Dear parents,

Our Japanese visitors arrive on Wednesday afternoon for a week in the Bay. Thank you so much to our families who are hosting these students over the Easter break. They are always appreciative and have a wonderful time getting to know how Australian families and schools work. There are similarities and lots of differences to their own culture. On Thursday the group will spend the day at our school – joining in Easter activities and visiting classrooms. On Tuesday they visit Bobs Farm school which is a completely different setting to ours.

We will be holding a brief welcome assembly for the visitors on Thursday morning at 9.50am in the drama hall. Parents are welcome to attend if you are free.

We hope to see lots of parents at school on Thursday afternoon for our Easter Hat Parade, drawing of the raffles and end of term.

Permission to be on school grounds
We always welcome parents, carers, family members and friends to attend events and provide help in classrooms. However, if you are on school grounds, there are some protocols that must be observed for child protection, Work Health & Safety and legal reasons.

Volunteering - you need to sign in at the office, obtain a visitors pass and sign out when you leave. This includes helping in your own child’s classroom, canteen, library etc.

Picking up children during the day for appointments - you must attend the office and sign the child out, take the slip of paper to the classroom teacher and collect the child. Teachers have been informed that they must not allow students to leave without a pass before the end of the school day (this is a legal requirement)

Students who are late to school - must attend the office and collect a note to take to the class teacher whether they are with a parent or not.

These rules do not apply when dropping off and picking up students at the normal school times of at or before 9.30am and on or after 3.30pm. It also doesn’t apply to special events when large numbers of parents & carers are in the audience as this is a different situation.

However, when on school grounds - all visitors are expected to comply with the code of conduct and respect all other teachers, parents and students or you may be asked to leave the school grounds under the “Enclosed Lands Act”. The school is a protected environment for students and while at school teachers are responsible for the care, welfare and learning of students including discipline under the terms of the policy.

We are very fortunate to have a wonderful school community who respects the rights and responsibilities of others most of the time. Teachers may request proof of your visitors badge or ask for the appropriate documentation because that is part of their job and not all teachers know all parents. Please do not be offended if asked for this proof- it is to make sure all students are safe and people who are in our classrooms and playground have permission.

Head Lice
This is an ongoing issue in schools and can only be controlled by regular checks and treatment in families. Last week a CD went home with information which we hope you found useful. Please talk to your classroom teacher if you have any concerns.

Have a wonderful week and enjoy the Easter long weekend. Stay safe.

Regards
Annette Thomson

SWIMMING CHAMPIONS-JUNIOR AND SENIOR (missing Nicholas Edmunds)
Merit Cards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/6P</td>
<td>Shelby Goodwin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6J</td>
<td>Lucy Jenkins</td>
<td>Harry Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brock Sala</td>
<td>Indiana Watson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amy Murphy</td>
<td>Ethan Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>Timothy Hughes</td>
<td>Jordyn Wallace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jessica Casement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3K</td>
<td>Tanaya Temple</td>
<td>Caitlin MeEvilly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allanna-Mae Bateman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>–Hurley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4E</td>
<td>Hayley Ross</td>
<td>Carter Mullins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mila Sewell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4M</td>
<td>Paris Pritchard</td>
<td>Chloe Eveleigh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Callum Hanns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5H</td>
<td>Grace O’Neill</td>
<td>Bella Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cazian Griffiths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5T</td>
<td>Haylee Megahey</td>
<td>Harley Burgos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maurice Giepmans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>William Poley</td>
<td>Jordan Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Olivia Cuddy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6G</td>
<td>Chantelle Ross</td>
<td>Tyler Regan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Alyssa Coggan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6L</td>
<td>Issac Berg</td>
<td>Pepper Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Molly Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WED 27th Mar</td>
<td>A.Spears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>K.Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THUR 28th Mar</td>
<td>N.Newman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R.Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 29th Mar</td>
<td>M.Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Hi everyone….Don’t forget to send in your raffle tickets this week. The raffle will now be drawn during the EASTER HAT PARADE on Thursday 28th from 2.30pm. There will be an opportunity to buy tickets then if you wish to have more chances to win our great prizes!!

I hope the visiting Japanese students are having a lovely time with us this week and I am sure our students are enjoying the cultural exchange too…what a fantastic experience for them all!!

You may not be aware but, sadly, I am leaving at the end of this term. We have a new supervisor starting and I hope to introduce her to you all before the end of this term. I will miss everybody and am very grateful to have had the chance to be a part of this amazing school, its teachers and fabulous students.

All the best
Jo

P&C NEWS

P&C AGM was held on Wednesday 20th March. All positions were filled with the exception of:

Secretary

If you would like to be part of a dedicated group of parents who work with the school to provide resources for our children, please join us. If you think you can fill the position of Secretary please contact me via the email address below.

School banking will be starting very soon. Some special guests will be at assembly on Wednesday to let you all know what is happening and again on Thursday to sign up those interested.

Thank you
Elizabeth elizabeths1969@dodo.com.au

Mobile Phone Collection

Do you have unwanted mobile phones at home???? If you do, please send them in to school as our school can earn $3 for every phone collected. This would enable TPS to earn valuable dollars for our school to purchase resources for students.

Send your old phones to Mrs Mayers’ room for collection.

HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL 2014

Any parents who wish to complete a ‘Targeted Sports Application Form’ for their year 6 child to attend Hunter Sports High School next year can obtain a copy of the application and information from Mr Cornish.
STUDENT COUNCIL TERM ONE CHARITY - Epilepsy Action Australia

Purple Day (26th March) is a global effort dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness. Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in an effort to get people talking about the condition and inform those with seizures that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognised colour for epilepsy, lavender.

Whilst epilepsy is the world’s most common serious brain disorder it is currently impacting the lives of over 111,000 Australians. It is an unpredictable and often debilitating condition which is estimated to affect up to 3% of the Australian population within their lifetime.

Tomaree Public School is going purple on Tuesday 26th March. We are asking our students to wear something purple on the day and bring along a gold coin donation.

There will also be a lunchtime stall selling purple wristbands ($3) and purple shoelaces ($5) on behalf of Epilepsy Action Australia. Please note purchasing from this stall is completely voluntary.

Sue Holloway
Student Council Coordinator

STEWART HOUSE
Each year 1,800 public school children in need of a break from their everyday life go to Stewart House. During their stay, children are provided with optometric, dental and medical treatment as well as emotional support. This is balanced with health and educational programs and out of school activities to boost their self-esteem and to promote a healthier lifestyle.

In response to the natural beauty of the site, at Curl Curl Beach, the school integrates environmental and Aboriginal education. Children are encouraged to express themselves formally and informally through a variety of speaking, listening and writing activities such as keeping journals, writing letters or emails, recounting excursion experiences, and sharing life stories. Major excursion venues include Sydney Olympic Park, Taronga Zoo, the Rocks Area and the Powerhouse Museum. In addition, parks, reserves, lighthouses are visited along the Northern Beaches. Children participate in Visual and creative arts such as pottery, dance, painting and drawing.

Through use of technology children contribute to the production of a DVD visual diary of their stay at Stewart House. They utilise email to communicate to home and home schools and to access the Internet for research. They can record their experiences or excursion research in our computer lab.

There is an active sports program including bike riding, swimming and outdoor games. Through a special grant the Australian Sports Commission provides a variable program every term that has included beach games, gymnastics, hip-hop dance and basic games skills. Beach activities such as surf awareness, kite flying, sand modelling and games complement the more formal sports program.

As part of their stay children are encouraged to further develop their independence and sense of responsibility through activities such as cooking, health awareness and self help skills. Children are encouraged to enjoy recreational and leisure pursuits. Some activities provided are bush walking, fishing riding scooters and indoor games. Children learn to socialise with others and relax while completing craft activities such as stained glass windows, jewellery making and wood burning.

Children in the care of Stewart House attend a specific purpose school onsite for 8 days of their 12-day stay. The NSW Department of Education and Communities provides infrastructure and staffing support for this school. All others costs associated with the childrens’ stay are met from charitable donations. Many teachers from throughout NSW and the ACT make fortnightly contributions to Stewart House through salary deductions, but this is not enough. It costs $103 a day to provide for one student, so the cost of the twelve day experience is $1236. Stewart House is currently holding a fund raising drive. When your child brings the Stewart House envelope home, please donate as generously as you can.

Thanks
Mr Cornish
As always it has been a very busy term sport wise. Some results/reports have already been printed in previous newsletters but here are some latest updates.

Congratulations to the following students who have represented our school in the following sports at Zone Trials and Carnivals:


Rugby League - Hayden Johns, Jordan Wilson, Thomas Hatzis.

AFL - Jake Hill, Ryan Arkless, Nick Ceci, Lachlan Blyth, Mitchell Walls, Mitchell Hall.

Hayden Johns & Jordan Wilson have both been selected in the Port Stephens Zone Rugby League team while Nick Ceci has gained selection in the Hunter Regional AFL team. WELL DONE!

More reports will be published in future newsletters as results are officially finalised.

Our annual K-6 Cross Country Carnival was held on March 15th in variable weather conditions. CONGRATULATIONS to all students who took part.

Final results will be announced at the school assembly on March 22nd. THANK YOU to the parents & grandparents who supported the runners or who acted as Track Observers. A special "THANK YOU" to Mr Paul Coggan who once again gave his time freely to set up & pack up the required equipment.

Students gaining selection in the school Cross Country team will be given all details as soon as possible but basically those students in Years 3-6 who came in the top 6 places at our school carnival will move onto Zone on Friday 5th April.

K.Gattenhof
In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it, you'll be the grandest person in the Easter Parade........

Yes, this year we are holding an

Easter Hat Parade

Students will bring their creations from home and parade under the COLA at 2:45 pm on Thursday 28th March.

Be creative with your child, have fun and come and see the creations of others!

Library News

We have some great new series in the Library ready for you to borrow. Don't miss out on:

The Baby-Sitters Club
Star Wars
Dear Dumb Diary
Goosebumps
Marvel—Spiderman and Avengers
Hot Wheels
My Story
More from Geronimo Stilton
Conspiracy 365
Lego

Also just arrived:
Australian and World Records 2013
Figaro and Rumba
Sponge Bob Squarepants
Tree
Club Penguin
Surrealism for Kids
Barbie
Herman and Rosie
Save the Cupcakes
Peggy
Crocodile Beat
Children's Illustrated Dictionary
Dragon Hunter
The Little Wooden Horse
Magic Molly
The Pack
Odd and the Frost Giants

Happy Reading
2014 Year 7 Parents are invited to a

Parent Information Evening
At the Tomaree Public School Hall

Wednesday 27th March 2013

Information Session from 7pm – 8pm
Optional High School tour from 6:00pm
Outline of primary to high school transition activities
Answers to questions raised in parent surveys
CAPA and Academic Extension Class application process

For further information contact
Karen Thurlow: karen.thurlow@det.nsw.edu.au or ph: 4981 1444

Peter Partridge
Principal
School Banking has arrived at Tomaree Public School!

The Commonwealth Bank School Banking program is here! We will be banking every Wednesday starting the 10th April 2013.

The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

Taking part in School Banking is easy.

If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, Commonwealth Bank Representatives will be at our school on Thursday 28th March 2013, from 9am to 10am, then 2pm until 3.45pm. Alternatively, you can open one at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! Also, if you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address to start banking at school.

2013 NSW PSSA State Swimming

This year, Carter Mullins (4E) and Indiana Watson (2-6J), will represent Tomaree Public School and the Hunter Region at the PSSA State Swimming Carnival, held in Sydney, on 2nd and 3rd April. Both Carter and Indiana will swim in the AWD division (Athlete with a Disability). Carter, who has a classification of S8- Physical Disability, will swim 50m Freestyle, 50m backstroke and 50m butterfly. Indiana, with a classification of S14- Intellectual Disability, will swim 50m Freestyle.

We wish Carter and Indiana well in their upcoming events.

Mrs Jones - Teacher
Each year at Tomaree Public School we invite students who wish to sit these assessments to participate in the assessment program run by the university. Students and their parents can then gauge their child’s achievements in relation to other children from Australia and Pacific Nations. Students are awarded certificates indicating the level of achievement and a detailed report of their attainments. This competition is separate from NAPLAN run through Australia for Years 3 and 5.

The competition is offered to students in **Years 3 to 6** in the following subjects:-

**English, Mathematics, Science, Computer Skills, Spelling.**
**IN 2013 YEAR 2 MAY ENTER English and Maths on the dates below**

The **closing date for entries at Tomaree is Thursday 4th April, 2013**

**NAME, CLASS and which Competitions entering marked with money in a envelope to the school office. Please check you have marked which subjects are being entered so we order the correct papers for your child.**

Students and their families can decide which competitions they wish to enter you do not have to do all competitions.

Please tick below the competitions you wish your child to enter and include the amount in total for all competitions. Competition dates are set by the University and competitions must be conducted on those days. Fees are paid on entering the competition.

**PLEASE RETURN THE SLIP BELOW TO MRS. KANDLBINDER**

---

**MY CHILD__________________________of YEAR_______CLASS_______wishes to enter the following competitions:-**

- **Computer Skills** $8.00 Tuesday 21st May
- **Science** $8.00 Wednesday 5th June
- **Spelling** $11.00 Tuesday 18th June
- **English** $8.00 Wednesday 31st July
- **Mathematics** $8.00 Tuesday 13th August

I have enclosed the total of $______________________ to cover the costs of my child’s entries.

Please check you have ticked the boxes next to the competition your child wishes to enter.

Thank you.
Mrs C Kandlbinder
Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff as a part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences.

### Responsibilities of Parents and Carers

Parents are responsible for:
- enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling.
- ensuring that their children attend school regularly.
- explaining the absences of their children from school promptly and **within seven days** to the school.
- taking measures to resolve attendance issues involving their children.
- apply in advance for exemptions for periods of absence of 5 days or more when it is known that a child will be absent for reasons other than sickness.

**Attendance at school**

(Tomaree Public School)

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