Did you know that when you touch the pin on the ‘Venues’ map it will show details of that venue? And did you know that if you click on the ‘directions’ button a new map will open specifically for the venue? You can then press the ‘Get Here’ button in the top right corner to get directions from wherever you are to the venue. Some phone models may display this information slightly differently.

Did you know that the ‘Parents Biz Directory’ is there to let you promote your business? For an annual fee you can display your business details to your fellow school parents (subject to approval).

Did you know that our mobile app will let you add ‘Notes Due’ instantly to your calendar? Just click on the note and look for the + sign in the top right corner. Press the + and the ‘Notes Due’ date is automatically added to your phone’s calendar. You can then set reminders for yourself. Some phone models may not allow this feature.

Did you know you can share the app with friends and other school parents by clicking on the ‘Tell a Friend’ button located on the home screen? You can share by email, Facebook, Twitter or SMS. Did you also know our school can earn funds for any apps ordered by a referral for our school parents? So tell everyone!

Classes and staff
Thank you for your patience in the first week and a half while students were still enrolling and classes were formed. The students have settled in really well into their ‘big’ school.

Unfortunately, DEC requirements mean that the class cannot be formed until students enrol. If several more students are actually enrolled. If several more enrol, it would necessitate a restructure of some existing classes but we will keep you well informed if this needs to happen.

Staff and classes for Term 1 are:

Executive
Mrs Deborah Blackwell Principal
Mr Martin McDonald Deputy Principal

Mrs Gayle Henwood Assistant Principal - Kindergarten
Mrs Susanne Lakeman Assistant Principal - Year 1 and 2
Mrs Louise Payne Assistant Principal - Years 3 to 6
Dr Ruth Bruce District Guidance Officer
Mrs Joanne Gilmour School Administrative Manager

Class Teachers
KT HB1 Mrs Turner (Mon-Thurs), Miss Silvino (Fri)
KH HB2 Mrs Henwood (Mrs Sonni every 2nd Tuesday)
KC HB3 Mrs Circosta
KJ HB4 Mr Hofman
During the year * denotes positions where another teacher MAY be appointed during the year.

Mr Jim Linigen (employed by Spotless)

**Administrative Staff**

**Manager**
Mrs Gilmour

**Officer**
Mrs Oliver

**Officer**
Mrs Kelly

**Officer**
Mrs Fone (Mon)

**General Assistant**
Mr Lyle Barnwell

**School Staff**

**Officer**
Mr Lyle Barnwell

**Site Manager**
Mr Jim Linigen (employed by Spotless)

**Students**

- Mrs James (Mon-Thurs), Mrs Vahanvaty (Fri)
- Miss Bond
- Miss Duncan *
- Mrs Vahanvaty (Mon), Mrs Escobar (Tues-Fri)
- Mrs Llewellyn
- Mrs Lakeman (Mrs Sonni every 2nd Tuesday)
- Mrs Paredes
- Mrs Ingall
- Mr Morton (Mrs Sonni every 2nd Wednesday)
- Mrs Creer
- Miss Silvino (Science & Technology Mon-Fri)
- Mr Pleffer (Science & Technology Mon-Fri)
- Mrs Vahanvaty (Thurs)
- Mrs Escobar (Tues am only)
- Mrs Vahanvaty (Fri)
- Mrs Wunschl (Mon), Mrs Vahanvaty (Fri)
- Mrs Kuntze
- Mrs Hossack (Wed-Fri)
- Mrs Leysen (Wed-Fri)
- Mrs Wunschl (Mon-Fri)
- Mrs Sonni (Mon)

**School Learning and Support Officers**

**Integration**
Mrs Dwight

**K-6**
Miss Boyd (Mon-Wed)

**Early Intervention**
Mrs Wunschl (Mon-Tues am only)

**ESL**
Mrs Walker

**Support**
Mrs Leysen (Mon-Wed)

**RFF**
Mr Pleffer (Science & Technology Mon-Fri)

**Library**
Miss Silvino (Mon-Wed)

**Early Intervention**
Mrs Walker

**ESL**
Mrs Shelton (Wed-Fri)

**Support**
Mrs Leysen (Mon-Wed)

**RFF**
Mr Pleffer (Science & Technology Mon-Fri)

**Library**
Mr Creer

**School Counsellors**

**K-6**
Dr Bruce

**Early Intervention**
Miss Silvino (Science & Technology – Thurs)

**Administration**

**Manager**
Mrs Gilmour

**Officer**
Ms Oliver

**Officer**
Mrs Kelly

**Officer**
Mrs Fone (Mon)

**General Assistant**
Mrs Fone (Mon)

**Extremely Important Notice**

We currently have a number of students enrolled at our school who suffer from anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a life threatening allergic reaction to certain foods. In all cases, the trigger food is **peanuts/nuts**.

We are therefore requesting that students assist us in keeping all students safe by not bringing foods to school which contain **peanuts/nuts** as one of the listed ingredients eg. peanut butter, nutella.

Many products contain a warning that they may contain traces of peanut or nuts and these are fine to bring to school.

**Anaphylaxis**

The Department of Education and Communities has recently announced that all government schools will receive a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) for their first aid kit.

This does not replace the need for parents to continue to provide the school with an adrenaline autoinjector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed and dated by their doctor when their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis.

Instead the general use adrenaline autoinjector is intended to be used if:

- An undiagnosed student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- There is a misfire of the adrenaline autoinjector that has been prescribed for a student
- A student requires further adrenaline autoinjector to be administered after his or her own adrenaline autoinjector has been administered.

Please contact the school if you would like further information in relation to this matter.

**Birthday cakes**

Some families like to send cake or a special treat on or near their child’s birthday to share with the class. It is important that if you would like to do this, that the cake or treat is already in individual portions (eg donuts or cupcakes) or a large cake that is already pre-sliced. Please also send a class set of serviettes or a roll of paper towels to assist with serving.

Due to the large number of students we now have in our school with food allergies, cakes and treats will not be shared unless a list of ingredients has been provided. Many of the prepackaged cakes from major supermarkets contain a list of ingredients and the bakery section is happy to provide you with a list if it is not already on the product.

In order to avoid disappointing your child, please ensure that the ingredient list is provided.

**Uniform review**

A school uniform consists of clothing, headwear and footwear which identifies students as belonging to a particular school. Schools expect students to wear their uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities outside of school hours.

For the past five years, students at John Palmer Public School have worn their uniform with pride. As a newly established school, our uniform played a significant part in developing the culture of the school. The community perception of John Palmer Public School is extremely high, and the appearance and consistent wearing of our
school uniform has contributed significantly to this. Whenever our students are out in public, compliments about our uniform are plentiful. Almost all of the visitors to the school also comment positively on our uniform.

The John Palmer Public School uniform was decided on following consultation with our stakeholders when the school was established. It is a requirement of the NSW Department of Education and Communities that the school uniform is reviewed at the conclusion of each five year period to ensure that it continues to reflect the school community standards and expectations.

A uniform survey is being made available to all members of the school community (students, parents, staff). The parent survey can be accessed through the link on our website under ‘Latest News and Features’. All required information must be provided. Only one survey per family will be accepted. The closing date for the survey is Friday 8 March at 3pm. Surveys submitted after this time will not be considered. Thank you in anticipation of your response.

**Phoning the office**

Our school office is extraordinarily busy between 8.30 and 9.30am and 2.30 and 3.30pm. If you need to phone the office it would be greatly appreciated if you could do so outside of these peak times unless it is an emergency.

You might like to try our new app for notifying of a child’s absence or making an appointment with a teacher rather than ringing us or waiting in the long office queue.

**Dogs at school**

Dogs and other animals are not permitted on the school grounds at any time without prior written approval from the Principal.

Parents who walk their dog to school need to be mindful that many children, particularly the younger ones, are terrified of dogs. Please keep well away from the gates and busy areas if you have your dog with you.

**Copies**

School personnel invest a significant amount of time in printing and providing receipts for payments, student reports, NAPLAN reports and the like in hard copy format.

It is important that families value these documents and keep them in a secure place for future reference such as tax time and moving on to high school. Additional copies of these items will incur a $2 printing and administration fee per page so please keep the originals safe.

**Update bulletin**

Our ‘Update’ bulletin will be available on our website at www.johnpalmer-p.schools.nsw.edu.au on the following Fridays in Term 1. Remember that you can also access the newsletter easily through our app.

1 March
15 March
28 March
12 April

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**Excellence assemblies**

Our Excellence Assemblies are held on Fridays in the hall, commencing at 11.30am. Parents and carers of the class presenting the assembly are welcome to join us.

Excellence Assemblies give us an opportunity to publicly recognise students within our school who are achieving great things in learning, sport, the arts and citizenship.

Younger siblings are welcome at the assembly but must be under direct parent supervision (in pram, on a lap, or the seat next to you) at all times. Please do not allow your child to play outdoors while the assembly is on. As a courtesy to the class presenting the assembly, we ask that the audience is quiet. These simple requests should ensure that our Excellence Assemblies are excellent!

**K-2 Excellence Assemblies for Term 1:**

- 8 March 1P
- 22 March 2D
- 5 April KB

**Year 3-6 Excellence Assemblies for Term 1:**

- 1 March 5/6W
- 15 March 3V
- 28 March (Thurs) 4/5K

**Meal deals**

Special meal deals are available each fortnight from the canteen. You can easily find what the next meal deal will be by clicking on the drop down menu from the homepage on our website. Go to Home ➔ More News ➔ Canteen (on left hand side of page) ➔ Meal Deal

- Canteen opens at 8.30am.
- All orders are to be made online at www.flexischools.com.au or handed to the canteen staff or put in the order baskets on the counter. The online order cut off time has been extended to 9.00am.
- All orders made at the canteen should be written on a brown lunch bag. If orders come in envelopes, please ensure they are well sealed at the sides.
- Orders need to have your child's name, class and whether it is a recess or lunch order.
- Recess orders are collected from the canteen
- Lunch orders are sent to the individual classes in lunch baskets
- Any ice blocks ordered with lunch are given to students when they return their brown lunch bag to the canteen
- If you are ordering Halal products, please write ‘Halal’ on the bag as these are different items.

If you have any questions regarding the canteen, please feel free to come and speak to Bronwyn.

**Important school information**

Please add the following information to your diary or address book and remember to program the school’s number into your mobile phone. If you have downloaded our app, there is a direct call link on the home page.

John Palmer Public School
85 The Ponds Boulevard
The Ponds NSW 2769
POSITIVE PARENTING
$25 per person
12 March 6-9pm
A 3 hour seminar that will assist parents of children aged 3-8 years old to:
- know and acknowledge each child as an individual
- understand the power of focusing on what children are doing well
- deal with what children do that is not working for themselves and others

**Term 1 calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February</td>
<td>Yrs 3-6 Parent information afternoon 3.10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>Kindergarten information afternoon 3.10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February</td>
<td>School swimming carnival at Nirimba Pool (for all students in Yrs 3-6 and competitors squad swimmers from Yr 2 who are turning 8 in 2013. Please see separate note and additional requirements for Yr 2 students wishing to participate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>Yrs 1-2 Parent information afternoon 3.10pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 February</td>
<td>PSSA starts (for Yr3-6 students who have been selected to represent our school in PSSA teams)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 February</td>
<td>Student basketball clinics (FREE – during school time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Student basketball clinics (FREE – during school time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February</td>
<td>Ridges Swimming Carnival at Blacktown Pool (for selected competitors only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 February – 5 March</td>
<td>Miss Nash on leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Excellence Assembly hosted by 5/6W at 11.30am</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>7.00pm P&amp;C AGM followed by general meeting. All are welcome to join us in the staffroom. Membership of the P&amp;C is $2 per year, payable at the meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-27 March</td>
<td>Mrs Gilmour on leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 March</td>
<td>Excellence Assembly hosted by 1P at 11.30am</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 March</td>
<td>Yrs 6 taste tester lessons with Glenwood HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Selective High School test (for current Year 6 students who made an application in 2012) 2.15pm welcome afternoon tea for new parents (separate invitation with rsvp details will be sent home next week)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Excellence Assembly hosted by 3V at 11.30am</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Sydney West swimming carnival at Homebush (for selected competitors only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 March</td>
<td>Excellence Assembly hosted by 2D at 11.30am</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Week 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>Student leaders at leadership conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 March - 9 April</td>
<td>Life Education – separate information and permission note will be provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Excellence Assembly hosted by 4/5K at 11.30am. Please note that this is a Thursday. Combined Christian Easter Service at 2pm. Parents welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 April</td>
<td>Easter Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>NSW PSSA Swimming Carnival – selected competitors only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April</td>
<td>NSW PSSA Swimming Carnival – selected competitors only 6:30-7:00pm OOSH review – parents of students attending OOSH are welcome – held in the hall. 7:00-9:00pm P&amp;C meeting in staffroom – all welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 April</td>
<td>Last day of summer PSSA Excellence Assembly hosted by KB at 11.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Term dates for 2013

**Term 1**
- Tuesday 29 January: Staff return
- Wednesday 30 January: Years 1-6 return
- Wednesday 6 February: 1st group of Kindergarten begins
- Thursday 7 February: 2nd group of Kindergarten begins
- Friday 29 March: Good Friday (public holiday)
- Monday 1 April: Easter Monday (public holiday)
- Friday 12 April: Last day of Term 1 for all students

**Term 2**
- Monday 29 April: School Development Day (pupil free)
- Tuesday 30 April: School Development Day (pupil free)
- Wednesday 1 May: K-6 students return
- Monday 10 June: Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday
- Friday 28 June: Last day of Term 2 for all students

**Term 3**
- Monday 15 July: School Development Day (pupil free)
- Tuesday 16 July: K-6 students return
- Friday 20 September: Last day of Term 3 for all students

**Term 4**
- Monday 7 October: Labour Day (public holiday)
- Tuesday 8 October: K-6 students return (please note that there is no School Development Day at the beginning of Term 4)
- Wednesday 18 December: Last day of school for 2013 for students
- Friday 20 December: Last day for 2013 for teachers

### Advertisements

The following are paid advertisement. The products, services and activities advertised are not endorsed by John Palmer Public School.

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New to Stanhope Gardens!

If you are looking for a Family Daycare Educator that is offering an education programme suited to the age of your child/ren, in a caring, compassionate and safe environment.

Very experienced working with children

Ages 6 weeks old to 12 years old

Please contact Karissa

Mobile: 0431 345 405

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BreastScreen van to visit Rouse Hill!

The BCI Sunflower Clinic BreastScreen Van will be at Rouse Hill Town Centre (near Market Square where the Farmers’ Markets are held) from 1st-27th February 2013.

BreastScreen is especially for women aged 50-69 years.

Phone 13 20 50 to make an appointment for your FREE screening mammogram today!

---

Play Hockey

Register now with Kings Langley Hockey Club for the 2013 winter season;

- 6 to 9 year old beginner programmes
- Junior competition for 10 to 17 year olds
- Open Age 4-a-side programme

Based at Cavanagh Reserve Tennis Courts Lalor Park

For more information phone Lyn on 9674 2876

Learn to Play the Piano

Piano lessons for ALL AGES

Coaching beginners to advanced students

Piano accompaniment

Preparations for AMEB Examinations or just for fun!

Call 0410 443 258 for an introductory offer.