Parent Information Afternoon
All parents are invited to attend a parent information session in their child’s classroom on Tuesday, 1 March. There are two sessions scheduled being 5:00-5:30 pm and then 5:30-6:00 pm. This has been arranged so families with more than one student at the school may get to at least two rooms. For that reason the presentation for each class will be very similar. Our staff will outline major class objectives and activities for the year, as well as discuss how best to support your children’s work at school at home. Please keep in mind that due to the tight timeframe, our teachers will not have the time to respond to questions about individual students.

Indigenous Outdoor Learning Area
We are looking forward to the construction of our outdoor learning and meeting space outside the front of the Year 5 rooms. Miss Sullivan and Mr Russell have worked with our Aboriginal Action Team to secure funding and assistance from the Department of Local Land Services. Over the coming weeks, this area will be transformed into an area ideal for outdoor learning including extensive native planting, a learning circle and bark shelter. Please be cautious when entering the school from the “Enter to Learn” gates off Hunter Street.

School Newsletter
This will be the last edition of the school newsletter distributed to all families through hardcopy (i.e. on paper); unless you have completed and returned the opt-in slip for this service to continue. All of our newsletters will be found either through the School App or on our school website. This change of procedure is anticipated to reduce paper and photocopier usage; provide more time for the administration staff to complete other duties; and enable families to see photographs and work samples in colour.

New Students
We welcome Tyson, Mikey, Jade, Kristy-Lee, Edie and Harley as new students into our school. It is great to see you here and I am sure that you will soon have lots of new friendships at Singleton Public School.

David Crowe
Principal
Visiting Show

On Friday, 4 March, a visiting show called “The Fairest of Them All” will be presented at our school for all students from K-6.

The show is written and performed by the New Zealand Playhouse who are touring Australia this year.

It is a very humorous adaptation of Snow White and should be enjoyed by all our students.

The cost is $6.00 per student which needs to be returned to the class teacher with the permission note by Wednesday, 2 March, 2016.

Please note this visiting show is covered by Supercover. If you have paid Supercover, you do not need to return the permission note.

Upper Hunter Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival – Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre

After our awesome swimming carnival on Tuesday, 9 February, a total of 32 students from Singleton Public School qualified to compete at the Upper Hunter PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival.

This year the Upper Hunter Zone PSSA Carnival was held at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre with Scone Public School organising a great day of competitive swimming with a wide range of schools from the Upper Hunter district being represented.

The Singleton Public School students who qualified to attend the event were: Ruby, Ella, Siaan, Tyla, Holly, Laura, Lucie, Ruby, Faith, Jordan, Lucy, Amelia, Hannah, Macy, Ruby, Hunter, Thomas, Caleb, Lachie, Jack, Hamish, Joe, Miller, Cosworth, Jayce, Lachlan, Hamish, Seth, Ethan, Brock, Callan and Tairawa.

All students competed superbly and should be congratulated on their excellent performances both in and out of the pool. I would like to personally thank all parents who made the effort to attend the carnival and provide all students a wonderful opportunity to compete at this level.

Congratulations to Lucy and Callan who have qualified to attend the Regionals on Thursday, 3 March at Maitland Pool in freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke events.

Go Team Hungerford!!!

Thanks again to all parents, teachers and students who helped make the day a great success.

Mr Ison
Uniform Shop Roster - Week 6, Term 1 2016
Mon 29/2/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Tammie Cox
Fri 4/3/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Julene Gunn
Please contact someone else on the roster if you need to swap your duty.

Canteen Roster - Week 6, Term 1 2016
Mon 29/2/16 Renee Mouser, 1 more helper please
Tues 1/3/16 Melissa Muddiman, Sarah Land
Wed 2/3/16 Liz Tudor, Peggy-Anne Towns
Thurs 3/3/16 Mary Franks, 1 more helper please
Fri 4/3/16 Paula Stokes, Kim Carter, Maxine Kolinos
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

Multiplication times tables

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: …………………………………
NRL Blitz
On Thursday, 18 February the NRL Blitz team came to Singleton Public and ran through some football skills with all the students from Kinder to Year 6. All the students had a great time.

Debating Workshop
Last week, over 75 students and 13 adults from all over the Hunter Valley came to Singleton Public School for the Arts Unit Debating Workshop. Amelia, Braedyn, Ashlee, Ruby, Samuel, Lucie, Lucy, Hamish and Hannah attended from Singleton Public School. The day was led by Tony Davey and focused on ‘how to be a successful debater’. The children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and learnt a great deal about debating. They cannot wait to put their knowledge into action next term!

Singleton Public School Blitz Upper Hunter Zone PPSA Tennis Trials
On Wednesday, 10 February the Upper Hunter Zone Tennis Trials were held at Howe Park Tennis Courts in Singleton.

Our school was represented by Emma and Kaitlin for the girl’s team, and Jack and Ethan for the boy’s team.

I am pleased to announced that all four students have made it through to the next level – the Hunter Zone Trials - to be held at Broadmeadow this Friday, 26 February.

Congratulations and good luck to all students.
“Gotta Love The Tennis” – Mr Ison
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 Saving.

When: Friday, 26 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.

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.

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 your 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”.

The Australian Red Cross Mobile Blood Service is visiting Singleton,

Monday, 29 February 2016, 10.00am – 3.00pm (Appointments filled)
Tuesday, 1 March 2016, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (3 more donors needed)
Wednesday, 2 March 2016, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (4 more donors needed)
Thursday, 3 March 2016, 1.30pm – 6.30pm (Appointments filled)
Friday, 4 March 2016, 10.00am – 3.00pm (7 more donors needed)

If you haven’t already made an appointment to give blood, you can make an appointment online or call us on 13 14 95.

1 in 3 Australians will need blood, but only 1 in 30 donates. Donated blood helps cancer patients, people with blood disorders, mothers-to-be and newborn babies, as well as trauma and surgical patients.
Communication with Parents

At Singleton Public School we 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.

Parents can receive travel, other notifications, reminders, location guides for school events; provide absentee notes, access the school newsletter and calendar and much more. 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. Features of the App can be found later in this newsletter.

**Year 6 Canberra Payments**

The balance of the Year 6 Canberra payments are due on Friday, 4 March.

**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.

**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.
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.

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.

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.

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
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.

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.

Electronic copies of the School Newsletter - return to school office by Monday, 29 February 2016

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

Name: ____________________________

Eldest Child's Name: ____________________________

Class: ____________________________
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.

---

**Childs 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 .....KS……
Welcome to the students of KS and K/1L for 2016.
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, eg 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 (*), eg “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 4 2016

**CLASS AWARD RECIPIENTS K - 6**

**Assembly Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Millie</td>
<td>1/KL</td>
<td>Rorie</td>
<td>Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Amelia</td>
<td>Jenna</td>
<td>KJ</td>
<td>Stevie</td>
<td>Levi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1FL</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Mackenzie</td>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Cohen</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Khloe</td>
<td>Kayden</td>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
<td>Abby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Clancy</td>
<td>Ariel</td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Dominic</td>
<td>Jake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Beth</td>
<td>3/4R</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Z</td>
<td>Kaylar</td>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>4/5B</td>
<td>Hugh</td>
<td>Coen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5I</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Josephine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Pania</td>
<td>Ethan</td>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Breeanna</td>
<td>Paige</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Kaiden</td>
<td></td>
<td>7W</td>
<td>Anakin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Singleton Stars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Stage 1</td>
<td>Rory</td>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>Leo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>Ethan</td>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Adam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Super Citizens**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Meika</td>
<td>3/4R</td>
<td>Phoebe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F/L</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>5E</td>
<td>Holly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2L</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Braedyn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 insight 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 typically takes less than 30 minutes 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 participate and your child does not have to if they do not want 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/households have the right to apply for access to, and correction of, a child’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 environment and view 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’s continuing 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?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not be asked to participate and your child does not have to if they do not want 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/households have the right to apply for access to, and correction of, a child’s information.

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 of 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 2,600 schools and 1.7 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. J. 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 established the present survey on student engagement for the OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.theclearningbar.com

If you have any questions about the parent survey, please contact CESE via email: TTFM@dtt.nsw.edu.au or telephone: 9561 8056 / 9561 8068 / 9561 8370.
5E’s fantastic descriptive sentences for narrative writing

The fence was covered with spiders and the gate squeaked like a rat. **Max**
I was trapped. A weird feeling came to my stomach. I felt like I was being watched. **Josephine**
I ran through the overgrown grass, almost tripping, to the old and very squeaky front door. **Zach**
I crept into the dark, abandoned house, curious to see what was in there. I took a step and ‘thud’ the door closed behind me. **Emma C**
As I went towards the light, I saw a fireplace that looked like it was breathing. **Lucie**
There right in front of me was a huge grandfather clock guarding the big black wooden stairs. **Holly**
As I stood in front of the immense, rusty gate, I could taste the cold dew in the air. **Charlotte**
Suddenly I felt a shiver down my spine, almost like a ghost had run past me. **Abby**
The gate was dark oak wood that creaked. “I can’t believe I’m searching this house.” **Xander**
I opened the door. It made a loud echoing sound around the house. **Nozipho**
The path was sinking as we ran faster and faster and when we reached the veranda, we knew we were trapped. **Laura**
Suddenly in the darkness I was woken up by a strange scratching noise. **Ruby**
With a flash of lightning and the rumble of thunder I approached the old wooden gate. **Lexie**
I bent down to the tap and then I looked back up. I now knew why the house was abandoned. **Brandon**
As I approached the dark creepy gate, the wind zoomed past me. I shivered. It felt like a ghost. **Seth K**
The door slammed shut. I trembled in fear as my legs started to wobble. **Mitchell**
It was a cold rainy day and someone had dared me to go into the house. **Adam**
The door opened as soon as I stepped on the veranda. I shivered. I was scared. **Ocean**
As I approached the old rusty metal gate it opened with a ‘CREEEEEAAK.’ **Hamish**
As I approached the door of the old abandoned house I felt nervous. **Dustin**
Three strikes of lightning dashed past me like bullets screaming by. **Leon**
Then a kaboom! A tree had fallen and smashed my wall. **Isaak**
The wind howled and my heart was beating faster than ever. I was horrified! **Talia**
The lightning lit up the room with a big gush of wind that blew off my sheets. **Emma L**
I could see something on my window and when the lightning went again. I saw the outline of something. But I don’t know what it is. **Ella**
I hear the noise again and my spine tingles. I get back in bed and I snuggle down. **Grant**
I was asleep when something disturbed my slumber. I woke up but my eyes were so blurry I couldn’t see. **Jordan**
As I approached the dark, cold veranda my spine tingled. **Ava**
My legs were shaking like a rattlesnake’s tail. **Thomas**