

Newsletter—Abermain Public School



Len Boughton
Principal



TERM 1 Week 1 31st January 2013

Welcome back to everyone. It was great to see the smiles on students faces as they returned to school on Wednesday.

Maths Texts

All grades from Year 1 to Year 6 will be using Go Maths texts this year. The cost of these are \$30 per student. Please make your payment at the office as soon as possible.

Classes for 2013

The nine classes for 2013 have been formed as follows:

KS	Mrs Sheldon
KP	Mrs Parry
1H	Mrs Hodges
1/2E	Miss Onslow
1/2T	Mrs Taylor
3/4/5J	Mrs Jarlett
3/4/5H	Mrs Hourigan
5/6P	Mr Power
5/6R	Mrs Roberson

Parent Information Afternoon Monday 4th February.

The afternoon will start with a combined session in the school hall at 3.30. At this session whole school information for parents will be presented. The second part of the afternoon will involve specific classroom arrangements which will be discussed with parents by individual teachers in their classrooms.

PEGs

An exciting new learning program will commence at Abermain P.S this term. Personal Enrichment Groups (PEGs) will provide students from Year 1 to Year 6 with learning opportunities in specialised subject areas within the curriculum. Students will select preferences from a range of subjects and work in an allocated group. PEGs will run on Thursdays after recess from Week 3 of Term 1.

P&C

The first P&C Meeting for 2013
and the Annual General Meeting
will be held on Monday 11th February
at 6pm in the school library.

I encourage as many parents as possible to come along
and support the school through their involvement.

Surveys

Surveys are a major means of information gathering, school evaluation and setting directions. This term surveys will be distributed to parents and by mid Term 1 all students from Years 1 to 6 will have undertaken an innovative online survey for the school titled "Tell Them From Me" which will ask students questions about their schooling and their aspirations.

School Swimming Carnival

Our swimming Carnival is on Friday 8th February for all students in Years 3 to 6. Students in Year 2 who turn 8 this year are also eligible to attend. A permission note needs to be filled out for students to attend. Please return this note by Tuesday next week so that buses can be booked for transport to the pool.

LIBRARY

Borrowing will commence next week.

Please ensure that your child brings a library bag to school.



CANTEEN

The Canteen will re-open on Monday 11th February. Thank you to our team of volunteers who provide help each week. Additional volunteers are needed to enable the Canteen to open every day. If you are able to spare one morning a fortnight to work in the Canteen, please contact the school office.

Compulsory School Attendance

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?

In NSW, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child:

- develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- to learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- make and keep friendships.

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence. To explain an absence parents are required to:

- send a note to the school
- telephone the school or
- visit the school.



Principals help to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of your child. Principals have to keep accurate records of student attendance and the reasons for any absences. Principals may request further information from parents for long or frequent absences, even where they are explained by parents as being due to illness.

When absences are unexplained by parents, or the explanations are not accepted by the principal, the school will work with parents to help address the issue. The main aim is to sort out what is preventing the child from getting to school and putting strategies in place to help,

Anaphylaxis information

If your child is diagnosed at risk of a severe allergic reaction, particularly anaphylaxis, the Anaphylaxis Procedures contain information for schools and parents designed to minimise the risk to students. If your child has an allergy it is important to let us know – see Action steps for parents.

Find out more: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentssupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/index.php>

PRIMARY

Swim and survive program

Lessons are for beginners through to confident swimmers keen to practise their technique (from infants to 12 years). See the map to find the pools where friendly swim teachers with AUSTSWIM accreditation teach across NSW. Find out more: <http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive/about.asp>

Schoolkids Bonus

The Schoolkids Bonus can help lighten the financial load. It replaces the old Education Tax Refund and it's simple: there's no need to collect receipts or claim it through your tax. Eligible families need to register by 31 December. Find out more: <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/our-responsibilities/families-and-children/benefits-payments/schoolkids-bonus>