



SAFE RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

7th May

Star Struck Rehearsal

8th May

Mothers Day Stall &
"Cake & Craft" Session
Wangat Lodge - Instalment
Due

9th May

Year 6 Visit to Newcastle Uni-
versity
Stewart House Donation
Drive 2014
Star Struck Instalment Due

12th May

P&C Meeting - 5pm

19th May

MiniLit Information Session
- 3:30pm-4:15pm in Library

23rd May

Star Struck Instalment Due

29th May

Star Struck Rehearsal



Easter Hat Parade



STOP WALK TALK

Our students are to be congratulated on their ability to use Stop, Walk, Talk strategies in our playground.

Keep up the great work!

MOTHER'S DAY "CAKE & CRAFT"

On Thursday 8th May, 2014 a "Cake & Craft" session will be held at the school to celebrate Mother's Day. This afternoon session will commence at 2pm with tea/coffee and cake in the playground, followed by a craft session in the classrooms. Students with siblings enrolled at the school will join together for the craft session in the eldest child's classroom.

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

The P&C will be holding a Mother's Day Stall on **Thursday 8th May, 2014**.

Gifts available for purchase will range in price from \$2 to \$10 each.

PSSA CRICKET

Abermain Public School have continued to improve in results over the past few cricket seasons. This year we were again knocked out of the PSSA competition in Round 3, defeated by Nulkaba Public School. Abermain fielded well to restrict Nulkaba to 92 runs but were only able to make 68 off 25 overs in return. Well done to the 2014 squad: *Joshua Robertson, Damon Besoff, Joshua Chapman, Blake Fitzgerald, Hayden Fullerton, Brayden Gay, Eain Harris, Jed Hawthorne, Tom Reading, Bailey Rumney, Jonathan Scott and Will Stothard*.

Our PSSA focus now turns to netball, soccer and basketball in the coming weeks.

*Mr Power
Teacher*

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all of our Zone Cross Country representatives for 2014. Abermain Public School was well represented at Cessnock Race Course last term by a large group of students who displayed great sportsmanship and amazing effort to complete what was quite a daunting race for many students. It was fantastic to see the support our students displayed for one another though unfortunately no competitors will be moving onto the Regional Carnival.

*Mr Power
Teacher*

STAR STRUCK - "MAGIC HAPPENS"

We wish to remind parents/carers that the 1st Instalment of \$40 is due on Friday 9th May, 2014.

Rehearsal dates for Star Struck are:

Wednesday 7th May - 10am-2pm at Newcastle Basketball Stadium

Thursday 29th May - at Newcastle Entertainment Centre (times to be advised)

Quality Work Shared with the Principal

<i>Nakeshia Innes</i>	<i>Andrew Passfield</i>	<i>Mitchell Brown</i>
<i>Corey Roddenby</i>	<i>Stevie Deans-Hona</i>	<i>Mackenzie Hall</i>
<i>Nick Turkington</i>	<i>Charlotte Morrow</i>	<i>Cody Lewis</i>
<i>Daelin McWhirter</i>	<i>Jack Gilbert</i>	<i>Alex Peachman</i>
<i>Darrian Burley</i>	<i>Cooper Darcey</i>	<i>Isaac Lake</i>
<i>Lucas Whyburn</i>	<i>Joshua Conroy</i>	<i>Luke Robson</i>
<i>Jaylen Burrell</i>	<i>Sean Peachman</i>	<i>Justin Hasler</i>
<i>Shaylie Colless</i>	<i>Megan Coulson</i>	<i>Emily Sykes</i>
<i>Dustin Barnett</i>	<i>Emily Robertson</i>	<i>Felicity Elliot</i>
<i>Callie McGovern</i>	<i>Harrison Fitzgerald</i>	<i>Lara Robertson</i>
<i>Heath Southeron</i>	<i>Jasmine Weissenborn</i>	<i>Jayden Green</i>
<i>Amarli Wanasinghagee</i>	<i>Kaitlin Philip-Dent</i>	
<i>Laura Merrick Varley</i>		

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we move into cooler weather it is great to see that students are maintaining their high standard with regards to the wearing of their school uniform. Could I remind parents to clearly label with their child's name any hat or jacket that is brought to school.

Next week students in years three and five will be undertaking NAPLAN testing over three days. The testing covers Maths, Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation. The results provide teachers with a very clear snapshot of where students are in their learning and helps put in appropriate teaching strategies to differentiate learning for all students.

Mr Boughton
Principal

NEW STAFF

We would like to welcome the following staff who will be working with students at Abermain Public School during 2014:

Mrs Melinda Stokes (Instructional Leader K-2), Miss Samantha Gylar (Teacher), Miss Jessica Horne (Teacher), Mrs Jennifer Bailey (Teacher), Mrs Amanda Teasdale (School Learning Support Officer)

P&C MEETING

The next P&C Meeting will be on **MONDAY 12TH May** at 5pm in the School Library. All parents are encouraged to come along.

STOP WALK TALK

Our students are to be congratulated on their ability to use Stop, Walk, Talk strategies in our playground.

Keep up the great work!

KIDS, SOCIAL MEDIA AND PRIVACY

Regardless of your child's age, the world may already know a lot more about them than you suspect. According to recent research:

- 92% of children under the age of 2 have a digital shadow (it starts with proud parents posting newborn photos on Facebook or Instagram)
- a quarter of Australian children 8-12 years old use Facebook but the minimum age for a user is 13 years
- more than 20% of tweens publish photos of themselves on Instagram
- Young people 14-19 have an average of 453 fans, friends or followers on social media

2014 Privacy Awareness Week, 4-10 May, 2014, is a good time to review your family's privacy settings and discuss online security. You'll find lots of practical information and resources to share with your kids at www.ipc.nsw.gov.au

PRINTABLE PLANNERS FOR HOMEWORK AND STUDY

School A to Z has printable monthly planners which include school holidays and the numbered weeks of each Term (for example Monday 19 May is the start of Week 4, in Term 2). Print one for each child to stick on the fridge or on their noticeboards. It's a great way to teach them how scheduling their time means they'll have to fit in the fun activities as well as their other commitments and responsibilities. Download May 2014 at <http://bit.ly/UbmQz8>

IS YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK DAMAGING THEIR SPINE?

A recent Australian study has shown that approximately 25% of school-aged children suffer from back and/or neck pain at any one time. It's believed to be due to a combination of factors such as poor posture, everyday load carrying and the use of computers.

The Children's Hospital at Westmead suggests young people should:

- not carry more than 10% of their body weight
- use a backpack with the straps over both shoulders and a waist strap
- load gear so that the heavier objects are nearer to the spine, with the lighter objects towards the front of the pack
- lift a backpack properly - bend at the knees and lift the pack with both hands

More tips at <http://bit.ly/1iB4OB0>

ENGLISH REFRESHER FROM SCHOOL A TO Z ON HOMONYMS

Homonyms (also known as homographs) are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings. They can be nouns, adjectives or verbs.

The context gives them their meaning. Ask your child for an example, like this one:

I prefer a fine *tip* on my pen.

He gave me a *tip* for the Melbourne Cup.

Don't *tip* the water on the floor.

You gave the waiter a generous *tip*.

More grammar tips at www.SchoolAtoZ.com.au/homework-and-study/english

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome back to Term 2.

Borrowing has begun again and students have a fantastic selection of books to choose from. Our collection is always expanding and the students really do enjoy looking at, reading and borrowing what's on offer. We have a range of new graphic novels that students will soon be able to borrow. A Graphic Novel is like a comic book - with lots of images and limited text. These books give a different reading experience to the reader. Whilst not for everyone, graphic novels can encourage reluctant readers to engage in reading. Our library has a range of different topics in our graphic novel collection that include superheroes, classic fairytales and more contemporary adventure themes.

I am always on the lookout for new and exciting titles that our students will love. If you child mentions a particular series that is of interest and we do not have it in our collection, please let me know as it may be worthwhile adding to our collection.

Miss Craig
Teacher Librarian

Give your kids a head start.....

Reading with kids

"If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairytales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairytales." *Albert Einstein*

Research shows that the more we read to our children the greater their vocabulary. The greater their vocabulary, the better they do at school. The better they do at school, the more successful they will be in life.

Children learn to love the sound of language before they even notice the existence of printed words on a page. Reading books aloud to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word.

Aim to read with your child *at least ten minutes every day* and most of all, teach your children to love reading!

Mrs Stokes
Instructional Leader K-2

STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE 2014

The Stewart House Donation Drive will be held on Friday 9th May, 2014. Envelopes for \$2 donations will be sent home with students this week and need to be returned to school on Friday 9th May.

CANTEEN

OPEN
Monday
to
Friday

UNIFORM
SHOP

OPEN
MONDAY
& FRIDAY
9am-9:30am

YEARS 5-6 TERM 1 REWARDS DAY

On Tuesday 8th April, 5-6P and 5-6R had their End Of Term Rewards day for all students who had met PBL expectations throughout the term. The number of eligible students was one of the highest it has been since PBL began at Abermain, showing that students are more committed than every before to being Safe, Respectful Learners.

On the day, we travelled to Glendale Cinemas to watch Mr Peabody and Sherman. The movie was full of action and fun, with some of the more sophisticated humour getting plenty of laughs from the teaching staff. At the end of the movie, the bus took us all to Speer's Point Park for a picnic lunch and some play time. Students loved the equipment and asked if they could visit there again on a Rewards Day soon.

Behaviour was excellent with Mr Power, Miss Crossley and myself having a wonderful day. As always we were proud to be seen out in the community with our students.

*Mrs Roberson
Teacher*



Safe, Respectful Learners

YEAR 5 ENTRY TO AN OPPORTUNITY CLASS IN 2015

If you would like to apply for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2015 on behalf of your child, you need to do so soon. Our local opportunity class is located at West Cessnock Public School. Detailed instructions on how to apply online are available at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. Online applications close on Friday 16th May, 2014. If parents do not have internet access, commercially printed application forms will be available on request from the school. They must be completed and returned to the school by Friday 16th May, 2014. Parents are to submit only one application for each student.

MINILIT INFORMATION SESSION

Parents of those children participating in the MiniLit program are invited to attend an afternoon information session. MiniLit is a literacy intervention program designed to develop literacy skills in Stage One students. Students work in a small group situation with a trained MiniLit tutor 4 hours per week.

The MiniLit information session is designed to provide parents with information about what their child will be doing during their MiniLit sessions and how MiniLit works to develop literacy skills. Parents will have the opportunity to meet some of the MiniLit tutors and ask any questions they may have.

Session details are as follows;

Where: Abermain Public School Library

When: Monday 19th May

Time: 3:30 – 4:15pm

I look forward to speaking with you at the session.

*Mrs Gibbs
Teacher*

PSSA GOLF

On Monday 5th May, Year 5 student Joshua Robertson represented Abermain Public School at the Hunter PSSA Golf Tournament at Charlestown Golf Club. Joshua displayed great skill and was crowned the inaugural 9 Hole event champion! This fantastic result also included nearest to pin on the 2nd hole and longest drive on the 4th hole titles. Congratulations Joshua!

*Mr Power
Teacher*

NEW GOVERNMENT DENTAL SCHEME

Have you heard about the new government dental scheme "Child Dental Benefits Schedule"? From January 1st 2014, it is providing eligible kids with \$1000 to spend on selected dental services over a 2 calendar year period. This great initiative expects to help around 3.4 million Australian kids between the ages of 2-17 years.

To benefit from this scheme, children must be eligible for Medicare and the family must be in receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A or receive a relevant Government payment. Services that will be covered include examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions. Benefits will not be available for services carried out in hospital, or for orthodontic or cosmetic dental work.

To see if your kids are eligible, call your local Dentist who can look up the information for you. You can confirm your child's eligibility and balance amount by accessing your Medicare online account at my.gov.au or calling the Medicare general enquiries line on 132 011.



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