Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week we farewelled Mrs O’Neill for the term, as she took up the Principal position at Mount Annan Public School. Over the past 9 years, Mrs O’Neill has done an outstanding job as the Principal of Ruse Public School. Although she will leave a huge hole in our leadership team, we know that she will be regularly checking in with our staff and students, lending her knowledgeable advice and support.

I would like to also sincerely thank everyone for welcoming me into the position for this term. I am really looking forward to the opportunity and I know I will enjoy working with the students, staff and the whole school community. I feel very fortunate to lead, as Mrs O’Neill says, ‘the Best School in Campbelltown’ for the term, as we have fantastic students and a very collegial staff, who always go above and beyond the call of duty for their students.

Over the next couple of terms, Kentlyn PS and Ruse PS will be working together to develop a deep understanding of the new Syllabus. Through this collaborative professional development process we will be working on many areas to improve student learning outcomes. Teachers will be involved in analysing the new Syllabus documents, developing innovative strategies to support shared understanding in planning and programming, authentic assessment practices and consistent teacher judgement.

I look forward to a very productive term working with you all.

Paul McGillicuddy
Relieving Principal
Arrival at School
Over the past term, a number of students have been arriving at school early. Our school does not commence operation until 8:30am and there is no supervision before this time. Although this is the case, we will continue to open the gates, as we do not want students waiting outside the school grounds near the road. We ask parents to please ensure children do not arrive at school before 8:30am.

Anzac Day Service
Last Thursday, Ruse Public School held a service to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ANZAC’s landing at Gallipoli. The proceedings were led by the 2015 leadership team and included various items by Stage 3, a wreath laying ceremony and a reading by Mrs Kylie Devine. Afterwards parents enjoyed a lovely morning tea. Thank you to everyone who attended this special service.

Shirley Smith
Anzac Day Organiser

Campbelltown Commemorates
Last Friday, I had the pleasure of taking a group of students to ‘Campbelltown Commemorates’, a special day at THE CUBE organised by Campbelltown City Council to honour the ANZAC Centenary. During the service, a small group of students from our school choir formed part of a mass choir of 150 students from 60 schools in the community. The students performed a beautiful song they had spent a lot of time and effort learning.

The Student Leadership Team were called upon to accept a special plaque that will be displayed in the office, made from seedlings from Lone Pine. They also had the privilege of presenting a wreath to the Campbelltown Returned Services League Sub Branch, which was to be laid during official services on ANZAC Day.

The students were then able to learn about soldiers from WWI, make poppies, climb through tanks and war time cars and play with everyday objects that people used back in the early 1900s. The students enjoyed these activities and should be commended for their exemplary behaviour. All of the students had a clear understanding of why we were taking part in ‘Campbelltown Commemorates’ and displayed the utmost respect throughout the day.

Ms Wheatley

Schoolparents.com.au
The Easter prize was won by Mr R Steadman. Schoolparents.com.au would like to learn more about the parents at Ruse Public School, to help us get the most out of the site. Could you please complete their short (2 minute) survey by following the link below. There is one Faber-Castell Art Pack worth $150 to be given away to one Ruse parent who completes the survey before 8 May.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9HN5YSW
NAPLAN
If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9 at school, they’ll sit NAPLAN tests this May. And despite what you may have heard, there’s no reason to panic or start an intensive study schedule for your child.

NAPLAN is short for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) and has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008.
The NAPLAN tests will occur in Week 4 on the following dates:
Language Conventions  Tuesday 12 May (Morning)
Writing    Tuesday 12 May (Afternoon)
Reading    Wednesday 13 May
Numeracy   Thursday 14 May


Student XO laptops
We have had many developments with the XO laptops over the last couple of months. As a result, we now have a stable Android operating system on these devices and the students have access to many wonderful educational apps to support their learning.

Students will now be assigned an XO device with their name on a key tag, which will follow them from year to year. Thank you to Mrs Woodhouse for taking the time to write over 400 names on these key tags over the holidays. Although students already respect these devices, we believe that they will now take further responsibility and care for them, as they will become their personal property while attending Ruse Public School.

Opportunity Class Placement 2016
Applications are now open for Year 4 students who wish to apply for entry to an opportunity class in 2016. Opportunity classes are for students who are academically gifted. There are several opportunity classes in the Campbelltown/Macarthur region. Successful students would be required to attend one of these schools. Ruse Public School does not have an opportunity class. A full list of schools is provided on the website http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/ocplacement.php
A letter will be sent home today providing information about the online application process. If you are unsure as to whether your child should apply, please contact his/her teacher.

Voluntary Contributions
Voluntary Contribution payments are now due. Payments can also be made via the Parent Online Payment method on the school website.

Parent Online Payments
Parents are able to make online payments for amounts owing in excess of $5-00 via a secure payment page. The payment page is accessed through the schools website by selecting the Parent Online Payment link on the front page of the school website Make New Online Payment.

Payments to the P&C for fundraisers, Bookclub or BBQ days at school CANNOT be made via this system.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner; these details are not passed back to the school. For any enquiries please contact the school.

School Banking
School Banking will resume on Thursday 4th May, Week 3.

Uniform Shop
A reminder that the uniform shop is closed this week and will resume normal hours from next week.

P&C News

Book club will close the 8th May. No late orders will be accepted. Cheques to be made payable to Scholastic Australia not Ruse Public School. If using Scholastics online payment system DO NOT use the loop system.
Thank you

The next P&C meeting is the 19th May at 7pm sharp in the staffroom. All are welcome to attend.
Canteen News

The canteen are having a Hot Dog Meal Deal day on the 5th June. The meal deal will have a hotdog, mini muffin and either a soft drink or small bottle of water. Choice of softdrink will be random. It will cost each child $5 and pre order will be essential. Keep an eye out early May for the order form.

Fundraising News

Mothers Day notes have gone home so you can select your gifts. There is no mother's day raffle this year.

Mother's Day stall is next Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th May. Ensure that you bring your money to buy your mum a gift.

Sport

Tryouts for PSSA winter sports will go ahead this Friday, as long as the weather holds up. Students are reminded that headgear and mouth-guards are compulsory for rugby league and shin guards for soccer.

Trials for West's all Schools Gala Day for rugby league were held today for the senior open boys, who will also form the team for knockout rugby league. Junior U'10 boys will be chosen this Wednesday. The West’s All Schools will be played at Eschol Park Playing Fields on Wednesday 20th May. Notes will be coming home today and tomorrow.

The date for the knockout is yet to be confirmed, however this will be played at Worrell Park Oval and there is no cost to the students for this particular event.

Training days are as follows for Rugby League:

Senior Boys - Tuesdays and Fridays
Junior Boys - Wednesdays and Fridays

Please bring your headgear and mouth-guards to training. Mouth-guards are available to purchase from the school for $5.00.

A huge shout out goes to the boys knockout basketball team who will play this Friday against Dalmeny. Good luck boys. The girls basketball team is set to play in a few weeks and I also wish them all the best.

In other news, we have had another two students selected for Zone teams. Sarah Spackman has been selected to join the PSSA Zone Softball team and Lucy McGurn was selected for the PSSA Zone Netball team. Lucy is the first girl from Ruse PS to be chosen for PSSA Zone Netball in a number of years. Congratulations, girls. What a wonderful effort.

I would like to thank all the students who have tried out for PSSA Zone teams over the past few months. You have represented our school with pride and should be very proud of your efforts and achievements.

Ms Clark
Sports Coordinator
Community News

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