Diary Dates
Mon 1 Dec – Fri 12 Dec – Swim Scheme
Tues 2 Dec – Parent/ Helpers Thank You Morning Tea – 10:55am
Thurs 4 Dec – KM & KS Assembly
Wed 10 Dec – Presentation Day
Thurs 11 Dec – 6K & 6P Assembly
Mon 15 Dec - Year 6 Graduation and Farewell
Tues 16 Dec – Party Day
Yrs K-2 Go Bananas
Yrs 3-5 Movie Day
Yr 6 Bowling and Laser Zone
Wed 17 Dec – Last day term 4
Wed 28.01.15 Yrs 1 – 6 start

Dear Plumpton Public School Community,

CLASSES FOR 2015
We are in the process of planning classes for next year, it would be appreciated if you could inform us if you are leaving Plumpton Public School at the end of the year, or if you are going on holidays and returning after school commences on 28 January next year. This will help us in organizing our classes for 2015. Please complete the form at the end of the newsletter and return it to the office.

This is your last chance to let us know if you have any special requests for us to consider regarding your child’s class in 2015. Please send a note in a sealed envelope addressed to me – it will be treated confidentially and I will do the very best I can. Coming to discuss a child’s class in the first week of next year is just too late.

PEC CITIZENSHIP CONTINUUM
It was an absolute honour to attend the PEC Citizenship Continuum Presentation evening on the 12th of November at Plumpton High School. Twenty of our Year 5 students received a Stage 3 certificate and twelve of our Year 6 students received their medal.

Mrs Janet Chan (Principal of Plumpton Primary School 2001-2010) was an invited special guest. She addressed the audience on the night and it was wonderful to hear what these awards still mean to her. A copy of Mrs Chan’s speech is included in this newsletter.

Congratulations to all of our students receiving their certificate or medal, for displaying outstanding citizenship and for wanting to make a difference for others.

FAREWELL & THANK YOU
We offer our very best wishes to Miss Bree Barker who is leaving us at the end of this term to take up an offer of transfer to Wiripaang Public School. Miss Barker grew up in the Newcastle area. We are happy for Miss Barker, as she’ll be moving back home close to her family, but we will miss her very much. I am sure you join us in thanking Miss Barker for her 8 years of service to Plumpton PS and wishing her all the very best for the future.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION DAY
Our Annual Presentation Day will be held on Wednesday 10th of December, at 12 noon. All parents and friends are invited to attend and share the celebration of the children’s achievements.
CRAZY SOCK DAY!
Our school is holding a special day next Wednesday, 3rd December to raise much needed funds for The Children’s Hospital at Westmead’s 2014 Christmas Appeal. It’s not a mufti day – it’s just a crazy sock day! Plumpton PS students, teachers and staff can wear crazy socks for the day but students will need to wear the rest of their school uniform as normal. Odd socks, footy socks, spotty socks, pretty socks, army socks... or any socks! We ask all students to please bring a gold coin donation. For their donation, students will be given a heart sticker to keep and a special heart card to write a nice message to a child who is sick this Christmas. All the money raised from our Crazy Sock Day will support The Children’s Hospital at Westmead’s Christmas Appeal.

ANTI BULLYING
Some of our Year 6 girls have written an anti-bullying message that they have presented to students in every classroom. It’s great to know that they really want to do their bit to support other students. Their message is published in this week’s newsletter.

Yours in partnership,

Ms. Maureen Larkin
Principal

Go into the world and do well.
But, more importantly,
Go into the world and do good.

M. Myers Jr. (teacher)
1942-2003

ATTENTION PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: CHILDREN ARRIVING EARLY

NSW Department of Education Legal Services Branch advises us that parents who drop off students before the official start to school do so at their own risk. From the beginning of next year – a letter will be sent home to parents who consistently send children to school prior to supervision commencing. Should work times require an early start or late finish to your day, Plumpton Outside School Hours (POSH) provides care and supervision before and after school, on a permanent or casual basis. Subsidies are available (for those entitled) through Centrelink. For more information about before and after school care, contact: Louise from POSH on 0406 220 055

If your child has been away from school, it is a legal requirement that your child returns with a note (or doctor’s certificate) detailing the nature of the leave. This note (or certificate) MUST be presented to your child’s class teacher on the first day upon returning to school.

Thank you to the many parents who always abide by this requirement.

Yours in partnership,

Ms. Maureen Larkin
Principal
Be safe – Be respectful - Be a learner
MRS CHAN'S SPEECH FROM THE PEC CONTINUUM.

"Thanks to our guests today:

What an honour and privilege it is to be here today.
In whatever field of work you may be in, a person sometimes wonders what their legacy might be. In attending this ceremony today, I can see that all those who worked on the citizen continuum over the last 8 years can proudly say that this is part of their legacy.

It was 27 March 2007 when staff from four primary schools and one high school sat down to begin the development of the citizen continuum that operates across PEC today. We hoped and dreamed that you, your children, our students, would grow and develop into citizens for the future.

Our first vision statement was:
“A consistent system of engaging and empowering students to demonstrate the values that make a good citizen.”

After hours of planning and hard work, November 2008 saw the first of these citizenship ceremonies.

So what is citizenship?
I believe a citizen looks beyond themselves to the wider community and acts.

A citizen does not make excuses. I would if ... I would but ... A citizen finds reasons and ways of getting and doing things: at home, at school or beyond the school. A citizen also recognises that we can’t change the world by ourselves, but we can make small changes.

My ideal
By: Stephanie P.
Imagine

If I was the strongest
I would get rid of this mess
Making all human pain
Melt in the rain

If I possessed ultimate power
I would put everyone under a shower
Washing away evil
Preying on it like an eagle

If I was the next Einstein
The Theorem of Justice would be next in line
Leaving us with ease
To find a cure for every disease

When I open my eyes though

All I can do
Without further ado
Is to respect my sisters
And help my brothers

I take part in my community
Always volunteering in my city
It may seem ineffective
But at least I’m active

After all I’m not superman
Although I was a big fan

But I’m always trying to make a difference.

Today we have the joy in being able to recognise young people who have made the effort to do things that make a difference. They have participated, they have shown excellence and enthusiasm and they have shown how, by cooperating and working with others, so much more can be achieved. It gives me enormous pleasure and pride to see that students who received the first medals in 2008 are here again, rightfully being recognised for their 7 years of selfless citizenship.

Thank you, young citizens of Plumpton and of the world, you are and will continue to make a difference. Your families, your schools and your friends are proud of you. You too will leave a proud legacy.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved their Pot of Gold Awards.

Fahad Raza – KM
Krish Shash – 2R
Joshua Grover – 2R
Jamairo Rumalig – KT
Levi Halangahu – KS
Hadi Baig – KS
Jarmain David – KM
Rylee Duru – KS
Tiannah Tunks – KM
Mike Marfil – KS

Sandra Dela Rosa – KS
Zara Tanveer – KS
Lachlan Killick-Brown – 4/5D
Bryce Kinsey – 4/5D
Kailah George – 4/5D
Amber Burns – 4/5D
Alisha Singh – KT
Kaysie Loader – 5/6B

CHICKEN POX

We have been advised of cases of Chicken Pox in the school. The following is information from NSW Health Dept.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of exposure to illness</th>
<th>10 to 21 days, usually 14 to 16 days</th>
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<tr>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab</th>
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<tr>
<th>Do I need to keep my child home?</th>
<th>Yes, for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried</th>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>How can I help prevent spread?</th>
<th>Immunise your child at 18 months of age. Immunisation is recommended for children at 12 years if they are not immune.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

SPECIAL SWIM SCHEME

The Special Swim Scheme starts next Monday 1 December. Please ensure you pack a towel and dry underwear for your child.
PARTY DAY
Notes have been sent home for the end of year activities on Tuesday 16 December.

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having a special time at Go Bananas (St Mary’s Leagues Club) The costing for the day includes bus travel to and from the venue as well as entry. The cost for the children will be $15.

Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 will be having a day at the movies. As in the past 2 years I have been able to organise a pre-release movie for the children. The movie will begin showing to the general public on Boxing Day. The movie is called Big Hero Six. Previews can be seen on this Youtube clip. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVCuVN1WBWA
The cost of Bus travel and entry into the movies will be $15.

Year 6 will have a very special day for their last day out together. They will be attending Rooty Hill RSL Bowling and Laser Skirmish Centre. They will have 2 bowling games and 1 game of laser skirmish. On the way back to school their bus will drop them at Plumpton Park where the P & C will be preparing a special lunch for them (sausage sizzle). The cost of their excursion including entry fee, bus cost and lunch will be $25.
Terry Dauw
Assistant Principal

DANCE SPORT
On Tuesday the 18th of November, 19 students went to a partner dancing competition at Penrith Sports Stadium in Cambridge Park. On the day there were 21 schools competing and over 500 competitors. The Stage 3 dances were Cha Cha, Gypsy Tap and Waltz. The Stage 2 dances were Slow Rhythm, Barn Dance and the Samba. Some couples did the individual dances and some did the group dances. All of the boys had to wear a number on their back so that the two judges could pick the best dancers to go to the finals. Three couples made it to the Grand Final, but unfortunately didn’t win. We all had a great day though. Everyone that attended the competition got a medal for participation.
Jessica and Kian 6P
PAYMENTS
All payments for excursions, camp, activities etc must be paid by the advised closing date and put into the chute in the office counter. Please ensure you have enclosed the correct money (**no change will be given**) in an envelope clearly marked with child’s name, class, activity and amount. Please use separate envelopes for each activity. Sorry we do not supply envelopes.

STUDENT BANKING
Commencing 2015 when your child deposits through Student Banking they will not receive a token. The computer brings up a list of children who are eligible to redeem and this cannot be altered. When the computer shows that your child is eligible they will receive a coupon advising them of this. With their next deposit they send the redemption coupon. This is then ordered through the Commonwealth Bank. When the order is received back at the school a notification is sent to the student asking them to come to the office to collect their reward. You will be advised through the newsletter when banking will commence in 2015. The last day for banking this year will be 11 December.

Thank you.
Annette Winter – Coordinator.

CANTEEN
As we are coming to the end of the year the canteen are using all their available stock. If you place an order please add a second option of a sandwich.
Danielle – Canteen Co-ordinator.

P&C NEWS
UNIFORM SHOP.
If you have a Lay By could you please visit the Uniform Shop to finalise these.
The Uniform Shop will close on Thursday 11 December 2014 and reopen on Wednesday 28 January 2015.

From Wednesday 28 January to Friday 30 January 2015 the shop will be open in the morning and afternoon, then will revert back to **Monday and Thursday 8.30-9am and 2.30-2.55pm**.

CASH ONLY
ATTENDANCE FOR 2015
My child/children will NOT be returning to Plumpton Public School in 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class 2014</th>
<th>New School</th>
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My child/children will be returning to Plumpton Public School in 2015 but AFTER 29.1.2015.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class 2014</th>
<th>Date returning</th>
<th>Reason</th>
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Signed Parent/ Caregiver __________________________ Date ____________

INVITATION
Opening of Mt Druitt Swimming Centre
Saturday 29 November, 2014.

POOL PARTY
DON'T FORGET YOUR SWIMMERS

The Mayor of Blacktown City, Cr Stephen Ball is pleased to invite you to the Opening of Mt Druitt Swimming Centre.

When: Saturday 29 November, 2014.
Where: Mt Druitt Swimming Centre, Ayres Grove, Mt Druitt.
Time: 7am – 7pm. – Official Formalities to commence at 11.00am.
Cost: Free Entry.
Contact: Community Events Unit, 9839 - 6000.

SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY HOTLINE 1300 880 021
**PPS Students tackle bullying head on!**

Do you have a sore stomach?
Do you have a headache?
Do you often hide at playtime?

**What is bullying?**
Bullying is a very hurtful problem that can happen all over the world.

**Why do you think bullying is a big deal?**
It is a big deal because it could make the victim feel disappointed, scared and even uncomfortable. Bullying can be hurtful, but even if it is a little problem, tell the teacher straight away because not everyone is perfect. Everyone is different and that is a good thing. Everyone is perfect in their own individual way. As long as you’re happy, nothing matters.

- People might say mean things to you like “Yuck, her hair looks weird!” or “gross, look at her shoes, they’re so disgusting!”

Here is a question to think about...What do you do if this is happening to you? Does bullying look like two cats fighting? NO

Bullying can look like physical fighting, silly arguments and people looking at you and laughing.

While I was getting bullied, I felt upset that people were spreading believable rumours about me. I have seen people feeling depressed because they are being bullied.

Remember your life won’t always be sunshine and rainbows. Some days can be the worst ever, but that doesn’t matter as long as you let a teacher know so that they can help sort out any problems.

**Who does bullying affect?**
Bullying can affect your friends, teachers, family and strangers...so basically, everyone!

- Bullying is sad because you could get hurt, bullies could hurt your feelings which will make you think about it all of the time, in class which will stop you learning.

You have to tell your teacher, your friends or a parent when it happens.

Bullies bully because it makes them feel better than everyone else. Why do bullies act this way? Perhaps it is because they could be jealous, have problems at home or even have anger issues. Remember, bullying is very terrible, so if you like the way that you are, then be who you are.

**What can you do to stop bullying?**
Some ways that you can stop bullying is by telling a teacher straight away and every time that it happens. You can forget about the hurtful words, turn to your friends and have a laugh.

While I was being bullied, I discovered that it doesn’t matter what people say about you. As long as you just ignore them and stay on the happier side of life, you will be fine. Don’t change who you are to impress others!

Written and presented by Charlie, Emmily, Jessica, Kaysie and Sophie.
# PLUMPTON VACATION CARE PROGRAM
## January 2015 MAIN EVENTS

**Week 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 12.1.15</th>
<th>Tuesday 13.1.15</th>
<th>Wednesday 14.1.15</th>
<th>Thursday 15.1.15</th>
<th>Friday 16.1.15</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AM ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CHRISTMAS SNOW PLANTS</td>
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<td>SOAP PAPER CHRISTMAS TREES</td>
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<td><strong>PH ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PAPER PLATE SNOWMEN</td>
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<td>SNOW PLAY</td>
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<td>HAND WRATHIS</td>
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**Week 2**

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<th>Monday 19.1.15</th>
<th>Tuesday 20.1.15</th>
<th>Wednesday 21.1.15</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AM ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>WATER PLAY</td>
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<td>DANCE AND MOVEMENT</td>
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<td>TUG O WAR</td>
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<tr>
<td>KNOTS GROUP GAME</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PH ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<td>BALLOON RACES</td>
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<td>MOSAICS</td>
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<td>BILLBOARD CREATIONS</td>
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**Week 3**

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<th>Monday 26.1.15</th>
<th>Tuesday 27.1.15</th>
<th>Wednesday 28.1.15</th>
<th>Thursday 29.1.15</th>
<th>Friday 30.1.15</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AM ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>AUSTRALIA DAY</td>
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<td>BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE RESUMES</td>
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<td>BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE RESUMES</td>
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<td><strong>PH ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PAPER PLATE OPERA HOUSES</td>
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**Payment Must be Made by Monday 15th December**

Please contact the centre on 9675 5299 if you have any questions.

We look forward to sharing in some holiday fun with your children.

---

**Important Things to Remember:**

- Please bring a hat for outdoor play.
- Children will need to bring morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and snacks. Food is not provided during Vacation Care.
- Lunch is occasionally eaten while we are out on excursions. Please do not pack hot lunches on these days.
- Children are permitted to bring DJs, iPads and other electronic devices.
- Children are encouraged to wear enclosed shoes and shirts with sleeves.
- Please advise staff if your child will be absent for a day you have booked in for.

---

**Please Remember the Food Pyramid When Packing Your Child’s Lunch!**

- **Fruit, Vege & Nuts**
- **Meat, Egg or Chickpea Group**
- **3-5 Servings**
- **2-3 Servings**
31 October 2014

Dear Principal,

RE: Public Health alert - Whooping cough (Pertussis)

Since June 2014, there has been a steady increase of whooping cough (Pertussis) notifications in NSW. In Western Sydney Local Health District (WSLHD), 208 cases have been reported in 2014 to date, compared to 167 cases in the same period in 2013. Family clusters of whooping cough cases were also identified. The increase of whooping cough cases was more noticeable in the 2155 postcode area.

Whooping cough is a very serious illness for infants, especially in the first six months of life before they complete their primary vaccinations. Through early detection and treatment of all cases we hope to reduce the risk of infants being exposed to whooping cough.

There are several things that schools can do to reduce the transmission of whooping cough in our area:

- Distribute the attached Public Health Alert as a reminder for parents to seek early diagnosis and treatment of coughing illnesses
- Notify the public health unit of cases of whooping cough in your school
- Support the School Immunisation Program – the vaccine offered to Year 7 this year includes protection against whooping cough
- Encourage teachers to visit their GP for an adult whooping cough booster (private script required), if they have not had a booster dose in the past 10 years
- Advise staff to seek early diagnosis and treatment of coughing illness.


Please feel free to contact the public health unit on 9840 3603 if you have any queries.

Thank you for your assistance in this important public health matter.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Shopna Bag
Medical Officer, Communicable Diseases
Plumpton Public School
33 Bottles Road, Plumpton, NSW 2761

Plumpton Public School needs your help! Your views are valued!

Maureen Larkin
Principal

PLEASE RETURN BY:
Friday, 5th December

Thank you for your time. This survey is to seek your views on quality teaching and learning.

1. If I was a new parent coming to Plumpton Public School, and I asked you what the school was like, what would you say?

2. What do you think a teacher needs to be like, what do they need to do, in order to be a good teacher?

3. Think of a teacher that you feel has been particularly good for your child. Describe that teacher.

4. What qualities do you think your child believes a good teacher has?

5. What are your top 3 qualities of a good teacher?

6. How do you think your child’s teachers rate against these qualities?
7. **What in your opinion counts for good quality education?**

8. **What kind of qualities would you hope Plumpton PS has developed in your child by the time they leave primary school?**

9. **If the principal asks you what you would like to change about the way this school operates, what would you say?**

10. **Would you like to be more deeply involved in the decision-making that goes on at Plumpton P.S.?**

---

**Please indicate whether you AGREE or DISAGREE with each item:**

11. **My child receives a quality education at Plumpton P.S.**

   - [ ] Strongly disagree
   - [ ] Disagree
   - [ ] Neither agree or disagree
   - [ ] Agree
   - [ ] Strongly agree

   Additional comments (optional):

12. **Parents feel valued and welcomed at Plumpton P.S.**

   - [ ] Strongly disagree
   - [ ] Disagree
   - [ ] Neither agree or disagree
   - [ ] Agree
   - [ ] Strongly agree

   Additional comments (optional):
13. The school develops the skills and knowledge my child will need for future study and work.

☐ Strongly disagree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Neither agree or disagree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Strongly agree

Additional comments (optional):

14. The school develops positive behaviours and attitudes and builds citizenship in my child.

☐ Strongly disagree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Neither agree or disagree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Strongly agree

Additional comments (optional):

15. I can talk to teachers, assistant principals and the principal about any matter related to the school or my child. I am listened to and helped.

☐ Strongly disagree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Neither agree or disagree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Strongly agree

Additional comments (optional):

16. The school values the contribution I make to my child’s education.

☐ Strongly disagree  ☐ Disagree  ☐ Neither agree or disagree  ☐ Agree  ☐ Strongly agree

Additional comments (optional):

PLEASE ADD ANY OTHER COMMENTS HERE:

☐ Please tick this box if you give us permission to use your comments on our website or in other publications to promote the work of our school.

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey.
Your feedback is valued and very much appreciated!