Adelaide Tait, Heidi Schneider, Averil Jones and Luciana Clews - NEPS State Junior Relay Team

State Swimming- Junior Relay Team
Excitement is building as these young swimmers anticipate their relay event at SOPAC this Thursday 10th April. The four girls, in Years 3 and 4 have not swum a competition relay race together since they made the qualifying time for state, finishing in first place at the Zone Swimming Carnival at Lambton in February. This is the first state relay team to represent NEPS and the youngest group to represent at this level. Three of the girls train at the Hunter Swim Club. Averil and Heidi swim five sessions a week and Luciana trains for three. Adelaide has increased her training sessions since qualifying, completing two sessions a week. Heidi will also swim in the 9 Years, 50 metres freestyle on Wednesday. We wish the girls every success and congratulate them on this outstanding achievement.

No Bottom Playground Access
Parents please note that the bottom playground is roped off to access until the damaged trees are removed. This access should not be breached during the school holidays.
Dance2bFit
The K-6 Dance2bFit program will culminate on Wednesday 9th April with all students attending their final lesson. Parents are invited to come along and watch the children perform their dances between 8:45 and 10:45 under the COLA.

Disco and Monster Easter Egg Raffle
Don’t forget to send in Easter eggs for the Monster Easter Raffle to be drawn at our end-of-term disco, this Thursday evening, April 10. The disco starts at 5.30pm with a sausage sizzle and drinks on sale throughout the evening. The disco finishes at 7.30pm.

Easter Hat Parade
Parents and guests are invited to watch our annual Easter Hat Parade under the COLA at 2pm on Friday. Students in Years K-2 will be making their hats in class this week. Students in Years 3-6 can bring in a home-made hat to wear in the parade. The parade provides a fitting finale to our very busy first term and the beginning of our Easter holidays.

IPad Covers
A generous donation of 26 iPad cases has been received from the Hampson family to complete our initial iPad roll out. Kim, a member of the Hampson family works for Belkin and has provided the school with excellent quality cases which are durable and tough enough to stand all the love from NEPS students. This is a saving of over $300 for the school and a much better result than we could have hoped for. Thank you to Jude and Will Hampson for suggesting Kim’s company and approaching her for support - well done, boys! Students will be enjoying iPad technology in their classes from Term 2. Mrs Audet

Congratulations to our Author of the Week
Harper Warren is in class 5/6H. Harper wrote this poem to express her thoughts about the Anzacs. Harper was the winner of an Electoral Office, Anzac Day writing competition and her poem will be published in the Anzac Day pamphlet that will be distributed throughout the Newcastle electorate.

They Fought For Us

They marched with pride,
Though they were really scared inside.

Their lives put at the mercy of the gun,
But their courage was never done.

They were pushed into battle,
Like a farmer’s frightened cattle.

These Anzac soldiers we respect,
And in their name we say, “Lest We Forget”.

They marched with pride,
Though they were really scared inside.

Their lives put at the mercy of the gun,
But their courage was never done.

They were pushed into battle,
Like a farmer’s frightened cattle.

These Anzac soldiers we respect,
And in their name we say, “Lest We Forget”.

They marched with pride,
Though they were really scared inside.
Great Moscow Circus Ticket Winners
Congratulations to our nine ticket winners. They certainly used their powers of persuasion to full effect. Enjoy the circus everyone! Winners are: Isla Zavos, Annabelle Robinson, Dani Leet, Stella Zdenkowski, Montana Gay, Evie Zavos, Alex Sulzburger, Anjali Kana and Ella Springett.

Newcastle Writers Festival
The Newcastle Writers Festival program offered children a chance to meet the authors behind the stories and the opportunity to explore and create. Students in 5/6H had the chance to attend two of these workshops:

On Thursday 3rd April, seven girls from 5/6H went to a writing workshop with Gerry Bobsien, a young adult and childrens’ author. The workshop was held at the Newcastle Region Library as part of the Newcastle Writers Festival. Gerry taught us to observe everything around us and to take little ideas from other stories to get inspiration. She gave us some topics to build on to make great stories. The experience was fun and exciting for us. We learnt new things and had fun along the way. We all thought it was awesome and we hope to do it again soon! (Lilli-Ann, Katie, Harper, Stella, Lucy, Ella and Eliot)

Last week James, Angelo and Gus took part in a writing workshop for boys, which was led by author Tristan Banks. He taught us skills to make a story by looking or listening. We had to make many stories while we were there, some serious, some quite funny. He even said how good an iPhone is to write on. Tristan also told us about his life growing up in the Blue Mountains. He was very funny and it was a very fun day at the Newcastle Writers Festival! (Angelo, Gus and James)

For Your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 9/10</td>
<td>State Swimming SOPAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>Dance2BFit finale- 8.45-10.45 COLA</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>School Disco  5.30-7.30pm, Easter Raffle</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade (K-6) - 2pm COLA</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
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<td>April 28</td>
<td>Staff Development Term 2 – Staff Only</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
<td>Day 1 Term 2 - Students</td>
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Norwegian Exchange Student
An ex-NEPS family will be hosting a 16 year old Norwegian exchange student over the next 12 months and are hoping that one of our local families might offer her a home for three months from December 2014 to end March 2015. Mathilde will be attending HSPA during her stay and comes from a family with younger siblings so would enjoy spending time with other children of all ages. For more information please contact Claire and she will put you in touch with the host family.

Active After School Sports
Due to timetable clashes and end of term activities the after school sports program will run this week on Wednesday for Surfing and Netball only. Thursday Junior Sports Skills is cancelled.
Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014

The Premier’s reading Challenge is on again in 2014. Here are the steps to follow if you would like to take part in the challenge.

1. Log onto the Premier’s Reading Challenge (P.R.C) website https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html using your school username and password
2. Read the rules for your age group (Years K-2, 3-4 or 5-6)
3. View the reading list for your age group. You may like to print this list out.
4. Start reading! Borrow P.R.C. books from the school or city library. Your classroom may even have many of the listed books.
5. Record each book you read online through the P.R.C website, by clicking on the student reading records tab.

Canteen

As a special Easter treat the canteen will be selling Hot Cross Buns and Finger Buns this Friday for $1 each.

Volunteer Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>7th April</th>
<th>9th April</th>
<th>11th April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Lott</td>
<td>Cherry Connew</td>
<td>Lisa Marshall</td>
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<td>Helen Cossettini</td>
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Donations – Pineapple Rings

Families on the donation roster this week are: Seyerl, Beattie, Dederer, Russ, McGregor, Garness, Cockerill-Pegg, Robinson, Kauter, Wyman, Marosszeky, Katzmarski, Coakes, O’Donohue, Hampson, Glastonbury, Meares, Ferguson, Browning

LEARNING IS FUN!

Two Weeks School Holiday Program

- Naplan Test Preparation (Year 3, 5 & 7)
- Maths Camp (Year 1-7)
- Two Hours Per Session
- We Only Charge $20 Per Session (Small Group)

School Holiday Program Schedule:

Week One: 14th – 18th April
Week Two: 21st – 25th April

Please call us now: 0452 219 055 (Michelle)
Easter Disco
under the Cola
With DJ Andy

Thursday 10th April
5:30pm - 7:30pm

Entry: $4 per person or
$15 per family

Available for sale on the night:
BBQ, snacks and giant Easter raffle
BBQ hosted by 5/6H and 1J
Visit the Wetlands in the Holidays
During the school holidays the Hunter Wetlands Centre at Shortland is offering fun activities for kids and families. Kids can learn bush skills, go on a bike safari, make bush perfume or join Tantrum Theatre drama workshops and participate in the creation and performance of ‘Reptilia’.

Booking is essential for school holiday activities - go to www.wetlands.org.au for dates, times and costs.

For families there are walking trails, a discovery playground, dip-netting, reptile talks, bike and canoe hire. Bring a picnic or enjoy a fresh and delicious lunch at the Spoonbill Cafe.

Easter Saturday is great time to visit for a fun filled morning with craft, face painting, games, BBQ and a special treasure hunt.

Note: the Centre will be closed Good Friday and Easter Monday.

All entry $5, school holiday special - children 3-12 yrs. only $2.