



"Learn Wisely, Live Proudly"

Regentville Public School

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From the Principal - Mrs Maraga

2 March 2015

P&C Meeting Annual General Meeting elects the Executive for 2016

Our school values the very strong support of an active and engaged parent body. The members of our school P&C have continued to provide advice in planning and decision making for our school.

The very dedicated members also continue to actively raise funds through a variety of fund raising initiatives where the children are the ultimate beneficiaries.

At this year's AGM the school we said a fond farewell to our Life Members of the P&C Fiona Stevens and Craig Palmer. We also had the opportunity to thank the P&C Executive for their outstanding contribution to the very strong parent body over so many years.

I would like to acknowledge the fabulous contributions of our outgoing committee for 2015:

President Craig Palmer

Vice Presidents Fiona Stevens, Kylie Hamersma

Secretary Mark Hamersma

Treasurer Anthony Boros

Fund Raising Committee Fiona Stevens, Julie Baltazar, Lee Closon

Canteen Committee Susan Foster, Jacqueline D'Argent, Sue Hopton, Leonie Malisani, Fiona Stevens, Diane Darlington, Danielle Bowden

Congratulations are extended to the elected Office Bearers for 2016

President Anthony Boros

Vice Presidents Melissa O'Leary, Luci Fittler

Secretary Melissa Bedwell

Treasurer Michelle Silvestro

Fundraising Committee Julie Baltazar, Lee Colson

Canteen Committee Jacqueline d'Argent, Susan Foster, Sue Hopton, Danielle Bowden, Leoni Malisani, Bec Felice and Troy Rombola

Parent Teacher Interviews provide an opportunity to meet your child's teacher

Previously this year parents had the opportunity to attend the Stage Information Sessions which provided an overview of what will be happening for children at our school throughout the year. In Week 8 parents will have the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher in parent teacher interviews. At our school we really do value the connections we have with parents. We realise that when families and school work together we can enhance the learning for our students. We look forward to you taking the opportunity to make an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher.

Parents are reminded that teachers can be contacted at any time to discuss aspects of their child's learning. Please contact the office in the first instance to make an appointment with your child's class teacher.

School Communities Working Together

Included in this newsletter is a Fact Sheet for Parents and Carers to assist in supporting your child's wellbeing development.

I would draw your attention to how to be cyber aware with your child. In particular regularly monitoring your child's use of social media sites and the internet are recommended.

Dates for the Calendar

4 Mar	Bookings for Parent Teacher meetings open (see item)
8 Mar	Greg Alexander Shield Rugby League
11 Mar	Easter Raffle tickets distributed
11 Mar	Bookings close Parent Teacher Meetings
14 Mar	Parent Teacher meetings this week
16 Mar	Cake Stall
18 Mar	Last Day Awards Trading
18 Mar	Easter Raffle tickets due back
21 Mar	Harmony Day
21 Mar	Glenmore Park HS Information Night
23 Mar	Easter Egg collection day
24 Mar	Easter Hat Parade and raffle draw
25 Mar	Good Friday
7 Apr	School Photos
7 Apr	Disco
8 Apr	Term 1 ends

Payments Due

22 Mar	ICAS Competitions Years 2-6. \$ Various.
23 Mar	Deer Park Camp Yr 5 First Instalment \$100 Full \$280
30 Mar	General School Contribution

Mobile Phones at school

A reminder that students who bring mobile phones to school are to leave them in Mr Bamford's office for safe keeping during the day.

Last Day Awards Trading 18 March

4 Blue Awards can be traded in for a Silver Award.

K-2 students take their awards to Mrs Garland at eating time any day.

Y3 - 6 students take their awards to Mrs Macleod-Jones at eating time any day.

Before School Areas

It is important that all students who arrive at school before the 8.35am bell, wait in the area directly outside the canteen and not near their classrooms. Teachers are not on playground duty until 8.35am although many teachers are at school well before that time. Teachers will be asking all students to move to that area before the morning bell.

Star Performers

- Great job by the 40 students who represented our school at the District Swimming Carnival on Monday. More news about results soon.
- Thanks to the outgoing parents who served on the P&C for your hard work and dedication to the school.
- Congratulations to the 2016 P&C office bearers.



Book School Interviews Online

Dear Parents

Parent/Teacher Meetings will be held on the week beginning Monday 14 March 2016.

You can now book meetings at times that suit ***YOUR FAMILY BEST***.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and follow these simple instructions.

Bookings OPEN on Friday 4 March at 3pm

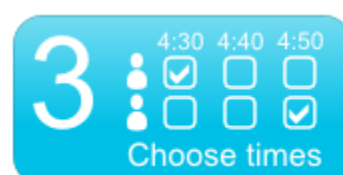
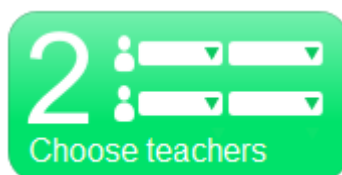
BOOKINGS CLOSE Friday 11 March at 3pm

School event code

tkqLa

Go

Enter THIS school event code.
Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click ***finish***, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.
You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

For parents that don't have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend's house or on their phones, interview times can be booked by contacting the class teacher who will be able to log in and find a time. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 47331615. Interviews are strictly 15 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 47331615

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the "contact us" button on the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school's name and suburb.

Penrith PSSA representatives 2016

Well done to all Regentville students who have already been chosen to trial for Penrith teams this year.

A special congratulations to the following students who have been successful in being selected for Penrith PSSA representative teams.

Basketball (boys)

Nikolas M
Levi S-M
Harry T
Jayden d'A

Basketball (girls)

Chloe W
Alyssa H
Charli W
Charlotte W

Netball

Ashleigh R
Olivia S
Chloe W

Cricket

Jacob M
Cameron G

Football (boys)

Ayden C

Softball (boys)

Ayden C
Harry P

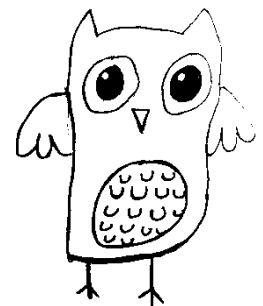
Softball (girls)

Caitlyn B

@26.2.16

Reggie says congratulations to the following people for being our weekly winners!

	K-2	3-6
Safe	Hayley – 2F	Alyssa – 3A
Respectful	Sahara – 2N	Ebony – 6G
Learner	Logan – 1C	Ryan – 5/6R
Green	Joshua – 1C	



New Regentville PS Skoolbag App

We are using the Skoolbag app as an additional way to communicate with parents about what is happening at school. The instructions below detail how to download the free app.



How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



For Android users:

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.



Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:

1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 81/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.



Bus Behaviour

We would appreciate your support by speaking to your child about safe and respectful travel on buses to and from school.

A number of students have been reminded of the importance of being seated on the bus and behaving accordingly while being respectful of other passengers on the bus.

Students are constantly being reminded that they are ambassadors for Regentville when they are travelling to and from school.

Tell Them From Me Survey

This term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by **Friday 11 March**.

BULLYING. NO WAY! National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Event: National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Take a stand in 2016 on the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. Held on Friday 18 March, this key anti-bullying event for schools and communities will help to deliver a powerful message that violence and bullying will not be tolerated.

To support the Day, the Office will host free Virtual Classrooms in NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC and WA. Topics include:

- being a good bystander
- the internet and the law
- cyberbullying

An additional Virtual Classroom 'communicating online' has been scheduled for schools unable to attend their local session.

[Register](#) online, and read more about the [National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence](#).

Google “Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner” for a website that has lots of information and resources around cyberbullying and online safety. There are information videos, articles and more.

School Communities Working Together

Fact Sheet for Parents and Carers



Introduction

The role of schools is to work in partnership with parents to provide an environment that encourages students to connect with each other and their community, so they can succeed and thrive. Parents, teachers and the community all play a role in fostering this environment.

Schools have well established systems which support student wellbeing and address instances of anti-social behaviour such as bullying, threats of physical violence and other offensive behaviours.

- Encourage positive outlets for your child's energies – sports, performing arts, hobbies and organised clubs, all provide a sense of belonging and somewhere to focus their interests, though it may take a few attempts to find the right interest for your child.
- Be a role model – modelling positive, respectful relationships, positive ways to show emotions and how to apply objective thinking skills are valuable life skills for your child.

Your role in supporting your child

- Be involved in your child's life – dedicate time to really understand your child. Know where they are, who they are with and what they are doing.
- Be cyber-aware:
 - regularly monitor what they are looking at on the internet and on social media sites and do what you can to reduce their exposure to inappropriate content;
 - place the computer or device in a common area of the house, so your child is less likely to try and access inappropriate web sites or use social media sites inappropriately; and
 - consider using content filters to help control what your child can access.
- Encourage open and honest discussion at home – encouraging your child to learn about and understand other points of view is a valuable life skill. If you stop discussion about topics that you are uncomfortable with, for example religion, politics, racism, drugs, extremism or terrorism, your child may find it even more interesting and may try to find information without you knowing. This could lead them to inaccurate information.

How you can help your child

You know your child better than anyone else and are in a good position to notice any changes in their behaviour. If their behaviour changes significantly, try to find out what is happening in their lives. There are many reasons for a change in behaviour, so don't jump to conclusions.

The best way to support your child is to maintain open, non-judgemental communication with them. By keeping a positive relationship you may be in a position to help them if they want to talk about their problems. Listen to their concerns and try to understand their perspective.

Even if you disagree with what they are saying, it is important to find some way to let them know they are accepted and that you are there to help them.

What to do if you are concerned for your child

If you do have concerns that your child is involved in or supporting extremist behaviour there are a number of options for seeking advice. You may like to talk to someone from your child's school such as the Principal, your child's Year Advisor, a teacher, or a trusted staff member.

You may wish to talk to your child yourself, or ask a close friend or family member to do so. Alternatively, there are government assistance and advice lines and websites. Some are listed below.

Remember

As your child grows, they will be exploring their own values and beliefs. They may search for and push the boundaries of acceptable, responsible behaviour during this process.

Cyber Safety

- Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner – <https://esafety.gov.au/esafety-information/games-apps-and-social-networking>
- ThinkUKnow – internet safety education site – <http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/>

If you are concerned that a person in your community is showing possible signs of terrorism, you should call the National Security Hotline - 1800 123 400 or email hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au

Resources

- 000 (triple zero) if you feel unsafe or in danger
- 1800 RESPECT – <http://www.1800respect.org.au>
- Domestic violence line (24h) 1800 65 64 63
- Lifeline – T: 13 11 14 – <http://www.lifeline.org.au>
- Black Dog Institute – <http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au>
- Secure NSW – <http://www.secure.nsw.gov.au>
- Living Safe Together – <http://www.livingsafetogether.gov.au>
- Multicultural NSW – <http://www.multicultural.nsw.gov.au>
- Australian Multicultural Foundation – <http://www.amf.net.au/>
- Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network – <http://www.myan.org.au/>

If you are concerned that a person in your community is showing possible signs of terrorism, you should call the National Security Hotline – 1800 123 400 or email hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au