

Principal's Message

Welcome to the mid-way point of the final school term for 2020. It has been a year unlike any other and I would like to thank you all for your continued support and understanding.

Currently we are finalising end of year student reports and working out how best to hold our annual Presentation Day and Graduation Day in line with ever changing COVID-19 restrictions. We will keep you informed through Skoolbag and Facebook.

Last week Junior School took part in several events. Our students participated in Naidoc Week activities and on Wednesday we marked Remembrance Day by making Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inspired Wreaths. Friday saw the school awash with colour as many of us took part in Loud Shirt Day to raise funds for children with hearing impairment.

This year's student Art Show, which due to COVID-19 also incorporated Book Week, came to an end with many of our student's magnificent art works finding homes within our school community.

This week is also busy with our Year 4 students beginning their transition visits to Middle School. It's amazing to think that these students were once Pre-Schoolers and Kindies attending Junior School for the first time and now they are beginning the next part of their learning journey. A big thanks to Assistant Principals Mandy and Kristin for organising this year's transition.

Our Christmas organisation has begun. We are raising funds to purchase interactive resources for the students. Those of you who bought tickets earlier this year for our Easter raffle will have them entered into our Christmas raffle. We would appreciate your support in sending in donations (eg. hamper items, toys etc)

Finally a further reminder to all parents that the best way to communicate with your child's teacher is through the communication book. Teachers are not always able to take phone calls during class time due to supervision and lesson constraints. If something is important please write it down in the communication book. Similarly asking your child's bus driver to pass on information is not always helpful as the start of the day is extremely busy and your child's teacher or SLSO may not be on bus duty, and information can be miscommunicated.

Thanks
Graham Finch
PRINCIPAL

REMINDERS

Sunscreen

When necessary, please apply sunscreen on your child before attending school. NJS uses Ultra Protect 30+ Sunscreen with Vitamin E. The brand is Concept Labs Pty Ltd. It is used sparingly and only when necessary, such as extended periods outside and excursions. Please advise your class teacher if this Sunscreen is not to be used.

Respite

It is necessary to complete a respite form and send it into school if your child is attending Respite. Without the necessary information, we will not be able to allow students to leave with unidentified carers. Students are to be signed out and collected at the office by the Respite Carer.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING MEDICATION

Newcastle Junior School follows the Department of Education (DoE) policy on medication in schools. The DoE policy on medication is available on our website or through the link:-

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/student-support/student-health/individual-student-admin-medicine/>

If your child requires medication at school, a *Request for Support at School of a Student's Health* Condition must be completed by the parent/carer. Unless a medication is prescribed by a doctor, or is listed as part of an Action Plan (for example an Asthma, Epilepsy, Allergy, or Anaphylaxis plan) signed by your specialist or GP, the staff at Junior School are not allowed to give it to the students. This includes non-prescribed medications like those bought over the counter at the pharmacy.

All medications supplied to the school must be in a webster pack and have a pharmacy label which states the child's name and the dosage. It is important that all information regarding health care plans are kept up – to-date and paperwork regarding medication adjustments is completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

Junior School has examples of plans from doctors that cater for prescription medications. If you are unsure or would like to discuss the use of medications during school time please contact the office.

ALLERGIES

NJS aims to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens, therefore we endeavour to be a nut, shellfish, egg and pineapple free zone.

Main Gates and Safety for our students

For the safety of all students the main gates to the school at Hillsborough Rd are **locked between 9.15am and 2.30pm.**

If you have to access the school between these times, please enter the gate via the roundabout and please shut the gates after you have opened them.

Our students' safety is everyone's responsibility.

Damage to Vehicles in Car Park

We ask parents to avoid entering our school car park in the afternoon **before 2.15pm.** Although every effort is made to minimise risk we have had an incident of objects being thrown from the playground into the car park during lunch break.

It is NSW Government Policy that -

All persons who park their vehicles on school grounds do so at their own risk.

This means that Newcastle Junior School is not liable to meet the cost of damage to vehicles.

School Health

The school has a duty of care to its students and will provide the necessary care as required if a student falls ill at school, has a seizure or has an accident. This may include calling emergency services or calling parents/carers to come and collect the student.

Parents/carers have the primary responsibility for the health needs of their children. If a child is too ill to engage in classroom learning and requires monitoring and support throughout the day the parent/carer should make the decision to keep them home.

Contact Details

Could all parents and carers ensure that the school has their current contact details and updated emergency contact details.

Thank you



Christmas Raffle Donations

Newcastle Junior School will be holding a Christmas Raffle.

We would appreciate your support in sending in donations
eg. hamper items, toys etc.

Please send all contributions to the school by 2nd December.

Tickets will be sent home this week for purchase with the raffle
being drawn on

Wednesday, 9th December 2020.

It will be a great way to celebrate the end of year!

Please Note: All tickets purchased in the Easter Raffle, which was cancelled due to COVID-19, will be added to the Christmas Raffle.

FSF Presents...

Special Sports Party

Hunter Sports Centre
Stockland Drive, Glendale

Saturday 28th November 2020
12.45 for 1pm start

RSVP by Tuesday 24th November
(RSVP instructions below)

For Current FSF member's children
aged 4-18yrs

Organised activities and party food provided.
Your children will spend 1hr in the gym with an instructor, to enjoy games, ropes, trampolines, bars, beams, sprung floor & more... followed by time in a seated area for party food.

Please be advised that this is a non-supervised event.
An adult carer must remain on the premises at all times & supervise their children.

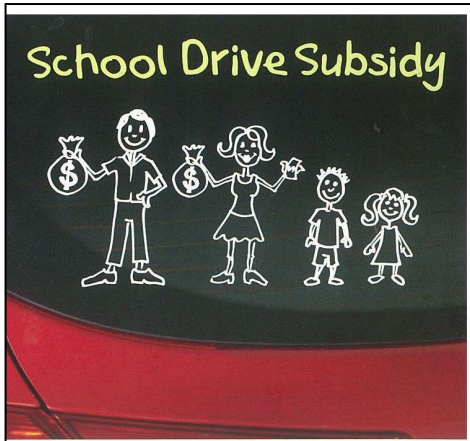
Please RSVP and make the required \$3 payment per person via TryBooking-
<https://www.trybooking.com/BLKAY>

Or contact: info@familiessupportingfamilies.com for more details



*This Event is Generously
 Supported by Lake Macquarie
 City Council as part of their
 COVID-19 Recovery Program*





School Drive Subsidy

If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport pick up point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.

The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.

To find out if you're eligible, and to apply online, visit transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive

Can't get online?

Ask about the School Drive Subsidy at your school, or call **131 500**.

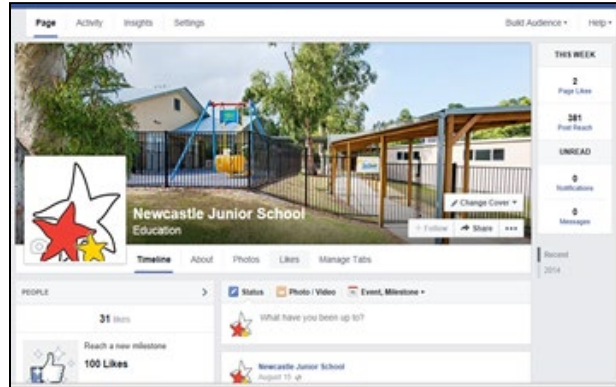


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Assisted School Travel

If you need to contact Assisted School Travel, please use the following email address

parent.astp@det.nsw.edu.au



DON'T FORGET TO LOOK FOR US ON FACEBOOK!!

Stay informed with the SkoolBag App



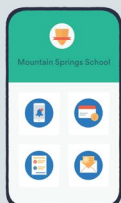
The SkoolBag app is the easiest way to stay up-to-date with school events, last minutes notices, newsletters and all school communications.



1 Download the app
Search for the free SkoolBag app in the Apple App or Google Play Store

2 Create an account
Sign up in seconds with your email address

3 Add your school
Search for your school and add your subscription groups



How to apply for a card

1. Visit www.companioncard.nsw.gov.au to print an application form or request a printed copy by phone, email or post.
2. Return the application form by post to:
Companion Card
Locked Bag 4028
Ashfield NSW 1500

What is the Companion Card?

people with significant and have a lifelong need for attendant care support to attend venues and participate in community events and recreational activities.

The card can be presented when booking or purchasing a ticket at participating events and venues and provides the cardholder with a ticket for their companion.

Who is eligible for a card?

- You may be eligible for a Companion Card if:
1. you are an Australian citizen or resident, and live in NSW; and
 2. you are a person with a significant and permanent disability; and
 3. you are unable to participate at most community venues or activities without attendant care support; and
 4. aids and other technologies do not meet your attendant care needs; and
 5. your need for this level of attendant care will be life-long.

What information do I need to provide with my application?

The Companion Card Application form asks for:

- » information about your disability
- » information about your need for lifelong attendant care
- » verification by your health professional or service provider confirming that you meet all of the Companion Card eligibility criteria
- » two high quality, colour passport photos signed by the person who verified your application.

How do I use a Companion Card?

The Companion Card can be used at participating businesses, venues and facilities across NSW and around Australia.

You or your companion show your Companion Card when booking or buying tickets from an affiliate. The affiliate will provide a FREE ticket for your companion.

