



ST JOHN'S

There's no
place
like St John's

St John's Newsletter

Term 1 Week 8 - Friday 18th March 2016

HEAD OF ST JOHN'S

Ms Shannon Rosewood



How can we make Mathematics fun?

You may have noticed that there has been a lot of talk about pumpkins lately. What is it all about?

The children in Transition have been loving learning about pumpkins and maths at the same time. A provocation was set up in the Transition classroom with three obviously different size pumpkins. The children were provided with play dough and sketch pads so that they could express artistically what they were seeing. They talked about shape, colour, lines and size as well as a slater that they found wandering across the pumpkin. Immersion in a program that allows the use of their senses enables children to learn and share a vocabulary that is relevant to the world around them.

The pumpkin olympics has given the children a chance to explore shape, size, colour, measurement, texture, smell, weight and lots more. The experiences have been real and concrete. The children loved throwing the mini pumpkins and recording the distances. Transition made a large scape ruler that was made out of block and also created a graph related to the throwing activity using photos of each child and the distance that they threw.

Transition also counted the seeds in the pumpkins and enjoyed the sensory experience of scooping the seeds out. The children's ideas are endless and they get so much out of hands on experiences without even knowing they are learning.

Mathematics can be a wonderful experience to explore and develop number sense and measurement skills. These are things that children do naturally.

Who is bigger?
What does that weigh? Which is heavier?



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Here are some suggestions for simple maths activities that you can do at home. There are plenty of resources online as well.



theimaginationtree.com

Shopping Maths

After you have been shopping, choose 6 different items each costing less than \$1. Make a price label for each one, e.g. 39c, 78c. Shuffle the labels.



Then ask your child to do one or more of these.

- Place the labels in order, starting with the lowest.
- Say which price is an odd number and which is an even number.
- Add 9c to each price in their head.
- Take 20c from each price in their head.
- Say which coins to use to pay exactly for each item.
- Choose any two of the items, and find their total cost.
- Work out the change from \$1 for each item.

QUIZ Lit

Friday 4th March saw NEGS host the first ever Armidale Heat of the Kids Lit Quiz. The Kids' Lit Quiz is an annual literature competition (run around the world) for children aged 10 to 13. It puts readers onto the stage and lets them compete for fantastic prizes. On the day we had 48 students (in teams of 4) from Armidale primary and high schools, competing in rounds with questions like: What was Matilda's favourite subject at school? What colour was the highly sought after and prized Askenstone? Well done to Lily, Sophie, Sophia and Connie. Our St John's girls were very competitive and, most importantly, had heaps of fun. Congratulations to the winning team, Armidale City, who are now off to Sydney to represent Armidale at the National Finals.



CAMP Week

Welcome back on Friday to Year 5 and 6 who attended the Canberra camp this week and Year 3/4 who toured Coffs Harbour. I have been enthusiastically informed that they are having a great time. Thank you all the students for your great behavior, cooperation on the trip. A big thank you to Mrs Dent, Mrs Packer, Mrs Nixon and Ms Pracy who attended and gave up family time to provide a safe and engaging opportunity for all students.

Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER)

Year 5 and 6 students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliaments and Civics Education rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion. The school has accounted for this rebate in the cost of your excursion.

Dynamic Drumbeats

During Wellbeing Day last week, Years 3-6 spent their session in the Jan Milburn room learning about and mastering the basics of drumbeats. We had a lot of fun, finding our own special rhythms. I loved learning about the three main sounds of the drum, the base, the slap and the tone. The instructor teaching us was very interesting and we all, really, got into it. Drumbeats was a very noisy and entertaining way to spend our wellbeing session. All in all, Drumbeats was a major hit, literally, and I am sure we would all love to do something fabulous like this again soon.

Sophie Mason - Year 6



Engineering Challenge

During Wellbeing Day, K/1 worked in operative teams to create an engineering masterpiece with cardboard boxes. K/1 have been working every week on their ability to be creative and innovative. STEM afternoons are a highlight of the week. They had a lot of fun! Look at these amazing creations!





Dates

- 19 March – Autumn Festival Parade
- 24 March – Note this is a PD day for NEGS but a school day at St John's
- 24 March – St John's Triathlon
- 25 to 28 March - Easter break.
- 1 April – Last Assembly for Term 1 – K -2 presenting
- 2 April – IPSHA Cross Country
- 7 April – St John's School Disco at NEGS Assembly Hall 5:30 to 6:30pm. Parents are invited to share drinks and nibbles on the lawn.
- 7 April – Last Day of Term 1
- 8 April – Staff Day – (Care will be provided with Ms Moore for interested parents. Contact Reception. \$50 per family)
- 25 April – St John's families are invited to join with NEGS at the Anzac March and wreath laying service in Armidale.
- Term 2 – A reminder that Winter Uniform is worn this term.
- 26 April – First Day of Term 2. Students return. PE uniform.
- 26 April – We will begin the term with a student led Anzac Service at 9am, which will be followed by a parent morning tea in the playground. Mrs Mary Anne Evans will join the Junior School on this special occasion and will be available to meet with parents afterwards.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS @ ST JOHN'S

Congratulations to the following children who received awards in the Week 6 Assembly:

Class Stars

Kindergarten/ Year 1: Oliver Sutherland
 Year 2: Léontine O'Neill
 Years 3/4: Andrew Knight
 Year 5: Eloise Gooch
 Year 6: Caitlin Croft

Homework Centre:

Oliver Sutherland

Personal Best:

Kindergarten/ Year 1: Jessica Flynn
 Year 2: Annicka McCulloch
 Years 3/4: Felicity Chapman
 Year 5: Owen Rice
 Year 6: Alex Reed

Registrations

Winter sport registrations are now being entered and finalised. Please see below for hockey and soccer registration fees.

Hockey

Under 9's - \$95.00
Under 11's - \$110.00
Under 13's - \$250.00

All players will require their St John's sport shirt, sport skirt, NEGS hockey socks, shin pads, mouth guard and hockey stick. All hockey fees will be charged to your account and registration will be completed by the school.

Soccer

Registrations now need to be completed online by each family. Go to myfootballclub.com.au to register your child. If they have played before, please use their current FFA number. If this is their first year, you will need to get them an FFA number before registering - all prompts are on this website. The cost for soccer this year is \$86.15.

Please email Mrs Nixon when you have confirmation of registration and please ensure you have registered by Friday 18 March.

Triathlon

St John's are very excited about the upcoming triathlon event being held on Thursday 24 March between recess and lunch. Students have been notified of the leg which they will complete on the day. Students will need to bring in their bike either before or on the day of the competition. Swimmers will require their school swimmers and goggles. We look forward to this fun event!

Indoor Hockey

The season has come to a close for indoor hockey. Congratulations to all players for the effort they have put into the games and to the coaches for their support and guidance to all students. They have really appreciated your knowledge and assistance with skills.

Registrations for next session will be taken in Term 3.

IPSHA Swimming Carnival

Sarah Skipper, Isabella Rutledge, Sophia Rutledge and Chloe Moore represented St John's at the IPSHA Swimming Carnival held at SOPAC on Wednesday 2 March. They all came home with a ribbon from their heats and with big smiles on their faces. They were a wonderful team who consistently put in their best effort, achieved PB's and cheered each other on. They thoroughly enjoyed this once in a life time opportunity. Thank you to the parents for taking these students down to Sydney to represent our school. It is support like this that makes our school so special!



IPSHA Cross Country

The following students will be representing St John's in Sydney in the IPSHA Cross Country Carnival on Saturday 2 April. We wish them all the very best in this event.

Clair McAlary
Airlie McAlary
Lara McAlary
Ashley Knight
Sophie Mason

Felicity Chapman
Andrew Knight
Arlie Tanner
Jack Cassidy
Charlotte Claridge

YEAR 5

Art

This term Year 5 have been working hard to create many different artworks using Picasso as inspiration. They have discovered that you can be as creative as you like when it comes to drawing a portraiture of themselves using his artist composition styles. The students have used a variety of media to produce their work from sketching, paint and digital tools.



Hockey Skills

Year 5 have had a great time with Blair Chalmers during their hockey skills sessions. They have learnt many new skills and have worked hard on improving those they already knew. Getting outside and being active is one of their favourite parts of the day!



Maths

In Mathematics, Year 5 have been developing their mental and written strategies for addition and subtraction and exploring angles. They have enjoyed creating proofs to demonstrate their understanding of the concepts and working cooperatively in groups. It is always great to hear the noise of eager chattering during these lessons.





To raise money for 8 villages in the Nakorotubu district, Fiji. Help us to make a difference to this area so badly damaged by Cyclone Winston.



A Fun Family Night

- Fijian singing
- Local bands
- Island dancing
- Photo booth
- Traditional 'lovo' (Fijian) dinner and desserts for purchase.
- Drinks available (strictly alcohol free)
- "Islander theme" prize for best dressed
- Games for all ages
- All this and more

NEGS Multi Purpose Centre, Uralla Road, Armidale

Contact Lisa Haynes - 0427855578, or Concepts of Armidale

\$5 per person \$20 for family of 5 (2 adults, 3 children under 12)



Growing future scientists!

Join Science staff from New England Girls' School for a fun day of Science activities designed to ignite and inspire a love of Science.

Where: New England Girls' School

When: Friday 22nd April 2016

Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: \$30 (includes morning tea, lunch and four activities)

Age: School Grades 4 - 6

Hurry!! Limited places available. For more information or to make a booking, please email Belinda Stone on belinda.stone@negs.nsw.edu.au

Good for Kids good for life

START THE DAY RIGHT WITH BREAKFAST

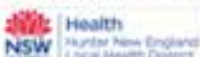
We've all heard that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and it's true! Research has shown that children who eat breakfast before school have higher levels of concentration and are less likely to feel lethargic.

Below are some ideas for a nutritious breakfast:

- Wholegrain cereals such as Weetbix, Cheerios and Sultana Bran
- untoasted muesli topped with low fat yoghurt
- Wholegrain toast topped with avocado, tomato or low fat cheese
- Raisin toast
- Fruit & vegetable smoothies



If you're short on time, some quick ideas to send to school with your child includes: a tub of low fat yoghurt, cereal to munch such as fruity bites, breakfast drinks such as Up & Go or some fruit.



PHONE 4924 6499

Attention: New families to NEGS/St John's Junior School

Private Vehicle Conveyancing (PVC) applications – NSW day and boarding students

PVC subsidy is available for eligible NSW school students, where there is no public transport available for all or part of the journey. An example of this is if families live more than 1.6km from the nearest transport pick up point. For further information re eligibility please telephone the Ministry of Transport on 1800 010 123.

Please note: for families who are not registered, to be subsidised for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2) the cut off date for applications is the 23rd June.

It is now possible to apply online at the following address: <https://appln.transport.nsw.gov.au/stms-parent/application/download>

If you are unable to apply online or have any questions, please contact me.

Helen Smith (helen.smith@negs.nsw.edu.au). 6774 8751