Coming Events

Week 10
Friday 4th April
- School Cross Country
- Assembly 12.10 – Item 4/5P

Week 11
Monday 7th April
- Years 3-6 Excursion to Powerhouse Museum and Darling Harbour
Wednesday 9th April
- P&C Meeting
Friday 11th April
- Easter Picnic Day

Term 1 Week 1 2014
Monday 28th April
- Staff Development Day
Tuesday 29th April
- Students Return to School
- Gymsport
Thursday 1st May
- Brokers Cross Country

School Updates

Personal Best Awards
It was a pleasure to be able to present the Personal Best Awards at the Gold Assembly today. Congratulations to our 29 Gold recipients and their families. A big thank you to our special guest presenter, Stephen Hegarty who is Superintendent Commander in the NSW Police Force and a parent of our school community.

Cross Country
Our original Cross Country had to be postponed due to inclement weather and has been rescheduled for this coming Friday at school. Please see the note sent home today, for times of specific age races. Fingers crossed that we have fine weather.

Easter Fun Day
Our Easter Fun day will be held on the last day of term, 11th April. All members of our school community are cordially invited to attend our Hat Parade commencing at 10.45 in the bottom COLA, followed by a picnic ‘lunch on the lawn’.
Students will need to make and decorate a hat at home to wear in the parade. Hats can be made from items such as ice-cream containers, cardboard, coloured paper, foil and cotton wool. We hope you will be able to join us for what will be an enjoyable and fun time.

**Parent Teacher Meetings**

Parent Teacher Meetings will be held next week. These meetings are an opportunity for sharing information about your child. To assist with the smooth running of the meetings, please remember the following:

- Meetings are **ten minutes only**
- Please try to be **on time** as squeezing you in later may not be possible.
- If you are unable to attend, please notify the office.

**Kindergarten enrolments**

We already have a number of applications for enrolment for Kindergarten. To assist with the preparation and planning for 2015, we need to know how many local enrolments we will have. If you know of anyone, or are a parent of a child commencing Kindergarten next year, please come and collect an enrolment form from the office. If you know of any families who are looking for a great school for their child in 2015 and live in our area, please encourage them to also apply to enrol.

**Help comprehension skills at home.**

When learners comprehend they interpret, integrate, critique, infer, analyse, connect and evaluate the ideas in texts. They go beyond the word level to get the big picture and the meaning of the text. One of the things that you can help at home with is using the ‘Super Six’ comprehension strategies when reading with your child. These six strategies help your child think about what they have read on a deeper level, not just decoding the print.

**Strategy One- Making Connections**

Children make personal connections with the text by using their background knowledge. There are three main types of connections we make while reading text.

- **Text-to-Self (T-S)** refers to connections made between the text and the reader's personal experience.
- **Text-to-Text (T-T)** refers to connections made between a text being read to a text that was previously read.
- **Text-to-World (T-W)** refers to connections made between a text being read and something that occurs in the world.

**Example questions/statements**

- This story reminds me of a holiday
- This character has the same problem that I read/saw/heard in another text.
- Does this remind you of something?
- Has something like this ever happened to you?

**Strategy Two - Predicting**

Children use information from graphics, text and experiences to anticipate what will be read/viewed/heard and to actively adjust comprehension while reading and viewing.

**Example questions/ statements.**

- What do you think will happen next?
- What words or images do you expect to see or hear in this text?
- What might happen next? Why do you think that?
- What helped you to make that prediction?
- Were your predictions accurate? How did you confirm your predictions?
- Have you read/seen/heard about this topic anywhere else?

**Strategy Three- Questioning**

Children pose and answer questions that clarify meaning and promote deeper understanding of the text. Questions can be generated by the learner, a peer or the teacher.
**Example questions/ statements.**
Ask these before, during and after reading with your child or reading to them.
- What in the text helped you know that?
- How is the text making you feel? Why is that?
- When you read / viewed/ listened to the text did it remind you of anything you know about? Why did it remind me/you of that?
- What did the composer/writer of the text mean by……?
- Whose point of view is this?

**Strategy Four - Monitoring**
Children stop and think about the text and know what to do when meaning is disrupted.

**Example questions/ statements.**
- Is this making sense?
- What have I learned?
- Should I slow down or speed up?
- Do I need to re-read/view/listen?
- What can help fill in the missing information?
- What does this word mean?
- What can I use to help me understand what I’m reading/viewing/hearing?

**Strategy Five - Visualising**
Children create a mental image from the text which was read, viewed or heard. Visualising brings the text to life, engages the imagination and uses all of the senses.

**Example questions/ statements.**
- What are the pictures you have in your head as you read, view or listen to this text?
- Can you describe the picture you made while you read or heard that part?
- How did the pictures in your head help you understand the text?

**Comprehension Skill 6 - Summarising**
Children identify and accumulate the most important ideas and restate them in their own words.

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**Example questions/ statements.**
- What things will help you summarise the text
- What are the main ideas and significant details from the reading/viewing/listening?
- If you were to tell another person about the text/read/viewed/heard in a few sentences, what would you tell them?
- What is the main theme? How is it connected to the world beyond the text?
- In what significant ways does this text relate to/ elaborate on the topic that you have been investigating?
- Can you create a metaphor for the text you have read?

Karen Knobel
Relieving Principal

**SRC - Funky Hair and Socks Day**

Next week on Thursday 3rd April, the SRC have organised a **Funky Hair and Socks Day** to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation of Australia. Students should bring a gold coin donation to help us raise money for this worthy cause.

Students may also wear appropriate mufti (No singlets or midriff tops and students must have enclosed shoes). Please be aware that if your child is wearing inappropriate clothing, parents will be contacted and asked to bring a change of clothes to the school.

Thank you for supporting the SRC and Leukemia Foundation.

Pleasant Heights Public School
SRC
Uniform Shop

**Jackets & Tracksuit Pants** – For those parents who have placed orders for the School Jacket and Tracksuit Pants, the supplier has advised that these should arrive early in Term Two and notes will be sent home to parents requesting payment and collection details.

**Second Hand School Uniforms** – The Uniform Shop is in urgent need of good quality, clean second hand school uniforms. So ..... clean out your cupboards over the school holiday and donate unwanted items to the Uniform Shop to help raise money for the P&C.

**Boys School Socks** – Coming soon – a special order of discounted boys grey school socks (similar to the girls green socks currently available through the uniform shop). Details to follow in coming newsletters.

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**What’s Due**

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Years 3-6 Excursion</td>
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<td>03/04/14</td>
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<td>Gmysport</td>
<td>$37</td>
<td>08/04/14</td>
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<td>Classroom &amp; School Resources</td>
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<td>USB Drive Years 3-6</td>
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**PHPS P&C Entertainment Book Fundraiser**

NSW South Coast Entertainment Books 2014/15 are now available again through the P&C (taking effect for use from 1 June 2014). Selling for just $55 each, purchase your new Entertainment™ Membership before 9 April 2014, and you can choose your favourite six additional offers, valued at up to $240.

You can purchase either the traditional **Entertainment™ Book Membership** that comes with the Gold Card and vouchers or the new **Entertainment™ Digital Membership** that puts the value of the Entertainment™ Book into your iPhone or Android smartphone!

Books can be purchased on-line at [https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/28022g2](https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/28022g2) or through the Uniform Shop (cash or cheque only, payable to PHPS P&C). Every book sold results in $11 being donated to the school. Further details can be obtained from Brenda on 0413 637 785.
Gold Award Recipients

Cynthia C (1)
Mary O (1)
Baxter A (1)
Naten P (1)

Michael A (1)
Nour S (1)
Hayden H (1)
Joshua S (1)

Finlay T (1)
Olivia V (1)
Will B (1)
Kyan C (1)

Abby C (1)
Noah C (1)
Maya B (1)
Madison C (1)

Caden H (1)
Scarlett O (1)
Angus R (1)
Lily J (1)
Gold Award Recipients

Phoebe S (1)
Saja B (1)
Sam R (1)
Elodie P (1)
Israa B (1)
Jack K (1)
Remi C (2)
Mika T (2)
Nathan M (1)
PLEASANT HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL EASTER FUN DAY

Friday 11th April

All parents are invited to join us for our Easter Celebration Day.

**Time:** 10.45 - 11.15

Easter Hat Parade in the bottom COLA

11.15 - 12.00

Picnic lunch on the lawn

**Bring:**

A picnic lunch and drinks

A picnic blanket

A special hat

12.00 - Parents depart and students will go back to class.

**Activities:** 12.00 - 1.15

K-2 Easter craft activities.

3-6 Movie in the hall.

1.15 - 3.15

K-2 Movie in the hall.

3-6 Easter craft activities.