Dear Parents and Caregivers,

As you will be aware from the Pelican Post, the website and from letters sent home, the school is very much operating under its new banner statement ‘Opportunity, Excellence, Community’. The school feels engagement and cooperation with the community is particularly important – the recent very well-attended Working Bee is a perfect example. In continuing to share information with the school community we have organised two events in the coming fortnight:

- **A Literacy and Numeracy Parent Information session** from 6pm-7.30pm on Tuesday 17 March in the library. This provides parents and carers with information about how we teach literacy and numeracy in schools these days. If you find yourself confused with how we teach addition and subtraction, if you’re not sure how to assist your child with reading, or if you need ideas to encourage a reluctant reader or mathematician, then this evening is for you.

  **Literacy 6pm-6.45pm**
  **Numeracy 6.45pm-7.30pm**

If you have a question that you’d like us to address during the evening, please email the school address with ‘Literacy and Numeracy Question’ in the subject of the email. We will do our best to answer your question during the evening, subject of course to the number of questions we get!

To confirm your attendance, please complete the tear off slip in this newsletter or email the office at: narrablks-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

- **Parent Teacher Interviews**

  Parent teacher interviews will take place in Week 9 beginning on Monday 23 March. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to hear of their child’s progress to date and to address any concerns before the school year becomes too advanced.

  The school has once again teamed up with schoolinterviews.com.au to create a one-stop shop for interview appointments. Simply visit the website, enter your details, choose the teachers, select your time and you’re finished. No more notes getting lost in the bottom of the school bag! For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, they will still be able to make their own bookings through the school.

  Full details and booking information available now
in this Pelican Post. A note was also sent home today, and is also available on our Primary Parent Planner app.

**NAPLAN**
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will take place for all students in Years 3 and 5 from May 12-14 2014. Full details about the test and where to gather further information can be found on a dedicated page in this edition of the Pelican Post. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child’s teacher or Mr Phillips.

**National Ride to School Day**
Next Wednesday is National Ride to School Day. This is an exciting opportunity for boys and girls who enjoy riding bicycles to school. Of course, safety is the main concern of everybody, so please ensure that students have your permission to ride to school, that they wear a helmet, have a well-maintained bike, and follow all the road rules. Our theme this year is ‘Wacky Wednesday’ for those who would like to dress up for the occasion. For further details, please see the flyer in this edition of the Pelican Post. Thank you to Mrs Clarke who always does a wonderful job of organising this great event.

**School Fees**
Thank you to everyone who has paid their school fees on their term account so far this year. A reminder that accounts are now due.

The school receives quite limited central funding from the Department of Education and Communities. The cost of art supplies, photo copy paper and even paying for extra teachers’ aide time comes out of the school’s small accumulated funds from those families who pay their school fees. Furthermore, while endeavouring to offer a 21st Century education, our subscriptions to services such as Mathletics, Reading Eggs, and Primary Parent Planner do not come cheaply. Therefore, if you have not yet paid your school fees for 2015, the school (and in particular, your child/ren) will really appreciate the difference it makes to the education we offer at our great school. Of course, should payment be difficult at this time, please feel free to contact me in the strictest confidence.

**Year 5&6 Camp**
Congratulations to the students of Years 5 and 6 who enjoyed a wonderful time at Berry Sport and Recreation Centre last week. Adventure camps are a highlight of the Year 5 and 6 experience and I’m sure that the children created many happy memories. I visited the camp last Wednesday and was very proud to see and hear of how well our students were representing the school.

Mrs Chant, Mr Casey, Mr McMahon and Mrs Bauer accompanied the children to Berry. You may be interested to know that teachers were ‘on duty’ 24 hours a day for the five days of camp and, contrary to popular belief, received neither overtime nor extra remuneration for these hours worked. I’m sure the community joins me in thanking and acknowledging the dedication and enthusiasm shown by these staff to ensure that our students enjoyed this unique camp experience.

**Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder**
Do you want to understand more about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?
The school has organized a workshop on Tuesday 31 March from 3.45-6.30pm, which will provide ideas, hints and strategies for parents and teachers to assist with the support of children who have ASD.

Presenter Sue Larkey is uniquely positioned within the education system having taught both as a primary school teacher and a special education teacher.

**Bookings are essential.** To confirm your place at this workshop please complete the tear off slip in this newsletter and return it to the red box in the office by Thursday 28 March.

**Canteen Manager**
On behalf of the P&C, I am delighted to announce that they have appointed Mrs Robyn Stonell to the position of Canteen Manager at Narrabeen Lakes Public School. Mrs Stonell brings a wealth of experience to the role after managing a canteen at a nearby school for several years. I’m sure that you will join me in making her feel very welcome when she commences the job.

The P&C hope to open the canteen at lunchtimes three days per week at a date to be confirmed in Term Two. This is a really exciting opportunity for the school, and especially for the community and our students who have been asking for a canteen for a long time.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all those applicants and interviewees who applied for this exciting new role. The standard of applicants was very high indeed and they made the interviewing panel’s task very difficult indeed.

**Tell Them From Me Survey**
Last Monday, students in Years 4-6 took home information about a Department of Education and Communities’ initiative called the ‘Tell Them From Me’ student feedback survey. The survey will take place next week and aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Further details elsewhere in this newsletter.

**Student Achievements**
Archie M (2Z), Akira S (1K), 20 Red Merits
Nate H (1D), 10 Blue Merits

Wishing you a great rest of the week.

Andy Rankin
Principal
Dear Year 4, 5 and 6 Parents and Caregivers,

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities’ initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between the 16th March and 20th March. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 13 March. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

Please reserve seat/s at the following event/s:

- Literacy & Numeracy Evening on Tuesday 17 March
- Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder Tuesday 31 March

Return slip to red box in school foyer ASAP

Autism workshop bookings close Thursday 28 March

Please cut and return this slip
URGENT NUT ALERT to all parents and caregivers!

Narrabeen Lakes endeavours to be a ‘nut free’ zone for the welfare of anyone in our community who has an allergic reaction to nuts and NUT PRODUCTS.

Please remember NOT to send food items to school that contain that contain nuts.
These include the following items:
♦ Nuts of any description including sesame seeds.
♦ Fruit, energy and muesli bars that contain nuts.
♦ Nutella spread on your child’s sandwich.
♦ Satay items as satay is derived from nuts.
♦ Chocolate items that maybe nut contaminated.

It is essential that you follow this request as we have a number of severely anaphylactic children in our school community.

To also safeguard against allergies, please consult with your child’s classroom teacher BEFORE supplying treats (eg cake) for your child’s birthday. Unfortunately it is a common fact today that a considerable number of children have varying allergic reactions to many different food items including gluten, eggs and milk products.

Thank you for your assistance.
Swimming Carnival 2015

When I was on the diving board I heard a big bang. I pushed off and jumped into the water. The swimmers heard their houses cheer them on. We were kicking as hard as we could and everyone was hoping that they would win. Water was getting in our faces and we were so nervous, our faces turned red.

Years 2-6 of Narrabeen Lakes P.S. went to Manly Swimming Pool for their swimming carnival. Everyone was very excited. I hope the lucky swimmers are excited for zone swimming this week.

Niamh 3A

I was shaking with fear. My heart was pumping fast as I leapt off the wall and swam my hardest. It was the open 100m race at Manly Swim Centre. Mr Rankin announced the boys’ 50m freestyle race over the microphone. I was very excited. I walked quickly.

It is not about winning, it’s about having a go I thought. So I went in every race I could.

Good luck to everyone at Zone. Kalan 3A

Beep! The whistle went and everyone slid into the water. We all started to race as hard as we could. This was my first ever swimming carnival at the Manly Swim Centre. I thought I was about to freeze, but when I made it to the end I was given a peg. I came second!

Eva 2/3C

Kaplunk! I slipped into the pool and thought that I was going to turn into a gigantic ice cube. We were at swim scheme and it was a super cold day. In a flash, the teachers told me to zoom to the slippery, wet ramp. I felt like a graceful penguin in water.

Darcie 2/3C

The buzzer went off! I was really nervous and my knees were shaking like mad. We were at the Manly Swim Centre for the Swimming Carnival. In a flash, I was in the water swimming like mad. Suddenly, I touched the end. It felt like it didn’t take long at all. It was the best carnival.

Mia 2/3C
National Ride2School Day

‘Wacky Wednesday’ 18th March

Ride, scoot, skate or walk to school!

Narrabeen Lakes active travel day is just around the corner!

What’s happening?

- Students who participate will receive a healthy breakfast courtesy of our wonderful parent club.
- Remember to bring your own bowl and spoon.
- Join the ‘Wacky Wednesday’ decorated bike/scooter/skateboard competition.
- Dress in ‘Wacky Wednesday’ mufti – come dressed in your wackiest bike-riding outfit and bring a gold coin donation.
- There will be a special assembly presentation for the wackiest bike decorations.

Why walk or wheel to school?

- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
- There are fewer cars around the school, which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom.

Parents can join in the fun by walking or wheeling with the students.

Safety

All students on wheels are required to wear helmets (this includes skaters and scooters). Bikes, scooters and skateboards must be walked into the school grounds on arrival. To guard the security of the bikes, a roped off area will be provided at the rear of the science room.

Weather

Please monitor the weather conditions for the day. If it is apparent that it will be a wet day or have storm activity, then make a decision based on what is best for your child’s safety, and do not let them ride, scoot or skate.

Did you know?

If you normally drive the distance to school, consider a part way journey. Drive part of the way, park the car, then walk, ride, scoot or skate the remaining distance to school.

Mrs Clark, Science Teacher
10/3/2015

BAND MATTERS

A reminder we have a great fundraising opportunity on Sat 28 March. It is Election Day and we will be having a sausage sizzle and hope to sell some cakes/slices. We are calling on our band parents to volunteer some time (just 1 hour is fine) and to donate some cakes/muffins etc.

Band fees for Semester 1 are now OVERDUE. This payment is for Term 1 and Term 2 and also the annual instrument hire cost.

We will have our training band performing next Thursday 19 March also before school. We hope you can take advantage of this little glimpse of our bands.

Our first Band Member of the Week is JAYDEN MARSHALL for having a great attitude towards band and for always being punctual for band rehearsals. WELL DONE! Jayden will receive a blue award.

PITTWATER PSSA SUMMER DRAW 2015

Junior Girls TBall Senior Boys Softball
Junior Boys Cricket Senior Girls Tag
AFL

• Cricket at venue listed below
• Softball and TBall at Boondah or Rat Park
• All Eagle Tag games are at Narrabeen North Reserve/Rat Park
• All AFL games on front field Narrabeen Sports High

TERM 1

13 Mar NLPS Vs Mona Vale Cricket Griffith, Softball RP
20 Mar NLPS Vs Bilgola Pl Cricket Griffith, Softball RP

PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION on to any relatives that may wish to see your child play.
Vote: 1  
**BAND FUNDRAISER**  
Sat March 28th

**Roster - draft as of 9/3/15**

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<td>Tanya L</td>
<td>Simon H</td>
<td>Dave S</td>
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<td>2-3pm <strong>Pack up</strong></td>
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Band Parents and Carers please text Tanya 0425226247 or email tangsims@bigpond.net.au with your preferred shift

© Copyright 2013, www.spanskool.co.uk
Vote: 1
BAND FUNDRAISER

Saturday March 28th
NSW State Election Day Outside NLPS Hall

Help us turn cakes and bacon and egg rolls into musical instruments!

Dear NLPS community,

Please bring cupcakes, slices, biscuits or whole cakes into school on Friday March 27th or bring them to the cake stall on election day.

Vote 1: bring cakes in Friday March 27th
Vote 2: bring cakes in on the day March 28th
Vote 3: help out on stall
Vote 4: come and buy a bacon and egg roll

email Tanya tangsims@bigpond.net.au to be on the roster

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Dear Parents,

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held from Monday 23rd March to Friday 27th March at Narrabeen Lakes Public School. A range of times is available for the interviews either before or after school, including an evening option on Tuesday 24 March.
You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST.
Go to [http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

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**Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps below.**

1. **Enter your details**
2. **Choose teachers**
3. **Choose times**

When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - check your junk mail folder if you do not receive your email immediately. You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close on Thursday 19 March at 4pm.

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**IMPORTANT**

**No Internet?**
For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, parents can still make their own bookings. Parents may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 9913 7077.

**Interviews are strictly 10 mins** and spaces are limited. Please be prompt to your interview as late arrivals can affect the next interview's start time. If you require more time or a time different to those advertised, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

**Need to change your interview?**
Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9913 7077
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

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<th>TUESDAY 12 MAY</th>
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<th>THURSDAY 14 MAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html).
**Single with Children**

A non-profit social group operated by the Single Parent Family Association

ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT?

Every week Single with Children provides fun and exciting activities especially for single parents and their children (many activities are subsidised or even free)

It’s a great way to meet and get to know people in your area

To find out more and get a FREE copy of our social calendar, contact us today.

Call 1300 300 496

Or visit our website: www.singlewithchildren.com.au

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**KIDS CAMPS**

**THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP**

- Relaxing
- Fun
- Great value
- Safe

Entertain the kids this school holidays with a Sport and Recreation camp. Our popular Kids and Family Camps offer a range of exciting activities to keep even the biggest kid entertained. Try your hand at over 40 different activities, including fishing, skydiving, abseiling, crafts, kayaking, cooking and more. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Kids Day Camps start from $47. Family Camp weekends start from $63 per day for kids and $96 per day for adults (kids under 5 attend free. Cost includes accommodation, meals and activities).