

# **Newsletter—Abermain Public School**



Len Boughton  
Principal



**TERM 1, WEEK 1 – 1st February 2012**

## **National Year of Reading 2012**

Welcome to a new school year. This is the National Year of Reading and to celebrate, there is a host of literary-related events and competitions happening right around Australia. For an events calendar and more information go to: [www.love2read.org.au](http://www.love2read.org.au). Why not make a late New Year resolution to read more yourself? And if you have younger children and don't already read regularly to them, set aside some quality time to help instil a love of books and reading.

## **Getting off to a good start**

Wondering how to help your kids do well at home and at school this year? The department's parent resource School A to Z has a webcast full of expert tips for you to help your children have a more successful year.

The 'Getting off to a great start webcast' has a number of chapters on how to motivate children for learning, advice on peer relationships and how to handle bullying, communicating with children and the importance of strong home-school relationships.

The expert panel features advice from a child psychologist, an experienced family doctor and the department's deputy director-general (schools) Greg Prior.

Watch the webcast at: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/getting-off-to-a-good-start>

## **We've Got School Covered**

Practical help for parents is available online at the School A to Z site. Created by the Department of Education and Communities, this is a thriving online community with comprehensive homework and school life support for parents that is easy to use, relevant and engaging. There are free apps to download, informative podcasts, videos and articles by experts in the field. Check it out and save it to your favourites: [www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au](http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au)

If you own an iphone or ipad the Department of Education and Communities have

developed a free application for School A to Z as a parenting resource to assist you. It is extremely easy to use and has a large number of Literacy and Numeracy terms and definitions for the use of parents and students. It also has Spelling and Maths games to test your child in a game format. Simply select School A to Z from the app store for the device that you are using. Please contact the school if you require further information about it.

## Teachers and classes

Classes for 2012 were formed today. The good news is that because of rising enrolment numbers we have been able to form nine classes. Classes and teachers are as follows:

<b>KP</b>	<b>Mrs Parry</b>
<b>KS</b>	<b>Mrs Sheldon</b>
<b>1H</b>	<b>Mrs Hodges</b>
<b>2T</b>	<b>Mrs Taylor</b>
<b>2-3H</b>	<b>Mrs Hourigan</b>
<b>3-4H</b>	<b>Mrs Hill</b>
<b>5-6J</b>	<b>Mrs Jarlett</b>
<b>5-6C</b>	<b>Miss Craig</b>
<b>5-6R</b>	<b>Mrs Roberson</b>

## Access to the School Site

A new path which has been constructed during the holidays means that we can now have the pedestrian gate adjacent to the library open before school and in the afternoons.

### **P&C**

Our first P&C meeting for the year will be held on  
Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm  
in the school library.

**All Welcome.**

## Maths Groups

A significant change at Abermain this year is that we are having Maths groups first up in the morning. It is really important that every student gets to school on time to be in class for the start of the maths lesson.

Text books for Year 1 to 6 are now due for payment – Cost \$30 per student. Please make your payment at the office as soon as possible.

## Swimming Carnival

The school's annual swimming carnival will be held on Friday 10th February at Cessnock Pool. Students in Years 3 to Year 6 attend the carnival as well as any child turning 8 years old this year from Year 2. Permission notes will be sent home this week for completion and return to school by Tuesday next week so that buses can be booked.

### Parent Teacher Afternoon

Our parent teacher Information sessions will be held on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February**.

Session times are as follows:

**Early Stage 1 to start at 2.30 - 3.15pm**  
with school covering children with a movie in library.

**Stage 1 to start at 3.30—4.00pm**  
for classes 1H and 2T

**Stage 2 to start at 4.00—4.30pm**  
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**Stage 3 to start at 4.30—5.00pm**  
for classes 5/6 J, 5/6R and 5/6C

Please take this opportunity to come along to be learn about the classroom routines and what is will be happening this year.

***Canteen details***



## **CANTEEN**

The Canteen will re-open next Monday 5th February. At this stage the Canteen will be open 4 days per week. It will be closed on Wednesdays due to lack of volunteer workers.

The Canteen is open in the morning for lunch orders to be placed. No food or drink can be purchased at this time. The Canteen opens at lunch time for students to purchase snacks, ice blocks and drinks. The Canteen is closed at recess.

As the Canteen is the biggest means of fundraising for the school it needs the support of families. If you can spare one morning a week, fortnight or once a month, you would only be asked to help for 4 hours. This would greatly help to keep the Canteen running. It's a great time to have a coffee and a chat with other parents and maybe make some new friends.

We are also asking parents for some healthy new ideas for the canteen menu. If your child has a favourite healthy snack, come share it with us. It may just become a school favourite.

Please contact **Kellee Dederer 0450 440 872** to share your healthy snack idea or to give your details if you are able to go on our roster. Alternatively your name and number may be left at the school office.

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