House envelopes are coming home with students today. If you are able to assist with a donation, please complete your details on the envelope and return to school by Wednesday 13th May.

## Crunch 'n' Sip



Crunch 'n' Sip is a set break to eat fruit, salad vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Suggested foods are fruit, carrot, celery sticks etc. Please do not send processed food for Crunch 'n' sip. Thank you.



Cancer Council  
NSW

Nutrition Snippet

## The simplest way

...to make a healthy  
afternoon tea.

Try these simple ideas for making  
snacks that will satisfy even the  
fussiest eater...



- **Home made hot chips**  
Slice potatoes into thin discs, and arrange on a baking tray sprayed lightly with olive oil. Grill until golden, and serve with a small amount of tomato sauce.
- **Bite sized fruit with yoghurt**  
It's a fact- kids are more likely to eat fruit when it is cut up into small pieces. Try serving some diced fruit with some reduced-fat yoghurt. It's a winner.
- **Vegie sticks**  
These are so easy to prepare and make a super healthy afternoon tea. Try cutting up some carrot or celery sticks and serving them with hummus.

For more information visit  
[www.eatittobeatit.com.au](http://www.eatittobeatit.com.au)  
or join us at [facebook.com/eatittobeatit](https://www.facebook.com/eatittobeatit)

Eat It To  
Beat It

**SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS:**  
8.45am until 3.45pm

# Canteen open tomorrow

FLORA

FRIENDSHIP LEARNING OPPORTUNITY RESPECT ACHIEVEMENT

## Kirkton Public School P&C News

**Next meeting: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May.  
All welcome.**



***We hope that you are all safe and well after our recent wet and windy weather.***

## Term 1 Wrap up

### Easter Raffle

Thank you to everyone that contributed to our Easter Raffle prizes. There were over 20 prizes and the winnings were spread across many families. We hope you all had a lovely Easter and holiday break.

### Election Day Raffle

1<sup>st</sup> – Mrs Dyball  
2<sup>nd</sup> – J. Brown  
3<sup>rd</sup> – J. Spellman

## Canteen

Canteen will return to **FRIDAY'S** this term, beginning tomorrow, 24<sup>th</sup> May.

Watch out for a new menu going home today.



## Upcoming Events

24<sup>th</sup> April  
Canteen

1<sup>st</sup> May  
Canteen

8<sup>th</sup> May  
Mother's Day Stall

8<sup>th</sup> May  
Canteen

15<sup>th</sup> May  
Canteen

13<sup>th</sup> May  
P&C Meeting

10<sup>th</sup> June  
P&C Meeting

## Minutes and Agenda

P&C minutes can be found on the school website.

Agenda items can be placed in the P&C box in the office or alternatively emailed to: [carmo2228@yahoo.com.au](mailto:carmo2228@yahoo.com.au)

The agenda will go home in the newsletter prior to



## Mother's Day Stall

Will be held on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**.

Students will be invited to purchase gifts of **\$2, \$3 or \$5**.

Students will visit the stall on Friday morning in Year groups (order randomly drawn from a hat). On their first visit they will be able to purchase one gift (their first preference) and once everyone has made one selection students will be invited to return and purchase another gift (only if they would like to). Students may like to purchase for mum, nan, grandma....

Students participating in **Cattle Judging** on Friday will be able to make their purchases on **Thursday afternoon**.

We invite our families to drop in donations to the school of gifts for the stall. Your help is much appreciated as this gives our students a broad selection of gifts to choose from. Gifts need to be dropped in at the office by **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**, so that they can be wrapped and the stall set up by Thursday afternoon. Thank you.



## Can Recycling



**Don't forget you can drop your cans off at school in the bins provided for recycling.**

## Contents

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# Helping children learn positive friendship skills

## Importance of Children's Friendships

At any age having friends provides support and promotes mental health and wellbeing. Children's friendships are also very important for their social and emotional development. Through friendships children learn how to relate with others. They develop social skills as they teach each other how to be good friends.

Most children want to have friends. Children who have friends are more likely to be self confident than those without friends and they perform better academically in school. When children have difficulty in making friends or in keeping them, it often leads to feeling lonely and unhappy with themselves. Feeling rejected by others may lead to significant distress. Learning positive friendship skills can help children socially so they feel happier and more confident.





## How friendships develop and change

Friendships require give and take. By sharing toys, time, games, experiences and feelings, children learn that they can have their social needs met and can meet the needs of others. Since friendships develop through this kind of mutual exchange, close friendships are usually based on well matched needs.

Children's friendship needs and skills change as they grow. Similarly, children's ideas about friendship change as they develop. This is reflected in the different kinds of activities that children like to spend time doing with their friends at different ages. The table below indicates the ways children tend to describe close friends and the kinds of skills that support positive friendships as they develop.

Approximate age	A friend is someone who ...	Friendship skills
<b>Up to 1 yr</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking, smiling, touching, imitating</li> </ul>
<b>1-2 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plays with you</li> <li>Has good toys</li> <li>Can do fun things</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying friend by name</li> </ul>
<b>3-5 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does something that pleases you</li> <li>You know better than other people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playing well in a twosome</li> <li>Approaching others to join in</li> </ul>
<b>5-7 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps and looks after you</li> <li>You help</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taking others' feelings into account</li> <li>Seeing others' viewpoint</li> </ul>
<b>8-10 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plays fair – follows the rules</li> <li>Talks and shares interests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talking and listening to each other</li> <li>Forming groups with similar interests</li> </ul>
<b>10-12 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trusts you and is trustworthy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharing confidences</li> <li>Negotiating</li> <li>Respecting one another</li> </ul>
<b>12-18 yrs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands you and who you understand</li> <li>You can talk to about feelings or problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talking about personal and social issues</li> <li>Supporting one another</li> </ul>

## Friendship patterns in the primary years

Children choose friends who have similar interests and enjoy similar activities. During primary school close friendships are most often with a child of the same sex. This is related to children's preferences in play. Boys tend to prefer active kinds of play in groups, whereas girls typically prefer gentler games in pairs or threes and use talk more than action. Such preferences may be especially strong around the ages of 8-9 when many children become more aware of social expectations regarding girls' and boys' behaviour. These expectations can create difficulties for boys who are interested in gentler kinds of play and for girls who prefer the kind of

active play that is usually associated with boys.

Friends cooperate and communicate more with each other than with other children. They also have conflicts more often, but usually manage to settle them without upsetting the friendship. Friends influence each other's behaviour. Over time they may take on similar mannerisms, language and preferences. Although friendships usually have positive effects, friends who have behavioural problems may encourage problem behaviour in one another.

As children's interests and developmental needs change their

friendship patterns may also change. By the middle of primary school it is common for children to form small friendship groups based around similar interests. These groups often establish their own rules about who can join them. Setting rules and learning to negotiate them is important for helping children to develop their understanding of social relationships. However, when children lack cooperative relationship skills it can lead to friendship groups being dominated by some children and excluding others.

# FROM THE CLASSROOM !!

On the school holidays there was a big super storm and all the schools were closed. Some people died and others were out of power. My bridge was under water and my mum's phone was dead. My family was worried and my school was closed for two days. I was worried the people on the news called the storm a super storm.

The super Storm went for days. I couldn't go out of my house. My sheep were getting wet. My dad was at work. We had one way to get out but it was a gate way, there were four gates. My school holidays were fun, when it came to the rollercoasters but it wasn't fun when it came to the rain.

By -Yr 1

In the school holidays there was a storm. Our whole property except for our shed, house and back paddock was under water. There was thunder and lightning. The school was closed for two days. Three people died, two people in Dungog and one on the New England Highway in Maitland. In Newcastle they said that there were cyclone winds. The people on the news said to stay at home and in an emergency call the SES. The rain stopped and started. It stopped for a minute, then started again. I felt sad for the people that died but other than that it was cool.

By - Yr 2