Term 1 Dates

Week 6
Mar 2  Ghana Beat My Drum
Mar 4  Clean Up Australia Day

Week 7
Mar 8  Zone Swimming Carnival
Mar 10 Selective High School Placement Test
Mar 11 Gala Day

Week 10
Mar 29  Leadership Camp Wedderburn
Apr 1  Gala Day

Week 11
Last Day of School 8th April, 2016

EFTPOS IS COMING!!!

The P&C run canteen

The P&C would really like your help in the canteen. If you can spare a day or two throughout the term, it would be greatly appreciated and valued.

The P&C canteen runs purely on a volunteer basis and without community support, the school and the P&C may need to investigate other options. Last year, it was suggested that we seek the support of our community by putting out a calendar and asking parents who can volunteer 1-2 days a term to support with the operation of the canteen. If you are able to assist, please cut this section out of the Newsletter and send it into school.

Thanks, Kylie Devine

Attention Kylie Devine,

I am able to assist in the canteen on the circled date/s in Term 1. I have left my name and a contact number below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>The P&amp;C need your help!</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Can you volunteer a day a term?</th>
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Volunteer’s Name/s: ______________________________ Contact Number: ______________________________
Supporting Our Community (SD 3 - Leadership - School Parent Partnerships)

We are very sad to inform you that one of our Kindergarten students, Alijana Forrest, has been recently diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer called Rhabdomyosarcoma. She is currently undergoing intensive radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatment at Randwick Children’s Hospital.

Her parents and her nurse educator have informed us that she has a strong fighting spirit and always has a very positive frame of mind. She has been hospitalised for the past few weeks and will remain there while she undergoes her specialised treatment.

As you can imagine, Alijana’s illness has devastated her family beyond belief and has had a severe financial impact upon them. The members of the Ruse Public School community are also very deeply saddened by this situation. We would like to get behind Alijana’s family and offer them as much financial support as we can.

In support of Alijana, the P&C have kindly offered to donate one week’s takings from the canteen to support her parents with the huge financial stress they are currently facing. Due to needing to be with Alijana at all times, pressure is mounting on the family to pay household bills and the expensive parking fees they face daily at the Sydney Children’s Hospital.

We are asking families to support the P&C’s effort to fundraise for Alijana by encouraging children to make purchases from the canteen during **WEEK 8**. We will also be placing collection cans in the office and the canteen in case you would like to make a donation.

We are sure you will join with us in supporting Alijana and her family through this most difficult time.

Principal Induction (SD 3 - Leadership - School Parent Partnerships)

Last week, I was fortunate enough to attend a mandatory Principal Induction Program that was organised by the Department of Education (DoE). Over 170 first-time principals from DoE primary and high schools around NSW came together to attend the conference to receive a comprehensive induction into the role.

At the conference, we were introduced to the new NSW Public School Leadership and Management Credential, which comprises 18 online modules designed to help principals develop consistent skills and knowledge.

In 2016, first-time principals will complete the leadership and management credential within six months of their appointment. From 2017, first-time principals will have completed the credential prior to appointment.

The credential is a key part of the School Leadership Strategy released by Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli in November 2015. This strategy brings together actions to identify, develop and support the current and next generation of school leaders in NSW public schools into one coordinated and comprehensive approach.

Over the course of the three days, I was able to share some of the fantastic achievements that are happening at Ruse PS, while learning about many of the wonderful things that are happening in other NSW Public Schools.

Staff Changes (SD 2 - Leadership, Community Partnerships)

A massive congratulations to Mrs Melissa Hall, who has been successful in attaining a permanent teaching position at Rossmore Public School. Mrs Hall has been a temporary teacher at Ruse Public School since 2011. In her time at Ruse, she has earned the respect of students, staff and parents for her kind, friendly nature and her outstanding teaching skills. We are very disappointed to see her leave Ruse but we are also very happy for her as she embarks on this next chapter of her career.

Mrs Hall will finish on Friday of Week 7. We were advised late last week that a new permanent teacher has been appointed to our school. Mrs Jodie Langston will begin teaching on 3/4H from Monday of Week 8. Mrs Hall will work closely with Mrs Langston to ensure a smooth and successful transition to 3/4H.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.
Action Learning For innovation (SD 2 - Leadership, Community Partnerships)

We have established a team of teachers to participate in an action research project to support innovative change in teaching practices with a specific focus on improving writing outcomes for all students. The team recently took part in a professional workshop led by Education Changemakers. It was a highly worthwhile day and we look forward to embarking on a journey towards schoolwide improvement.

Community Announcement (SD 3 - Leadership - School Parent Partnerships)

We have been informed today that due to Father Tony’s funeral and the expected large numbers attending, there will be a lot of traffic down Junction Road between 2:30 -2:45pm on Thursday 3rd March. We seek your patience, until the funeral procession has passed our school.

Thanks for the Support (SD 3 - Leadership - School Parent Partnerships)

Last Saturday afternoon, Mrs Pink gave up her afternoon to train some Ruse PS students who are representing our school at the Zone Swimming carnival next Tuesday, 8th March 2015. She is doing a second training session this Sunday, March 6th.

Mrs Pink is a trained swim-school instructor and the students gained a lot from her expertise. Thank you, Mrs Pink. The school is extremely grateful for your time and support.

Fighting for Fiji (SD 3 - Leadership - School Parent Partnerships)

One of our Ruse families has relatives in Fiji who been affected by the devastating cyclone. Eli and Sia have demonstrated great empathy and character and have taken it upon themselves to raise funds and awareness for Fiji by seeking the support of their friends and community.

As a school community, we would like to support their family and will be holding a mufti-day on Wednesday, 23rd March, 2016. The school will also become a collection point for donations. They are asking for the items below to assist their family’s community in Fiji. If you are able help, please bring your contributions into the office.

Eli and Sia have used social media to create awareness and have established a Facebook Page called Fighting for Fiji. Please jump on and like their page.
My sister and I have created this page to try and help our family in Fiji affected by the recent cyclone. Here's what we are going to do! For the next 4-6 weeks we will be collecting donations that we will then send over to our family in Fiji who will distribute the items to the people in their village to give them some assistance.

Here is what we will be collecting:

✔ Deodorant
✔ Toothpaste
✔ Toothbrushes
✔ Hairbrushes
✔ Sanitary items
✔ Second hand summer clothes all genders any size
✔ Biscuits
✔ Rice Crackers
✔ Cup a soup
✔ 2 min noodles
✔ Cereal
✔ Textas/pencils
✔ Small exercise books

Why not buy one of these items when you shop next and lend a hand? We will be collecting all items and then sending them over to our family's village (in one big shipment). If you can help in any way please let us know. Thank you so much for any support you may be able to offer.

The Campbelltown community have already been very generous and started donating items. Check it out on Facebook. Well done to Sia and Eli.
Zone Sporting Teams
We acknowledge all of the students who competed in trials for various Zone Representative teams and congratulate those who were successful:

**Bailey White - Campbelltown PSSA Boys Basketball**
**Lucy McGurn - Campbelltown PSSA Girls Basketball**
**Corey Lee - Campbelltown Zone Boys Soccer**

We are very proud and know that you will represent Ruse with pride.

Clean Up Australia Day
The 25th Annual schools Clean Up Day will be held this Friday, 4th March. Once again, students at Ruse Public School will be amongst the hundreds of thousands of Australians who get stuck in and clean up their local environment. We are proud of the natural environment we have at Ruse and students will take this opportunity to pick up the litter that accumulates about our grounds despite our ongoing efforts to do the right thing and put our litter in the bin.

Technology - Trial of new XO app.
Four classes across the school have been selected to trial a new app on their XOs called “Journal”. Journal has a dual functionality. Firstly, it provides a repository to compile a digital portfolio of electronic work samples and students’ reflections on their learning with access for parents. Secondly, it enables tracking of the usage of installed apps across the school providing valuable information about which apps are more useful in the classroom environment. Students in 4/5D, 3/4C, 2/3W and 1/2H will be involved in the trial over the coming weeks.

Father Tony Daly

Just informing the community, that one of our valued community members, who has had a long standing history with our school, Father Tony Daly, passed away on Monday, 29th February, after being recently diagnosed with Pancreatic cancer.

The staff and community of Ruse Public School wish his family all the very best during this very tough time. The funeral will take place Thursday 3rd March at St Thomas More Church, Ruse, at 1:00pm.

Sacramental Dates for 2016 - St Thomas More

**First Reconciliation:** (For baptised children in Year 3 and above). **Parent/Carer Information Night:**
**Wednesday 17th February at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Parents/Carers have to attend for your child to make this Sacrament. Classes will commence on Sunday 21st February.
First Holy Communion (Eucharist): (For baptised children in Year 3 and above and have made the Sacrament of Reconciliation). **Parent/Carer Information Night: Wednesday 6th April at 7.30pm** in the Parish Church. Parents/Carers have to attend for your child to make this Sacrament. Classes will commence on Sunday 24th April.

**Confirmation**: Date to be announced.

If you have any enquiries regarding any of the Sacraments please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office on 4628 2967 during office hours.

**25th Anniversary Campbelltown City Challenge Walk**

The 25th Anniversary Challenge Walk at The Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan will be held on Sunday 13 March, 2016. A leaflet will be posted on the office window and an entry form can be obtained if anyone is interested.

**Head Lice**

At this time of the year head lice are prevalent and we would ask parents to check their children’s hair on a regular basis.

**Book Club**

Book Club orders are due back by Friday, 18th March. Alternatively if you have online access you can order now via the Loop system. Orders will still be sent to the school, however, you do not need to return any forms.

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**LOOP is Scholastic Book Clubs Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.**

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, **LOOP** makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to [www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child’s class
- Add your child’s first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child’s classroom if you order by the close date
- There’s no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!


**P&C Fundraising**
The P&C have organised an Easter Raffle to be drawn on Monday 21st March at the morning assembly. Tickets will be going home this week. The tickets are $1.00 each or 3 for $2.00. Tickets are to be returned to the office in an envelope marked “Easter Raffle” before Friday 18th March at 9.00am to allow the raffle to be prepared. Additional tickets will be available from the front office.