

# Tacking Point Public School Newsletter

6 February, 2009  
Week 2, Term 1



## Communication

Maintaining effective communication is the key to a positive and productive relationship between families and the school. Surveys previously conducted indicated that there are a range of informal and formal procedures that facilitate effective communication. These include:

### \* Contact with class teacher.

Parents may use a short note to provide general information that the teacher needs to know about your child. Examples include: absences, explaining a change of routine (particularly variations to travel arrangements or leaving early), reason for being out of school uniform, advice if child is upset or has a particular concern, an achievement that the family is proud of, a minor learning difficulty being experienced, confusion about issues such as homework etc. Often parents catch the teacher's attention before or after school. This is friendly and effective but please be aware of other demands that teachers have on their time. It is not appropriate to interrupt teachers while they are teaching classes.

### \* Interviews with teachers.

Teachers would prefer to resolve issues early. An interview can be arranged with the teacher to clarify understandings, explain special circumstances or needs, devise school/home plans to address problems etc. An appointment may be made by sending a note to the teacher or telephoning the school office and leaving a message.

\* **Contact with school office.** Call in or telephone to check details of school activities, advice of absences in excess of 3 days, uniform enquiries, change of address, bus enquiries, payments, transfers or any other general matters.

\* **Note to or interview with Deputy Principals or Principal.** This generally will involve whole school matters, requests for additional support, OH&S suggestions, family law issues/orders, financial assistance or matters not satisfactorily resolved with class teacher. Interview arranged by contacting school office.

\* **Interview with Support Teacher Learning Assistance (STLA)** for additional support with literacy or numeracy difficulties. Discuss with your child's class teacher who will take requests to the Learning Support Team. Once this has been done appointments may be made through the school office.

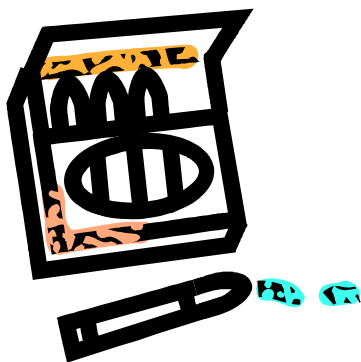
\* **Assistance from School Counsellor** for adjustment problems, learning difficulties, family issues or other matters. Contact through class teacher, Deputy Principals or Principal. Appointments made through school office.

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 10/2/09  
Welcome morning tea
- ◆ 20/2/09  
District Swimming Trials
- ◆ 24/2/09  
Pancake Promotion
- ◆ 27/2/09  
P&C Pool Party

## Email Accounts for Students

The NSW Department of Education and Training is committed to providing a secure e-Learning environment. This year all students will be provided with an e-Learning account (DET user ID and password) to access Internet facilities at school including filtered browsing and email. In using these e-Learning accounts, students are required to abide by the schools 'Student Access to the Internet' policy. This policy addresses issues including the safety and privacy of students, staff and other Internet users, and establishes an Internet code of behaviour.



## Kindergarten Bus Safety

Busways Company will again provide Tacking Point Kindergarten children with an informative bus safety video and presentation. The children can put into practice the skills they will be told on a bus trip around Lighthouse area. Our appreciation to Busways from Kindergarten children and teachers. Please return your permission note to your class teacher.

## Welcome Morning Tea

All families new to the school are invited to an information session and morning tea to be held at 10.00am - 11.00am this Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February. This will be an opportunity to meet key people in the school organization and hear a brief explanation of their role. It is envisaged this part of the meeting will last for approximately an hour then continue informally with morning tea. Please feel welcome to join us.

## Important Safety Information

The safety of our children is our highest priority.

Drop-off Zone in front of school - Parents should be aware that this is NOT a parking area - it is permissible only to set down / pick up. Police do check this and non-compliance may result in a fine. By using this area for its proper purpose, many vehicles can be handled in a short time span.

Crossing Driveways - Students and families crossing driveways near school need to be alert regarding the danger from cars that may be reversing and not see them. I suggest that all parents discuss this and other safety aspects with their children. Perhaps walking the school route with them will assist you to identify potential hazards.

The Staff car park - This car park cannot meet staff parking needs so restrictions must apply. This area has a disabled parking space that must be restricted to this use. It is unsafe to use this area as a walkway.

Council Play Equipment at rear of school - From time-to-time groups of students will use this facility under teacher supervision. Students must not play here on the way home from school. If your child has returned home from school and

then wishes to return to the equipment that will be the responsibility of the family. Parents who collect children from school may choose to use the facility but please do not include children from other families in this.

Supervision - Generally students should not be at school before 8.30am. Students arriving earlier should proceed directly to area A (top playground/assembly area). Teachers are rostered to provide supervision from 8.30am. Afternoon dismissal is at 3.00pm and students should make their way directly to the exit points, bus lines or meeting place. Students catching buses are supervised onto their bus.

OH&S - Parents can provide the extra sets of eyes to identify safety hazards. Mr Pleasance should be advised of such matters.

Allergies/Special Diet Needs - if this is a critical matter please discuss with class teacher and Deputy Principal or Principal. It is helpful if you discuss this with your doctor who may provide us with appropriate advice. A number of students have critical allergies, mainly related to peanuts and peanut products. Parents are encouraged not to send their children to school with food containing peanut products to assist us in minimizing the risk of these children coming into contact with them.

## Parent Helpers in the School

Our school receives great assistance from many parents in various programs in classrooms and across the whole school. This not only improves the quality of students' education but is a privilege for parents to be able to share their child's educational experience.

Being involved in school programs brings with it responsibilities to ensure that all children are safe, that school matters including individual student's performance or class issues remain confidential and that teachers' professional integrity is respected.

While the school promotes and supports the involvement of parents in classroom programs we also respect the right of individual teachers to determine the level of involvement and selection of helpers. For the partnership to be

### ASSEMBLY ROSTER

FRI 9.10am	starts week 4
FRI 2.00pm	starts week 4

### UNIFORM SHOP

8.30am 9.15am	Mondays
8.30am 9.15am	Wednesdays

### UNIFORM SHOP ROSTER

Monday 9/2	R. Williams
Wednesday 11/2	S. Wallace

Uniform shop sold out of size 6 and 16 Polo's and size 6 dresses.

#### School Name

Tacking Point  
Public School

#### Address

77-105 Bangalay Drive  
PORT MACQUARIE 2444

#### Phone

02 6582 3478

#### Fax

02 6582 2326

#### Website

<http://www.tackingpt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

#### Principal

Mr Terry Robinson

effective the teacher and parent helpers must share mutual trust and support.

All parents who assist in classrooms, school programs, excursions or any other activity must sign a child protection declaration form.

## Jewellery Policy

For the safety and health of all students the school enforces rules about the wearing of jewellery. This policy was formed after consultation with parents, students and staff. As a result, the following restrictions exist whilst at school or whilst involved in school related activities:-

- Ear studs or sleeper earrings may be worn unless required by a physical education staff member to be removed or covered.
- Earrings that 'dangle' or hang from the ear may not be worn at any time.
- Rings, studs or piercings on any other part of the visible body must not be worn at any time.
- Necklaces (including religious necklaces) may only be worn inside clothing. Necklaces must not be worn outside clothing and must not be visible.
- Rings or bracelets on any description require special permission to be worn.
- Watches may be worn, but may be required to be removed for sport or physical education lessons, or whilst the student is involved in some practical activities classes.
- Sunglasses may be worn during recess or lunch breaks, or may be worn on approved excursions but remain the responsibility of the student at all times.

## Student Leaders

Each year students going into Year Six are elected to be school leaders. The school expects that all of our senior students will take on leadership roles and there is also the opportunity to be elected onto the Student Representative Council (SRC) and to the positions of house captains.

Traditionally at Tacking Point being a member of the SRC is a highly sought position.

Students elected to the SRC have a

range of leadership responsibilities including:

- leading school assemblies
- presenting awards to other students
- representing the school on special occasions e.g. ANZAC service
- assisting all students at school, particularly in the playground assisting new Kindergarten students
- with their orientation to school
- developing their own ideas, and bringing forward the ideas of others for school improvement
- being advocates for their school
- setting a high standard of behavior and uniform and being role models for other students
- assisting the school to implement school improvement targets

The students receiving the highest number of votes are elected as boy and girl captains and vice-captains.

The captains of our sporting houses have a more specific role. These leaders are responsible for house spirit and encouragement at sporting competitions, encouraging participation, organising groups e.g. relay teams and also for the general well-being of all students.

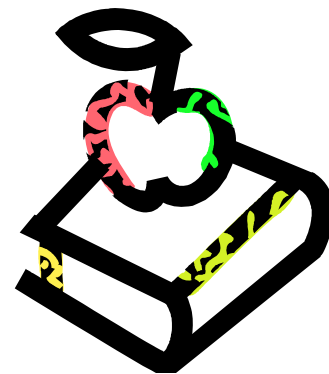
On Sunday 22 February a group of our school leaders will be travelling to Sydney to attend a School Leaders' conference. At this conference school leaders from across NSW meet to hear prominent people from our society speak about their lives and leadership. It is a great opportunity for these young people and can assist them to set life-long goals.

## Volunteer Reading Tutor Program

Help our children become better readers!! Two hours per week. You choose the day. Listen to individual children read. Training and support provided. Simple easy to follow program.

Fun for tutor and child. Like more information? Please leave your name and number at the front office and I will contact you. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Steve Cornish  
Learning Support Teacher



### CANTEEN ROSTER

MON 9/2	R. Marquez S. Wallace
TUE 10/2	K. Murray K. Britten
WED 11/2	K. Sanger K. Pritchard
THU 12/2	J. Rossiter H. Taylor
FRI 13/2	H. Hingsten M. Burton

The canteen is selling fruit salad for 80c or with custard for \$1.00. Fruit salad, flavoured milk, juice and water available from 8.30am.

### Pancake Day

Tuesday 24 February  
The canteen will be selling Pancakes on Pancake Day.  
1 pancake - \$2.50  
2 pancakes - \$3.50  
with choice of topping and Ice Cream.  
Please pre-order on an envelope with name, class, choice of pancakes and topping with correct money to canteen by Friday 20/2/09.  
No other lunch orders on the day.

## P&C News

### P and C Pool Party

The Tacking Point P and C Pool party is a family favourite and is an evening designed purely for families to get together and celebrate the new school year. As usual the Aquascrambles will be in operation with a staged schedule for use as per the children's school year ( details for times next week).

When: Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2009 from 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Where: Port Macquarie Pool, Gordon Street.

Cost: \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per family (please no Ring Ins)

Desirable Requirements: swimmers, a picnic dinner and drinks and chairs/blankets etc. BBQs are available. Please NO GLASS. Essential Requirements: That ALL children (including Year 6) attend in the company of a responsible adult. This is a condition of entry.

This is traditionally a lovely evening and a great way to meet your children's new friends and their families. See you there!

### Class Parent / Liaison

The P and C is hoping to see in a new initiative at our school this year of a " Class Parent " being available in each class to co-ordinate a list of names and contact details of all children in their particular class to encourage social contact and to be a point of contact for the teacher to communicate with families if required, e.g. If a child joins the class part way through the year. Further details will be available at the Year Information Nights , where parents will be asked to volunteer to take on this role ( one or two per class).

Kath Peck, P&C Assoc

### School Swimming Trials

225 of our primary students competed at the annual swimming carnival on Monday. Students competed in a total of 116 races and thanks to some very efficient parents volunteers we just made it back to school on time!!!

Flinders was the winning house followed by Watonga, Reliance and Endeavour.

Age Champions were as follows -

Junior Boy Champion - Lachlan, Second: Sam:

Third: Angus and Joe.

Junior Girl Champion - Amelia Second: Bianca

Third: Molly

11 Years Boy Champion - Joel Second: Max

Third: Riley.

11 Years Girl Champion - Caitlyn Second: Amy

Third: Bronte Senior Boy Champion - Sam

Second: Matthew Third: Reid.

Senior Girl Champion - Rebecca and Ashlee

Third: Emily.

There were 11 records broken on the day. Lachlan had an amazing day in the pool breaking 5 records in the 10 yrs 50m freestyle, Junior Breaststroke, Backstroke, butterfly and medley. Sam broke 2 records in the Senior Medley and butterfly. Mathew lowered the record in the Senior 50m Breaststroke and Reid broke the 13yrs boys 50m freestyle. The only girls record was broken by Ashlee in the 13yrs girls 50m freestyle. The junior boys relay team of Endeavour (Joe, Max, Max and Sam) broke the record in the 4 x 50m freestyle.

Thanks again to all the parent volunteers and especially to Mrs Dewberry who wrote on all the ribbons.

Tacking Point will be sending a strong swim team to the Hastings Camden Haven PSSA Trials on Friday 20 February to defend our title as the best swimming team in the area. Good luck to all swimmers.

M. Connolly

### Student Banking

Student banking with the Commonwealth Bank will commence next Tuesday. Please forward your completed deposit folders to your class teacher. Any new students wishing to commence banking can open a new account at the Commonwealth Bank, Horton Street, and then forward to school.

### Band

All existing players, rehearsal next Wednesday from 8.00am. Please bring instruments, music and lesson books.

Mrs Anne Geoghegan

## 2009 School Leaders:

School Captains: Georgia, Reid

Vice-Captains: Sarah, Sam

Members of SRC: Sarah, Cameron, Paris, Max, Olivia, James, Kataryna, Elliott, Hazel, Matthew.

### House Captains:

Endeavour - Blake, Jaki

Flinders - Riley, Clark

Watonga - Nick, Maddison

Reliance - Tyler, Emma

### House Vice-Captains:

Endeavour - Riley, Jade

Flinders - Sam, Kaitlyn

Watonga - Travis, Crystal

Reliance - Sam, Amanda

## Community Notices

Hastings Autism/Aspergers Resource Group would like to invite parents and carers to their monthly meetings. Come and share morning tea and learn from our wonderful guest speakers. Meetings are held at St Josephs Family Services, 4 Warlters Rd, Port Macquarie from 10am-12 noon. First meeting will be 5/2/09 then 26/2/09. No booking required. For further information call Vicki Beaver on 6582 6780 or Kerrie Rowlandson on 6583 4242.

### Port Combined Netball Club

Registration days for the Port Combined Netball Club will be held at the Macquarie Park courts on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 5-7pm and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 9-11 am. Any enquiries please contact Natalie Drury on 0429823161.

### Panthers Netball Club

Saturday Junior & Monday Night Senior Competition registration dates for the 2009 season: 10am-1pm Sat. 7 /2/09; 10am-3pm Sat 14/2/09; and 5.30pm-8.30pm 19/2/09 outside Amart All Sports 138 Gordon St. New players will need to present birth certificates. Players must be registered financial members before playing their first game.

### Saints Netball Club

Registration days for junior and senior players is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> February from 12-4pm at Macquarie Park. All new members to bring their birth certificates.

Port City Breakers Junior Rugby League Football Club will be holding registrations in February, could the following be added to your schools newsletters for the next two weeks.

### Port City Breakers JRLFC

Registrations 2009 Saturday 7th and 14th February 2009 Wood St Fields 10.00am - 2.00pm. Requirements for Registration Re - Registration - Parent/Guardian Signature, Fees. New Registration - Birth Certificate/ Passport, Medicare Number, Parent/Guardian Signature and Fees. Boys. 5 years - 16 years, Girls. 5 years - 12 years website ; portcitybreakers.leaguenet.com.au. Contact Registrar Gail McArdle 65837926 mob 0448984799.