



# North Rocks Public School

## NEWSLETTER

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[www.northrocks-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.northrocks-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

Number 1

Term 1 Weeks 1, 2, 3 2009

30 January, 2009

### DIARY DATES

|        |           |   |
|--------|-----------|---|
| Wed    | 28 Jan    | Day 1 Year 1-6                                  |
| Thurs  | 29 Jan    | Day 1 Kindergarten                              |
| Tues   | 3 Feb     | Kindergarten Best Start Testing                 |
|        | 5-6 Feb   | School Captain at Vision Valley                 |
| Mon    | 9 Feb     | Parent Auxiliary meeting 9am<br>Band AGM 7:30pm |
| Tues   | 10 Feb    | Scripture begins                                |
| Tues   | 17 Feb    | School Photos<br>P&C Meeting 7:30pm             |
| Week 5 | 24-27 Feb | Parent/Teacher Info Nights                      |
| Fri    | 27 Feb    | Clean up Australia Day                          |
| Sun    | 1 March   | Working Bee                                     |

### SCHOOL MESSAGES

Welcome back to our new school year. We extend a special welcome to all new families who have joined us at North Rocks. We hope that during 2009 you and your family will have the opportunity to join in some of the school's activities. The Diary Dates above include the meeting times for both Parents Auxiliary and P&C Association.

Our parent organisations support the school financially, and provide important parent viewpoints on school issues. Our meetings are friendly and provide a good way for new parents to join the school community. You will be made most welcome and your concerns treated as important. Join us!

This week students have been placed into classes that we expect to be for the remainder of the year. As new students arrive or we are informed that students have left some small changes may be made to balance classes. I do not expect that major changes to the school organization will be made.

Each year our school enrolments mean that we need to form composite or multi-age classes in some years. Our approach to this is guided by the following generalisations:

Multi-year (composite) classes are formed when the

number of students enrolled in a year cannot be accommodated in single-year classes. When placing students into multi-year classes the school gives consideration to factors about each student such as:

- history of placement in multi-year classes;
- ability to work independently; and
- friendship groups.

While we are always happy to talk to parents, placement of students is not something that is changed upon parent request. It is the school's responsibility to determine student placements.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, 24-27 February, most classes will hold information sessions to provide parents with the opportunity to find out about class programs and procedures. The times for these meetings will be advertised separately. Parents are encouraged to seek interviews with the class teachers when issues of concern arise. Please arrange appointments at mutually acceptable times. Following the class information sharing sessions on each evening, parents are invited to stay and join the teaching staff for a social function.

In coming days information will be provided to parents regarding student texts and other classroom needs for 2009. Students will be supplied with classroom exercise books. Copies of invoices for text books and the term's activities will be issued soon. We ask that parents respond to the payment requests promptly as the school must meet the immediate cost of payment for some of these items. The invoice will include an opportunity to make payment of the P&C contribution which the school collects on behalf of the P&C. **Parents should take care when making P&C contributions to indicate whether they wish the contribution to be to the P&C General Fund or to the tax deductible Building Fund where a separate receipt is issued.** For 2009 there will be a separate school voluntary contribution which is different to the P&C contribution. There will also be an ICT levy to assist the school meet the large cost of computer infrastructure upgrades, purchase of interactive whiteboards and other hardware. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

*Welcome back to North Rocks PS 2009*



Please assist the school staff to develop independent behaviour with your Kindergarten children. When bringing children to school in the morning, please see them to their classrooms, allow them to unpack, then say goodbye and allow them to play without you.

Don't forget to access the school website (published above) for copies of current newsletters and our calendar of school activities. Updates will be appearing throughout Term.

Next week a set of permissions slips which will affect your child's work within the school this year will be distributed.. The photography permissions will affect lots of activities including school photographs, excursions and performances. Permission is also sought for students to the Don Moore Reserve, at the rear of the school. Attached to the permissions note is a request on behalf of the P&C to involve your children in their very successful Class Information Booklet which will provide contact information to all school families. Your participation is encouraged. We wish you and your families a successful year in 2009.

**MONEY COLLECTION**

During 2008 the school will continue its invoicing system for school payments with credit card facilities to reduce the reliance on children needing to carry money.

School collections for each term are accumulated and made in one payment sent out early in each term. This procedure provides parents with fewer times during the year when children will be asked to bring money to school. Parents are asked to assist in meeting security needs by paying by cheque or credit card where possible.

Invoicing will mean that money collection and permission notes will be separated. This year we will supply student texts after payments have been received. Where collections are large, families will be able to make part payments.

Term 1 collections will vary from those later in the year as they include P&C voluntary contributions whose amount is determined by families. **The school strongly supports your assistance to the P&C by making the voluntary contribution.**

Despite our invoicing program, it is expected that some minor emerging payments will still be asked as they arise. The school will seek to minimise these. The school maintains a small Departmental grant to support families with school purchases. Please contact the school if you need to access this support.

**NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING**

Would you like to take out a yearly advertisement in the school newsletter? The newsletter reaches 450 families and has 20 editions annually. Cost is \$440 gst inclusive and is available for the back page and limited to 10 companies. If you are interested please contact the school office on 9871 1772.

**GENERIC CLASSROOM NEEDS FOR 2009**

**Kindergarten**

Large box of tissues, paint Shirt (old T-Shirt)

**Year 1**

HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, pencil case, large box of tissues, glue sticks, 96 page homework book, sharpener in a container

**Year 2**

HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, pencil case, large box of tissues, glue sticks, 96 page homework book, sharpener in a container, white eraser

**Year 3 and 4**

HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, pencil case, large box of tissues, glue sticks, 96 page homework book, sharpener in a container, white eraser, scissors, art shirt, large envelope folder, two A4 display books, A4 writing pad, ruler

**Year 5 and 6**

HB lead pencils, coloured pencils, pencil case, large box of tissues, glue sticks, 96 page homework book, sharpener in a container, white eraser, scissors, art shirt, large envelope folder, two A4 display books, A4 writing pad, non metal ruler with millimetres, blue biros, highlighters

**All students in years 3-6**

All primary students would benefit from having a standard pocket sized dictionary, geometrical instruments, and a current atlas. Coloured pencils are preferred to felt tipped pens and no student should have liquid paper at school.

Kindergarten parents are reminded that from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February all Kinder classes will finish at 1:30. Best start assessments will then commence until Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

**Year 5 Camp**

Due to the change of ownership of the camp venue which is now only a conference centre the Year 5 camp will be postponed to an appropriate date and venue. We will keep you updated.



- *Truth and Knowledge since 1923* -



## 2009 STAFFING

### Principal

Mr Peter Harker

### Deputy Principal

Mr Ian Noffs

### Assistant Principals

Mr Graham Cummins (6C)

Mrs Tracey Abbott-Atchison  
(KAA)

Mr Jim Lawrence (4/5L)

Mrs Erin Dooley (2D)

Mrs Wendy Cordukes (1C)

### Class Teachers

Ms Elizabeth Pritchard (KP)

Ms Melissa Van Ryswyk (KV)

Ms Rhianna Knight (KK)

Mrs Rachel McCracken/Mrs Larrissa Bezkorovainy (1R)

Ms Jennifer Moncrieff (1M)

Mrs Saskia Martiskin (2M)

Mrs Erin Dooley/Ms Nicole Leon (2D)

Mrs Janet Shand (2S)

Ms Jansiiu Cheow (3C)

Mr Peter Earl (3E)

Mrs Lana Johnston (3/4J)

Mrs Nerolie Nevatte (4N)

Mrs Libby Tropea (4T)

Mrs Sally Kerr-Mackey (5KM)

Mrs Elizabeth Armitage (5A)

Mr Rod Cummins (5/6R)

Mrs Lynne Weir (6W)

Ms O. Halloran (6H)

Mrs Kathryn Mahony (K/6M)

Ms Belinda Hayman (K/6H)

### Shared Classes

Mrs Melissa Olliffe(5A and 2M)

### Support Teachers

Mrs Rosemary Bodlay -Library

Mrs Sue Maxwell – RFF

Mrs Karen Andrews - RFF

Mrs Rosemary Artlett - ESL

Mrs Lynda Rudd - RFF reading support

**School Counsellor** Mr Ken Byrne

### Admin Staff

Mrs Linda Parry

Mrs Sandra Webb

Mr Tony Ryan

Mr Bob Iles

Mrs Chris Hammond

Mrs Indra Pozorski

## The Good Guys Support for North Rocks School.

I have registered our school in the Good Guys "Support Your School Program". For every \$25 spent at the Good Guys at Castle Hill a \$1 voucher is provided upon request

at the information counter. If you spend \$100 the school gets \$4 if you spent \$1000 the school gets \$40. The vouchers add up.

The vouchers are then presented to the school office and when we have a reasonable amount I purchase resources for the school like computers and digital cameras. At my previous school we were able to redeem several thousands of dollars worth of electrical goods. It is a worthwhile program to support. So if you need electrical goods try the Good Guys ask for the best price and when purchasing ask for the Support your school dollars for North Rocks PS.

Have a wonderful year!

Peter Harker  
Principal

