



Rukenvale Public School

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Friday 9th December, 2011
Term 4, Week 9

★ Weekly Newsletter

You never really leave a place or person you love.
Part of them you take with you,
leaving a part of yourself behind.

Leaving ourselves behind

As we reach the end of a school year comes the time of contemplation: about change, moving forward, moving away, endings and beginnings. We take time to think about our Year 6 students finishing their time as primary school students and making that exciting yet daunting transition into High School Students. We think of others moving from one class to the next, of some students moving from the Junior Room into the Senior Room, and of others taking on school leadership roles. We say goodbye to students and teachers and will say welcome back to others. In the words of my favourite philosopher:

"Today was good. Today was fun. Tomorrow is another one." ~ Dr Seuss.

As this will be the last official newsletter for this school year, I would like to take a brief moment to say: **Thank you.** To all of you. To the students, the staff, the parents and the broader community. I am so very glad, and indeed so very lucky, to have been a part of the Rukenvale Public School family. I have learned much here and leave knowing that I am richer for the experience. Next year I will be Principal of Wyrallah Public School, another lovely small school. I hope they like Dr Seuss!



End of Year Christmas Concert

Thursday is the big day, with our End of Year Concert and Presentation Night.



Where: At the school

When: Thursday, 15th December 2011

Time: Students arriving by 5:45pm for a starting time of 6:00pm.

Bring: Your child/ren, a plate of something tasty to share, a little wrapped something to put under the tree for that jolly visitor, money to buy any last minute raffle tickets, a camera for some happy snaps and clap-happy hands!

The concert is scheduled to commence at 6:00pm. All families are asked to have their child/ren here *at least* 15 minutes before that, to enable preparations for the concert to be finalised.

Costumes for concert items

Students will have already, hopefully, arranged their outfits for the concert. Here is a list of the requirements for the performances:

Oysters: black or grey clothes

Chorus: black; with a little 'something extra' (students will explain!)

Sea: blue jeans, blue top

Walrus: waistcoat, hat, formal, older style clothing

Carpenter: carpenter's belt, workman style clothing/overalls.

Swimming

Well, so much for summer! Despite the rather miserable weather for most of our two weeks of swimming, the students, staff and parent volunteers managed to freestyle, kick and blow

bubbles right the way through. A huge thank you to the students for maintaining good safety choices throughout the fortnight. Also many thanks to Ms Sawford, Ms Tunin, Ms Tomkins and Mr Hausen for their skills and supervision, and to all our fabulous parent supporters & photographers.

School Assistance Funds were able to be applied to the Swimming Scheme to maintain an overall low charge of **only \$10 per student**, with the school paying the other \$10 to reach the \$20 cost. If you have not yet paid your swimming money could you please hand it in to the office as soon as you are able.

Another **thank you** to the P & C for paying for the bus.



National Rugby League Talent Development

On Thursday we were visited by two members of the National Rugby League Talent Development Team. They presented two fun and active sessions with all the students, sharing with

them positive attitudes and skills that can be applied in any area of sport or team work.

Last Week Activities

Our last week of school will be a hectic one. On Tuesday our school will again host the **Life Education Van** and 'Healthy Harold'. Life Education provides very engaging and relevant learning about issues on Personal Development and Health. As a not-for-profit community-based organisation they also sell merchandise to raise funds. Attached to this newsletter is a letter about it.

Friday, our very last school day of the year, will be our **Family Lunch and sport afternoon**. Previously we have had a barbeque lunch however, after discussions with some of the P&C, it has been decided to have more a bring it along/picnic style lunch, for the families that are able to join us, from about midday.

Mobile Library

Thank you to all the students and families who utilised the very valuable yet very free Mobile Library service that comes directly to our school once every fortnight. Bill has been fabulous for yet another year, showing friendliness, creativity, support and patience to all our enthusiastic readers. If you realise that you have a mobile library book at home remember you can drop it directly into the library in Kyogle (or in Casino). Speaking of our local library, onto our next item...

Rukenvale Artistic Talent on Display

You, and all interested members of the public, are invited to **visit the Kyogle Library** to view and enjoy the artistic talents of the Rukenvale senior students.



Initially we planned to auction the artwork by tender, announcing winning tenders at Presentation Night. The library, however, has asked that the students' artwork be on display at the library over the whole school holiday period. This is a great recognition of the work completed by our Senior Class.

Parent Survey

Each year staff, students and parents are asked to complete a survey to provide some feedback to the school. This information is then used to inform planning and improvements for the school. Attached to this newsletter is a survey that we ask parents to take a few moments to complete and return to the school. The surveys are confidential so you do not need to put your name on them. Thank you for taking the time to complete and return them.

Returning in 2012

It will be lovely to next year see the return of the two smiling faces to Rukenvale. **Mrs Kathy Johnston** will be returning here after her time at Caniaba Public School. **Mrs Linda Jones**, after her rejuvenating yet action-packed year, will be back teaching the Junior Class.

This week's awards go to:

Junior Class

Tabitha Leonard- for completing all her work with quality and on time

Jessica Cox- for improved reading

Senior Awards will be announced, with the Swimming Scheme Certificates, on Wednesday.

Lisa Fahy

Principal (rel)



This term at a glance

Tues, 13th December	Life Education Van
Thu, 15th December	School Concert
Fri, 16th December	Family bbq at school
Last day of 2011 School Year	

First day back for students in 2012 is **Monday, 30th January.**

Staff will be here from Friday, 27th January 2012.

Community News

Vacation Care

Attached to this newsletter is an information flyer about all the wonderful vacation care activities being offered by Kyogle Pre-school and Out of School Hours Care.



In a flourish of inspiration from nature, several students created this floral artwork.

P & C NEWS

The Christmas concert is Thursday night at 6pm.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in raffle items and who have sold raffle tickets. Tickets will also be on sale on the night. It is not too late for last minute raffle items to be brought to school.

Please bring a plate of food to share on the night and also a small gift for your child or children to go under the tree.

The P&C will supply ice blocks for the kids. There will be NO drinks or chips for sale on the night.

Thanks for your support and see you at the concert, Narelle



I have this above my desk at home:

SUCCESS

*To laugh often and much to win the respect
of intelligent people and affection of children;
to earn the appreciation of honest critics
and endure the betrayal of false friends;
to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child,
a garden patch or redeemed social condition;
to know even one life has breathed easier
because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.*

.Ralph Waldo Emerson



HAROLD MERCHANDISE

Dear Parents,

Life Education NSW is a not for profit community-based organisation that relies heavily on the raising of funds within the community to assist in meeting the shortfall left after receiving minimal assistance from Government funding.

The sale of Harold merchandise to the children whilst the program is visiting each school supports the fundraising activities of local committees and all proceeds support Life Education within each local area.

These products help to remind children about the messages delivered to them during their Life Education session and have either a picture of Harold or the Life Education logo on them.

The educator will provide the opportunity for children to purchase these products during the school visit. Please provide the **correct money** in an envelope with the item written on the face of the envelope along with your child's name and class. This allows the educator to process orders efficiently and accurately. Orders will be returned by the conclusion of the visit.

Product description	Price Incl. GST
Tattoo	\$0.50
Harold Key-ring	\$2.00
Harold Stationery Set	\$3.00
Harold Hand Ball	\$3.00

Product description	Price Incl. GST
Harold Calculator	\$5.00
Harold Wallet	\$5.00
Harold Soft Toy	\$8.00
Large Harold Soft Toy	\$20.00

NB Harold Products are subject to availability

Life Education NSW thanks you for your support..



- ☐ I would like to donate _____ to Life Education NSW.
 Gifts of \$2.00 or over are tax deductible.
- ☐ I would like more information on Life Education NSW

Name: _____ Phone (optional): _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Email (optional) _____ Age: _____

PARENT SURVEY about LEARNING

As part of our school's self-evaluation, we would like to know the opinions of parents and caregivers on different areas of school life. With the school's consent, the information will be used to develop a picture of responses from across public schools in NSW. Your response is confidential and will be stored securely. Survey completion is voluntary.

Colour the circle for the answer you agree with most. For example, the parental response was *usually* for the statement – *What students are asked to learn is important*. If you do not have an opinion about a question leave all boxes blank.

	Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1 What students are asked to learn is important.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1 My child's classroom is an interesting place to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 Teachers talk to me about my child's learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 My child has access to good equipment that helps him/her to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4 People other than my child's teacher help him/her to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 The school expects students to achieve to the best of their ability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6 Students at the school demonstrate pride in their learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7 In class, my child's teachers provide a balance of independent and group learning activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8 My child tries to do things in the classroom that are new and different.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9 My child looks at samples of his/her work over time to see how he/she has improved.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10 Teachers at the school are continually upgrading their skills.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11 Teachers share ideas about teaching and learning with other teachers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you for completing the survey