



# SMITHTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Week 4 Term 2 – Monday 21 May 2018

30 – 38 Cannane Street, SMITHTOWN NSW 2440

Phone: 6567 4529 Fax 6567 4823

Email: [smithtown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:smithtown-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.smithtown-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.smithtown-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## 2018

Wednesday 23 May	AFL - Paul Kelly Cup
Thursday 24 May	Peer Clubs
Friday 25 May	Friday Sport - Athletics Program Assembly Cross Country 12.30 pm Got it! Parent Seminar 9.15 – 12.00 pm
Monday 28 May	SRC Baking Cakes – Year 6
Thursday 31 May	Peer Clubs Science Challenge
Friday 1 June	Questacon School Visit
Monday 4 June	SRC Baking Cakes – Year 5 Macleay Cross Country Sea Acres K-1 Excursion
Tuesday 5 June	Robotics Challenge
Wednesday 6 June	P & C Meeting 6.00 pm
Thursday 7 June	Peer Clubs Chess South West Rocks PS PSSA Rugby Union Trials
Friday 8 June	Friday Sport - Athletics Program Assembly, 5/6 Item
Monday 11 June	Queen's Birthday Long Weekend
Wednesday 13 June	SPS Athletics Carnival Bacon & Egg Roll Breakfast Club NC Cross Country
Thursday 14 June	Peer Clubs
Friday 15 June	Friday Sport - Athletics Program
Monday 18 June	SRC Baking Cakes – Year 4
Mon-Thurs 18 – 21 June	LNC Dance Festival
Thursday 21 June	Peer Clubs
Friday 22 June	Assembly P&C Disco
Monday 25 June	SRC Baking Cakes – Year 3
Tuesday 26 June	Small Schools Athletics Carnival
Monday 2 July	SRC Baking Cakes – Year 2 Eisteddfod
Wednesday 4 July	NAIDOC – South Kempsey P & C Meeting 6.00 pm
Friday 6 July	Assembly
Last day of Term 2	Open Classrooms
Sunday 8 July – Sunday 15 July	NAIDOC Week <b><i>Because of her we can!</i></b>
Tuesday 24 July	Term 3 Students return

## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR LEARNING

### (RESPONSIBILITY)

I care for myself, others and the environment properly.

## PRINCIPAL REPORT

### GOT IT

**PARENT SESSION ON**

**FRIDAY 25 MAY**

**9.15 AM-12.00 PM**

**CHILD CARE IS**

**AVAILABLE**

***Do not miss this opportunity to learn what you always wanted to know!***



## STORYBOARDING

Small schools, big opportunities. Our students in years 2 through to 6 thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful opportunity to learn from the experts.

Last week was a very successful writer and an illustrator site visit from the touring Byron Bay writer's festival.

They shared their strategies and key ideas with our students. The students then worked through workshops to practice and apply their new skills.



*Student's story boarding with the touring Byron Bay writers festival*

## ASSEMBLY THIS FRIDAY 2.30 PM

This week students from class 2/3/4 will be presenting an item for our assembly!



Education  
Public Schools

## CHANGE OF ROUTINE FRIDAY 21 MAY 2018

**9.15 am – 12.00 pm - *Got It Parent Seminar*** with morning tea provided and child minding available. Please see the green note enclosed and RSVP by Wednesday 23 May 2018.

**12.30 pm – 1.30 pm - *Cross Country*** – We require parent volunteers to operate the cross-country track around Smithtown so if you are available please contact Jo in the office on 6567 4529.

**1.30 pm – 2.00 pm – *Complimentary afternoon tea for our parent volunteers.***

**2.00 pm – 2.30 pm – *Open classrooms*** – This is a wonderful opportunity to visit your child's classroom and let them show case their schoolwork and their classroom.

**2.30 pm – 3.00 pm – *Assembly*** – 2/3/4 will be doing an item.

## PSSA NETBALL

Thank you to Mrs Stevens and her crew of dedicated netballers who played their first challenging game against South Kempsey. What a great opportunity to demonstrate teamwork and the trials of a huge challenge.

Thank you also to the parents who so willingly supported the students by providing transport. We sincerely appreciate you giving your time, energy and commitment to our students.

## NAPLAN

Well done to all Year 3 and 5 students who dedicated themselves to the demands of the Naplan testing last week. The results will be available in term3.

## MID COAST WASTE

A member of the Mid Coast Waste team conducted a workshop for our staff on waste management last week.

As a result we now have an additional worm farm and two new compost bins which are already fully operational as we work together for a sustainable school and environment.

We would like to recognise the commitment of Mid Coast Waste in supporting the education of our students in this vital aspect of learning.

## WELCOME TAFE STUDENTS AND PRAC TEACHER

Welcome Felicity Marin and Sarah Coade to our wonderful school. These women are trainee TAFE students who are working in all classrooms as they study to be School Learning Support Officers.

Welcome also Ms Inese Robinson to our school. She is completing her Prac for teaching and will be working and learning in the K/1 room with Mrs Hollis and Mrs Bennett.

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK



*Congratulations Ava! Ava always has a positive attitude to her learning and is to be commended on her commitment and dedication to the dance festival group.*

## CANTEEN NEWS

**No volunteers are rostered on for this Friday's canteen meal deal, *therefore the canteen will be CLOSED this Friday 25 May 2018.***

We are still looking for canteen volunteers for this term.

Are you available to volunteer in the canteen just one morning this term? Please let Jo in the office know and she will put you on the roster.

## CAMP PAYMENT REMINDER

Payments for Stage 2 Coffs Harbour and Stage 3 Canberra excursions are now being taken through the school office or online. All payments must be completed two weeks prior to camp departing.



## BOXES PLEASE

Could families please send in boxes that we can use in the cubby house and our maths lessons. Boxes we require for example:

- cereal boxes
- food packaging boxes

They can be left in a box located in the schools resource room near the photocopier.

## RECYCLING

K/1 are learning about the environment and sustainability this term. We want to see how many drink containers we can collect from our families.

For each container we collect we earn 10c. We are hoping to raise some money to go towards an excursion at the end of the term. Can you please help us?

We need all glass bottles, plastic bottles and aluminium cans. **NO MILK BOTTLES OR LARGE CORDIAL BOTTLES.**

We will start a collection tub at the school which students can put them in each morning.

## ATHLETICS CARNIVAL CHANGE OF DATES

The date for the Athletics Carnival has changed from the 6 June to Wednesday 13 June, 2018.

## Why Social Emotional Learning?

Look at the findings from a meta-analysis of 213 school-based, universal social and emotional learning (SEL) programs involving 270,034 kindergartens through to high school students.

“School teaching staff successfully conducted SEL programs in their schools. Compared to the controls, SEL participants demonstrated significantly improved social and emotional skills, attitudes, behaviour, and academic performance that reflected an 11-percentile-point gain in achievement. These findings add to the growing evidence regarding the positive impact of SEL programs. Policy makers, educators, and the public can contribute to healthy development of children by supporting the incorporation of evidence-based SEL programs in schools.”

*Durlak, J., Weissberg, R., Dymnicki, A., Taylor, R., & Schellinger, K. (2011).*

Smithtown Public School Teachers have completed their training in the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Programs Fun Friends & Friends for Life last week.

Look out for the upcoming program in your child's classrooms.

## Reminder

Upcoming: Parent Seminar

Time: 9.15 am – 12.00 am (morning tea provided)

Date: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The Parent Seminar - 'Helping You to Help Your Child' is a great opportunity for parents to meet with the Got-It! team. The Parent Seminar provides the opportunity to learn more about what the Got-It! team is doing in your school in Terms 2 and 3 and how you as parents/carers can be involved and to ask questions regarding about the Got-It! program. You can contact your school if there are any concerns.

See you on the Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May!

From the Got-It! Team



## BANANA MUFFINS

### Ingredients

- 3 cups self-raising flour
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 90g butter, melted
- 1/2 cup firmly-packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 small bananas, peeled, mashed (see note)
- Cream cheese, to serve
- Honey, to serve

### Method

- **Step 1**  
Preheat oven to 180°C. Lightly grease a 12-hole, 1/3-cup capacity non-stick muffin pan.
- **Step 2**  
Sift flour into a large bowl. Add brown sugar and cinnamon and stir to combine. Make a well in the centre. Combine milk, egg and butter in a jug. Add mashed banana with the milk mixture. Pour milk mixture into the well. Using a large metal spoon, stir until just combined (don't over-mix).
- **Step 3**  
Spoon mixture into muffin holes until three-quarters full. Bake for 20 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Allow to cool in pan for 1 minute. Turn out onto a wire rack to cool.



# Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

## What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

## The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

## What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

## Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.



## My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

## What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

## What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

## Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

## Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

**The school leaving age:**  
Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

## Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

## Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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# EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!

