

Newsletter

Monday 20 November 2023



Charlestown South
Public School



Education



Naruta
Blue tongue lizard

Week 7 Intensive Swimming Week 1

Tues Earlybird Reading 8.30am, P&C Meeting 7pm

Wed Year 6 Leadership Speeches 9.00am

Thu Charlotte J – National PSSA Athletics

Fri Charlotte J – National PSSA Athletics, Concert Band, Sport, Assembly

Week 8 Intensive Swimming Week 2

Tues Earlybird Reading 8.30am, Year 6 High School Orientation day

Wed Home Reading Logs due

Fri Concert Band, Sport, Assembly

Sat **School Grounds Closed - Asbestos Removal**

AWABAKAL

Word of the Week

Week 7

marungkayi
dingo

Week 8

wirikada
kookaburra

Attendance Matters

As we look forward to the remaining days of the school year, let's continue to gain positive momentum in attendance. Every day at school is an opportunity for our students to learn, connect and contribute to our vibrant school. Please have your child finish the year on a high note by prioritising attendance. Here's to finishing the year with determination, resilience, and a sense of accomplishment! Week 5 and Week 6 has KF has back into first place and 5/6S has taken over first place for years 3-6.

Place	Class	Week 5	Place	Class	Week 6
1	★ KF	96.07	1	★ KF	95.88
2	2N	95.44	2	2N	95.29
3	1LR	94.60	3	1LR	94.52
4	★ 5-6S	94.35	4	★ 5-6S	94.31
5	3-4K	94.26	5	3-4K	94.16
6	KH	93.93	6	KH	93.95
7	3-4M	93.82	7	3-4M	93.78
8	1WD	93.72	8	2K	93.58
9	2K	93.70	9	1WD	93.55
10	4-5B	92.58	10	4-5B	92.46
11	5-6G	92.25	11	5-6G	92.27

✓	Above 95% Expected Attendance
—	90%-95% Minimum Standard
✗	Below 90% Educationally at Risk

P and C This Tuesday Evening at 7pm. Be there!

Our very casual and laid back 1 hour P and C Meetings are a fantastic way to keep up to date with what's happening in and around Charlestown South PS. Want to know what's been happening and what's coming up at CSPS including fundraising plans and ventures? The P and C Meeting this Tuesday Night at 7pm is the ideal way to do exactly that! Why not join us and leave the kids home to put themselves to bed! LOL I have heard some attend P and C simply just for that little break from the usual household chaos that can be 7pm!

Newcastle Permanent Primary School Mathematics Competition

The 43rd Newcastle Permanent Primary School Mathematics Competition received entries from 331 schools with a total of 20,791 students participating. Congratulations to the following CSPS students who achieved some amazing results: High Distinction - Evan R Distinction - Xunaid R, Rio S, Kyran V, Nicholas K, Jensen W, Tomas G, Ellie J, Zachary T, Joel D and Evelyn S Merit - Oliver S, Malachi A, Jasmine W, Aston S, Luke Q, Shae B, Maddison C, Jasmine H. Congratulations to their teachers for their guidance and support in nurturing such mathematical prowess among our students.

Ambassador School Program

This past Wednesday I was in Sydney to discuss the findings of the Ambassador School Program. In addition to the 10 Ambassador Schools represented at the meeting, the NSW Executive Director of Teaching Quality and Impact, The NSW Secretary for Education, a Deputy Secretary and the Director of Quality Teaching Practice were also in attendance. The report generated some robust discussion about those findings and their implications. I must be honest, when we first received the results I thought to myself, that was a lot of work for a few documents that will most likely gather dust on a shelf. It was encouraging to hear that the findings will feed into the following departments: Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), School Leadership Institute (SLI), School Excellence Framework (SEF), Teaching Quality & Impact, Curriculum, Inclusion & Wellbeing. There were 10 Processes and 6 Enabling Conditions identified across the ten Ambassador Schools. The ten Processes are - Data informed practices, Explicit teaching, High expectations, Instructional support and leadership, Classroom management, Whole-school vision approach, Positive teacher/student relationships, Focus on student wellbeing, Teacher and student agency, Growth orientation. The six Conditions are - Collaborative practices, Wellbeing and emotional support, Growth mindset, Professional learning, Proactive leadership, Routines.

It is a real credit to our entire school and dedicated teaching staff to be chosen as one of the 10 Ambassador Schools out of 2,200 public schools in NSW. Although the program has now concluded, our school will still be involved giving life (teaching and learning in the classroom) to the dry bones of research. The full research report and the research summary are now available at

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/school-success-model/school-success-model-explained/ambassador-schools>



Music Viva Night was out of this world!

What an incredible music and solos night, "Music Viva," where our students delivered an outstanding performance that literally brought the house down! The energy and enthusiasm radiated through every note played, creating an unforgettable night filled with musical brilliance. Our talented students showcased their dedication, hard work, and passion for music, leaving the audience in awe. Our concert band truly demonstrated the remarkable progress they have made under the guidance of our dedicated and talented music educators. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to each student who contributed to this phenomenal performance. A special thank you to Mr Bone, Mr Isaacs, Mr Graham and Mrs Newland for their efforts in developing the skills of our young musicians. We also want to express our gratitude to the parents, friends, and community members who attended "Music Viva." Your support and encouragement play a crucial role in inspiring our students to reach new heights in their musical journey.



Environmental Sustainability Award

We are thrilled to announce that our school, under the exceptional leadership of Miss Kate Garland has been honoured with the Environmental Sustainability Award from Lake Macquarie City Council! This prestigious recognition is a testament to our ongoing commitment and outstanding efforts in the field of environmental sustainability. Miss Garland's dedication, along with the collective hard work of our school community, has positioned us as a beacon of excellence in fostering eco-friendly practices. This award not only celebrates our past achievements but also inspires us to continue making a positive impact on our environment. Congratulations to Miss Garland and everyone involved for this well-deserved accolade! Pictured is Miss Garland, Lake Macquarie Lord Mayor Mrs Kay Fraser, Mia C and Shae B who are the environmental leaders.



Year 5 Leader Speeches

Our Year 5 students will no doubt deliver memorable memorandums as they present their Leaders' Speeches for 2024. Our horde of hopefuls will address the school on Wednesday morning November 22 just after 9am which will be followed by the school elections as students from Years 2 through to Year 5 cast their votes. All staff members also get one vote each which now carries far less weight compared to the student population. Good luck to all of the Year 5 students preparing their speeches.

Mini Fete - Maxi Fun!

The Mini Fete is one of the best school events I have ever been a part of! Our senior students were at their very best as they muscled up their leadership skills and conducted this feast of fun for all students who had an absolute ball! At the end of the day, we raised over \$3000 which Year 6 will allocate to providing a gift to the school. A big salute to Miss Garland, Mrs Butler and Mrs Sutton for their innovative approach to school leadership, empowering our year 5/6 students to take charge and lead such an incredible day. Here is a report from two of our Year 6 students: On Thursday 9 November, CSPS partook in the highly anticipated annual mini fete. For a jam-packed two hours students roamed around the school visiting thrilling activities, purchasing delectable food items, playing exhilarating games and flying down the slip-n-slide. These stalls were organised by our amazing Year 5 and 6 students, their families and the teachers and staff who took the challenge by the horns and made the day a success. We sincerely thank the school community for your support. All funds raised on this day will be helping pay for the new playground markings arriving soon.

Abby F & Joel D

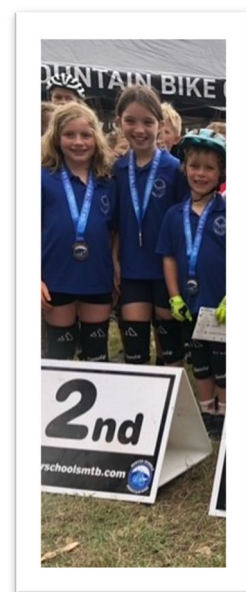


Hunter Schools Mountain Bike Competition

Congratulations to Team Wilson/Newell made up of Pippa W, Harry N and Isla N. They pedaled their way to victory and were Silver Medalists in the mixed Kinder to Year 2 competition at Singleton last Friday.

Wiyellai Koa Filming Day

Last Wednesday representatives from CSPS combined with our 5 local primary schools to complete the Wiyellai Koa project. Students met at Whitebridge High in the morning with Aunty Laurel and then travelled to Glenrock Scout Camp for the afternoon for filming of a combined Acknowledgement of Country and the Wiyellai Koa dance. Thank you to Jill Hodson for organizing our schools involvement in this amazing project.



Cycle Skills Workshop

Our Year 3/4 students enthusiastically participated in a Cycle Skills Workshop last Friday! Underlining our commitment to safety, wellbeing and skill development, the workshop provided students with valuable insights into cycling safety and proficiency. It was heartening to witness their enthusiasm as they honed their cycling skills, promoting a healthy and active lifestyle. Our students embraced this opportunity with zest, and a special thank you to all involved in making this engaging workshop a success!



Congratulations Mr Kiely!

Congratulations to Tom and Ellie Kiely on the safe arrival of their son, Hamish Peter.

Get to know a CSPS teacher:

Katrina Morgan

Teacher Librarian

My teaching career started at Charlestown South PS 9 years ago when I completed my first teaching prac under the wonderful guidance of Elise Mountford. It is here at CSPS that I realised I truly loved teaching and had found the occupation I wanted to continue for many more years. After completing my Masters of Teaching I worked at schools all over the Hunter, including Pelaw Main PS, Dudley PS, Carrington PS, New Lambton South PS and Medowie PS. It was at Medowie PS that I had the opportunity to work as a Teacher Librarian for the first time, and my love of teaching was refined to the realm of the library teacher. However, I always found myself returning to Charlestown South PS.

Hobbies - When I have the time I enjoy reading, crafting, baking and searching the rockpools at the beach.

Favourite Food – It is a tie between a healthy mango and a not so healthy tub of Nutella. Nutella drizzled

on a banana, for the times I don't want to feel too guilty.

Favourite Music/Bands – This is tough. I grew up in an extended family that spent every Friday afternoon with BBQs and dancing. So, my musical education ranged from The Supremes to Silverchair. However, my true loves were anything Disco/Pop/Musical Theatre. Special mentions to Spice Girls, Cher, Tina Turner, Bette Midler

First Music Album – Jack Johnson

Favourite Holiday Destination - Whitsundays by boat, but any travel is always a gift.

Favourite Author – JRR Tolkien, J.K Rowling, George Orwell, Oscar Wilde, Jane Austen

Best Movie - The Lord of the Rings, Spice World

Favourite TV Show or Series – The West Wing, The Newsroom (anything by Aaron Sorkin)

Favourite Shopping Store – Soul Collective, Suci Living

Most Inspirational Person - Turia Pitt

If I wasn't a teacher, I'd be - Running an Airbnb



School Bytes Update

Please ensure you download the School Bytes app and enable notifications. Currently only 104 of 305 users have done so. From the start of Term 1 2024 this will be our only platform for parent notifications as we cease using Audiri. If you have any questions please see the Office.

P and C News

Thank you to a wonderful team of fundraising students and their families, volunteers and staff who contributed to a successful Crazy Colour Run, raising over \$7500 for our fabulous school! Huge shout out to legends Mr. Costolo, Mrs Hodson and Victory OOSH's Isaac for being the best of sports as they were covered in a total of 40L of slime to celebrate the fundraising effort!

Student prizes have been ordered and will be received before the end of term.

Don't forget: Our Local Matters Jar at Grill'd Charlestown - this month only.

Next up: Christmas Carols Night with Sausage Sizzle and Raffle Tickets open for preorder now. A flyer is attached to this newsletter.

If you know a business that is keen to support our school and our wonderful CSPS families with a donation to our Christmas Raffle, please get in touch with our Fundraising Co-ordinator Sarah at fundraise.csp@gmail.com.

Our final meeting for 2023 is Tuesday 21 November at 7.00pm - we welcome everyone and hope to see you there.

Thank you for your continued support.

Charlestown South Public School P and C.

Diary Dates

November

Mon 20 to Fri 1	Intensive Swimming Program Years K-3.
Tue 21	P and C Meeting - 7.00pm in the Staffroom - all welcome to attend.
Wed 22	Year 6 2024 Leaders Speeches - 9.00am. Parents and carers are welcome to attend.
Tue 28	Year 6 - 7 Orientation Day at Whitebridge HS.
Wed 29	Home Reading Logs due to class teachers today.

December

Sat 2	School grounds closed all day due to asbestos removal.
Wed 6	Year 6 Farewell at Club Charlestown from 5.15pm.
Thu 7	Carols Evening - flyer included in this newsletter.
Fri 8	Home Reading Gold Day - invitations will be sent to eligible students after Wednesday 29 November.
Tue 12	Presentation day - 12.00pm at Hope UC Church, Gateshead. A consent note for bus transport will be emailed later this week.
Wed 13	Year K-2 Party Day - more details to follow.
Thu 14	Year 3 -6 Party Day - more details to follow.
Fri 15	Last day of Term 4 for students.
Mon 18 to Tue 19	Staff Development days - no students to attend.

January 2024

Tue 30 to Wed 31	Staff Development days - no students to attend.
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February

Thu 1	Students Year 1-6 return for Term 1.
Thu 1 to Mon 5	Best Start Assessments for Kindergarten.
Thu 8	Kindergarten commences.
Fri 9	Swimming Carnival - Year 3-6.

Merry Christmas

CAROLS NIGHT

Thursday 7th December 2023

5pm BBQ | 6pm Carols

Join us to celebrate with a night of music, carols, a sausage sizzle, raffles and more!

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Preorder your sausage sandwiches online now - \$3

GF option available.
To help with catering, no cash sales for sausages on the night.

Orders close Friday 1st Dec.

COLD DRINKS & ICEBLOCKS

Available with cash/card.

Prize RAFFLE

Buy tickets now online

Amazing raffle prizes including donations by these generous businesses...

Last minute tickets will be available for purchase at the event with cash/card.

Do you have a prize to donate?

Drop at the office by 3pm,
Monday 4th December.



coles

Jump on our P&C website to order now:

cspc-square.site

You can help raise important funds for our school:
SHARE THE LINK
with your family, friends & neighbours!

We look forward to celebrating with you!

CHARLESTOWN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C COMMITTEE

NEW BBQ generously donated by:





CSPS P&C FUNDRAISER:

GRILL'D LOCAL MATTERS PROGRAM

CSPS P&C are honoured to be a
part of the Local Matters Program
at **Grill'd Charlestown** this...

NOVEMBER

So if you're out for dinner at
Charlestown Square this November,
pop a Grill'd token in the CSPS jar
to help us win **\$300** to go towards
fantastic resources for CSPS students!

Thank you for your continued support!

CHARLESTOWN SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE



Parent App

Available now!

Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.



Key Features

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news

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Google Play

INSIGHTS

Growing up is not straight-forward



The pandemic has delivered change and upheaval to families on an enormous scale. However upheaval is not new for some children, particularly those who've experienced illness, a loss of a loved one or who've moved home and changed schools. Each change requires acceptance, adjustment and an attitude realignment to help them fit the new circumstances. Every change is an opportunity for a child to grow and develop, if they are supported, and they're not overwhelmed by the experience.

The twists and turns of development

A child's pathway to adulthood, and the accompanying journey of their parents, is generally viewed as linear. Growing up is seen as a straightforward march from infancy, early childhood, childhood, adolescence, post-adolescence to adulthood. If COVID has taught us anything it's that a child's journey is full of twists and turns.

While your child has a developmental clock that keeps ticking over, it's their experiences that determine their maturity and their ability to reach fully-fledged adulthood with the resilience, grit and adaptability needed to thrive. These experiences that develop maturity and coping capacities fit into two broad areas – challenging experiences and positive experiences.

Challenging Experiences

The challenging experiences that a child encounters enable them to build their coping capacities and develop their emotional resources that contribute to their maturity. These challenges include:

Conflict

Disagreements, arguments and rivalry is part of growing up. Whether it's a dispute with siblings or a fallout with a friend, negotiating conflict is a developmental task.

Rejection

Rejection by a friend or group is hurtful and feels horrible, but it also builds a level of social smarts and judgement necessary for navigating relationships in later life.

Loss

This takes many forms including a friend moving away, the death of a pet or the passing of a family member. Loss is the cause of sadness, grief and heartbreak that can feel overwhelming. However, with time and support kids learn to cope and get on with their lives.

parenting*ideas

Disappointment

Losing a game, not being picked for a team, not receiving a gift they wanted are unpleasant but character-building experiences that help kids develop perhaps the most treasured resilience capability of them all – acceptance.

Failure

Mistakes are seen in three ways. They are activities to be avoided, signs of failure, or opportunities for further learning. Resilient learners know that mistakes, even initial failures, are part of every learning process so the risk of failure doesn't hold them back. Children and young people grow from these experiences as coping and recovery generally build character, confidence and resilience.

Positive experiences

Though children and young people will inevitably experience challenging experiences, positive experiences help to balance the experience ledger by building a child's identity, wellbeing and emotional collateral.

Love

Knowing that a child is loved and loveable is at the core of their self-worth. Self-esteem and identity built in adolescence needs a solid foundation of self-worth.

Friendship

Making and keeping friends is an essential life task linked to many aspects of happiness and wellbeing.

Contribution

The ability to belong to groups through contribution fulfils a basic need. It allows children to experience real gratitude and feel needed, which builds self-esteem.

Excitement

Fun, joy, excitement! Any activity that shifts a child's emotion from unpleasant, low energy to pleasant and high energy is a good thing.

Play

Involvement in enjoyable activities such as hobbies, interests, sports, music, games, creative and performance arts are central to healthy wellbeing. Activities that are fun, freely chosen and create flow (the ability to lose track of time) fit the criteria of play.

In closing

A child's age and related milestones is a recognised marker of their development. However, their life experiences, as much as the number of birthdays they've had, contribute to their maturity, resilience and readiness for the wider world.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.