



NEWSLETTER

WEEK 9 TERM 1 2015

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COMING EVENTS

Term 1

End of term BBQ/Easter Egg Hunt	Thursday	2	April
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Term 2

Staff return	Monday	20	April
Students return	Tuesday	21	April
Small Schools Athletics Carnival	Friday	8	May
NAPLAN	Tues-Thurs	12-14	May
School closed (EA)	Monday	18	May
Storm Boy – incursion	Thursday	21	May
Storm Boy theatre production – Canberra	Thursday	4	June
Queen’s birthday	Monday	8	June
School closed (EA)	Tuesday	9	June

Dear Parents and Citizens of Wee Jasper

Term 1 of 2015 has been busy. We have attended several events outside the school including our excursion to the theatre in Canberra to see the adaptation for stage of the book 26th Story Treehouse. We were fortunate to also visit the Australian National Museum on this day where we looked through the current exhibition that pays homage to the role of horses in Australia’s history and development.

Jugiong Public School hosted a children’s writing day for local small schools and our children were delighted to meet the author of the children’s books based on Poucher and Big Guy. The children rotated through some wonderful cultural activities but were also given time to mix and play with children from other schools.

On Friday the 13th of March the school mums once again transported our children to an extra-curricular event, this time to a cricket clinic in Yass where the children honed their talents and met the famous Trevor Chappell.

We had an excursion to Yass in February that included visits to the train museum, the historical museum, the war memorial and the library. All of these venues proved interesting and informative.

I am grateful for the opportunity allowed by Helen and Tim Cathles who have hosted a Learn to Swim programme during the term. We have attended their pool where

Helen's expertise and accreditation as a swimming instructor have been demonstrated and appreciated by the children and their parents.

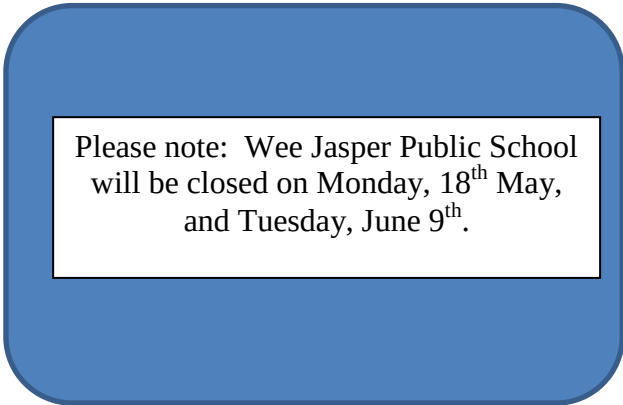
Performing poet, Robyn Sykes, also attended the school recently. She spent an hour in the classroom, explaining some of the patterns of poetry and reciting, with gusto, some wonderful Australian classics (including one of her own).

Acclaimed artist, Elizabeth Brown, generously gave her time and expertise to guide our children through some wonderful artistic creations during the last week of term. Despite ill health, Elizabeth brought imagination and life to the art room where the children thoroughly enjoyed the artistic process.

No thanks to the blackout, we were able to oversee the hatching of six chickens in our classroom. The children were intrigued by the hatching process and loved watching the chicks cavort and snuggle under the lamp. As a reward for the children's wonderful efforts in the classroom this term, each family has been permitted to adopt a chicken. Special thanks must go to Mrs Newnham for her role as courier of the equipment between Wee Jasper and Canberra and to the dedicated mothers and community members who arrived with hot water bottles after Suzanne's calls for assistance when the power failed.

Please read the accompanying recounts the children have written about some of our extra activities for the term. This writing provided opportunities for them to look at the outline or pattern of a recount and use it to record their experiences for an appreciative forum. They should be proud of their finished products!

All of our "out-of-school" experiences have contributed to our knowledge and experiences in various key learning areas but the children have been working particularly hard to improve their skills in English and Maths. When we know our times-tables, we can start to apply multiplication and division skills and strategies. Similarly, if we know basic number facts, we are free to use higher order thinking skills when problem-solving in Maths.



Please note: Wee Jasper Public School
will be closed on Monday, 18th May,
and Tuesday, June 9th.

THERE HAS BEEN A LITTLE CONFUSION ABOUT ATTENDANCE IN RELATION TO ANZAC DAY NEXT TERM. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT MONDAY OF WEEK 2 IS A NORMAL SCHOOL DAY.

SCHOOL RESUMES FOR STAFF ON MONDAY, 20TH APRIL AND FOR STUDENTS ON TUESDAY, 21ST APRIL. ANZAC DAY FALLS ON THE SATURDAY. THERE IS **NO** ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON MONDAY, 27TH APRIL.

POETRY

On Wednesday, 11th March, Mrs Sykes came to our school and taught us poetry.

First, she told us that “ballad” means a poem that tells a story. Next, she told us some ballads. First, she told us the Bull story by Blue the Shearer. Then, “The Man from Snowy River”. Banjo Paterson wrote this ballad. After that, Miss Sykes told her own poem.

I enjoyed the Bull poem the best.

Written by Lane.

SWIMMING

One some Fridays this term at Helen’s house, we went swimming.

The first group was Dougal and Lacey. Then it was Kaleb, Jay and Maggie. Next, it was James, Jacob, Lane and Luke.

When we were in the pool we did back rockets and we floated on our backs and held our boards.

Mrs Hoolihan made us do Maths and reading when we were out of the pool.

I love swimming.

Written by Maggie.

JUGIONG WRITERS' DAY

On the 6th of March we went to Jugiong Writers' Day to improve our writing skills.

First, I went to learn how to write a limerick. These are Irish poems. Next, we had morning tea. Then I made a pop-up card. Next, we met the author of Poucher and Big Guy. After that I made string art and had lunch.

The best part of the day was when we did string art.

Written by Luke.

CANBERRA THEATRE

On March the 3rd the children went to the Canberra theatre by bus to see the Twenty-six Storey Treehouse.

At 10.00 a.m. the show started. Andy and Terry live in a treehouse. Jill lived in a house on the other side of a forest.

Andy, Terry and Jill were the main actors. My favourite actor was Andy. My favourite part was when they were in the maze of doom.

Written by Louis.

TRAIN MUSEUM

We went to the train museum in Yass on Tuesday, 24th February, 2015.
First, we looked at a train set.

Then, we got to go in four big trains and carriages.

I liked the big train because I got to press all of the buttons.

Written by Jay.

YASS MUSEUM

We went to the Yass Museum on Tuesday 24th February on an excursion.

We saw a big dog trap. If you got your foot caught in it, it would cut it off. We also saw an old wool press and a model of a shearing shed.

It was all interesting. The thing I liked most was the dog trap because I had never seen one like it before.

Written by James.

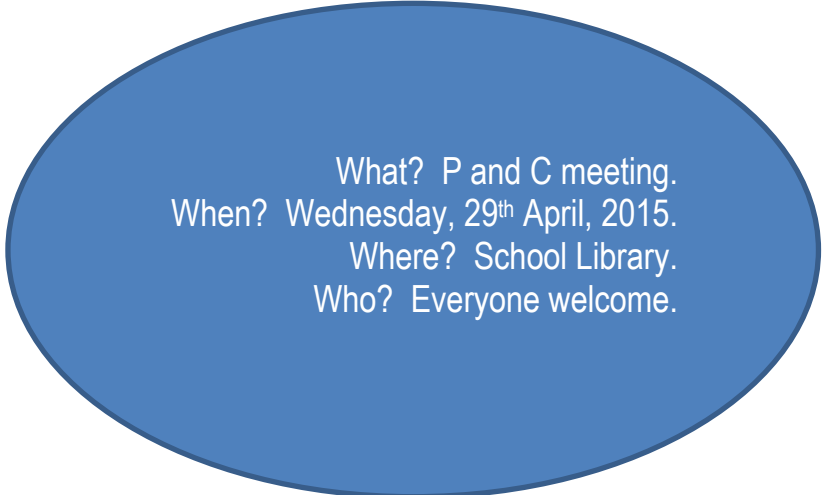
HORSE EXHIBITION

On the 3rd of March the children went to an exhibition in Canberra. Its name was Spirited – Australia's Horse Story.

We saw the fastest horse was named Phar Lap and we saw the heart and it was really big. It was in liquid. There was an old milk cart and there was an old carriage.

The best part was the dress-up place because there were heaps of clothes and there was a fake horse that you can hop on. That's why it was the best part.

Written by Kaleb.



What? P and C meeting.
When? Wednesday, 29th April, 2015.
Where? School Library.
Who? Everyone welcome.

STEWART HOUSE

On the 2nd of March 2015 I went to Stewart House for twelve days. We had to drive to Goulburn by car and then by bus to Curl Curl. It took four hours to get to Curl Curl from Goulburn.

There were 22 boys in my cabin. We slept on bunks. The kids came from all over N.S.W. There were 90 kids altogether.

Stewart House is right next to the beach. It has about five buildings.

For school, three groups went out for the day and the other three groups stayed in for the day and went across to the beach. Every week-day we changed around. On Saturday and Sunday we got placed in four groups and switched around like we did on the week-days.

We went and visited the Powerhouse Museum, Australian Museum, walked across Sydney Harbour Bridge, visited Tumbalong Park in Darling Harbour, went crab hunting near an old volcano, went to Palm Beach for a swim, had a disco night, a movie night, art and craft, went to the Aquatic Centre, Taronga Zoo, and went on the Manly Ferry, during the second week we got our autograph sheet signed by the other kids, we did Life Education and learnt about social skills. We had a barbecue on the last day.

In our cabins we had jobs. There were bathroom police, games room police, bed checkers, Lego packer, sock pairer and laundry collectors.

We really enjoyed it. On the last day just as I was leaving, I spotted Mr Sullivan and he came on the bus with me.

We had great food and I had fun with the other kids. I really enjoyed it. It was great to see Mr Sullivan and my friends nicknamed me Cowboy. I could hardly wait until I could see Mum, Dad, Kaleb, Bruce and my friends.

Written by Jacob Gore.

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP

Mrs Jenny Chapman has offered to hold an informal after-school workshop in Understanding Behaviour early in term 2. She has had wide experience in behaviour management during her decades of teaching and has adopted this as a field of particular interest, in which she has gained significant professional development. Mrs Chapman is willing to volunteer her time on a Wednesday, either straight after school or early in the evening, depending on the best date and time for families so that parents who attend can concentrate on what is being shared.

MULTILIT

Some of our parents and community members came to the school early in the term to find out about MULTILIT. This is a wonderful intensive-reading programme that some of our children will benefit from if we can manage to run it often enough. It can only succeed with consistent, regular delivery so we are always grateful when volunteers arrive to help out with this task.

Thank you.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the Wee Jasper and district residents who have taken the time to make me welcome in this community. It has been extremely difficult for many of the children and families to adjust to Mark's absence as he has been such a wonderful influence on the children and a real community stalwart. Despite their temporary loss, many have accepted me and some have even befriended me. I greatly appreciate the kindness and hospitality.

Deborah Hoolihan.

WANTED: ~~DEAD OR~~ ALIVE VOLUNTEERS

To listen to our lovely children read.
These well-mannered, respectful children
would love to read to you and it would
help them to improve their reading skills.

You do not need teaching experience.

You do not need to make a regular
commitment.

You do need to fill out a Working with Children check form but our
friendly office staff will assist you with that quick and easy process.

*To apply, simply phone the school on 6227 9652 or come
in for a high-pressured interview, preferably just after
school, with a cake you have just baked. OK, just kidding.
Phone anyway, please. Listening to reading can be a very
rewarding experience as you witness the difference it can
make to a child's learning.*