

Hilltop News

Week Nine, Term Four, Tuesday, December 1st, 2015 Edition One Hundred and Fifty-eight

Kindy Goes To Bollywood

We had a special treat yesterday at Assembly, when our two Kindergarten classes performed some very exciting (and extremely cute!) Bollywood style dancing, in their spectacular costumes, with some well-practised dance moves. Thanks to Diya's mum, Mrs Miller and Mrs Thompson for teaching the routine so well.



Captains Hopeful Address Assembly

We have a very high standard of public speaking at NEPS, and when twenty five children vie for the top role in our school, that of School Captain, we hear some very persuasive arguments. My congratulations go to all who spoke at Monday's Assembly. It's inspiring to hear just how much our students have matured, and just how creative they can be in their speeches. Next, we have the very difficult task of voting for our preferred candidate, with just four positions available. With so many students seeking roles, it's tough to choose!

Important Dates for Your Diary

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| • Kindy Welcome Barbeque | Friday 4 th , 5.30 pm |
| • Year Six Dinner | Thursday 10 th , 6.30 pm |
| • Presentation Day | Monday 14 th , 10 am |
| • Christmas Concert/ Barbeque | Monday 14 th , 5.30 |
| • Clap-out / last day of School Year | Wednesday 16 th December, 2.30 pm |

Hour of Code- From NEPS Computer Coordinator Miss Hicks

Dear Parents,

We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly hinge on understanding how technology works. But only a tiny fraction of us are learning computer science, and fewer students are studying it than a decade ago.

That's why 4H is joining in on the largest learning event in history: The Hour of Code, during Computer Science Education Week (Dec. 7-13). More than 100 million students worldwide have already tried an Hour of Code.

See <http://hourofcode.com/au> for details, and help spread the word.

Arriving Promptly At School – We Have A Problem

It is essential to establish a regular routine each morning and arriving at school on time is an important part of your child's morning routine. It is important to be at school on time because:

- It sets up good habits for the future
- It sends a message to your child that you think that being on time is important
- It provides social benefits – good play time and discussion among friends. It gives students time to settle in before the start of the school day
- The school day usually begins with the teacher giving out information to students. Eg. Any changes to school routines, coming events etc.
- It is an opportunity for important teacher pupil interaction before school
- Students who are late to school cause disruption to the class and other students.

How to ensure your child has a happy day at school

- Make sure your child has a good night's sleep and is in bed by a reasonable hour. This may mean insisting on a specific time for bed on a school night. Technology is best avoided at least 30 mins before bedtime.
- Make sure your child gets up early enough to
 - Have breakfast
 - Get lunch ready
 - Pack a school bag
 - Get dressed / showered
- Don't turn the TV on or let your child use the computer / iPad unless your child is completely ready for school
- Be organised yourself – help your child pack bags and have homework and sports gear ready for the next day.

Be involved with your school – meet with your child's teacher and talk regularly.

- Offer your support and help
- Read notes from school and reply on time
- Listen to your child read
- Show an interest in homework

If you are late for school

- It is your legal obligation to provide an explanation either written or verbal to the Principal. Be aware that reasons such as "sleeping in" or "running late" are not considered justifiable reasons for lateness.
- Escort your child to the front office to sign them in. Don't drop them off at the front gate.



SPORTING NEWS - STOP PRESS

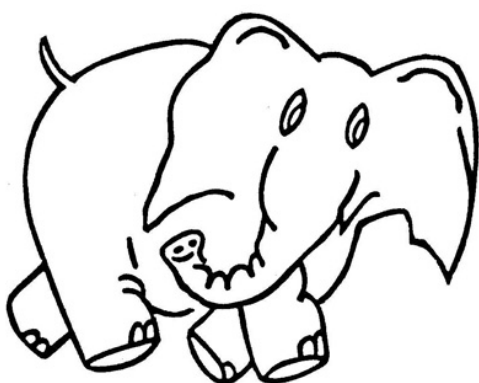
Logan Dubé has been selected in the Hunter Under-12 Basketball team, and Kaden Dubé and Jude Jennings have been selected in the Hunter Under-14 Basketball team. Congratulations Logan, Kaden and Jude, all from very sporting families.

Invitation – Friday Kindergarten Barbeque / Kindy Orientation

All current Kindergarten parents, and all new Kindy parents for 2016 – you are invited to our Welcoming Barbeque this Friday, from 5.30pm, in the COLA. It's a chance for the children to meet again and play together, for parents to meet in an informal setting, and for teachers to mingle too. Sausage sandwiches are provided, vegetarians are catered for, and cold drinks for the kids are provided. We hope you are able to make it along to this alcohol-free event, even if you are able to stay for just a little while.

Visit by DOE Demographer

Tomorrow, Wednesday 2nd, our School Council is hosting a visit from Joe Lantz, senior demographer with the Department of Education. Parents with an interest in planning matters, and the future of schools in a rapidly-growing inner-city Newcastle, are welcome to come along to this meeting, in the Staff Room, at 2pm.



White Elephant Sale for Our Neptunes Choir

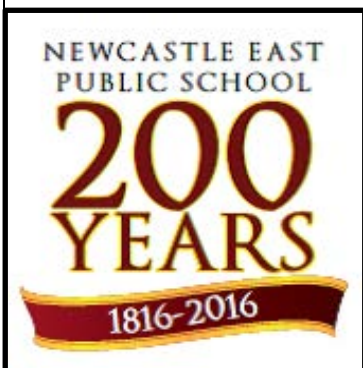
We are holding a white elephant stall, to raise money for our choir. Bring in anything you do not use any more, but only usable items in good condition please.

The stall will be held on Carols Night, Monday 14th December, at 5.30pm.

If anyone would like to help on the night please see Mrs Edge.

Dinner Bookings

Only 50 tickets left, so if you want to go to our Bicentennial Dinner, get in quick at this link: - <http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=167759>



Using our Bicentennial Facebook Page Yet? Like Us for Updates!

Just three months now until we celebrate our 200th birthday. We plan to use the Facebook page highlighted here for updates, tickets, news, re-union gatherings, etc, so it's important that as many people as possible "Like" it right now. If you haven't done so, please click the link below, have a good look around at the dates and functions, and click "Like", to receive updates as they come out.

<https://www.facebook.com/NewcastleEastBicentenary>

Media Permission Form

Miss Hicks is currently shooting some video scenes for use in a Bicentenary video, showing a typical day in the life of our school. The video will be accompanied by a song specially recorded by our school choir, the Neptunes, last week at Newcastle High's recording studio. Parental permission is needed before a child can be featured in this production, so families who have not completed a media permission form have had another one sent home. Seventy families are in this category. If you are happy for your child to be featured, OR do not want your child included, please complete the form and return it promptly.



Design Challenge

Check out the fun design exercise on the last page of the Newsletter. It's something the family can help with, to make a creative solution to an engineering problem, from recycled materials.

Need some stimulating helpful ideas?

Try this link:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tsrc2IMdH08>

Special Note for Year Six Parents

Year Six students will be allowed to wear their "farewell" T-shirts on these dates in December : - Monday 7, Wednesday 9, Friday 11, Wednesday 16

Full school uniform is needed by all students, for Presentation Day.

Canteen Roster

Week	Monday	Friday
8		27 th November Lisa Marshall Helen Cossettini
9	30 th November Volunteer needed	4 th December Ingird Beavis Pip Strachan
10	7 th December Chris White Greg Warburton	11 th December Robin Hetherington Volunteer needed
11	14 th December Volunteer needed	

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
5 October Public Holiday	6 Students resume	7	8	9
12	13	14 Sailing begins	15 Grandparents' Day 8.15 Breakfast	16
19	20	21	22	23 Sunday 25- Bunnings Barbeque
26 Swimming School begins	27	28 Kindergarten Information Evening 6pm Library	29	30
2 November Kindy Orientation 10am	3	4	5	6 Last day – swimming school
9 Kindy Orientation 10am	10	11 State Final Premiers Spelling Bee	12	13
16 Kindy Orientation 10am	17 NHS + Feeder Schools Town Hall Performance	18	19	20
23 Kindy Orientation 10am	24	25	26	27
30 Captains Speeches Scripture Christmas Concert	1 December	2	3	4 Welcome Kindy BBQ 5.30pm
7 P&C /School Council Meeting	8	9	10 Year 6 Dinner South Newcastle Leagues Club	11
14 School Presentation 10am	15	16 Last day for students Clap out	17 SDD	18 SDD

Design and Build Challenge

There are lots of different ways to move “bulk” things, like wheat or sand or soil, from one place to another.

Here are some:-

- A shovel can pick up stuff and throw it
- A wheel-barrow can be loaded up then carry materials to a new place.
- A truck or train can carry bulk things over a long, long distance.



Can you design and build a better system to move sand from one desk to another, using only recycled materials?

The desks will be 60 cm apart, with a pile of sand on one side, which you can load onto your machine by hand.

Things you might use:-

- Lego wheels
- Rubber bands
- Bike tubes
- Old bits of wood
- Paper/plastic cups
- Cardboard tubes
- Old belts
- Rules



It's fun, so anyone can help!

It's not a competition! Everyone trying gets a certificate. Every entry is precious!

Show Day is the last day of term, 1 pm, Wednesday 16th December, and that's when we try them out.

Need some inspiration? Try this link for ideas: -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DrnPQJNAcGI> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQhFMENp-zY>

Some helpful hints needed? Look up “conveyor belts” and “luggage carousels” for ideas.

Questions? Email john.beach@det.nsw.edu.au