The Weeks In View

Week 6
Monday – Young Leaders Day, Peer Support Commences
Tuesday – WCoS Combined Staff Meeting
Wednesday – Gymnastics
Thursday – Hunter Region Swimming Carnival
Friday – Concert Band

Week 7
Monday – Peer Support Groups
Tuesday – P&C Meeting 7pm, Life Education Visits K-2
Wednesday – Gymnastics
Friday – Concert Band, Paul Harragon Rugby League Cup

Captains Leading the Way

2016 captains Imogen Dunn, Louis Selkirk, Charlotte Smyth and Lachlan Brien today attended one of the most amazing events for young leaders on the planet. National Young Leaders Day, which was founded in 1997 to foster strong leadership values in young Australians, challenges and engages leaders from the very first second of the day until the very final curtain call. A feature of the event is the wonderful variety of speakers and celebrities that don the stage to inspire young Australians to make a difference in their communities and lead their generation in creating a better Australia for all. Some of this year’s guests include NSW Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione, Nathan ‘Dubsy’ Want who is a rapidly emerging voice in the youth culture, Author/Illustrator Melanie Lee and Disabled Olympian Ben Austin.

We May Have to Extend The Staffroom for a P&C Invasion!

Our annual P&C AGM followed by our usual P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday March 8th at 7pm. In 2015 we saw attendance record smashed at our AGM and if trends continue, we may have to spill out onto our new colourful playground area to accommodate the masses! Congrats CSPS parents on your dedication and passion for your school. P&C is a great way to partner with us in your child’s educational journey.

School Disco Kids as Adults, Teachers as Kids!

This Wednesday night! $5.00
Infants: 5.30pm-7.00pm
Primary: 7.15pm - 8.45pm
Drinks & chips for sale 50c
Life Education Centre Visits - Harold Awaits Us!

Did you know that you …… have over 100,000km of blood vessels (more than 2 circumnavigations of the globe!!), 206 bones, 656 muscles, and sneeze at over 200km/h? These are just some of the amazing body facts that students may discuss over the next few weeks as they will visit the Hunter Life Education Centre. Here they will be reminded of the wonder of the human body and what it takes to keep it in the best possible shape. The amazing 21st Century classroom at the Life Ed Centre takes our kids on an exciting journey inspiring them toward health and a healthy lifestyle. Centre mascot, Healthy Harold the giraffe, is a favourite of all and a character that all the students fall in love with. We will follow up the visit with classroom activities and discussions as every child receives an activity book after Life Ed adventure. Students in Years 3 - 6 will attend in Week 11 and a note will be sent home soon.

Absence Makes The Brain Go Yonder!

Sydney Morning Herald journalist, Amy McNeilage, in a recent editorial, quoted a research paper that stated that school attendance patterns established as early as Year 1 very accurately predict how often a student is likely to attend school right through to their late High Schooling years. Alarmingly, Australia has an extremely high absenteeism when compared to other OECD countries with the average NSW student missing around 3 weeks per year. This equates to two whole terms missed during their primary school years and if they head through to Year 12, it equates to almost a whole year of school missed! Does this have an impact? The answer seems pretty obvious. Parents, we do realise that some absenteeism due to illness and other circumstances is inevitable. However, days off for birthdays or visiting the local show to see Aunt Joan’s prize winning hog just doesn’t cut it. In fact, in 2015 the NSW Government and the Department of Education changed the rules around Principals granting exemption from school for family holidays. This is now recorded as absent rather than exempt which remains on the student’s records forever. My advice is, if possible and where you do have flexibility, schedule appointments after school, plan holidays in school holidays, celebrate birthdays in the afternoons if it falls on a school day and send the message to our children that attendance is of the highest importance. Research shows that the ‘super attenders’ in 99.9% of cases, keep that habit up all the way through their education and then into the workforce and …… their success rates are significantly higher. Let’s set them up for success; in the long run, it’s just easier that way.

T25 Big Bash Victory to CSPS

Once again CSPS met their good buddies from Charlie East PS in the first round of the PSSA State Cricket Knockout. Solid performances from our boys saw CSPS victorious for the 3rd year in a row. Winning the toss, captain Cooper Plain elected to bowl on a very green wicket, however, the fact that it was AstroTurf meant the green remained throughout! Our lads were superb in the field thwarting most efforts by the batsmen to pierce the field and find the boundary. This was highlighted by the 3 ripper run outs affected by cracking throws by the CSPS fieldsmen and keeper Blake Silvester. After the allotted 25 overs we managed to restrict the score to 8 for 63 due to some extremely tight bowling. Best of the bowlers were Riley Petrie with figures of 3 for 3 off 5 overs, Blake Hardy with 1 for 2 off 5 overs and Cooper Plain who took 1 for 6 off his 4 overs. CSPS used 9 different bowlers during the innings who all played a part in restricting the opposition to the small total.

The CSPS run chase unfolded as per plan with openers Lachlan Brien (19) and Blake Hardy (12) putting on 39 for the opening stand before our two Coopers (Watson & Plain) steered us home to finish at 2 for 73 still with 10 overs to spare. Cooper Plain was anything but ‘plain’ as he classily made his way to 11 not out before Watto finished the job with 5 not out off just 2 balls faced. Our Round 2 opponents will be Valentine PS who defeated us by a single run in 2013. Maybe it’s our year to turn the tables?
Peering Into the Future

Definitely one of the highlights for all of our students each year is our five week Peer Support Program which is one of the ways at CSPS that we foster close relationships and a sense of community in all. During one afternoon a week for the rest of the term, our Year 6 students, ably supported by Year 5, will run a small group of 13 children and address topics such as getting along, friendship, inclusivity, anti-bullying, and more! Mr Kelly has spent many hours preparing and training Year 6 for running of the course and he says, “Our leaders are rearing to go!” Stay tuned for some wonderful feedback from your kids around the dinner table.

CSPS Heralds Another Zone Champion!

Congratulations to our 24 swimmers who made up our team for the Eastlakes Zone Carnival that was held at Swansea Pool last week. Many of our students swam a personal best time and represented our school with pride drawing comment from a number of teachers from neighbouring schools. Well done especially to all our relay teams who gave their all and a pat on to back to dad Craig Boettcher for his work with our Junior Boys team. Well done Maddy Howard for making the 11 years girls breaststroke final and a huge cheer to Beau Boettcher who was crowned the 8 year boys zone 50m freestyle champion! Our ‘Beau n Arrow’ surprised everyone (except for CSPSers of course!) with a startling 43.25 second swim to win the final. The entire race was neck and neck and we thought we were in for a ‘Beau tie’ for a second but our ‘gutsy’ CSPS champ pulled away in the last 10 metres to secure a victory worthy of the crazy poolside cheer squad of CSPS kids, mums, dads and teachers.

Rendered Useful!

A huge thank you to CSPS dad, Craig Plain, who donated his expertise and time in rendering our new wall at the front of the school that will now house our new school signage. Thank you also to casual teacher and CSPS mum, Nicole Jovanovski (qualified town planner also!), who negotiated on our behalf with Lake Macquarie Council in gaining approval for the project. We are only moments away now from the final product.

If The Shoe Fits Wear It

Not always the case! I have noticed of late some of our more senior students slipping south of our CSPS uniform expectation below the ankle line. Parent, please be vigilant with the insistence of black school shoes – not canvas or dance shoes or coloured laces or sports shoes that are partially blackened. If they insist and try the ‘everyone else does debate’, please let me know if you’d like me to have a personal chat with them. PS – I spotted suitable shoes in ALDI Cardiff yesterday for less than $20!

Shoes that get a tick √

No tick here! X
1-2L are limber, lithe and loving gymnastics!
The Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices and will involve students from Years 4, 5 & 6 only.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 4 March. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

League Season is Upon Us

Our CSPS League team players are lacing their boots up ready to take on other schools right across the Hunter in the 7 a side Paul Harragon Cup on March 11. Not sure this year if our lads will get their traditional photo with ‘Chief’ unless current TV show, I’m a Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here suddenly turfs our Novocastrian icon out of the jungle. Mr Kelly has our boys primed for a big showing and despite our lack of size in the forwards, we are quietly confident. Here’s hoping for a warmish day where the CSPS boys can use their speed and run the others off their feet.

Mr J’s Free Parenting Tip

It seems a growing concern given the busyness of life and 21st century jobs that no longer honour the hours of 9 to 5, that families are rarely all together in the one spot for more than a fleeting moment each day. Can I suggest making family dinner time around the table a priority on as many days a week as you possibly can. To make this time valuable always set the same ground rules – no phones, no TV, no devices. Your children, regardless of age, will love it more than you think! Believe it or not our kids hunger for more than just food, they also hunger for relaxed conversation where the words are more than just instruction and deadline. This short little clip highlights just how much kids do love ‘doing dinner’ with you!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wfbY3i4FY0

If you occasionally have the luxury of an extra 10 minutes around said dinner table (we try this probably 2 to 3 times a week and …… Lily LOVES it …… so does Grandad!), find a quick and easy game to play. We discovered the game Banana-grams some time ago and it’s a ripper! Fast, fun and educational to boot. If you’re really keen to throw in another course, there are also some brilliant little books with short 2 minute stories or scenarios with morale dilemmas which can be great fun to read and discuss as a family. We get a real buzz out of Grandads ‘take’ on a few of these ones!
Library News

We have had some enquiries regarding borrowing days for the students. Here is the Library timetable for this year.

- Tuesday - KH, 5-6K and 5-6W
- Wednesday - KL, 1-2G, 1-2L and 1-2S
- Thursday - 3-4B and 3-4J

Please encourage your children to bring their library bag and books on their allocated day. Thank you.

Mrs Stoppini

Easter will be here before we know it!

Our P&C is hoping to get the jump on the Easter bunny by organising choc-tastic Easter hampers and would love your donations of Easter gifts for inclusion in the hampers.

Please drop your donations in the box provided in the office.

Let’s make the Easter Bunny envious!

Thank you from the P&C Fundraising Committee
Charlestown South Public School will be participating in Lake Macquarie Fair’s upcoming CASH FOR CLASSROOMS campaign that runs from Monday 4 April until Sunday 8 May 2016.

Customers who shop at Lake Macquarie Fair can allocate every dollar they spend as points towards their nominated school, and the local school with the most points wins. The school with the second highest points will win second prize, and so on. The total prize pool for the winning schools is $4,000!

We encourage families to nominate their points towards Charlestown South Public School to help us take out first prize.

More information to come.
Don’t forget to mention you’re from Charlestown South PS when you purchase, as our school receives awards.
Community Notices

StrikeLive for iOS.

Free download. Daily practice quizzes for Selective High School, Opportunity Class (OC) and NAPLAN with detailed answers, explanations and personalised statistics.

Lake Macquarie RUGBY CLUB

We WANT YOU!

Do you like a challenge?

Be coached by some of the best coaches in the region. We are recruiting players of all standards and ages for our 2016 season. Join NOW!

www.lakemacquarierugby.com

For more information contact Rob Taylor 0417 309 588
Community Notices

**Bricks 4 Kidz**

**AFTER SCHOOL**

So fun it won’t feel like learning!

**Term 1 - Mission To Space**

Students look at modern day space exploration, and learn about the development of the space program over 6 weeks in a safe and nurturing environment.

New Motorised Build. Each week creative, free play time. Socialise with like-minded kids. Loads of fun with LEGO.

**Book your spot online at:** Bricks4kidzAustralia.com.au/nsw-lakemacquarie/

**OR Call Brad Levey on 0499 006 056**

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**Mini Ballerinas & Jazz**

Classes: Every Monday
9.45am to 10.15am
30 MIN CLASSES
$6.00
2-5 YEARS
80 Felton Street
Gateshead NSW 2290
For more info contact
De: 0411 236 303
FIRST LESSON FREE

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**Athena Dance**

COMING IN 2016 TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS!

Athena is a new dance program created just for women incorporating various styles of dance.

Unleash your Inner Goddess! Self expression, femininity, fun and fitness, connection and friendship.

Wednesday Mornings (Child Friendly)
Location: Charlestown Community Centre
Corner of Frederick and Pearson Street
Charlestown

Website
www.tmpdancestudios.com.au

Email
info@tmpdancestudios.com.au

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**Lakemacquarie Wellness Festival**

SUNDAY 1st MAY

12PM - 4PM. All Welcome!
Entertainment, Exhibitors, Food and more...
Valentine Public School
CHARLESTOWN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

P & C ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Charlestown South Public School P & C Association will be held on Tuesday 8 March, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Nominations are now being called for the Executive and other positions on the Committee. The positions are:

* President
* Vice President
* Second Vice President
* Treasurer
* Secretary
* Canteen Co-ordinator
* Canteen Committee
* Fundraising Co-ordinator
* Fundraising Committee

P & C meetings are held on the Tuesday of weeks three and seven of each term at 7:00pm in the school staff room. If you are interested in any position, please complete the form below and return it to school by Monday 7 March, 2016. Nominees must be financial members of the P & C and can pay their membership fee of $1:00 on the night of the AGM. For more information please contact Katrina Rich on 0422889639.

All interested parties please complete the nomination form below and return it to the school office for the information of the Returning Officer, Mr Johnson.

CHARLESTOWN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

P & C ASSOCIATION

AGM NOMINATION FORM

I, ________________________________, nominate myself for the position of
______________________________ on the 2016 P & C Committee.

Signed: __________________________ Date: ________________