Principal’s Message

Welcome back to Term 1 2015. I hope everyone had a relaxing break and enjoyed some quality family time during the school holidays.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Ms Joan Smyth and I have been appointed as the Relieving Principal of Pitt Town P.S. until further notice. As you are probably aware, throughout 2015, the substantive principal, Mr Michael Miller will be working in the Principal role as a member of the ‘Local Schools, Local Decisions’ team. This will be a critical role in assisting schools to operate productively as they make the transition to the local decision making phase.

My substantive position is Principal of Maroota PS and I have held this position since October 2011. At the beginning of Term 3 2014, I was asked to lead Llandilo PS as the Acting Principal, as the substantive principal was retiring. Now I have been asked to relieve at Pitt Town PS and I am delighted to be part of the Pitt Town community. I look forward to meeting as many parents as possible in person. I do have an ‘open door policy’ so feel free to call in for a chat. Fortunately I will be able to catch up with many parents, grandparents and community members at next week’s swimming carnival. Since my arrival the staff, students, parents and community members have all been very welcoming and already I feel part of the furniture. It certainly won’t take me long to embrace the Pitt Town PS way of life!

School Uniform

It was wonderful to see all of the children wearing their school uniforms with pride on the first day back. On this note, I would like to thank all parents for helping us to maintain high standards. If anyone is unsure of the uniform requirements, please ask at the office. If anyone is having financial difficulties, then please come and chat to me. We encourage all students to wear full school uniform including a school bucket hat, especially when representing the school outside of school grounds.

2015 Classes/Numbers

This year we welcomed 35 new kindergarten students to the school and they have all settled in so quickly. In fact I couldn’t have wished for a better start to the year. The teachers have reported that students in Years 1-6 have also been working hard in their classrooms.

The student enrolment profile as at 3/2/2015 is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class/Year</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Miss Duncan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Miss Madden</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Mrs Gibbs</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1J</td>
<td>Miss Greer</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3N</td>
<td>Mr Neorsck</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2D</td>
<td>Miss Delaney</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3M</td>
<td>Mr Minton</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Mr Cooper</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>Mrs Casburn</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6P</td>
<td>Mrs Pendleton</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>176</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A ‘Meet the Teacher’ night will be held on Monday 9th February, commencing at 5.45pm under the COLA area. Parents will be able to meet with class teachers from 6pm – 7pm. If you would like to meet with your child’s teacher on an individual basis, please arrange a mutually convenient appointment. Thank you.
Playground Equipment

Thanks to the P & C, new playground equipment is currently being installed and we are expecting the installation to be carried out by the end of the week. This equipment will be closely supervised by a teacher at lunchtimes.

Canteen

This year the canteen is being run by The Hungry Miner and it will be open 5 days per week. The licensees of this business will be attending the next P & C meeting to introduce themselves to the school community and to explain how the business now operates, as the canteen is no longer classified under the umbrella of the P & C.

Judging by the feedback that we have received from the students and the teachers, the food is delicious! A menu is available from the front office or the canteen.

P & C Meeting

The first P & C meeting for 2015 will take place on Tuesday 17th February at 7.30pm in the Bird in Hand function room. P & C meetings provide the opportunity for families to come together to discuss ideas that will benefit our students, our families and the school. Parents and community members are also informed about current events that impact on our wonderful school. Everyone is welcome especially our new families. I look forward to meeting as many parents as possible on the night.

Swimming Carnival

This will take place next Tuesday and permission notes have already been sent home to students in Years 2-6. Please note that they need to be returned by Friday 6th February. Everyone is looking forward to this event and parents are welcome to attend. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us!

Pitt Town Progress Association

Last Tuesday I had the pleasure of meeting with Louise Markus, Federal Member for Macquarie, as well as members of the Pitt Town Progress Association. These members work tirelessly for the community and shortly our school will be presented with a replica print of the battle that took place at Gallipoli to commemorate Anzac Day. The history books indicate that the original print used to hang on the walls of the old library but it has disappeared over time. I look forward to working with this wonderful group of community members who represent the Pitt Town Community.

SPANS

Some of you may have heard about the Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPANS) which involves over 100 schools in NSW. I am delighted to announce that our school has been invited to participate. This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in helping health professionals better understand children’s lifestyles such as their physical activity, fitness, food habits and movement skills. A team of specially trained teachers will collect the information on almost 8,000 students from Years K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The survey is being managed by a research team from the University of Sydney.

Children in some classes in Years K, 2, 4, and 6 will bring home information about the study and a consent form. If you receive this package, please read carefully the information statement; if you agree to allow your child to participate, please complete the consent form, and send it back to school (using the envelope provided) as soon as possible. The survey will take place at our school on the Wednesday, 11 February 2015

Newsletters will be sent home with your oldest child every second Wednesday (even weeks). Additional copies can be collected from the front office.

Joan Smyth
Relieving Principal – Pitt Town PS

Student Banking

Student banking for 2015 will resume in week 4 on a Thursday.
PITT TOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C

Just a reminder, the first Pitt Town Public School P & C meeting is being held on Tuesday the 17th of February. Meetings are in the function room upstairs at the Bird in Hand Pub in the heart of Pitt Town. Tea, Coffee and nibbles will be provided free of charge. Meetings commence at 7.30pm.

Pitt Town P&C Association is a not-for-profit organisation, which is established to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation. Together we can assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and promote the recreation and welfare of the students at the school. The meetings are held in a relaxed environment where people are free to ask questions, be provided with up to date information on school matters and also get involved in ideas and activities to assist the kids and the school have better resources and classroom needs.

Membership of the Pitt Town P&C Association is open to all parents and guardians of pupils attending the school and to all citizens within the school community. Annual membership is $0.50 (fifty cents) and entitles you to be involved in the decision making of the P&C Association. You are still welcome to attend meetings without becoming a member and membership is not required for you to volunteer within the school.

So, please come along and have a chat and a laugh and remember we are all working together to “Strive for Success”

Monday 2nd of February 2015 is a landmark day for the Duck, Wilbow and Mahony family.

These families are of historical significance in the Pitt Town area, however it’s one of the youngest members of these combined families who will make history on Monday. Riley John Duck, 5 years old, will start kindergarten at the Pitt Town Public School. Riley will walk into the schoolyard for the first time, following in the footsteps of many of his ancestors.

Riley’s father, Mitchell Duck (pictured) started kindergarten at Pitt Town in 1991. Mitchell runs a local concreting business. Duckys Concrete is responsible for a number of driveways, house and shed slabs in the new Pitt Town Development.

Mitchell’s mother (Riley’s Grandmother) Anne Duck nee Wilbow started kindergarten in 1962 at Pitt Town.

Riley’s Great Grand Father James Wilbow started in 1926 and his Great Grandmother Peg Wilbow nee Brown started in 1934. (Both deceased). The Wilbow family ran orange orchards in Pitt Town for many years.

Riley’s maternal Great Grand Father Brian Mahony (pictured) started kindergarten in 1933. Brian Mahony also farmed Pitt Town vegetables and oranges.

Riley’s mother Katie Duck nee Powe is excited to be walking Riley into school today and knows he has the confidence to take on any of the challenges of big school.

In total Riley has had one father, one grandmother, one great grandmother and two great grandfathers attend the school, as well as many auntys, uncles and other relatives.

And don’t worry, in two years time, Riley’s little brother Brayden will be following in his big brothers footsteps as well!

www.pitttown-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

www.facebook.com /PittTownPS
2015 Pitt Town Pirates Soccer
We welcome children turning 5 this year, then all ages!
11-16 yr old girls are encouraged to register for our GIRLS ONLY Competition

Register and pay online at:
www.myfootballclub.com.au

ALL PLAYERS must attend registration for a new photo

Registration dates:
Sunday 8th Feb, 1pm-3pm
Sunday 15th Feb, 1pm-3pm
Monday 16th Feb, 6pm-8pm
At Pitt Town and District Sports Club

Any queries please contact:
Anton Raunjak 0411 695 272 araunjak@yahoo.com.au
Melissa Crane 0408 494 682 Melissa.crane@ipn.com.au

Hills Hawks JRLC
Dural Park
Quarry Rd, Dural NSW 2158

A family-oriented club

Free Come & Try events at Dural Park
5pm Monday 9th February
5.30pm Wednesday 25th February

Email: hills.hawks@com.com.au
Web: www.hillshawks.com.au
Instagram: hawkinsfc