



## SAFE RESPECTIVE LEARNERS

### DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**12-14th May**

NAPLAN - Years 3 & 5

**15th May**

PSSA Boys/Girls Football

**22nd May**

Athletics Carnival

**27th May**

Star Struck Rehearsal

**29th May**

Discover Uni Day - Yr 6

**5th June**

"Clever Kids" begins

**12th June**

Star Struck Matinee  
Performance

**15th June**

P&C Meeting - 5pm

**21st June**

Sunday Working Bee

# NEW FM'S APPLE FOR THE TEACHER

## This issue:

Athletics Carnival  
Star Struck  
Regional Cross Country  
PSSA Football  
Opportunity Class  
Discover Uni Day  
"Clever Kids"

We are very proud to announce that one of our teachers at Abermain Public School, Mrs Hedley, has been nominated by a community member for New FM's Apple for the Teacher competition. This competition is to reward Newcastle's hardest working primary school teacher by giving them the recognition they deserve. The winning teacher will also win iPad minis for all students in their class, as well as a gold Apple Mac Book for the teacher to utilise.

If you feel that Mrs Hedley has played a significant role in your child's education and would like to vote for her, you can do so by visiting:

<http://www.newfm.com.au/apple-for-the-teacher/>

You will find all nominated teachers in a drop down list in alphabetical school order.

The winning teacher will be announced on Tuesday 2nd June, 2015 during the breakfast show.

We thank you for your support.





## PRINCIPALS REPORT

Well, I'm excited!! After just a short time in my role as Principal of Abermain Public School I have discovered that I have a super staff that are working extremely hard to make a difference for all the students. They are providing quality learning opportunities that are engaging and fun for all students.

Following the P&C meeting on Monday night, I have learned that the parents of this school also want to make a big difference to the learning environment and outcomes for the all the children. After hearing a lot of great ideas I attended the cultural meeting last night, where I heard about the dedication of our indigenous families wishing to support the school and the children. With so many people working in a positive direction for the school and students I can only see great things happening in the future for Abermain Public School.

To continue to build the schools culture, I would like to propose a challenge for the Abermain Community - 400 man/woman hours of work (100 people, 4hrs each). On **Sunday 21 June** we will have a working bee to get the school grounds in shape to assist these dynamic teams. So, write the date on the calendar, put aside the time, (8am –12noon) be prepared to roll up the sleeves and get the school "SPARKLING". Future information will be sent home with greater details as we get closer to this date.

Thank you to all the wonderful mums that attended Mother's Day celebrations last week. Again, with close to 100 mothers attending the afternoon tea I was overwhelmed. I enjoyed having a chat with many of you but most of all the children loved having their Mum at school. Once again thank you to Woolworths Cessnock, for providing a beautiful Mother's Day breakfast for the mums on staff - they were treated to a special breakfast hosted by Mr Power and myself in our lovely aprons.

This week the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) has been visiting schools in the area and checking on students attendance records. I would like to remind all parents/carers that it is your legal responsibility to have your children at school. If for some reason you are unable to get your child to school, an explanation will be required. This can be by phone or written note when the child returns to school. I have set a goal of 95% attendance, this would allow 1 day a term away from school with justification. The best opportunity for students to learn is to be at school.

Thomas and Associates have been very helpful by drawing up the design plans for the stage area in the hall. The plans look amazing and when the hall is complete it will be fantastic, thank you.

The school is currently organising a plan to allow local businesses to advertise in the school newsletter. If you are interested in advertising your business please contact the office for more details.

The dietary requirements of students at school is always a challenge (I know, I have two daughters at high school). Can I please remind all parents/carers that we need to ensure all students have a good breakfast before they leave home of a morning. Lunch boxes need to have nutritious food that may include a sandwich, wraps, rolls and plenty of fruit (2-3 pieces). At the moment I am seeing several children eating packets of chips, pies and lollies before school. This is not giving them a fair start to school each day and I encourage parents and carers to avoid more than one packet of chips or snack type food per day. Please save this for times at home if required, not school.

Mr Lamph  
Principal

QUALITY WORK  
SHARED WITH PRINCIPAL

Harrison Fitzgerald  
Joshua Conroy  
Eliza Lantry  
Naomi Jehu  
Cooper Follan  
Liam Witek  
Amelia Ryan  
Harrison Barnett  
Seth Maunder



## **SPORT**

### **PSSA Football**

Good luck to our teams playing against Cessnock Public school in the NSW PSSA Football competition on Friday 15th May . The boys and girls are excited about their first match.

Mr Power  
Teacher

### **Regional Cross Country**

On Friday 8th May both Brayden Gay and Jackson Fitzgerald represented our school at the Regional Cross Country. From a field of over 80 students, Brayden placed 32nd and Jackson placed 48th. Congratulations Brayden and Jackson.

Mrs Hodges  
Assistant Principal

### **Athletics Carnival**

The school athletics carnival for all students in Kindergarten to Year 6 will be held at Birrale Park , Kurri Kurri on Friday 22nd May, 2015. Travel will be by bus. Students may dress in house colours or wear their sports uniform. The canteen will be available on the day with hot food and drinks etc. Permission notes and a canteen note were sent home with students last week. Could you please ensure these notes, together with payment, are returned to the school .

## **DISCOVER UNI DAY**

Year 6 students and their families have the exciting opportunity to experience a day on campus and see what university is all about. In previous years, our Year 6's have come back from this special day full of enthusiasm and wonderful tales of their adventures, leaving the Year 5's eagerly anticipating their own visit. The day is for family members and students to hear about university together. We are asking that a parent, guardian, carer, grandparent, relative or an older brother or sister to attend on the day. This excursion is at no cost to students nor their families. If you have not already returned your child's permission note please do so as soon as possible.

Mrs Roberson  
Teacher

## **YEAR 5 ENTRY TO AN OPPORTUNITY CLASS IN 2016**

Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level. If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 Opportunity Class entry in 2016 you will need to apply on-line at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement). Applications close on 15 May, 2015 - no late applications will be accepted.



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Winter is almost upon us and if you are looking to purchase one of our new school jackets they are available at Flanagans in Cessnock for \$29.95, or can be purchased from Best & Less for \$20. If you would like to have the school logo put on any shirts /jackets you have purchased from Best & Less you can leave them at the office for Shannyne Wade (from C 'n' S Embroidery). Also, school hats can have the child's name embroidered on them as well as APS embroidered on to school shorts. Embroidery is \$5 per item - discounts are available for larger orders. Items for embroidery can be placed in the uniform box located in the canteen for collection. Please make sure your child's name and class is clearly written on the bag and payment has been enclosed.

## STAR STRUCK

The Star Struck dance group have had their first rehearsal with the other schools performing in our dance. I would like to congratulate the girls on their ability to follow instructions from a number of different people and for their safe, respectful behaviour.

Costumes for the girls are starting to come together and there will be a lot of practice over the coming weeks during lunch and recess. Our next rehearsal is with all 600 plus schools who are performing in Star Struck this year on Wednesday 27th May at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

Permission notes were sent home with students in years 2-6 last week for tickets to the Matinee Performance of Star Struck on Friday 12th June, 2015. Tickets are only available to the first 45 students who return their money and permission notes. If your child would like to attend the matinee performance, please send in the permission note and money as soon as possible as tickets are selling fast. There are also spare seats available on the bus for any parents wishing to go and support our school and enjoy this amazing event. Tickets can be purchased from Ticketek or the Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

Miss Craig/Mrs Hodges  
Star Struck Co-Ordinators

## 1-2J STORY WRITING

One day a balloon man was lost, but an old lady in a cloak approached balloon man. What do you desire? A bit of teleportation dust? she asked. Balloon man was excited and he was teleported back home.

*Written by Will Toner*





## LIBRARY

May is reading month! This year's theme is "Read More in May" and all students are encouraged to read for at least 10 minutes per day, either by themselves or with family members. Author and illustrator Aaron Blabey is the ambassador this year and we were lucky enough to have him visit our school last year. His character "Pig the Pug" is on the poster and he has made a video which you can see on the website.

Interested students have taken home a registration sheet and parent information letter outlining the requirements. There are fantastic prizes to be won, but the best prize is sharing time with your family reading a great book. If you would like any additional information either visit the website - [www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm](http://www.scholastic.com.au/nfrm) or visit me in the library.

I encourage all students to write down their reading minutes as I'm sure some will be surprised by how much they actually read during a month. If you are stuck for something interesting to read, come and check out the library for some inspiration as we have a fantastic collection.

Happy Reading!

Miss Craig  
Teacher Librarian



## BIRTHDAY BOOKCLUB

*Happy Birthday*

**Rai Berry, Keira Leggatt, Billy Reading,  
Shaylie Colless, Emma Millington**



## 2016 KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION - "CLEVER KIDS"

"Clever Kids" will kick off on the 5th June, 2015. Last year over 20 children enrolled to start kindergarten in 2015. Along with their parents they participated in the "Clever Kids" program for fun and practical transition to school sessions. Sessions run from 1-3pm each Friday afternoon and help to prepare children and their families for starting school the following year. All children enrolled in the program will be registered for Reading Eggs, an online reading program, to support their literacy learning and give them a jump-start into kindergarten. Research shows that kids do better at school when they have a good transition and when their families are actively involved at all levels of school.

Register your interest with the school now! Call us on 4930 4210 or drop in to the school for more information.

*"My son Eli has been attending "Clever Kids" this year and he absolutely adores it. Friday is his new favourite day of the week and he counts down until it is that day of the week". (Parent: Jess Bate - 2014)*

Mrs Stokes  
Instructional Leader K-2



## PBL - SLIGHT CHANGES TO REWARD SYSTEM

At the beginning of Term 2, a change to the token reward system was introduced to the students. The following summary outlines how the system works. Could you please go through these procedures with your child.



- Students collect Seeking Success tokens for upholding Abermain Public Schools PBL expectations
- Students continue to cut the top (smaller section) off their Seeking Success cards/tokens and place them in their classroom box. This remains the same process as we have used in the past, the only difference is that these will now be collected at the end of every term for the major PBL draw instead of weekly. Our new token exchange system will replace these weekly draws.
- Students have been given a copy of their reward card.
- Once students have saved up their desired number of tokens they can then exchange them for the reward of their choice.
- Each term in Week 4, during the PBL lesson, students will be given the opportunity to inform the teacher of the reward they would like to exchange for. At this point, the teacher will take the necessary amount of tokens and mark on the student's card the reward they have chosen.
- Students take their reward card home to inform parents of the student's reward for positive behaviour and also allows them to assist in preparing for the rewards day (this will only be necessary in some instances, for example, parents will need to be aware if students have chosen to be out of uniform for the day). Please ensure the date of the rewards day (ie Wednesday Week 5 or 10) is on the card when it is sent home.
- On the Wednesday of Week 5 and 10 students will receive their reward. So, if they choose to be out of uniform this will be the day they come out of uniform. If they chose a lucky dip then this will be the day they receive their lucky dip. If they chose a merit card, then this will be the day they receive their merit card etc...
- Once students have used their reward card and made an exchange they will be given a new reward card so they can work towards saving for their next reward.

Please note:

- Students can only collect 1 reward on each exchange day, i.e. if they have 50 tokens they may not exchange for something to the value of 20 tokens and something to the value of 30 tokens.
- Students may choose not to exchange on every rewards day. This is fine.
- Merit cards can still be collected outside the token exchange system. Students can exchange 25 Seeking Successes for a merit card at any time, or whenever the teacher feels that a child is deserving of one.





## P&C

The P&C committee and the school community would like to thank Deanne Challenor for her ongoing commitment and dedication to our school community. She has formally resigned from her role as Fund Raising Organiser at this weeks P&C meeting. Deanne has worked tirelessly in her role and we say thank you. The position will be declared open at the next P&C meeting on Monday 15th June, 2015 at 5pm in the school library. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in nominating for this position please make sure you attend this meeting.

### ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

#### 12 MONTHS (20 Issues)

Size	Cost
Postcard	\$500
Business Card	\$100

#### 6 MONTHS (10 Issues)

Size	Cost
Postcard	\$250
Business Card	\$50

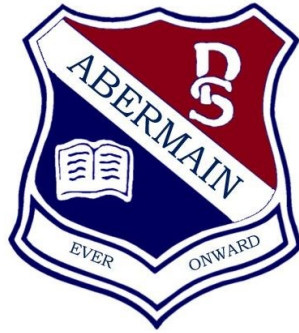
#### 1 MONTH (2 Issues)

Size	Cost
Postcard	\$20
Business Card	\$10

**Free 1 off Issue available for non-for-profit organisations**

The School Newsletter is currently distributed to 154 families, both electronically and printed copy, as well as uploaded to the school website and school app.

Advertisements will commence from the start of Term 3 and the Newsletter will be published in full colour. If you, or anyone you know is interested in our School Newsletter please contact the school office on 4930 4210.



# SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

## **SCHOOL APP**

The school app is available to the whole community

To download the school app visit the Apple App store or Google Play store and search for Abermain Public School.

Log in using - Username: community Password: abermainps