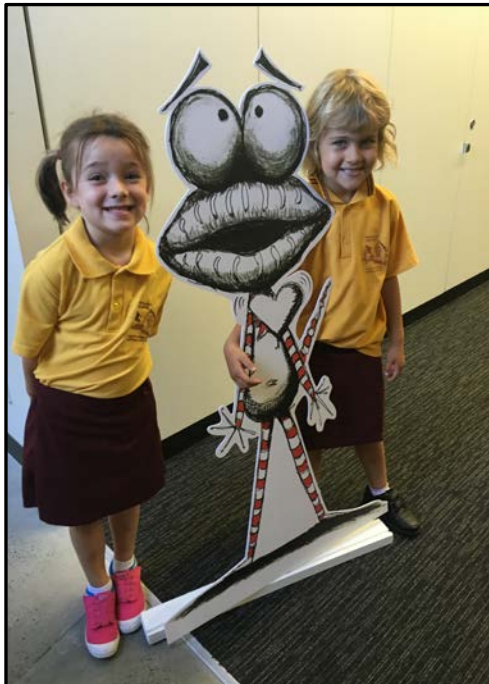


HILLTOP NEWS

Week Eleven, Term One, Tuesday, April 5th, 2016 - Edition One Hundred and Seventy

Hunter Writers' Festival

Many NEPS students walked down the hill last week to attend one or more sessions of the Writers' Festival, and they took part in workshops on everything from how to write a book, designing illustrations, and the creative process used by poets. The response from our students was so positive, and they were so excited by what they learned, that Miss Hicks has organised a special supplement to the Festival, included in this Newsletter.



In it you can see some of their written responses, their reactions, and their comments, on the sessions they visited.



Knowing that the Festival was organised by journalist and writer Rosemary Milson, mother of our students Aurelia and Jasper, made it even more special. Thanks to everyone who helped make this possible for our very appreciative kids.

Our picture shows Charlie Clews from Grade One joining in the Lessons of a LAC workshop, while Iggy Bailey and Sophie Grimshaw (KM) meet a Little Anxious Creature.

Sailing Continuing in Term Two

Students taking part in sailing as an after-school activity this term have been offered the opportunity to extend their sessions into the first five weeks of Term Two, if parents see this as a good idea.

Some may not wish to continue, or may have other Monday afternoon commitments, and if vacancies occur they will be advertised widely for Stage Three students.

When Do Lessons resume?

This first school term has passed in a flash. Autumn vacation starts after this week, with classes starting for Term Two on Wednesday April 27th. I hope that you manage to get a break yourself, and a safe and happy holiday to your family.



Out-of-uniform Friday

To celebrate the end of term, and to raise some money for our school band and instrument maintenance, this Friday we are coming out of uniform, for a **gold coin** donation.



Disco Crazy

Thanks to all involved in organising and running our disco last week. With proceeds going towards the purchase of Kindergarten's Outdoor Learning Centre, great progress was made with up around \$1500 expected to be cleared. Appreciation to the parents who staffed the barbeque and service jobs, and to the staff members who organised the events in my absence.

New Assistant Principal Visits / Farewell Mrs Bell

Today 3B meets their new teacher, Mr Daniels, who has been appointed as our newest Assistant Principal, alongside Mrs Thomas and Mrs Miller. A warm welcome to him, and our thanks to Mrs Bell, who has done such a sterling job with the class during Term One.

My own time at this wonderful school finishes at the end of next term, and the position of Principal will be widely advertised during the early weeks of Term Two. The incoming Principal will be the school's forty-first, in its two hundred year history.

Kiwanis Terrific Kids Awards

Thanks to Kiwanis International for agreeing to sponsor an award for exceptional citizenship at NEPS, the first of which will be announced at the end of next term. Teachers are on the lookout for those little acts of kindness and citizenship which take place in our playground every day.

Prize Winners from Quiz / This Week...

Congratulations to Alex Miles and Alice O'Rourke, our quiz winners from last week, who correctly identified two tawny frogmouths, photographed in one of our gum trees. It's a mother and her baby, so they are very cute, but these birds like their privacy. They can get angry!

This week's quiz - you'll need a copy of To Climb The Hill to answer this one: - What other name did our school have in 1885? Look on page 55 for the answer.

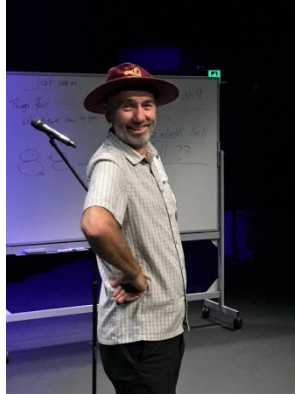
Email only, to john.beach@det.nsw.edu.au.



NEWCASTLE WRITERS FESTIVAL

Newcastle Writers Festival took place last week. The festival program offered our students an opportunity to meet and interact with national authors, illustrators and poets. We had a fantastic time at all the events we went to. Here are some reports and photos from the workshops and shows we went to. *Students in 3/4H*

Poetry, to the Rescue!



Drawing Characters

On the 31st of March Albi, Gretel and Grace all went to the *Drawing Characters* workshop with Tony Flowers. He helped us improve our drawing skills. We drew a dragon and a wizard. He showed us how to draw different emotions on each character. Tony also gave us this illustration to bring back to school.



Sense-ational Writing

On Wednesday 30th March, Cassidy, Grace and Abbi went to the *Sense-ational Writing* workshop with Paul Russell. We used our senses to write story beginnings. We also did an exercise when we had to partner up and create an argument with mum/dad if we could get our left ear cut-of.

Paul Russell believes that you have to think of the beginning of a story before writing it, and the rest is a mystery.

Slam with Sam!

On Thursday the 31st March, Cassidy and Abbi went to *Slam with Sam*.

Samantha is a slam poet, and she wrote the Anti-Princess Club books. She says that girls aren't damsels in distress, we don't need rescuing.

Sam showed us some slam poetry and got us to write our own. It was a fun workshop with many inspired children leaving with lots of new ideas.



Create the Desert

Gretel was inspired by Liz Anelli's illustrations in her workshop, *Create the Desert*. Gretel used collage techniques to create her own bug, which was then added to one of Liz's illustrations.



Stig Live By Monty and Amberley from 5/6T

On the 30th of March fifty students, walked down to the Civic Theatre playroom where we watched a performance by Stig Wemyss, narrator of the Andy Griffiths and Paul Jennings audio books.

He put on a comedy involving lots of games and interactive activities, giving out prizes to the contestants of his games. An example of a game we played is Chubby Bubbles, where you try to stuff as many marshmallows into your mouth as you can and say, "1 Chubby Bubby" etc. This game came from an Andy Griffiths story from his book Just Stupid, which Stig read to us. A few students from our school interacted in some of the games. The so called 'Hamish and Andy' (otherwise known as Hamish and Gabe) participated in an interview with Stig, while burping on command. Emily played Chubby Bubbles and Darcy B. played Sausages where he had to answer questions but could only say "Sausages".

We all thought Stig was very funny and witty and he certainly kept us laughing.

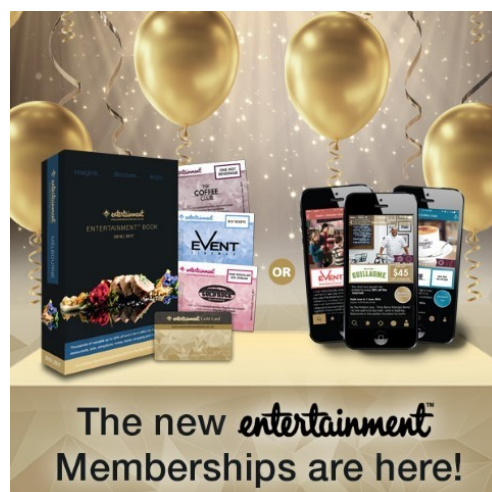


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Term One Planner

Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
2.	Feb 1 First day for K K photos	2 Dance practice	3 Full Assembly	4	5 Sculpture Launch/ Bush Dance	6 Book Launch / Dinner	7 Cathedral Service / Open School
3.	8	9	10 Stage Assembly	11	12 LMBR training JA	13	14
4.	15	16 Debating Workshop	17 Swimming	18	19	20	21
5.	22	23	24 Zone Swimming Stage	25	26	27	28
6.	29	1	2 Full Assembly	3 Regional Swim Carn Hansel and Gretel	4 Clean-up Australia	5	6
7.	7 Return of the Bully	8	9 Stage Assembly	10 Selective Schools Test	11	12	13
8.	14	15 LMBR training JA	16 Full Assembly	17 Cross Country Carnival	18 National Day of Action Against Bullying	19	20
9.	21 Harmony Day	22 LMBR training LA	23 .Assembly Parent Workshop Student Wellbeing	24 Easter Hat Parade	25 Good Friday	26	27
10.	28 Easter Monday	29 Writers' Festival Parent/teacher interviews begin	30 LMBR training	31 Lessons of a LAC	1 LMBR training John	2	3
			Full Assembly	School Disco			
11.	4 Parent/teacher interviews	5	6 Stage	7 LMBR training LA	8 LMBR training LA		
			Assembly		Non-uniform Day - Band		

The simplest way

...to shop in season and save.

Buying fruit and veg when it is in season is much cheaper than at other times of year. It's better quality and tastes better too.

Autumn heralds a host of new season produce. Here is a guide for March, April and May:

FRUIT

Apple (Red Delicious, Granny Smith), Avocado, Banana, Custard Apple, Fig, Grapes, Grapefruit, Kiwifruit, Mandarin (Imperial), Melon, Nashi, Orange (Valencia), Passionfruit, Pear, Plum, Persimmon.



VEGETABLES

Asian Greens, Beans (Green), Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Capsicum, Carrot, Cauliflower, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Leek, Lettuce/Salad Mix, Mushroom, Onion, Peas (Snow), Potato, Pumpkin, Shallots, Spinach, Sweetcorn, Tomato, Turnip, Zucchini.

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or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

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info@yogabodyworks.com.au
COST: \$140 for the term

yogabodyworks.com.au

CLASS TIMES

Tuesday: 4.30-5.30pm | Years K-2

Thursday: 4.30-5.30pm | Years 3-6

YWCA Hunter Region in partnership with Cooks Hill
Preschool and the Newcastle Region Library presents:

BOOK- ZILLA

Friday 1 April, Saturday 2 April
and Sunday 3 April
9am – 4pm

YWCA Hall, 24 Dawson Street, Cooks Hill
(entrance via Council St)



BOOK- ZILLA

BBQ
Saturday!

**Come along and grab a bargain at the
MONSTER BOOKZILLA book sale and
give a used book a new lease of life!**

1000s of donated books to be sold
at very affordable prices.

Children's books, travel books, fiction and
non-fiction, biographies, history and crime,
magazines and self help, fitness and how-to's,
health and advice books – just to name a few.

There are books for everyone!

Everyone who purchases a book will go
into a draw for the opportunity to win some
amazing prizes over the weekend.



All books have been generously donated by the Newcastle
Region Library and all proceeds will go towards Cooks
Hill Preschool improving their Early Childhood Education
Program and YWCA Hunter Region who have been
supporting women and their families since 1880.

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- Indoor Soccer World Cup
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- Basketball Playoff Series
- The AFL Championship
- Indoor Cricket Twenty 20 Cup
- Dodge Ball Tournaments
- Daily Trophies, Awards and Prizes



FREE T-SHIRT

Join Our Team And Score
Your Very Own Super
Sports Camps T-Shirt!



EARLY BIRDS

Register By March 24
And You Will Save!



GROUP BOOKINGS

Book In Groups To Earn
Hats, Wrist Bands And
Gift Vouchers!

11 - 13 APRIL, 2016

LOCATION: Howzat Indoor
Centre, Cooks Hill

TIME: 9.00-3.00pm

(FREE before camp care
from 8.00am)

AGE GROUPS: 6-13 years

\$70 Per Day **\$200** for 3 Days

*All prices are early bird rates and end March 24.
Regular Per Day Rate is \$100. Regular 3 Day
Rate is \$250.



"Franco loved his time at Play The Game! Your coaches helped Franco take his confidence sky high. Thanks for giving him the ultimate school holiday experience."
Mrs Marciano

DON'T MISS THE ACTION – REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

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FREE T-SHIRT

Join Our Team And Score
Your Very Own Super
Sports Camps T-Shirt!



EARLY BIRDS

Register By March 24
And You Will Save!



GROUP BOOKINGS

Book In Groups To Earn
Hats, Wrist Bands And
Gift Vouchers!

13 - 15 APRIL, 2016

LOCATION: Empire Park,
Bar Beach

TIME: 9.00-3.00pm

(FREE before camp care
from 8.00am)

AGE GROUPS: 6-13 years

\$70 Per Day **\$200** for 3 Days

*All prices are early bird rates and end March 24.
Regular Per Day Rate is \$100. Regular 3 Day
Rate is \$250.



"Thank you to the coaches for improving
Connor's skills and self confidence. He was
very satisfied with this inspiring
holiday experience."
Mrs Moore.

DON'T MISS THE ACTION – REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

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