

HILLTOP NEWS

Newcastle East Public School – Australia's Oldest School

Week Two, Term Two, Tuesday 28th, 2015

Edition One Hundred and Thirty One

Storm of the Decade Hits NEPS



Welcome to Term 2 after a remarkable two days of unrelenting weather last week. Our thoughts are with all the families in our community who have suffered property damage. Some in our community are still living without power. The slow process of tree removal and street cleanups has begun in our neighbourhoods with Laman Street and Civic Park looking very bare indeed.

Our school buildings are still intact, escaping with some damage to the roof tiles and lead flashing.

Unfortunately our bottom playground, pathways and play equipment are out of bounds until further notice.

The large tree that has fallen onto the neighbouring property and several around it will need to be removed and those still standing, checked for stability before the children can access these areas.

Wherever red tape and witches hats are visible, please avoid crossing, as these are placed for your safety.

Patience will be necessary, as there are 300 schools in our region needing tree removals. Back in the classrooms, teachers are operating with a 'business as usual' approach, which has enabled everyone to settle into the term without a fuss.



Community Spirit Shown By NEPS

Students

Many thanks to Aren Barber, Noah Handley and Adam Handley, (pictured left) who, under the guidance of Emma Boylen, managed to sweep our COLA clean of debris in time for the schools' ANZAC assembly.

Brett, our G.A, wants them added to the pay roll!

ANZAC Ceremony

Last Friday, all students attended our annual ANZAC Assembly. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli, and our school ceremony reflected the importance of remembrance for Australians and New Zealanders as well as Turkish people. Students listened to a number of moving poems and quotes during the ceremony, which concluded with a reading in both English and Turkish by Ela and Alara Guner and a poem penned by school captain, Sophia Suters. Following are the words of these very moving tributes to our ANZACS.

In 1934, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk wrote the famous words that reached out to the mothers of his former enemies.

“Those heroes that shed their blood

And lost their lives.

You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.

Therefore, rest in peace.

There is no difference between the Johnnies

And the Mehments to us where they lie side by side

Here in this country of ours,

You, the mothers,

Who sent their sons from far away countries

Wipe away your tears,

Your sons are now lying in our bosom

And are in peace

After having lost their lives on this land they have

Become our sons as well”.

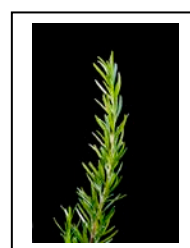
Sophia Suters’ poem, captures her compassion and understanding for the plight of the ANZACS and describes the origins of the ANZAC spirit that we so often refer to when discussing our national identity.

They were eager to go,
Unsure of what they’d face,
They were the keenest of our kind
The bravest of our race.

They boarded the ships,
With joy and celebration.
They were proud to go,
To defend and fight for our nation.

They faced the guns,
On the beach of Gallipoli
They were shot and killed
Or moved on, dispirited, with tears on their cheeks.

They that survived would fight on,
And despite their brothers falling,
They would keep the ANZAC spirit alive,
Although inside they were bawling.



Bolts of Peace and Remembrance
mary (left) red poppy (above)



Kaden Dube, School Captain, leads the
ANZAC ceremony

They were proud of what they'd done,
Injured, alive...or dead.
They would hold their medals with pride,
Not with fear or dread.

Theirs were the hands that shaped us,
Made us who we are
They are the ones that will be remembered,
No matter where we are.



Funds for Vanuatu

During the Easter school holidays, a bunch of us from the Boatman's Row, Newcastle East, decided to set up a home-made lemonade and plant stall to raise money for Vanuatu. The group of friends included Alex and Kate Sulzberger, Imala and Niamh Cush, Luca Williams and Marley Seyerl. We raised \$51.35 and we hope it helps the people of Vanuatu to re-build.

Story- Imala Cush

Pictured from left to right:

Luca, Niamh, Kate, Marley, Imala and Alex



NEPS Choir Workshop at Newcastle Cathedral

Yesterday afternoon, choir students from NEPS enjoyed a choral workshop at the Cathedral. Andrew Reid, the worldwide Director of the Royal School of Church Music, based in the UK, led the students through a one hour workshop to improve pitch, range and breathing. Andrew was previously organist at Westminster Abbey and Cathedral, and was also Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral in the UK. He was visiting Newcastle just for one day, as part of a tour to Australia and New Zealand.

It was an exciting opportunity for our students to work with someone of such high calibre. The students were also provided a rare opportunity to sing in the iconic Cathedral and enjoy the wonderful acoustics of the building. Mrs Edge was thrilled to accept the opportunity and felt that all students benefitted from the experience.



Reminder -Choralfest
Thursday 30th April





Spelling Bee Super Wiz

by Sadie Ferguson

On Friday, 24th April, auditions closed for a spelling bee called The Great Australian Spelling Bee. I auditioned on the 23rd April and I made it to the second round. They tested me online and I had to complete a number of tests. These included finding the incorrect spelling word from a sentence, choosing the correct definition to match the word and choosing the correct grammar in a sentence. I will be tested again on Wednesday via Skype. This time I will have to spell three words from the Premier's Challenge Spelling list and three other randomly selected words. If I get through I have to compete in Sydney this Thursday and Friday.

Important Dates for Your Planner

- NAPLAN 12th, 13th, 14th May
- Choralfest Thursday 30th April
- School Photos- Monday 25th May

A Note from 3/4E

Parent reading groups in 3/4E will continue on Mondays and Tuesdays only. No reading groups on Wednesday mornings in Term 2.

Canteen

Volunteer Roster

Volunteering in the canteen is a fun way to be involved in your child's school. You get a chance to meet their friends and get to know the other children and staff at NEPS. We only need you once per term and if you haven't volunteered in the canteen before then we will roster you on with another parent for training. Text Cherry on 0409 927 006 if you're keen.

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
2		29th April Kate King	1st May Cherry and Shaun
3	4th May Chris Baker	6th May Sally Davis	8th May Ingrid Beavis + volunteer needed

Donation roster for this week – Ramsey, Burman, Alexander-Meylan, Alexander, Alley, Bajric, Bardsley, Barnes, Rivers-Beard, De Beer, Rankin, De Bruyn, Hook, Bohlsen, Brazil

Donations needed this week – Sliced ham

Term Two Planner

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
20	21 Storm of the decade	22 School operating with minimal supervision	23 First Day Back	24 ANZAC Day Assembly
27 CHOIR – CHORAL WORKSHOP at NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL	28	29	30 Choralfest	1 MAY
4 Rock and Water Teacher Training	5 Rock and Water Teacher Training	6	7	8
11	12 NAPLAN	13 NAPLAN	14 NAPLAN	15
18	19	20	21	22
25 School Photos	26	27	28	29
1 JUNE	2	3	4	5
8 Queen's Birthday	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26 LAST DAY