

HILLTOP NEWS

Newcastle East Public School – Australia's Oldest School

Week Five Term Four, Tuesday November 4th, 2014

Edition One Hundred and Fifteen

Perilous Adventure of the Pilfered Penguin – Meet the Authors

This Wednesday at 5 pm, you can meet the authors of this book written, illustrated and published by Mr Hutchison's 2H class. In case you haven't heard, the book was "mentored" by parent Nina, a talented graphic artist and designer, but the story and pictures are all done by our students. What a talented bunch they are! Wednesday's event will feature them reading the book aloud, and copies of the book will be on display. They are also available for purchase for just \$20, and they do make excellent December presents, especially easy for overseas postage.



New Vegetable Garden Just Appeared!

Last week Bunnings Hardware donated and built two raised garden beds to our school, and now they are hosting some healthy edible garden plants. Thanks to Bunnings Kotara for their kind donation, and thanks to Ms Townsend and the students pictured – Pip, Stella, and Lachlan – for their help in making it such a successful morning's work.

Macquarie Uni Workshop – Two Points of View

Last Monday a group of children, who had been selected by teachers, went to Sydney for a workshop on Augmented Reality. They arrived in Sydney quite quickly, so they had enough time for Recess. First they watched some videos about Augmented Reality, and how it works, and had a discussion about what "reality" is. Next they played around with an app called Aurasma. Using that app, they were able to construct a virtual reality "walk" around our school, so that at each stop, a person would appear on the screen, to explain the function of that part of the school. It was fun, and then we had a good trip home. *By Mattie*

On Monday 18 year 4 and 5 students went down to Macquarie University for an Augmented Reality Boot Camp. We talked about what augmented reality is and watched some videos about it. After that we chose a school monument to do an augmented reality project on. Then we made a video on the project we chose. Once we had finished the video we put triggers and overlays on it using the Aurasma app. We all had fun and hope to go well in a bicentenary project we are going to do. By Ben D

Selective high schools – Grade Five Parents Please Note

Online application for Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016 closes 17 November. Find out more: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/shsplacement/index.php>



Anyone for Golf?

Chris Baker, our P and C President, has organised a golf day at Merewether Golf Club, Sunday November 30, 1pm tee-off. It's an Ambrose format, so golfers of all standards are welcome, and the cost of just \$60 includes green fee, lunch, prizes and bbq after the game. For more information, or to enter, please contact Chris on 0411571721.



New Kindergarten Students Getting Ready for School

Look at the happy and confident faces on our new Kindy students, as they do their first lesson with Mrs Miller and Mrs Thompson.

Reminder – School Council and our Parent Telephone Survey

Parents who are members of our School Council might be ringing you, over the next few weeks, to conduct our annual survey of parent attitudes to NEPS. The survey has been run for many years now, and School Council has access to good long-term data about how our school is seen by its community. If you do get a call, please try to find the time to cooperate, and of course, be open and frank. All discussions are totally confidential, and your comments are taken very seriously.

The survey is especially important this year, as our school moves into its strategic planning for the next three years of its operation. We are always looking for ways to improve our performance, and this year as part of the survey, you will be asked to suggest some areas in which the school might do better. That could be moving in a totally new direction, with an innovative program which you see as worthy, or it could be just refining or extending something that we already do at NEPS. Whatever it is, it would be wise to think a little about this before you get a call!

School Council is coming up to its election of new members, and we are looking for some new faces. Membership is limited to a maximum of three years, so if you would like to be part of decision-making in our school, please contact Kate King, the President, or me.



Stella Zdenkowski - Movember

As a fundraising event, I'm going to be doing Movember this year. I have a mo-sista account to raise funds for men's health, so just donating your desired amount could really help someone in need. I will be wearing a moustache for a little while, so even if I look ridiculous it's for a good cause. My father and sister are doing it too, and I am certain I'll beat them both. Please donate to me by typing in 'Stella Zdenkowski' and donating. Thank you.

Choosing the right shoes

School shoes may all look the same but the cost can vary from about \$30 to \$120 and beyond. Does a more expensive shoe mean a better shoe? Find out more:

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/choosing-the-right-school-shoes>

NSW public school terms and holidays

Here's a snapshot of NSW public school terms and holidays for 2015 - 2016.

Term 1 for school staff	Tuesday, 27 January 2015	Thursday, 02 April 2015
Term 1 for students	Wednesday, 28 January 2015	Thursday, 02 April 2015
Term 2 for school staff	Monday, 20 April 2015	Friday, 26 June 2015
Term 2 for students	Tuesday, 21 April 2015	Friday, 26 June 2015
Term 3 for school staff	Monday, 13 July 2015	Friday, 18 September 2015
Term 3 for students	Tuesday, 14 July 2015	Friday, 18 September 2015
Term 4 for students	Tuesday, 06 October 2015	Wednesday, 16 December 2015
Term 4 for school staff	Tuesday, 06 October 2015	Friday, 18 December 2015

Find out more: <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/vacations.html>

Primary School Jargon Explained

If your child's teacher mentions G&T in the COLA, she's actually talking about gifted and talented classes being held in the covered outdoor learning area.

More school jargon explained: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/school-jargon-busters>

Return of the Quiz, At Last

After a break of several weeks to pause for breath, the quiz is back, and it's harder than ever! History is still the topic this week, since I had no correct answers last week.

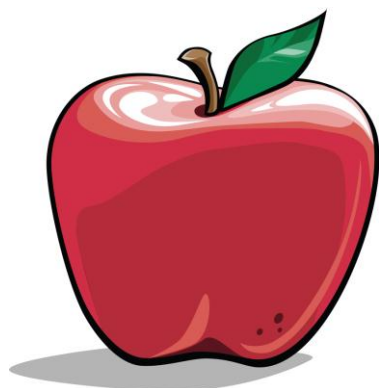
[Our old Gothic-inspired school building dates back to the 1870's, but who was the architect?](#)

Answers by email to john.beach@det.nsw.edu.au

Canteen

Staffing Crisis

If you can spare even a day a term, your help will make all the difference. Currently we have a small band of helpers who are carrying the load and this is unsustainable. To prevent further closures please contact Cherry: 0409 927 006 to offer your help.



Volunteer Roster

Week 5	3rd November Susan Crawford	5th November Cherie Guernier Randi Steine	7th November Ziva Westley Michelle Crawford
Week 6	10th November Jenny Williams	12th November Katrina Kana	14th November Lisa Marshall Helen Cossettini

Donations: Tinned Pineapple Rings

Families on the donation roster for this week are: Papagni, Beecham, Rankin, Gomez Morris, Jennings, Warren, Dube, Frost, Tait, Grimshaw, Cockerill-Pegg, Robinson

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Claire will be holding a flash uniform sale on the verandah outside the Administration building on Monday 10th November at 9:00am straight after assembly. Come along and grab some bargains.



We are working towards stream lining our parent/ community communication processes by consolidating all functions into the Skoolbag app. For those of you who do not have access to a smartphone or who would prefer to view the app alerts and info online we have installed a link on the front page of the school's website which also facilitates subscribing to email alerts. If you have not already done so please subscribe to this email list to ensure that you receive up to date school news and alerts.

Term 4 2014

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

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/ Sun
One		7 Lessons resume	8 12.30 Cancer Council visit	9	10	11/12
Two	13 Bandfest/ P and C / School Council	14	15	16	17	18/19 Colonial Fair
Three	20	21 Choral Festival →	22 Choral Festival →	23 Choral Festival →	24	25/26
Four	27 Swim School	28	29 Kindergarten Information Evening 6pm	30 Year 5 Gala Day NHS	31	1/2
Five	3 Swim School Kindy O	4	5	6	7	8/9
Six	10 Kindy O 2 nd Hand Uniform Sale 9:00am	11	12	13 Musica Viva 1:45 pm	14	15/16
Seven	17 Kindy O	18	19	20	21	22/23
Eight	24 Kindy O RSVP Year 6 Dinner	25	26	27	28	29/30
Nine	1 Captains' Speech Assembly	2 Scripture Christmas Concert 1.45	3	4	5 Kindy O BBQ 5.30	6/7
Ten	8	9	10	11 Year Six Dinner	12	13/14
Eleven	15 Presentation Day	16 Class Party Day	17 Last day of Term / Clap-out			