Whooping cough information

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night. Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.

If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

School photos - groups and sport

A reminder that group and sport photos will be taken on Wednesday, 18 November. 5/6L’s class photo will also be retaken on this day. A separate note has been sent home giving further details.

P&C Disco

The P&C disco that was to take place earlier in the term will now be held during Term 1 2016. We apologise for any disappointment or inconvenience this may cause but are looking forward to having a great Hawaiian disco next year.

KB’s Excellence Assembly

The Excellence Assembly hosted by KB that was scheduled for Friday, 13th November, will now be held on Monday, 16th November, commencing at approximately 11.30am. The change in date was due to a memorial service for Tim Jelacic being held on the 13th. We appreciate your understanding.

Social media

Our school communicates with parents and the JPPS community in a variety of ways including our fortnightly newsletter, website, app, our information board at the front of the school and through notes sent home with students.

We are continually looking at ways to improve communication with our families and are currently investigating the possibility of using social media as one of our communication strategies next year.

We are aware of the ‘John Palmer PS Families’ facebook page. This page is not endorsed or managed by the school and therefore we do not take any responsibility for the information, comments or opinions provided on this site.

Premier’s Spelling Bee

We are very proud of Vince from Year 4 following his successful progression to the state final of the Premier’s Spelling Challenge. Vince will be competing in the challenge on Wednesday, 11 November and we wish him all the best for the day. The final will be broadcast live on ABC Local Radio (702), statewide from 5:35 pm – 6:00 pm so make sure you are tuned in.

A total of 3 562 students from 939 NSW Schools have been involved in the Premier’s Spelling Bee in 2015 so Vince has done a fantastic job in reaching this level.
Parent Payments Online (POP)

Payments can still be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS and credit card in the usual way at John Palmer Public School but now we have an even easier way for you to pay.

You can now pay online via the school website. Payments can be made using either a Visa or Mastercard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school’s website by selecting $Make a payment.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions etc.

When you access $Make a payment you must enter:

Student Details
- The student’s name
- Class
- Date of birth

Payment Options
Follow the instructions on the bottom of the permission note sent home with your child detailing the:
- Payment option
- Payment description
- Payment amount

Please note: You can make more than one payment for a student but you cannot pay for multiple students in the one transaction unless it is a family payment. If this is the case, please choose the eldest child for the payment.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner. These details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

Permission Note
Don’t forget, you still have to fill in the permission notes and send these to school with your child as soon as possible.

Please write the receipt number on the permission note, so that we can also match the payment.

For any enquiries regarding the Parent Online Payment (POP) process, please contact the school office.

Joanne Gilmour
School Administrative Manager

Application for extended leave
The Department of Education (and therefore JPPS), no longer accepts family holidays and travel as reasons for exemption from school. These absences are now considered as absences and an application for a Certificate of Extended Leave for Travel must be applied for through the school office. The application needs to be made a minimum of ten school days before travel and documentation such as air/ ship/ train ticket, accommodation confirmations or a travel itinerary for domestic travel must be provided.

Anaphylaxis
All Department of Education and Communities schools have a general use adrenaline autoinjector (an EpiPen) in 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.

Please contact Luke Hogan (Deputy Principal) if you would like further information in relation to this.

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.

Several of our students are highly anaphylactic so we ask that students who have eaten nut products, including nutella and peanut butter for breakfast, wash their face and hands thoroughly before coming to school.

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

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.

Phoning the office
Our school office is extraordinarily busy between 8.30 and 9.30am and 2.30 and 3.00pm. 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.

We encourage the use of our app for notifying of a child’s absence or making an appointment with a teacher.

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 2015. Remember that you can also access the newsletter easily through our app.

20 November
4 December

Very occasionally, issues with technology cause a delay in the upload of the bulletin to the website.

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!

Assemblies will be hosted by the following classes in 2015:

K-2:
16 November KB (please note change in date from 13th)
27 November 2P

Year 3-6:
20 November 5/6J
4 December 5/6L

Special Assemblies:
11 December Annual Excellence Assembly

Canteen news

- 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 is 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 lunch order bag to the canteen.
- If you are ordering Halal products, please write ‘Halal’ on the bag.

Meal Deals Monday 26th October – Friday 13th November, 2015:

Meal Deal 1 $4.50
Chicken, lettuce & Mayo Sandwich
Juice Popper
Fruit Cup

Meal Deal 2 $4.50
Cheeseburger
Slushie

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
Phone: 8882 9480
Fax: 8882 9479
Email: johnpalmer-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term dates for 2015

Term 4
Wednesday 16 December Last day of school for 2015 for students
Friday 18 December Last day for 2015 for teachers

Week 6 Event/Activity
11 November Happy Diwali
12 November Kinder 2016 Orientation program

Week 7 Event/Activity
16 November 11.30am Excellence Assembly hosted by KB
17 November Ridges friendly debate at JPPS
18 November 5/6L, sport and other group photos
19 November Kinder 2016 Orientation program
20 November 11.30am Excellence Assembly hosted by 5/6J

Week 8 Event/Activity
25 November 4P at CARES
26 November 4D at CARES
Kinder 2016 Orientation program
27 November 11.30am Excellence Assembly hosted by 2P

Week 9 Event/Activity
2 December Glenwood HS orientation day
4M at CARES
3 December 7.00pm JPPS Spectacular at The Ponds HS
4 December 11.30am Excellence Assembly hosted by 5/6L

The following are paid advertisements. The products, services and activities advertised are not endorsed by John Palmer PS.
Blacktown Council Registered Before & After School Care in The Ponds

16 Ruddy Lane, The Ponds, NSW 2769

I am Nafisa, Registed educator of this service. I am a certified early childhood educator. I have all required qualifications to ensure your child’s safety like, working with children check, police check, first aid, asthma and anaphylaxis, CPR. Child protection certificates etc. This before and after school care operated under Blacktown Council Family Day Care. The Australian Government’s Childcare Benefit (CCB) is available.

Standard Operation Hour:

Monday – Friday: 7am-9am (before school Care) and 3pm to 6pm (after school Care)
Public Holiday, Vacation Care, Pick up and drop of from and to school are also available.

We value your child’s individual development and offers holistic educational programs to extend your child’s learning in all developmental areas. The service provides indoor and outdoor programs. Your child will be cared for in a safe, loving, fun and stimulating environment at our Care.

Contact details:
Email: familydaycare-section@blacktown.nsw.gov.au
nafisa.azam@gmail.com
Phone: The scheme/co-ordination unit: 9839 6860 or Nafisa: 0432165010

The Ponds Mums Time Out Group

NEW!

Hi mums,
Come along to join this wonderful group to meet and make new friends with other local mums, share stories and experiences in a relaxed friendly and safe environment.

- Health and wellbeing
- Self-care and Relaxation
- Parenting information
- Group activities
- Morning tea provided

VENUE: The Ponds Community Hub Hall 3,
45 Riverbank Drive, The Ponds

COST: FREE

To register or for further information, contact Alice on (02) 9865 7285
Email: alice.fang@wesleyministion.org.au

“It takes a village to raise a child”

Lisa’s Beauty Room

For all your beauty needs including:
Waxing, Facials, Eyelash Tinting and Lifting, Manicures and Pedicures, Gel overlay and Spray Tanning

Lisa Miloa
mob 0408 629 049

52 Riverbank Drive, The Ponds NSW 2769