

Red Range Public School Newsletter



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Issue 2 Term 1 – Week 3

Tuesday, 9 February 2010

Best start for Kindy

This year, every NSW public school kindergarten student will take part in the Best Start literacy and numeracy assessment program. Research shows that early intervention gets the best results when it comes to improving literacy and numeracy skills and under the Best Start program 2,300 specially trained teachers will start assessing students' reading and writing, their communication skills and recognition of the sounds and letters of the English language. Teachers will also look at students' early numeracy skills in counting, number recognition and how they work with groups and patterns. The program allows teachers to assess and diagnose the starting point of a child's education and gives students the best start to their formal education by allowing teachers to plan their lessons to cater to each child's level of proficiency in literacy and numeracy. More information about Best Start is available at: <http://www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/beststart/parents.htm>

Keep lunches cool

A recent survey by the NSW Food Authority of primary school lunch boxes has found that more than 70 percent of students could be at a higher risk of food poisoning for failing to keep their lunches cool enough. Simply placing an ice block or frozen drink in your child's lunch box will help keep their lunch safe from harmful bacteria. Here are more ways to minimise the risk of food poisoning:

- Buy an insulated lunch box to keep foods cold until lunchtime
- Freeze water bottles or drinks overnight and place them in the lunch pack. The water or drinks will thaw by lunchtime, but will still be

cold and will help keep the rest of the lunch cold

- Some food is safe without a cold source this includes whole fruits, vegetables, hard cheeses, meat and fish in cans, bread, crackers, pickles and some spreads
- Ask children to keep packed lunches out of direct sunlight and away from heat sources. A cool, dark place like a locker is best
- If lunches are made the night before, keep them in the refrigerator overnight.

For more information on the lunch box survey and food safety tips go to: www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au

AWARDS

Charlie Smith – A fantastic start to Kindergarten

Seth Fischer – A fantastic start to Kindergarten

Canteen Price List

A new Canteen Price List was sent home with last week's newsletter. Due to a price increase Frozen Yoghurt is now \$1.20. Please amend your copy of the price list. A reminder that hot food is only available on Monday and Thursday but other items may be purchased from the canteen each day.

Happy Birthday

12/1/2010
20/2/2010
26/2/2010

Tristan Latham
Joshua Hall
Hamish Hayes

Small Schools Swimming Carnival

On Friday 12th February 2010 we will be holding the Annual Small School's Swimming Carnival. Wyaliba and Ben Lomond have been invited to join in the fun. All swimming ability levels will be catered for on the day and the more competitive swimmers will then have the opportunity to trial for the District Swimming Carnival on 19th February 2010. Permission notes to be returned to school by 10/2/10.

How is spelling taught in schools?

Spelling is taught by considering:

- How words sound
- How words look
- How words change form
- Where words come from

Students are shown how to spell words using all of these. Learning to spell is closely linked with learning to talk, listen, read and write. There is a daily focus on spelling. Spelling is taught in all grades and in all subjects. Spelling is regarded as a tool for writing. It is important that students spell correctly in their writing and that they are able to check their writing for mistakes.

Tenterfield High School Horse Sports

Entry forms are available from the office for the Tenterfield High School Horse Sports to be held at Tenterfield 18th – 19th March 2010.

Community Notices

Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School Open Day – Wednesday 17th February 2010. Prospective students and their parents are cordially invited to attend. Please RSVP Enrolments Officer 67648611 or email farreragri.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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Parent Line NSW is a free professional telephone counselling service that is available to parents and carers across NSW for the cost of a local call. Our counsellors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Phone 1300130052 or visit www.parentline.org.au

Dates to Remember

10 th February	Return Swimming Carnival Permission Note
12 th February	Small School's Swimming Carnival – Glen Innes
12 th , 13 th & 14 th February	Glen Innes Show
15 th February	Visit from Peter Pickett, School Education Director
15 th February	Last day to return Book Club orders
16 th February	Best Start Kindergarten Assessment Workshop
19 th February	NNE District Swimming Carnival
19 th February	Visit from Jim White – Regional Director
23 rd – 24 th February	Accelerated Literacy Inservice
2 nd March	PSSA Regional Swimming Carnival – Armidale
12 th – 13 th March	Relay for Life
18 th – 19 th March	Tenterfield High School Horse Sports
31 st March – 1 st April	NSW PSSA Swimming Carnival - Homebush

Thought for the day

People's minds are like parachutes. To function properly they must first be open.
W.G.P