Dear Plumpton PS Community,

06.03.14

Thank you for attending our Parent Information Sessions and Interviews last week. The sessions have been a great way to meet your child’s teacher and to ask questions about this year’s programs. I would like to thank the teaching staff who did an excellent job presenting at these sessions and showing how professional and knowledgeable they are. The feedback I have received has been extremely positive.

Thank you also to the parents who attended my Anti-Bullying Session in the Library. I will be running a repeat session later in the term – date to come.

It is through developing a strong home-school partnership and working together that we can help our students achieve their very best, not only academically but in all aspects of their development.

SCHOOL HOURS & DUTY OF CARE

There seems to be an increasing number of children being dropped off in the playground before 8:30am AND also children waiting to be picked up well after the bell at 2:55pm, some as late as 3.20pm.

Can I remind you that there is no supervision provided before the first morning bell at 8.30am. In addition, staff are quite often unavailable to supervise children after 2.55pm (other than supervision of bus lines) as they are participating in school planning, preparing lessons for the next day, attending professional learning or committee meetings, or meeting with parents.

We do understand that on the odd occasion, there may be genuine reasons for children to be here before 8:30am or not collected until well after 3pm. Please ensure you contact us if this occurs. However, if this is a regular occurrence you should be accessing the before and after school care centre. There is one located right here within the school. Please ring 9675 5299 for more information.

P&C Annual General Meeting

This will be held on Monday 17th March at 6pm in the staffroom. All positions will be declared vacant at this meeting. We hope to see as many parents, carers and community members as possible.
SCHOOL PHOTOS
The photographer has been booked in for Thursday, 27th of March. Please remember full school uniform – and very best smiles!

Lastly, we were all very saddened to hear of the tragic events that occurred at Pitt Town Public School recently. Although we have regular inspections of our trees, we scheduled another inspection which has been completed. A report is being written for us at the moment. A few trees have been identified for attention – these are not in the vicinity of work or play areas and are not impacting on normal school routines.

Yours in partnership,
Mrs Maureen Johnson
Principal
Don’t forget: “Be on time at 5 to 9!"

A FURTHER REMINDER: STAFF CAR PARK
Thank you to the parents who take great care each day to drive and park safely around the school. Your diligence contributes greatly to the safe arrival and pick-up of our students.

A reminder that at no time should the driveway leading into the school be used as a walkway, or the car park used by unauthorized vehicles.

We may have to resort to the driveway gate being locked during school hours if this continues. Please consider the safety of all. Thank you for your cooperation.

SCHOOL A-Z helpful and practical advice to parents to support their kids
School A-Z is an online community with comprehensive homework and ‘school life’ support for parents that is easy to use, relevant and engaging. It is run by the NSW Department of Education.

You can find it on the World-Wide Web:
http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/home

OR on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/schoolatoz

On Twitter:
http://www.twitter.com/schoolatoz

Or Pinterest:
http://www.pinterest.com/schoolatoz/

Or you can subscribe to updates:
http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/subscribe

REPEAT ITEMS:
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
Many of our students are collected by older brothers or sisters who attend local High Schools. Unfortunately, it has been brought to my attention that some of the High School students are riding their bikes and scooters into our school grounds, veering between adults and children and creating safety issues for all. One student riding a bike almost hit some of the smaller children and refused to get off his bike when spoken to. No students (or adults) are permitted to ride bicycles or scooters on school grounds.
We are also noticing that some of the High School students are bringing friends with them to collect younger brothers or sisters. Others are just taking a short-cut through the school. It is busy enough at 3pm without this added congestion. If they have no purpose to be in our school, High School students will be asked to leave via the nearest exit.

If behaviour is inappropriate, directions are not followed, requests are ignored, I will have no alternative other than to ban individuals from the school grounds. This would then force siblings to meet at the gate or parents having to make alternative arrangements.

If you have a child in High School could you please discuss these matters with them and remind them to make sure they display appropriate behaviour at all times.

Being on Plumpton Public School grounds is a privilege – not a right.

The safety and welfare of our students is of the utmost importance. I ask parents and carers for your cooperation with this.

SCHOOL UNIFORM
Plumpton P.S. has a school uniform policy requiring all students to wear the full school uniform.

Not only does the school uniform promote group cohesion and a sense of belonging; the school uniform enhances safety in the playground through quick and easy identification of students and also provides protection from the sun.

Unless otherwise notified, students are expected to be in school uniform on all school days. To be consistent with this policy, students will no longer wear ‘mufti’ clothing for their class assembly days.

A reminder to families:
- Students are required to wear black school shoes in lace up, buckle or velcro.
- A Plumpton P.S. hat is required for students to play in the unshaded areas.
- Sports shoes are acceptable on designated sports days.
- ‘Mufti’ clothes only on authorised days, such as school fundraisers or other special whole school events.

Thank you for supporting our school uniform policy.

EARTH HOUR
Earth Hour is fast approaching! You can help by reducing your carbon footprint by turning off all lights and electrical equipment on Saturday 29 March from 8.30am to 9.30pm.

You can also help by bringing to school empty glass jars with the labels removed. Please wrap the jars in newspaper and leave in the Earth Hour crate in KJ.
Thank you Planeteers
Miss James

STUDENT BANKING
The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. The tokens are to be sent with the deposit book on banking day. Once the reward is received back at the school it is sent to your child the next time they bank.
Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items. As there is a new program with the bank any tokens from last year do not carry over.

**SCHOOL PROCEDURES & REMINDERS**

**PAYMENTS**
All payments for excursions, camp, activities etc must be paid by the advised closing date and given to the class teacher. 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. Sorry we do not supply envelopes.

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*Have you changed any of your contact details? If yes, please contact the office immediately. It is very distressing for students and staff when parents cannot be contacted when needed. Thank you.*

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**P&C NEWS**
Hope everyone has had a good start to the year.

As always, this year we are hoping to get some new members to come along and join the P&C and help us with our goal of raising funds for our school. The same small group of people have been running the P&C for quite a few years now and we would love some fresh faces with new ideas and extra hands for some much needed help.

Our next meeting is our AGM where all positions will be up for grabs. We will struggle to fill those positions without some new members joining. WITHOUT THOSE POSITIONS FILLED THERE WILL BE NO P&C. All the money raised goes straight back in to the school on things like air conditioners, smart boards etc.

What a shame if the kids were to miss out on those things. The uniform shop is also run by the P&C. Please have a think about helping out this year or come along to our next meeting and see what it’s all about. Next meeting including AGM 17th March at 6pm in the staff room.

Uniform shop
Monday and Thursday 8.30-9am and 2.30-2.55pm
CASH ONLY

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**BEDWETTING**
A DVD based program, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful program for parents to implement at home with their children.

For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website:  
www.bedwettinginstitute.com.au
Or phone 1300 135 796 – 12pm to 6pm
Kidz Fun Factory

Indoor Adventure Playground & Party Centre
1/44 Eddie Rd Mitchbury NSW 2770
Ph: (02) 8578 7374
www.kidzfunfactory.com.au
enquiries@kidzfunfactory.com.au
NEW!! 2 Level Maze
For Toddlers

Huge Party Room! 2 Jumping Castles

HOURS
Monday–Friday
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sat, Sun & School Holidays
10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Public Holidays*
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

PRICES
1-3 Years: $8.00
4-12 Years: $10.00
Under 1—FREE **
Adults—FREE
Entry after 3pm-$5

**Under 1 not accompanied by a paying adult

We’re located at the end of Eddie Road Mitchbury.
Not far off the M4 & Great Western Hwy

Call us on 8578 7374 to find out more on:
• Birthday party packages.
• All Mine After hour parties.
• Reserved tables.
• Specials for mothers groups, playgroups, childcare excursions and
  Vacation care excursions.
• Food platters.
• fortnightly Parent group meet ups.

STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER
Win a CommBank Marquee for your school and
$50 for a student just by depositing in your
CommBank School Banking Account in Term 1.

The school with the highest increase in all of 2014 will have the opportunity to win a Marquee and $50 for each student in a team of 10 or more students. The winning school will be announced week commencing 10th of April in the School Banking Account news for your school.

For your school to win simply refer your personal banking specialist or
School Banking Officer on 0409 712 189.
Bringing Up Great Kids

A program for Mums & Dads & Carers to build strong relationships with children

"Bringing Up Great Kids" is an interactive and fun program that helps build a stronger, happier relationship with your children.

For Info:
- Our journey as a parent
- Understanding how our kids experience the world
- Communicating with our children and the helpful and unhelpful messages in parenting
- Ideas for helping our kids grow to be confident and happy

Where: Mondays
18th March to 14th April
10:00am—12:30pm

During: 6 sessions

Where: Blacktown Local Government Area

Bookings Essential

For further information, expressions of interest and bookings
Please phone 02 9621 3122

The simplest way

to drink the right amount of water

We need to consume around 2 litres of water every day.

It sounds like a lot but remember you get water from both drinking and eating the right foods.

Here's some tips to help you and your family stay hydrated:

- Carry a water bottle with you wherever you go.
- Mix 125mL of fruit juice with sparkling water for a treat.
- Add tinned or fresh fruit pieces to ice block moulds for a snack.
- Make sure a frozen water bottle is part of your kids' lunch box every day.

Getting the right amount of water is important all year round, but vital on these hot Summer days!

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

Eat It To Beat It

The Eat It To Beat It program is supported by the Western Sydney Local Health District Live Life Well & School Program.