

HILLTOP NEWS

Newcastle East Public School – Australia's Oldest School

Week Eight Term Four, Tuesday November 25th, 2014

Edition One Hundred and Eighteen

Heritage Restoration Work Commences

Work has begun in Sydney to cut and prepare the sand-stone blocks needed to repair our Tyrrell Street fence. Each block is cut and worked to the precise dimensions of the block it will replace, a painstaking process which will take several months to complete.

The stone chosen has been selected for its close match to the colour and grain of the original stone, cut in the 1860's. Installation of the stone, the new iron-work posts and fleur-de-lis cappings will take place in June/July next year.

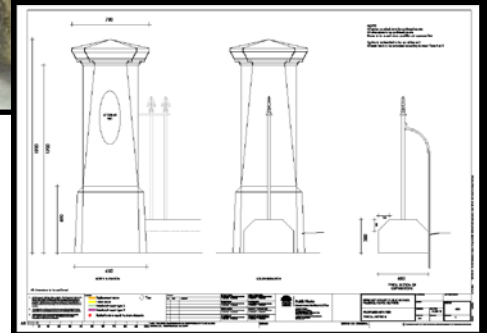
Stones will be cut from existing stock, large pieces which have been salvaged from various building sites around the state.

I've included also the design sketch for the corner column, which will be placed on the intersection of Brown and Tyrrell Streets.

Getting Ready for 2015 After-school Sports

Funding from the federal government for this highly successful program has been reduced, with no money available until July. For Terms One and Two, we are planning to operate some activities using just our own staff, volunteering, to keep this free option available for children. One proposed activity, for students in Grades Five and Six, will be sailing on Newcastle Harbour. This activity would be on a user-pays basis, costing \$100 for the term. Key points: -

- Students learn on five 25 foot yachts, run by Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.
- Each boat skippered by a Yachting Federation Instructor and one experienced adult, plus three students.
- All sailors wear life jackets at all times.
- Sailing only on the enclosed waters of the harbour.
- This will proceed only if we get enough interested students. Please email me if you would like to indicate your interest in sailing for Term One. John.beach@det.nsw.edu.au



Captain Speeches

School Captain Speeches will be held on Monday, 1st December at 8.45am.

All welcome to attend.

Installation of Flashing School Zone Signs

As part of a state-wide program, these will be installed on Tyrrell Street next week. We have a constant problem with drivers speeding up and down Tyrrell Street, particularly an issue with the deep shadows cast by the large fig trees in that street, so any measures to slow traffic are welcome.

Where are flashing lights installed? School zone flashing lights alert drivers that they are entering a 40 km/h school zone and that they should slow down. Travelling at 40 km/h reduces the risk of a crash and the severity of a crash if it occurs.



Classroom Herald

Congratulations to all members of our editorial committee for the Classroom Herald competition. At today's awards ceremony, NEPS students did extremely well. Their entry centred on development issues in the city, so the Editorial, the cartoon, and several of the articles were around this topic, and they managed to win several awards. There were 97 schools competing from the Central Coast and the Hunter Valley, and the standard this year was extremely high. Our results: -

Best cartoon – Alex Parsons. Alex's cartoon, at right, shows a heritage building attending Dr Skyscraper's surgery for some self-improvement

Best photograph – Highly Commended – James Snitch, for his portrait of Beryl, our oldest student.

Best Overall Newspaper – Highly Commended – Newcastle East Public School



Science Club



Dr Susan Miles demonstrates the human skeleton at Science Club last week. Though only plastic, the skeleton gave us a clear concept of just how our bones fit together, and Dr Miles explained how the bones keep us standing up nice and straight, protect our vital organs, and keep us supplied with fresh rich blood.

Biggest bone in the body? It's the femur, or thigh bone.

Smallest? It's in the ear, and it's called the malleus.

Number of bones in the human body? 206.

Our thanks to Dr Miles for visiting!

Vacation Science Courses

Many of our students have a strong interest in experimental science, and these UNSW courses during January might interest families who want to spend a few days in Sydney, while the children have some exploratory fun at university.

<https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/for-gifted-students/>

Kindergarten Welcome Barbeque

A quick reminder for this year's Kindergarten parents that we are hosting a welcome barbeque on the forecourt of the school at 5.30 Friday December 5. More information will be sent home this Friday, but all parents and children of this year's K classes, and next year's, are invited for this casual evening function.

For Your Diary – Dates and Times To Note

- Captain Candidates' speeches – Monday December 1, 8.50
- Presentation Day – Monday December 15, 10 am.

The Quiz, and Abbi the Winner

Congratulations to Abbi McMaster, first to correctly answer either 206 or 207 to this question: - How many bones in the human body?

This week's quiz is cryptic, and has some tricky clues. It might take some help to nut this one out.

I'm nearby but I'm neither prince nor queen. Some call me Teddy, and you can visit me to play.

Who am I?

Answers by email to john.beach@det.nsw.edu.au Only those who've not won before please!

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 8	24th November Lisa & Lesley Marshall	26th November Clare Hogue	28th November Belinda & Rob Johnson
Week 9	1st December Volunteer Needed	3rd December Gillian Zavos	5th December Ziva Westley Pip Strachan

Donations in desperate need: CHEESE SLICES – ***PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE***

Families on the donation roster for this week are: Duncan, Egerton, Schneider, Mattson, Quaas, Snitch, Onley, Mitchell, Janse Van Rensburg, Brazil, O'Donoghue, Hampson



We are working towards streamlining 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.newcastle-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 8.50	2 Scripture Christmas Concert 1.45	3	4	5 Kindy O BBQ 5.30	6/7
Ten	8	9	10	11 Year Six Dinner Souths Leagues Club	12	13/14
Eleven	15 Presentation Day 10am	16 Class Party Day	17 Last day of Term / Clap-out			