Dates to Note

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>Thurs 19th Mar</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th Mar &amp; Mon 30th Mar</td>
<td>Backyard League</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 31st Mar</td>
<td>Combined Scripture Assembly</td>
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- To subscribe to the school calendar please send a request to pitttownps@gmail.com from your free gmail account.
- To subscribe to the feed from the school calendar visit tinyurl.com/PTPScal-subcribe.
- To view the calendar visit http://tinyurl.com/PTPScal

Principal’s Message

Schools are certainly very busy places and Pitt Town PS is no different. With two weeks to go until the end of Term 1, everyone is eagerly going about their daily business to ensure our school runs smoothly and effectively. This week, I was fortunate enough to visit KD and 4C, where all students were happy and fully engaged in their learning. It was great to see and I look forward to visiting many more classrooms in the next few weeks.

Communication

The 2015 Google calendar has now been updated and our Skoolbag Phone App has been approved. As mentioned previously, our school is conducting a free trial of our own Skoolbag iPhone App to help us communicate more effectively with our parents and community members. We are trialling the iPhone version for 30 days. If we continue with the App after the trial, we will then get the Android version in the Google Play Store. We are asking parents and community members to install our Skoolbag App on their iPhones. To do this, just type our school name ‘Pitt Town Public School’ in the Apple App Store, and install it on your iPhone. Please use the email facility to let us know what you think. Any feedback will be most appreciated, thanks.

Regional Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all swimmers who represented Pitt Town PS at this carnival. We are currently awaiting the official results but by all accounts, there were many individual successes.

Backyard League

This program started this week and will run for the next two weeks. The students in Years 2-6 are really enjoying the sessions, which focus on skill development and teamwork.

AFL Gala Day

Mr Neorcsik reported to me that the students from Pitt Town PS displayed excellent sportsmanship at the recent AFL Gala Day. The junior team won every game in their league, which was outstanding. The senior team also won every game in their league and progressed to the Grand Final, where they were narrowly defeated. Well done to everyone involved.

Harmony Day

This Thursday (19th March) is Harmony Day. Mrs Martin has been working hard behind the scenes, organising this special day, when we celebrate Australia’s cultural diversity. Students will be engaged in class lessons that centre around inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Orange ribbons will be distributed to students in recognition of this significant day.

Funky Hair Day

What a great day this turned out to be! It was very entertaining watching students arrive at school in the morning with various hairstyles. Thanks to everyone’s generosity, $334 was raised for the Leukaemia Foundation. Well done to everyone involved.

School Uniform

I would like to thank all the parents and carers who help us to maintain high standards of school uniform. May I please draw your attention to the wearing of jewellery, which is not permitted for safety reasons. May I also remind everyone that only school coloured hairbands are to be worn, as well as predominantly white joggers on sports days. I enclose a copy of the school’s Uniform Policy. Thank you for your support.

Bike Safety – Help us to keep your child safe!

It has been brought to my attention that some students, who ride their bicycles to/from school,
are not riding in a responsible manner. Some students are riding their bikes on the wrong side of the road and are often unsupervised. Other students are riding so far ahead of their parents that they can’t be adequately supervised. At Pitt Town PS, we strive to ensure your child’s safety at all times. Please support us in our endeavours by talking to your child about the dangers involved when riding a bike and the importance of wearing a helmet. Please refer to the Road Safety handout included in this newsletter.

Casual Teachers
On occasions, regular class teachers are absent from school due to sickness, family emergencies, attendance at professional development courses and/or sporting events. When this occurs, casual teachers are appointed to teach classes and pre-prepared lessons are left for the casual teacher to teach, if the teacher knows they are going to be absent. This allows for class programs to continue without interruption. Whilst we strive to employ the same pool of casual teachers, unfortunately they have often accepted work from other schools and that limits our options. Parents, please be assured that the education of your child is in good hands and whilst there may be a change in classroom routine from time to time, children adapt quickly. Not relying solely on the class teacher also helps students develop a little bit of independence, which is very beneficial for high school, where students are often taught by 5 different teachers in one day.

Medical Information.
Please update your child’s medical information. It is vital that we have up to date records. Please remember that asthma sufferers need to carry their own puffer in their bag at all times.

Newsletters
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

Year 6 Fundraiser
Hot Cross Buns will be the next year 6 fundraiser. A note will be sent home in the coming week.