Contacting the School
Are you aware that the school Office is manned only between the hours of 8:30 am - 3:30 pm each day? Explanations for student absences can be completed via our School App. In the first instance, classroom issues should be discussed with your child’s teacher during an appointment mutually agreeable to you and the teacher.

Congratulations!
Congratulations to our students for their participation and enthusiasm at the annual swimming carnival. It was a great day for all involved. A huge thank you to the many parents and family members that assisted on the day.

P&C
I would like to encourage all families to read the article provided by the school P&C regarding the annual general meeting that will take place during the next meeting. James Skinner and his committee have achieved some great outcomes over the past twelve months, however they need the support of new people to keep supporting our school.

Parent Info Sessions
Coming up on Tuesday, 1 March are Parent Information Sessions. These sessions are run by each class/grade to give parents an indication of what they can expect for their child in 2016 eg routines, expectations, homework, etc.

There will be two session times for each class for those families with more than one child. The times are 5.00 pm - 5.30 pm and 5.30 pm - 6.00 pm.

More information on the sessions will be in next week’s newsletter.

David Crowe
Principal

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### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 February</td>
<td>Zone Swimming at Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19 February</td>
<td>Summer Reading Program and reading log due at Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5 Surf Lifesaving note and money due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 1.30 pm Connected Classroom - All welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 3-6 Alternate Sports Program money due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24 February</td>
<td>Last hard copy of the school newsletter will be sent home - see page 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26 February</td>
<td>Supercover payments due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Teen Talk note due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 5 Surf Lifesaving</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hunter Tennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zone AFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consent forms for Tell Them from Me survey due (if you do not wish your child to participate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29 February</td>
<td>Hunter Girls Cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Teen Talk 9.20 am Year 6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1 March</td>
<td>Teen Talk 9.20 am Year 6 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Information Evening 5.00 pm - 5.30 pm 5.30 pm - 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2 March</td>
<td>Newsletter ONLY available electronically for the remainder of 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM 7.00 pm School Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3 March</td>
<td>Hunter Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Visiting show - “The fairest of them all”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8 March</td>
<td>Hunter AFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9 March</td>
<td>Zone Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11 March</td>
<td>Zone Netball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week’s assembly will be hosted by 2P at the starting time of 12.45 pm.

The newsletter will be only available electronically from Wednesday, 2 March. See page 15.
Student Council

Singleton Public School has a Student Representative Council that consists of class representatives from Years 3 to 5, Year 6 councillors and our School Captains and Vice Captains.

In 2015 we worked with our school community to raise money for a number of special activities including the Asthma Foundation, Brain Cancer Research and Type 1 Diabetes Research. To raise funds we have held out of uniform days, school discos and other events during special days.

As SRC representatives we also run our weekly school assemblies and represent the school at a number of community events including the annual ANZAC Day March.

This year our council includes –

**Year 6 Captains/Vice Captains**

Logan (C)  
Brock (VC)  
Amelia (C)  
Ruby (VC)

**Year 6 Councillors**

James  
Samuel  
Harry  
Zoe  
Breeanna  
Hannah

**Class Councillors**

5E – Hamish  
5I – Harry  
4/5B – Ella  
4Z – Tyler  
3/4R – Hayden  
3S – Josh  
3A – Lachie

**Year 5 Surf Life Saving**

Year 5 students will be participating in the Surf Fun Safe Program. It is a one day event where students will learn different Surf Life Saving techniques and games. This program is run and supervised by Surf Life Savers.

When: Friday 26th February, 2016  
Where: Nobby’s Beach, Newcastle  
Time: Depart 8.00 am from Singleton PS  
Return approx. 3.00 pm at Singleton PS  
Cost: $25 (This total cost has been partly subsidised by the school)  
Uniform: Students are to wear full school uniform. Students are to bring their towel, swimmers, thongs (for the shower) and any extra clothing needed.

A separate note will be sent home closer to the date with what students need to bring with them on the day and a program with the activities your child will be participating in.
Uniform Shop Roster - Week 5, Term 1 2016
Mon 22/2/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Kylie Broadbent
Fri 26/2/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Renee Mouser

Please contact someone else on the roster if you need to swap your duty.

Canteen Roster - Week 5, Term 1 2016
Mon 22/2/16 Anna Adamthwaite, 1 more helper please
Tues 23/2/16 Pam Dicks, 1 more helper please
Wed 24/2/16 Nicole Furness, 1 more helper please
Thurs 25/2/16 Deb Boston, Kirsten Roxburgh
Fri 26/2/16 Lisa Kramers, Rebecca Cooke

Please advise Nicole Gray if you have any changes to your rostered day.

Positive Behaviour for Learning – PBL Post-It
Every fortnight our school focuses upon a new behaviour to reinforce our school values of RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – QUALITY. All classes engage in small discussions about the various behaviours and students are rewarded for acting in an appropriate manner. This fortnight’s focus is:-

“Quality students are prepared for school”

Information from the DEC
Helping your Kindy kid succeed at school
A great way to kick off your child’s formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom.

Credit Card Payment Slip - Singleton Public School
The school can accept credit card payments (Visa and Mastercard only) over the phone or by mail. Please note, this is not an EFTPOS facility. EFTPOS (Savings or Cheque a/c) can only be paid over the counter.
This facility can be used to pay school contributions, excursions, uniforms or P&C levy etc. The minimum payment is $20.00. Building Fund and Library Fund cannot be paid by credit card.

Student’s Name: ........................................................................................................ Class: .........................
What are you paying for? ........................................................................................................ Date ..................
Credit Card Type (please tick one) □ VISA □ Mastercard Amount paying $.........................
Cardholder Name (as shown on card) Please print in capitals
..................................................................................................................................................
Credit Card Number ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
Expiry Date /
CSV ___ ___ ___ (last three digits on back of card)
Signature of Cardholder ............................................................................................ Contact Number: ........................................
Alternate School Sports Program Term 1

Today students in year 3-6 who returned the Alternate Sports program note, have been advised which selected sport they will be participating in for Term 1. Please return all money to the office by Friday, 19 February 2016 as this is the first day of the program. Prices are: Tennis $26.00, Golf $30.00, Lawn Bowls $6.00 and Boxfit $15.00 payable to school and $10.00 membership payable to PCYC.

Working with Children Checks

All volunteers that come into the school to help with Uniform Shop, Canteen, Breakfast Club, classroom, or excursions, etc should have completed either:-

- A Declaration for Volunteers and Contractors - Appendix 5 (available at the school office) as well as taking a 100 point check to the school office, or
- A Working with Children Check by visiting http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/working-with-children/working-with-children-check to apply and then taking the application and a 100 point check to the RMS.

If you have not completed a declaration in the past 2 years, please update your declaration and 100 point check at the school office.

Your co-operation with completing these checks is appreciated as it is a Department of Education requirement.

P&C Uniform Shop

All plain navy boys and girls long pants and shirts are 50% off. Limited sizes and stock available.

Daytime P&C Meetings

Last year the P&C decided to hold monthly daytime meetings so that parents who couldn't attend evening P&C meetings could still get involved in P&C activities.

The daytime committee had a very successful and rewarding year last year. The Movie Night, the annual fete, and the idea for the colour printed school magazine were all organised at day time meetings. We also discussed improvements to the canteen and uniform shop. We were successful in obtaining significant grants, donations and sponsorship for P&C activities. The daytime meetings are less formal than the evening meetings and are very sociable. If you have any ideas for P&C activities for 2016 or want to know how you can help the P&C work with the school to provide extra resources, please come along.

We are meeting in the Connected Classroom (behind the parsonage and next to the veggie garden) at about 1.30 pm after assembly on Friday 19 February. For future P&C meeting dates, check out the school calendar on the school website or school App, school newsletter, or “like” Singleton Public School P&C on Facebook.

Scripture 2016

Scripture including Bahai will be starting at school on Wednesday, 2 March 2016. If you do not wish your child to attend scripture classes you will need to provide a written note advising that your child is not to attend these classes by Friday, 26 February. This must be handed into the front office and needs to be done at the start of each year. Changes to scripture options will not be accepted after this date. Bahai students need to inform Mrs Scoles to update her records.

Opal Cards for passengers who are not entitled to free bus travel

If you child is not eligible for free bus travel or is travelling by bus to an address that is not their residential address, eg after school care, you can pick up an unregistered Child/Youth Opal card from one of many retailers.

You can also top up your Opal card with cash or a debit/credit card with the following values:

Child/Youth Opal card: $5, $10, $20, $30, $40, $50 and $60

Opal cards obtained from retailers are unregistered. Some retailers may ask their customers to pay a minimum transaction or service fee to cover credit card merchant fees. This is outside Transport for NSW's responsibility.

Make sure you register your Opal card online or by calling Opal to get the following benefits:

- auto top up online
- put a stop on your Opal card and protect its balance should you lose it
- choose to receive SMS or emails about your account
- link other cards to your account

Remember students must “Tap On” and “Tap Off”.
Responsible Pet Program

Kindergarten to Year 2 will be participating in a Responsible Pet Program on Thursday, 5 May. There will be three sessions 9.50 am - 10.30 am Kinder and Support Unit, 10.35 am - 11.15 am Year 1 and 12.00 pm - 12.45 pm Year 2. This is a free program offered to Kindergarten to Year 2. The program covers topics such as approaching dogs safely and other safety concerns around animals.

Communication with Parents

Because we at Singleton Public School believe that education is a partnership between home and school it is important that teachers and parents regularly communicate with each other. There are a number of ways that this can happen.

Our Newsletter is the most important way that our school communicate to parents what is happening weekly in our school. It is essential for parents to read our Newsletter to find out what has happened, what will happen, important dates, educational issues and community happenings. It’s published every Wednesday on the school website and school App. Please ensure you read it carefully. Information and permission notes regarding excursions and other school activities are also published on the website.

Written reports on your child’s progress are sent home twice a year. Parent/teacher interview days are held each year in Term 1. At times during the year there may be formal interviews or Learning Support Team meetings requested with parents to inform you of your child’s progress. We encourage parents to contact their child’s teacher if they ever have any concerns about their child at home or at school. This can easily be done by phoning the school office and leaving a message for the teacher to arrange a suitable appointment time.

Parents, carers and interested community members can also find out what is happening at school by downloading our School App on their smart phones and tablets.

To download the app on to your device you need to go to your App store and search for Singleton Public School. Full information for downloading the App is available from the school office.

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey - for students in Years 4-6

Our school is delighted that this term, like many others in the state, we will be participating in a Department of Education 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 students in Years 4-6 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.

The school wants 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 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (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 consent form to school by Friday 26 February. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

Canteen News

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered for the canteen for this year. Your help is much appreciated. There are still a few spots available that need to be filled. If you are available for a day or half a day anytime please contact Nicole in canteen. The menu had a few changes, please be so kind to check and ensure the lunch orders have the right prices. I apologise to the parents who have sent me an email on the canteen email address. Unfortunately this account has been disabled and my new email address has changed to Nicole.gray19@det.nsw.edu.au.

Thank you Nicole Gray Canteen Co-ordinator
Library News

Please return any overdue library books to the Library as soon as possible.

Summer Reading Program

All Summer Reading Program books and reading logs need to be returned to school by Friday, 19 February for your chance to win some great prizes.

Young Teen Talk

As part of this school's 'Personal Development' program, Year 6 students are invited to take part in a presentation called 'Young Teen Talk'. This year the P&C are happy to pay for all of the Year Six students to attend.

'Young Teen Talk' is a multi-media presentation which runs for two 80 minute sessions and is presented by Susie Blackwood, a registered nurse, midwife and sexuality educator. It supports nine learning outcomes of the Stage Three, PDHPE syllabus.

The Year 6 sessions will be held on Monday, 29 February and Tuesday, 1 March 2016 beginning at 9.30 am.

Parents are welcome to attend at the cost of $12.00 per person. This can be paid on the day directly to Susie but must be the exact amount.

Please return the permission note to your child’s teacher by Friday, 26 February 2016.

Benefits of “Kiss and Go”

“Kiss and Go” means that once you have safely dropped your child to school, you say goodbye and leave them to have a play before the morning bell goes. This offers them the opportunity to become familiar with the school routine and helps them to settle in a little easier. There are a number of benefits from adopting a “Kiss and Go” approach to dropping your child at school. These include:

★ the building of independence skills for the child as they will quickly learn the morning routines and expectations;
★ increased free play and social building opportunities – without Mum or Dad in the playground children quickly find a friend to interact and play with. It is amazing how much energy young children can burn in five minutes;
★ reduced anxiety and stress for other students – often it is not your child crying in morning lines, it is another child who is ‘missing’ their parent. The presence of additional parents in the school grounds can increase this anxiety;
★ improved traffic flow around the school and increased pedestrian safety – we all know how hectic and difficult it can be to get a park around school grounds in the morning;
★ increased opportunities for your child to interact with teachers and staff at the school in a relaxed, informal setting.

Singleton Public School P&C Annual General Meeting Notice

All parents/carers and citizens within the school community are invited to attend the Singleton Public School P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday, 2 March at 6.30 pm in the school library, and join our P&C. The AGM will be followed by the monthly P&C meeting at 7.00 pm. Children are welcome to use the library computer room during the meetings.

The objectives of the P&C are to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation, assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school, and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school. Our P&C operates the school Canteen and Uniform Shop, supports the school Breakfast Club and school band, and prepares the annual school magazine. Over the past 3 years our P&C has contributed over $100,000 to the school.

The Officers of the P&C consist of the President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. Other positions include an Assistant Treasurer, Uniform Shop Coordinator, Canteen Liaison Officer, Band Program Representative and Breakfast Club Coordinator. At the AGM all officer and other positions will become vacant and then be filled by nomination and, where necessary, by ballot of members. All nominees shall be members of the association.

Nominations can emailed to singletonpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au . The audited balance sheet and annual report will also be presented and the AGM.

Please consider joining the P&C and see how you can get involved and help, as ’many hands make light work’, and the P&C had such a successful year in 2015.

Thanks
James Skinner
Singleton Public School P&C President
Changes to Bus Transport

A reminder that all students entering Year 3 or Kindergarten travelling with HV Buses should have applied for a new OPAL bus pass online at https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/applyNow as soon as possible.

Year 3 or Kindergarten students travelling with Saxbys or Anvil should have all completed the standard blue Department of Transport bus form available in the school office.

Personal Information

It is vitally important that the school has current contact details for all of our students. Please contact the Office if you have changed phone numbers, employment or address in the past few months and ensure that your details are correct. Please also advise the school if your family circumstances have changed eg changes in living arrangements or parent separation. It is important to remember to keep emergency contact details up to date as well.

Waiting Areas after School

Please be mindful that school finishes at 3.10 pm. It is important for your child that you wait in the playground areas and not outside the classrooms as it becomes a distraction during your child’s learning time.

However, if you would like to help out as a volunteer within the classroom, please see your class teacher at a suitable time. Thanks for your assistance in providing a high quality education for your child.

Parking in Staff Car Park

The school’s staff car park is also used by the taxi’s dropping off our students from the Support Unit as well as parents of Support Unit students. It is not to be used by any other families unless prior consent is given by the School Principal. There is also no pedestrian access via the staff carpark. This is because the safety of our school community is paramount.

PERMISSION NOTE – Supercover (please complete even if you have already paid separately)

Return to class teacher by Friday, 26 February 2016 if you would like to use Supercover.

I give permission for my child …………………………………………………. of class ……………… to:-

- Attend the visiting shows at the school;
- Attend the Hunter Life Education Van at the school;
- Attend an excursion to the Military Museum where students will travel by bus.

Signed: …………………………………………

Parent/Guardian

Enclosed: $ ………….. $19.00 for Supercover if you have already paid your School Contribution

OR $79.00 for School Contribution and Supercover

My son/daughter has the following special needs (please provide full details and include any relevant medical details).

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
School Uniform

Our school uniform policy has been formulated to encourage all children to wear their school uniform with pride. The whole school community expects that all students will wear the school uniform every day. In this regard, parents have an important role in overseeing what their children wear to school. A navy school hat is part of the school uniform. All items of uniform, new and second-hand, are available for sale at the P&C Uniform Shop which is run by members of the P&C.

SUMMER

GIRLS: Blue checked dress OR navy shorts and unisex polo shirt; navy socks; black shoes. Navy school hat at all times.

BOYS: Unisex polo shirt; navy shorts; navy socks; black shoes. Navy school hat at all times.

WINTER

GIRLS: Unisex polo shirt and navy trousers OR blue and gold checked pinafore with a white blouse or unisex polo shirt; royal blue zip-up jacket (optional), royal blue tracksuit top (optional); navy socks or stockings; black shoes. Navy school hat at all times.

BOYS: Unisex polo shirt and navy trousers; royal blue zip-up jacket (optional) royal blue tracksuit top (optional); navy socks; black shoes. Navy school hat at all times.

SPORT: Children may bring joggers to wear with unisex polo shirt and navy sport shorts during sport. Alternatively, black joggers may be worn at all times. Navy school hat must be worn at all times.

The Uniform Shop is located in the middle of the school close to our canteen. It is open Monday and Friday mornings from 8.30 – 9.30 am. It is staffed and operated by volunteers from our P&C Association.

Volunteers Needed for Breakfast Club

In 2015, Breakfast Club hosted 3983 students, ensuring a healthy start to their school day.

We are open from 8:40am to 9:10am.
We roster 2-3 volunteers per morning.
Volunteers are welcome to bring younger siblings of our students.

Tasks include:
- Preparing toast, cereal and fruit for students.
- Making lunches, as requested by teachers.
- Washing up.
- Sharing laughs!

If you can spare 1 hour a week, or 1 hour a fortnight please contact:
El keulemans - 0417 421 955
Sandy Tickell - 0418 452 905

Can you help?
Upper Hunter PSSA Zone Selection Dates

Dear Parents,

The following dates are for the Upper Hunter Zone, PSSA Selection Trials for 2016. The criteria stipulated by the selectors are that the student is competent and knowledgeable in the sport. If you think that your child fits these criteria and you would like him/her to attend the selection trials please let the school know in writing and we will send you a permission and information note closer to the date. These trials are for open age teams and the students competing will be up to 13 years of age. Participants are selected from Years 5 and 6.

Please be aware that it is the parent/caregiver’s responsibility to provide your child’s transport to the venue and to provide supervision during the day. There will be no teachers from Singleton Public School attending the trials unless they are running trials. Please note: these dates may change.

2016 Selection Trial Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zone Swimming</td>
<td>18/2/16</td>
<td>Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone AFL</td>
<td>26/2/16</td>
<td>Singleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Rugby League</td>
<td>9/3/16</td>
<td>Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Netball</td>
<td>11/3/16</td>
<td>Singleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Soccer (Football)</td>
<td>23/3/16</td>
<td>Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Touch</td>
<td>6/4/16</td>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
<td>18/5/16</td>
<td>Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Golf</td>
<td>10/6/16</td>
<td>Muswellbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Athletics</td>
<td>5/8/16</td>
<td>Singleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone Rugby Union</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University of New South Wales Tests

Each year the University of New South Wales offers students across the world the opportunity to participate in a number of tests across a number of curriculum areas for children in Year 3-12.

These tests are the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) and occur through the year. A new ICAS test is developed annually for each subject in each year level by our team of subject matter experts.

All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students’ skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Each test is sat at the student’s school and is invigilated by teachers under normal examination conditions.

This year we are offering for any interested children from Years 3-6 the chance to participate in the following UNSW competitions:

- Digital Technologies (Computer Skills): Tuesday, 17th May
- Science: Tuesday, 31st May
- English: Tuesday, 2nd August
- Mathematics: Tuesday, 16th August

Each of these tests costs parents $8.80. If you would like your child or children in Years 3-6 to participate in any of the tests please complete the form below and return it to the school by Monday, 21 March. Unfortunately we will be unable to accept late entries.

Children Name_________________________ Child’s Class ______  (return to office by Monday, 21 March 2016)

Tests I would like my child to participate in:

English / Mathematics / Science / Computer Skills

(Please cross out whichever is not applicable)

Each tests costs $8.80 Total enclosed: $___________ Signed: ____________________
Introducing .....KJ…….
Welcome to the students of KJ and KM for 2016. The students have been busy learning new sounds as well as creating some beautiful artwork!

Introducing .........KM..........  

Riding for Disabled
Selected children from the Support Unit will be participating in Riding for the Disabled program. The students will travel by bus to Muswellbrook. Horse Riding commences on Thursday, 5 May and will continue on a fortnightly basis throughout Term 2 and 3. Your child will need to bring morning tea, lunch, drinks, hat, sunscreen and wear long pants.

Riding for the Disabled will cost $145 per student. This needs to be paid to the office by Thursday, 24 March along with a signed consent form.
Features of the Singleton PS App

As all of our subscribers know, the Singleton PS App is a great communication tool. The school is able to send through notifications to send reminders about excursions, payments and even change of plans.

However, there are many more features of the App and below are some of them.

Calendar of Events

If you select the Calendar of Events icon in the SPS App, you are taken to a link on the School Website Calendar. You can scroll through the dates of the month and change the month. The school endeavours to keep the calendar up to date regularly throughout the year.

Newsletter

If you select the Newsletter icon in the SPS App, you are taken to a link on the School Website. You can scroll through the most recent newsletters. Simply select one for it to open up for you to view.

Messages

If you select the Messages icon in the SPS App, you are taken to the list of messages/notifications sent out. You are able to delete the messages once you have read them, or keep them for future reference. Due to limited text space in the notifications, some messages are sent with links to web pages on our Website, e.g. permission notes, newsletters, order forms. If there is a link the message will appear with a blue globe on the right hand side, the notification will also contain an asterix (*), e.g. “The Week 2, Term 1 newsletter is now available online.*”

Absent Notes

If you select the Absent Notes icon in the SPS App, you are taken to a form that can be completed and emailed to the school to explain your child’s absences. This is yet another useful tool as all explanations of absence must be received by the school within 7 days of the absence, otherwise the absences will be marked as ‘unexplained and unjustified’.

More

There are also more features available in the “More” icon that you can explore at any time.
Congratulations to our assembly award winners for Term 1, Week 3 2016

CLASS AWARD RECIPIENTS K - 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assembly Awards</th>
<th>1/2H</th>
<th>3/4R</th>
<th>5E</th>
<th>6M</th>
<th>7W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Jake Addison</td>
<td>1/KL</td>
<td>Hamish Lincoln</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Violet Knox</td>
<td>KJ</td>
<td>Elena Logan</td>
<td>Ila</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1FL</td>
<td>Arli Nate</td>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Sheridan Ella</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Jai Lacey</td>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Thomas Roman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Janae Sanjay</td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Borden Ella</td>
<td>Sophie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Jacob Keanu Chelsea</td>
<td>3/4R</td>
<td>Jess Cooper Kristie</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Z</td>
<td>Jett Breez Tazma</td>
<td>4/5B</td>
<td>Tahi Nick Samuel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5I</td>
<td>Samuel Lucy Kley</td>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Lucy Lexi Jordan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Shae Brodie Harry</td>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Hannah James Tairawa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Dre</td>
<td>7W</td>
<td>Harley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Singleton Stars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Sanjay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage 2</th>
<th>Stage 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>Holly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Super Citizens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KJ</th>
<th>K/1L</th>
<th>2P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logan</td>
<td>Eva</td>
<td>Amelia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enter to Learn
Singleton Public School
4. How will taking part in this survey benefit my child’s school?

The Tell Them From Me student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insights into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

5. What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey takes less than 30 minutes to complete and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers. The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

6. Does my child have to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not be asked to take part if you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable, they can choose to stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student’s information.

7. Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

8. What sort of analysis will be done of the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders can use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE’s analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department of Education’s focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

9. Can all school students participate in the survey?

The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in their year groups to participate. Secondary schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in Years 7 to 12 to participate.

10. When will the Tell Them From Me survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools at the end of Term 1 and optionally Term 3.

What is CESE?

The Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) is part of the Department of Education. CESE has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in New South Wales. CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education.

More information about CESE is available at: www.cese.nsw.gov.au

What is The Learning Bar?

The Learning Bar is a Canadian education company that specialises in school surveys for both primary and secondary students. Its survey, Tell Them From Me, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 2,800 schools and 1.1 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years. Australian schools have been participating in the Tell Them From Me surveys since 2012.

The Learning Bar is led by Dr. 1. Douglas Willms. Dr. Willms is a Professor and Director of the Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy at the University of New Brunswick, and holds the Canada Research Chair in Literacy and Human Development. Dr. Willms developed the questions on student engagement for the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).


If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: TTFM@det.nsw.edu.au or by telephone: 9561 8056/9561 8568/9561 8370.
Enter to Learn
Singleton Public School

Electronic copies of the School Newsletter

Singleton Public School is going electronic this year with our weekly newsletter. A notification will be sent out on the School App each week when it is available online. For the month of February, the school will continue to print hard copies of the newsletter. HOWEVER, if you would still like a hard copy of the newsletter for the rest of the year, please return the form below.

☐ YES, I would like to continue receiving a hard copy of the school newsletter.

Name: __________________________________________

Eldest Child’s Name: ______________________________________

Class: _______________________________

Fair Trading Talk

Are you in danger of being scammed or cheated?
Craig Aspinall from Fair Trading, will give a lively talk on the many and varied problems Fair Trading deal with daily.

Singleton Library
Thursday | 18 Feb
5:30pm to 6:30pm
Bookings Essential

YEAR 6 INFORMATION EVENING

TUE 23 FEB 2016, SINGLETON HIGH SCHOOL MPC, 5:00-6:30PM

INFORMATION COVERED
- SUBJECT SELECTION - CLASS STRUCTURE - MEET TEACHERS - ASK QUESTIONS
- TOUR THE SCHOOL - SPEAK TO 2017 YEAR ADVISERS - ENRICHMENT CLASS - KAMAL CENTRE

CHOICE OF FOCUS AREAS
- ENGLISH / DRAMA - LITERACY & NUMERACY SUPPORT - MUSICAL PERFORMANCE - TECHNOLOGY
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT - VISUAL ART / MUSIC - LANGUAGE - SCIENCE / AGRICULTURE

The Principal of Singleton High invites
Y6 students and their parent or carers to
attend our Y6 Information Evening
This is an opportunity to learn how
your child will be assisted in their
transition from primary to high school.
It will greatly assist you in making
Informed decisions about your
child’s education and future

We offer a broad range of subjects and
successful learning experiences to
prepare students for tomorrow’s jobs
We are one of the biggest High Schools
outside Sydney, with strong links to
industry and vocational education
Learn about your child’s choice of
classes and subjects and meet our
dedicated Year Advisers for 2017

Submit your expressions of interest form to your Primary School by Friday 18 March 2016
He had a writing hut in his garden which was never cleaned.

He always wrote with a tin containing six sharp yellow pencils.

He ate a chocolate after every meal.

Roald Dahl

He had breakfast in bed every day.

His boarding school was next door to Cadburys Chocolate Factory.

By 3A

He burnt the writing he didn’t like outside his hut, which left soot on the hut.

He wrote in an armchair with a hole cut out of the back because his back was injured.

His principal was like Miss Trunchbull.