

# Shellharbour Public School



## Newsletter - Term 2, Week 10

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### Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 23 July

**School resumes for  
students for Term 3**

### THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone behind my farewell assembly. Obviously the school staff involved, in particular Vicki Fretus, Anna Nietner, Jo Dyson, Janaya Rose and Rhonda Mosley. Kelly Ryan in the canteen and all her helpers, the BBQ chefs and of course Renee Pettit from Warilla High School who organised and (I think) drove former Shellharbour Public School students so they could be a part of the assembly. Thanks also to the former students themselves from not only Warilla High School but also Smiths Hill High School, Wollongong Performing Arts High School and the Shellharbour Anglican College.

Thank you to all the parents, former parents and community members who were able to attend and for the phone messages from others who couldn't. Many thanks for your support of my final fundraiser for Camp Quality. I understand it has raised over \$1600.00 for a very worthy cause.

In looking through a photo album during the week, I found some baby pictures of my own children. Amongst them is one of my son who, at the grand age of about six months, is wearing a Shellharbour Public School hat. He obviously wasn't a student at the time but his father was a teacher at the school. It reminded me of the connection I have been so fortunate to have shared with this school and this community over so many years. It is that connection and the quality of the people I've been privileged to work with and work for that makes leaving so difficult and saying goodbye so hard. In leaving though, I just want to thank a few people.

The parents of this school and this great school community. I've said at every Presentation Day since 2008 that this school community gets the teachers it deserves and the teachers get the school community that they deserve. This is a simple truth and one of the things that sustains this great school. So parents, my personal thanks for your kindness, your friendship, support, and most importantly your trust and your confidence in both me and this school. It has made me a much better Principal than I would have otherwise been and it will be one of the enduring memories I take with me.

I've been lucky to work with P and C members and an Executive in particular who genuinely shared our common goal of making this the best public school it could be. Through late night meetings, election day BBQ's, merit selection panels, Movie Nights, fashion parades, pie drives, setting up and packing up firstly the monthly markets and then the fetes, funding new playgrounds, 10 years of wrestling with the bureaucracy trying to get a security fence around the school. They have been relentless in their support of this school and your children. I'm not sure Principals are meant to enjoy working with their P and C as much as I have. But in leaving, I take with me lifelong friends, first met across the staffroom table on the second Wednesday evening of the month.

A great school requires great staff, and the teachers I say goodbye to are better than that – they are exceptional! Their talent and work ethic are second to no other staff in this system and their support of my vision for the school and the values I thought it should uphold appreciated. I've lost count of the number of students who have enrolled in this school, well behind their peer group and with a history of failure and yet this school and the teachers in it have managed to educationally pick them up and take them to where they should have always been. I see it in the Office every day. The level of discretionary effort of this staff has also ensured that children at this school receive an education that is second to none and most importantly highly memorable. They are a truly remarkable group of professional people.

Three people - Vicki Fretus, Nicole Ross and Anna Nietner - there are no words to describe the debt I owe these three amazing women.

The students of this school are a remarkable group. There are 487 of you and overwhelmingly each day you play fairly, work hard, and are tolerant, polite and considerate. You don't kick handballs away when they roll toward you in the playground, you stop the ball and throw it back in the direction of the owner. You say 'good morning' and 'how are you' to your teachers and you thank the people who work in the canteen and who put you across the road. For 11 years I've asked students at this school to be better tomorrow than they were today, and better next year than they were this year and they've never let me down. Living in this community means I see the adults that our students become and, just like their parents, there are none better.

Living and working in this wonderful community has been a special experience. The old saying "that in giving you receive" is so very true and I've received far more than I could ever have asked or hoped, from my colleagues, from parents but most especially from thousands of Shellharbour students. Quite simply, I could ask for nothing more.

The history of this great public school has always been very important to me. Knowing and revering the history of a place ensures you take responsibility for its future. The fact is that this has been a great public school for a long time and I'm proud to have been a small part of that history. I'm leaving it in great hands; the hands of people who will continue to deserve your support. I hope our personal paths continue to cross in Addison Street and other places but until then, good luck, goodbye and once again, thank you.

*Do all the good you can and make as little fuss about it as possible. Charles Dickens*

### **GOLD MEDAL WINNERS LUNCH WITH PRINCIPAL**

My favourite meal of the year was held on Wednesday when I got to celebrate with our Term 2 Gold Medal winners. Congratulations kids!!



### **STAFF CHANGES IN TERM 3**

Belinda Dawson will be the Principal pending the appointment of the permanent Principal for the beginning of Term 4. Janaya Rose will replace Belinda Dawson and Janaya will be replaced by Sam Webb. Sam's role on the Reading Squad will be taken on by Jaime Hickey.



### **STAGE 3 EXCURSION TO SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE AND ARCHIBALD PRIZE AT THE NSW ART GALLERY**

In the early peak of the morning, Years 5 and 6 woke up and got ready for the bus trip to the Sydney Opera House. We were supposed to be leaving at 7:45 am, but we had to leave at 7:55 because Blake forgot that it was an excursion day. On the bus trip we watched a series of movies. We watched: 'How To Train Your Dragon' and 'Toy Story Three'.

We pulled up to the Opera House. Class 5C picked up a little snack and were on their way in. They quickly ate their snack before they entered the Opera House: Chips, Crackers, Fruit and Muesli Bars. The show started and 5C were relaxed in the front row. Finally, it was up and running. The Red Tree is a book which inspired people to turn it into a show. The whole crowd was amazed from the beginning because the actor was extremely still in her bed since the first visitors arrived in the theatre. This play was a musical/instrumental show as it was filled with songs and effects. The story had a very interesting setting. It didn't feel as if you were in a theatre.

While 5C was enjoying that entertainment show, 5/6J and 4/5T were dropped by the friendly bus driver at the NSW Art Gallery. They were split into various groups and explored the gallery in different parts. Each guide had filled their students with tonnes of interesting information. The Archibald paintings were very fascinating as each of them had a story behind it. This year the winner of the Archibald Prize was a woman meditating. This was painted by Tony Costa. At the end, students were set tasks to try and complete, that their guide had set them. These included making a person out of pipe cleaners, drawing pictures that they were inspired by a famous artist. This year has been tough for the NSW Art Gallery as their manager had sadly passed away and art works were drawn of him. People usually disagree with the eventual winner of the Archibald prize, but that's just art!



Another peaceful trip back to school followed. The movies kept people quiet, making the teachers' job easier. Many students were tired as we had a massive day filled with amazing adventures. The trip did not feel as long as it was on the way there as kids were fascinated by their hand made toys. Some kids still had way too much energy as they were wide awake for the whole two hours. Thanks for organising our day Mrs Dyson -  
By Blake Rhind and Samuel Palermo



### **KINDER 2020**

We will be finalising our Kindergarten 2020 enrolments in Term 3. If you plan to send your Kinder child to this school in 2020, it is important that we know now. Please call into the school office and pick up enrolment forms. Alternatively, if you know someone who wants to send their child to this school in 2020, please pass on this message. The process for enrolling a child in a school (particularly your first one) can be confusing. If you know someone in this position, please ask them to call the school and we will be only too happy to help.



### **WORKBOOK PACKAGES/VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thanks to those parents who have paid for their child's workbook package and voluntary contribution. Students have already started to use these materials and your co-operation in paying these fees is appreciated. Our voluntary contributions are always itemised and set below the amount recommended by the Department of Education and Communities. Since 2012, we have not asked parents to buy student textbooks in Mathematics, or any other subject. Teachers here create their own (and better) resources. To send your child to a private primary school in this area will cost between \$2100.00 and \$6000.00 per year. Our fee of \$40.00 per child or \$35.00 per child (three or more) makes a year at this school the best bargain you will ever get!

## **THANK YOU**

That term went fast! Thanks for your support in Term 2. The commitment and support we receive from parents and grandparents in this community makes us a better school. I would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the talented and hardworking staff I have the privilege to work with every day. Their contribution, both expected and discretionary has again been outstanding. School resumes for students on Tuesday, 23 July.



***Dr John MacDonald, Principal***

## **PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS**

We congratulate the following students who have received awards at our Presentation Assembly held on **Thursday, 20 June & 4 July 2019:**

### **GOLD MEDAL**

Libby Drury

Kaelyn Wheatley

### **BANNERS**

William Mason

Arlee Taingahue

### **PENNANTS**

Cruz Fleming

Emma Waterson

Skye Sinclair

Abigail McAdam

Lara Ward

Annabelle King

Miki Kerr

Kate Sherriff

Eli Stephenson

Amelia Stojanovski

Lily Parker

Lexie Mustafa

Sam Roberts-Logan

Emily Cunliffe

David Yeo

Harper Gray

William Mason

Isabella Smith

Libby Drury

Arlee Taingahue

Kurtis Lome

Willow Perry

Tara Elliott

Will Baylis

Leyla Yuksel

Rylan Perks

Deakin Ingram

David Waterson

Kaelyn Wheatley

Selina Yuksel

Layla McIlquham

Bree Sinclair

Blake Rhind

Alfie Cunliffe

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Samual Nicol

Jude Daly

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Samuel Palermo



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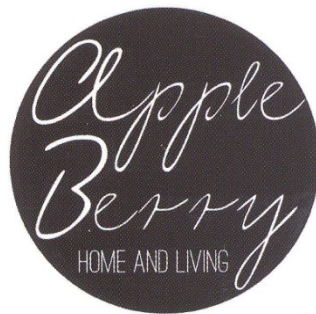
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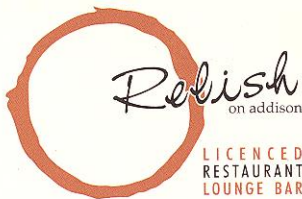
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