

# Johns River Public School

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Term 2, Week 7 A proud member of the Camden Haven Community of Schools 9 June 2017

A message from the Principal

## Ms Sheree Quinlivan



Dear parents and carers,

Week 7 already! The term is nearly done. Mr T and I have been busily assessing students and compiling Semester 1 reports, and will continue to do so until they are distributed to families in Week 10.

I was so disappointed to have to postpone sewing with our dear friend Wendy this week, but we'll continue working on our tote bags next Tuesday and each Tuesday until the end of term. Thank you so much to Wendy for taking the time to work with our students. Sewing is rapidly becoming a forgotten art and we're so lucky to have a community member willing to volunteer her time and share her passion.

Finally, on behalf of the school I'd like to extend deepest sympathies to the Cundletown school community following the sad passing of their Principal Mr Bruce Coote. Mr Coote was a dynamic personality and will be sorely missed. We send our love and best wishes to his family and friends during this difficult time.

**Sheree Quinlivan**  
Teaching Principal  
Johns River Public School

## Coming Events

### Week 8

<b>Monday 12 June</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
Tuesday 13 June	Sewing with Wendy
Wednesday 14 June	Community Craft
Thursday 15 June	LDPSSA Athletics Carnival

### Week 9

Tuesday 20 June	Sewing with Wendy
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### Week 10

Monday 26 June	CHAFFS Massed Choir practice
Tuesday 27 June	Sewing with Wendy
Wednesday 28 June	Community Craft
Friday 30 June	Final day of Term 2

## Holidays!

True leaders don't create  
followers, they create  
more leaders.

-J. Sakiya Sandifer

## LDPSSA Athletics Carnival

### It's that time of year again!

Selected students turning 8 years or older in 2017 have been entered in the Lansdowne District PSSA Athletics Carnival, which will be held next Thursday 15 June at Taree Rec Ground.

The carnival will commence at 9am sharp, so all participating students must arrive at the Rec Ground by 8.45am.

Selected students have received an information and permission note, which must be completed and signed by a parent or guardian and returned to the school office by next Tuesday.

Harrington Public School are organising the Carnival this year, and will be running a canteen with various snacks and lunch items available to purchase. Parents of participating students are asked to send along lunch money or a packed recess and lunch for their children on the day.

Please ensure that you complete and return the permission note and \$5.00 PSSA levy to school by next Tuesday.

Mr T will be accompanying students on the day with Miss Craig also present at the recording tent.

## Assemblies

We will be taking a different approach to school assemblies from now on. We understand that it is difficult for families to commit to attending fortnightly assemblies. Therefore, we have reduced the frequency and will now host a special assembly once each term.

We had an impromptu meeting with students regarding this last Friday, when unfortunately we had no one arrive for our assembly except veteran, Mrs Stinson. Students and staff agreed that families would be more likely to attend our assemblies if they were held less frequently and more of an emphasis was placed on a once-a-term celebration.

Commencing next term, we will host a special end-of-term assembly in Terms 1, 2 and 3, where students will showcase their achievements and perform for your enjoyment. The Term 4 celebration will be our end-of-year Presentation, where we will reflect on the year that was, reward student achievement and put on a performance for the audience.

We sincerely hope that this will better suit our families' busy schedules and encourage a higher attendance.

Families will be notified of the date of our Term 3 assembly next term.

## CHAFFS

This year, Johns River Public School will be participating in the Massed Choir for the Camden Haven Arts Festival for Schools. We are very thankful to Hannam Vale Public School for offering to let our students join their school item again this year, but given that their maypole item will be a pivotal part of their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations later in the year, we have decided to leave them to choreograph the item to their school needs and limit Johns River's participation to the Massed Choir.

Choir coordinator, Mrs Bruggemann from North Haven PS, will be visiting our school in Week 10 to run through the Massed Choir songs with students. All students have been practicing the Massed Choir songs, but are not obliged to perform at the festival. A permission note is included in this newsletter for all families to indicate whether their children will be participating in the festival or not.

## Every day counts at Johns River Public School

**What chance has your child got of  
being successful?**

One or two days absent per week doesn't seem like much, but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is....	And over 13 years of schooling, that's....
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

**Ask us about help with getting  
your children to school every day.**

## School starts at 9.00am

**What sort of start is your  
child getting?**

Just a little bit late doesn't seem like much, but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is....	And over 13 years of schooling, that's....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1 ½ weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2 ½ weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years

**Ask us about help with getting  
your children to school on time.**

## Student attendance

**Come on Johns River! Let's  
improve our attendance!**

**School staff love coming to work at Johns  
River Public School, and we know our  
students do too.**

Visitors to our school can't believe that we get to spend each day in this beautiful setting with such a delightful group of students. It truly feels like we're the envy of all other local schools.

However, our student attendance data leaves much to be desired.

Home School Liaison Officer Tony Beavis has been working closely with us this year in an attempt to improve student attendance at Johns River Public School. He's been giving school staff strategies to not only reduce whole day absences, but cut down on partial absences where students arrive to school late or leave early. We've been running the "Every day counts" and "School starts at 9am" posters in each newsletter this year to try and promote the importance of regular school attendance to families. There has been a mild improvement across the school, but we can still do much better.

We ask for your help as our local school community to promote a positive school attendance culture within

Johns River and encourage students to **get up,  
get motivated, and get to school  
every day.**

We have an amazing community of diverse personalities and we can improve educational outcomes for our students. We just have to put in the effort.

**Help us make a difference.  
Our students deserve it.**

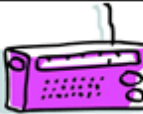





## Good for Kids good for life

### KEEPING ACTIVE IN WINTER!

As the temperature starts to drop, it's important that your kids are still physically active through the colder months.

Here are some tips for keeping kids active when it's cold or wet outside:

Freestyle dancing – turn the radio or MP3 player on and encourage your children to make up a dance to the music	
Balloon Volleyball – tossing a balloon up in the air across a makeshift net made of pillows	
Story time doesn't have to be sitting still and quiet. Choose a common word in the story and an activity that you do every time that word is read e.g. The word chosen is "car" and every time car is read out the kids zoom around the house making car sounds on their hands and knees.	
If it's wet outside take advantage of the muddy puddles by putting on your rain coat and gum boots and splashing, stomping and jumping in muddy puddles	

## Have you looked into this yet?



### Stressed about back to school costs?

Would \$500 help pay for uniforms, books, excursions, tutoring, a laptop or tablet?

Saver Plus matches your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to \$500!

You may be eligible if:

- you have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession card,
- you or your partner have some regular income from work such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work, and
- you have internet access and can be contacted by email.

**Contact Kristiana Darling**  
your local Saver Plus Coordinator:

0438 648 670

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Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in the Greater Taree area by The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government. Find more information at [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au).



# LET'S START A NEW PLAYGROUP?

# ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Interested families are sought to form a playgroup for babies, toddlers and pre-school aged children in the Moorland/Hannam Vale/Johns River area. If interested, please visit [playgroupnsw.org.au](http://playgroupnsw.org.au) for information on starting a playgroup, and then email Chris Ellingham at [cfjellingham@googlemail.com](mailto:cfjellingham@googlemail.com) to exchange contact information.

Chris has received quite a positive response to his advertisement. If you haven't already done so, please contact Chris if you are interested in joining a local playgroup.