

John Pirie Secondary School

striving for excellence



newsletter 02 | 16 February 2017

A 40 Mary Elie Street Port Pirie SA 5540 P (08) 8632 0400 F (08) 8632 3195 W www.jpss.sa.edu.au

BEST START IN FIVE YEARS

I am very impressed with how the school year has started. There is no doubt we are enjoying the most settled, learning focused beginning to a year in my 5 years at John Pirie. Sometimes it feels like it takes students a while to shift from the relative freedoms of holidays to the routines and boundaries of a school setting where learning often is hard work and requires concentration, sustained effort and persistence to master new concepts.

In the last 2 weeks I have made the opportunity to walk through classrooms. I have a strong sense of greater maturity, more focus, increased capacity to work in teams, stronger motivation and students' ability to work independently. We are seeing in practice the culture of achievement our school is striving to build. I have to say it is heartening to see more and more young people wanting to make the most of their education. **Why is this happening? What makes the difference?**

We have a very strong emphasis on improvement. It is a holistic focus affecting what might seem like small as well as significantly major things. Over the last 4-6 years. There is no doubt:

- Uniform compliance has improved drastically
- We take every opportunity to reinforce the importance of education to life futures
- High expectations regarding quality of work, timeliness, meeting deadlines
- Excellence programs (e.g. Soccer, LIFT, Music & Arts excellence) are growing
- There's a strong emphasis on success and acknowledging or rewarding that
- We connect really well with many community groups
- Staff embrace improvement in their own practice as teachers and work well in teams; they are inspired and highly motivated learners as well as teachers
- We continually reinforce the qualities of respect, responsibility, confidence & persistence
- Litter is massively reduced
- Our classrooms have never looked better, renovations & new furniture have vastly improved learning environments
- The whole landscape of our school is more refreshing, welcoming and ready for learning

I probably should be 'touching wood'! In any organisation where you have 700-800 people everyday there'll be an issue or two from time to time. I know we'll face those. But we also need to highlight and celebrate the distance travelled and the fantastic growth we are seeing in attitudes and achievement. Improvement will always be our focus, we'll always be looking forward asking "What more can we do to further improve life outcomes for all young people in our community?". There is never an endpoint to this journey but just for a moment it's good to look back and compare how it looks now in relation to where we have come from.

Roger



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Coming Events

Feb 13	Student Free Day
Feb 20	Men B Vaccine Forms due back
Feb 22	School Photos
Feb 27	Year 8 Immunisation Forms due back
Feb 27	Crows Visit
Mar 20	Governing Council Meeting commencing at 7:00pm
Mar 24	Athletics Carnival
Apr 6	Year 8 Immunisation

Leadership Team

Principal:	Roger Nottage
Deputy Principal:	Michael Gaunt
Assistant Principals:	Rachel Gray Graham Hoile Maciej Jankowski Kate Tetlow

School Links



UniSA



tafeSA

Year 8 Immunisations

All year 8 students should have received an Immunisation Form. Please return the form by **Monday, February 27**. If your child/ren has not received an Immunisation Form please send them to Student Services to collect.

Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study

SA Health and the University of Adelaide are conducting a large study to look at the impact of Meningococcal B (Men B) vaccination in older adolescents.

Students involved in this research study are offered free vaccines to protect them from Meningococcal B disease.

Men B vaccine will be provided to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The study will examine if Men B vaccination reduces the risk of spread of meningococcal bacteria that can be present in up to 25% of adolescents.

What does the study involve?

- Over 12 month period each participant will:
- Receive 2 doses of Meningococcal B vaccine
- Complete a one page Questionnaire (at first and follow up visit)
- Provide up to 2 throat swabs
- Receive a \$20 iTunes card after each swab

Students must provide details requested on the Consent Card provided in the pack that was sent home on Friday, February 3. Both student and parent/guardian must sign the form if under 18 years of age.

Forms must be returned to school by **Monday, February 20**. Students must be at school on the days of the vaccination, there will be no catch-up opportunities. Vaccination days will be on Thursday, June 1 and Thursday, July 27.

To learn more about the study contact your local council immunisation provider, the Immunisation Section on 1300 232 272 or visit the study website at: www.bpartofit.com.au.

School Photos 2017

School photos will be taken at school on **WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2017** in the Drama Room. **All Students must be in full school uniform.** You have received your school photos information pack. Envelopes containing orders need to be handed to the photographer when you have your photograph taken. Please read the information very carefully, **as the school does not handle any money or envelopes. Please ensure that money placed in envelopes is correct as the school cannot provide change. Parents are reminded that if they are dropping off envelopes to the Front Office that they make arrangements for their child to collect the envelope.**

Family photographs (Current students only) – a quantity of envelopes is provided for anyone requesting this, and is available from Student Services or the Front Office of the school from the 15/02/2017. Family Photos will be taken at recess time (maximum of 4 people). **Group/Friend Photos report to Drama room during care group to arrange.**

Every student must have their photo taken for their ID Card. School will pay cost of ID Cards. Replacement of lost ID Cards will cost \$5.00.

All money for photos is to be placed in the School Photo envelope and handed to Academy Photography on photo day.

Every student must return their envelope – even if not buying photos.

Introducing Allan Greenbank

My name is Allan Greenbank and I have been teaching for 31 years. I have taught from year 4 through to year 10. Teaching has taken me to different states, but I keep coming home to South Australia. I enjoy fishing, gardening, motorbike riding and gaming. Thank you to everyone for a wonderfully warm welcome to Port Pirie.

Introducing Karryn Greenbank

My name is Mrs Karryn Greenbank. I have been in education for some thirty- four years, teaching in rural and city, primary and high schools. I lived in Whyalla for some twenty years, working at Whyalla High school and the district office. Over the last five years Mr Greenbank and I worked in Queensland. For the first two years we lived and worked in the Torres Strait, on Dauan Island, where I was the only white female. The last three years we lived in the industrial city of Gladstone and taught at Calliope State School. It is great to be back in South Australia.

Student Achievements



Congratulations to Ethan Nitz. Ethan recently received the Sporting Association of Port Pirie Sportsman of the Month for December. Ethan received this award for outstanding results in the sport of Swimming.

School Uniform

Students at John Pirie Secondary School are expected to conform to the school's dress code.

Supporting the policy assists us to:

- Establish school identity, spirit and pride.

- Separate the weekend and non-school life from school and learning time (it helps create a learning environment).
- Prepare young people for the disciplines of work after school.
- Create a safer place as unauthorized people are more readily identifiable.

The dress code includes a range of comfortable, appropriate clothing based around the school colours of maroon, black, white and grey.

Covered shoes or sandals are also a requirement at school.

Only small brand logos (approximately palm size) are allowed on clothing.

Please note that most items are available from our uniform shop located in the Front Office from 8.30-5.00pm.

Students arriving out of school uniform have a choice of:

- Changing into a loan uniform
- Having a school uniform brought in from home
- Going home to change

Every effort is made to provide uniform or support students to have access to uniform at our school.

Lunch Passes

Parents may apply for a permanent lunch pass. Application forms are available from Student Services and the school website.

Permanent lunch passes will **only be approved to permit students to go home for lunch.** Students should:

- sign out at student services
- carry the permanent lunch pass with them in their diaries so that they can show it to teachers or yard duty staff
- students who leave the school using a permanent lunch pass must be signed back into school prior to the start of after lunch lessons

The permanent lunch pass will be revoked in the event that students are not honouring this agreement.

Students are not permitted to leave the school to purchase their lunch down the street. This is because:

- leaving school grounds increases the risk of accident, injury and inappropriate behaviour
- effective supervision of students is not possible out of the school
- the school supports a canteen which offers a variety of meal options

Exceptional circumstances include students who have left school for the day e.g. home study, are participating in an off-site TAFE program, some vocational education courses, sanctioned excursions or for approved sign out reasons.

Parents who wish to collect their children for lunch or who drop in food for lunch may do so.

Students who are discovered leaving the school without sign out permission will in the first instance receive lunch detention as a consequence.



DISCO POOL PARTY

Friday 24th February

7.00pm to 9.00pm

8yrs to 16yrs

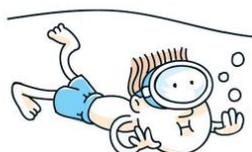
Port Pirie Swimming Pool
Mary Elie St, Port Pirie

\$5 ENTRY

Food & Drink Available for Purchase

NO PASSOUTS

Prizes on the night



LIONS FOOTBALL CLUB JUNIOR REGISTRATION

(Under 9s, Under 11s, Under 13s & Under 15s)

SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2017, 11 am to 1 pm,

JOHN PIRIE SECONDARY SCHOOL OVAL

NO REGISTRATION FEES

SHORTS AND SOCKS SUPPLIED

FOOTY ACTIVITIES WITH SENIOR PLAYERS AND INFLATABLE SPECKY PLATFORM

Sausage sizzle and drinks available. Come along and meet your coaches and team mates. Club merchandise available for purchase. *"Become a part of the family friendly club"*

Enquiries: Plugger 0438868239

yourtown



When

Friday 24th of February 2017

Where

Port Pirie Harness Club

Prizes

Tickets purchased *before Wednesday 15th February* will be allocated a horse and all proceeds from **PRE-SOLD** tickets will go to yourtown Port Pirie.

Tickets

\$10 ADMITS 2 Adults

We call upon your community spirit to take part in our Annual Charity Trots Night to be held on the evening of Friday the 24th of February 2017. All funds raised this year will assist in purchasing valuable resources to enable our local programs to continue.

Contact

Katie Goddard
yourtown
(08) 8633 3675

Neville Thomson
(08) 8632 4143
0409 324 143

Generously supported
by the
Port Pirie Harness
Club



HARNESS
RACING SA yourtown



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