

# 'News from the Hill'

## Rooty Hill Public School

*Quality Education in a vibrant, caring school*

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### Term 3 Week 2

25th July 2017

#### From the Principal



A warm 'Welcome Back to Term 3' to everyone, in particular to our new families and students.

This term sees the part-time return of Mrs McIlwhan, and joining us are Mr Gray (Learning & Support teacher) and Ms Trengrove (P/T Library) Mrs Shobha Yadav rejoins us as School Counsellor on Mondays and Thursdays.

This week's Newsletter has a number of reminders.

#### Kindergarten next year.

If your child will be starting school next year, it is important that you lodge an enrolment application with us as a matter of urgency. If your child was born between August 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 and July 31<sup>st</sup> 2013, they are eligible to begin school after the Christmas holidays.

#### Diary Dates

Attached to this newsletter is this term's calendar – full already with lots of important dates for you to note! Don't forget that next week is 'Education Week' and we look forward to your sharing a number of special events with us as we celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday!! On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August, a number of our performance groups will be 'strutting their stuff' at Mt Druitt Shopping Centre at 1.20. On Wednesday 2nd August I hope you will attend our Open Classrooms and Art Display and then be impressed by our School Concert – always a great experience for our boys and girls. We will also have a special 'Birthday Morning Tea' for you to share.

#### NAPLAN Online

Next year, the annual NAPLAN tests for Years 3 and 5 will be administered in an online environment. Preparation for this change, making sure that all schools have the facilities to administer the tests in this way, is a big job. In Week 8 of this term (week beginning September 4<sup>th</sup>) a trial test will be administered with all students in this year's Years 3 and 5. This exercise is simply to check our technology capacity and to familiarise teachers with how the tests will be run next year. For those interested, I have attached to this newsletter a Fact Sheet for parents regarding the upcoming changes to National Testing.

Kind regards  
Jackie Malecki



#### Calendar

Education Week  
Open Day  
Wednesday 2nd  
August

#### What's happening @ Rooty Hill PS

Wed 26th July  
-School Concert  
Rehearsal  
-OC Testing

Thurs 27th July  
-Maths Olympiad

Tues 1st August  
-Shopping Centre  
Performance  
-English Uni Comp

Wed 2nd August  
-Open Day  
-School Concert

Fri 4th August  
-District Concert

Thurs 10th August  
-Athletics Carnival

#### Focus of the Fortnight

\* Line up correctly in  
two straight lines



### NAIDOC Celebrations....

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, Rooty Hill Public School were very fortunate to have the Beatty Clan Crew here to help us celebrate NAIDOC Week. K-6 thoroughly enjoyed their performance with dance, song, instruments and learning about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands culture and traditions. Students and teachers participated in new songs and dances on stage with paint on their bodies. Students were also involved in NAIDOC activities in their classrooms on the day. It was so nice to see our community members and families also enjoying the performance – thank you for coming and for your support.

**Mrs Thomas**

**Indigenous Committee**



### Kindy Excursion to Riverside Theatre....

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Kindergarten went on their very first excursion! We went to the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta to see a live performance of The Adventures of Blinky Bill. We were very excited as we entered the theatre and got seated upstairs. We sat eagerly watching the stage. The show started and we watched attentively. The show consisted of a storyteller and a range of instruments. We enjoyed the performance very much. We were clapping and cheering! After the show, we had lunch in the park before returning to school. We had a great excursion!

**Miss Jessica Williams**

**Excursion Coordinator**



### Our School Rules

**Care For Your  
School  
Care For Others  
Care For Yourself**

### Lost Property...

Our lost property clothing is located on the veranda of KW classroom

**Tuesday  
is School  
Banking  
Day**

**Jiminy Cricket  
Pre-School &  
Long Day Care  
Centre**

**2-6 Years  
-Extensive School  
Readiness  
Program  
-Qualified Staff  
-Fully Accredited  
-All Meals  
Provided  
-CCB Available  
9675 2129  
110, McFarlane  
Drive,  
Minchinbury**

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## Visual Arts Day....

On the last Wednesday of Term 2, we held our annual Visual Arts Day. All our students enjoyed creating and making artworks while learning new skills. The finished products are amazing and showcase our talented students and teachers! Most of the artworks have become part of classroom displays, brightening up all our rooms. Four artworks from each class have been chosen to be entered into our Learning Neighbourhood "Art on the Hill" exhibition which will be held later in the term.

Mrs Dollin

Organiser



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**Education Week 2017**

**Happy 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Rooty Hill Public School!**



Come along and join in the celebrations!

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August**  
Shopping Centre Performance  
Come and watch many of our students perform at Mt Druitt Westfield at 1.20pm

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**  
Open classrooms, Art Exhibition (Library) and School Concert  
9:15am  
Visit our classrooms to see Mathematics lessons in progress and  
visit the library to see the Art Exhibition  
10:00am  
Please join us for our birthday morning tea!  
10:30am  
School Concert

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August**  
District Concert-by invitation only

*The children of Rooty Hill Public School love to have a great audience  
so please come along and show your support.*

## Community Calendar Term 3, 2017

<b>Term Three</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sat/Sun</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> July</b> Staff Development Day	<b>18<sup>th</sup> July</b> Students Return	<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> July</b> PSSA Starts	<b>22/23</b>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> July</b> School Council Meeting	<b>25<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> July</b> School Concert Rehearsal OC Testing	<b>27<sup>th</sup> July</b> District Concert Rehearsal Maths Olympiad 3 Capoeira begins	<b>28<sup>th</sup> July</b> Gymnastics and Swimming begins	<b>29/30</b> <b>29<sup>th</sup> Dance Eisteddfod</b>
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Edu-cation Week</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> August</b> Shopping Centre Performance English Uni Comp.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> August</b> Open Day/ School Concert	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> August</b> District Concert	<b>5/6</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> August</b> Touch Footy Gala Day Gold Award PAT	<b>9<sup>th</sup> August</b> Father's Day Collection Peer Support begins	<b>10<sup>th</sup> August</b> Athletics Carnival	<b>11<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>12/13</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> August</b> Maths Uni Comp.	<b>16<sup>th</sup> August</b> Maths Olympiad 4 Peer Support/Paper plane challenge	<b>17<sup>th</sup> August</b> K-6 Assembly	<b>18<sup>th</sup> August</b> PSSA Semi Finals Author Visit	<b>19/20</b>
<b>Week 6</b> <b>Book/Camp Week</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> August</b> Yrs 3 & 5 Camp K-2 Indiguknow	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> August</b> Yrs 3,4 & 5 Camp	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> August</b> Yrs 4, 5 & 6 Camp District Athletics Art on the Hill	<b>24<sup>th</sup> August</b> Yr 6 Camp District Athletics	<b>25<sup>th</sup> August</b> Yr 6 Camp PSSA Grand Final	<b>26/27</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup> August</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> August</b> Father's Day Stall Peer Support	<b>31<sup>st</sup> August</b> Little Learners Begins	<b>1<sup>st</sup> September</b> Back up PSSA Final	<b>2/3</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> September</b> Yr 6 to University	<b>7<sup>th</sup> September</b> Maths Olympiad 5 Little Learners	<b>8<sup>th</sup> September</b> WSW Clinic 3-6 (non PSSA) K-2 Oral Reading Comp.	<b>9/10</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> September</b> Kindy Excursion	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b> Yr 6 Cake Stall Peer Support	<b>14<sup>th</sup> September</b> 3-6 Public Speaking Comp. Little Learners	<b>15<sup>th</sup> September</b> Swimming/ gymnastics last day	<b>16/17</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> September</b> 3-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews	<b>19<sup>th</sup> September</b> K-2 Parent/Teacher Interviews	<b>20<sup>th</sup> September</b> Peer Support	<b>21<sup>st</sup> September</b> Little Learners K-6 Assembly	<b>22<sup>nd</sup> September</b> PBL reward Garden clean-up	<b>23/24</b>

# Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

## What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

### Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

### Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging\*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

\* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

## NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

**NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.**

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

## For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>





## Frequently asked questions

### **Which students will participate in the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?**

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate.

### **How should I prepare my child for the NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test?**

Your child will not need any academic preparation for the school readiness test. This is not a test of their literacy and numeracy skills, but an opportunity for them to experience the online test format and for their school to assess its online testing capability.

### **How long is the school readiness test?**

The school readiness test is expected to include two assessments: a writing assessment\* and a combined numeracy/literacy assessment. The duration of each assessment will be approximately 40 minutes.

*\* Year 3 students will only be expected to complete the combined numeracy/literacy assessment.*

### **When will my school participate in the readiness test?**

One week within the test period in August and September will be identified for each school to conduct readiness testing.

### **How will students be prevented from using the internet or spellcheckers when completing the test?**

The NAPLAN Online assessment platform will have state-of-the-art security protections. The assessment is delivered inside a locked-down browser. This ensures students cannot access the internet or spellcheckers while completing the test.

### **Will schools and parents be provided with information on the results of the readiness test?**

There will be feedback to schools about the technical information gained from the readiness testing. There will be no reporting of student test results from the readiness test.