

Railway Town Times

Term 1 Issue 3



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Monday 18th February 2013

What's On?

Tues 19th Feb – Meet the Teacher

**1/2P 3.00pm, 1/2V 3.15pm, 4/5R 3.30pm,
5/6C 3.45pm**

Wed 20th Feb – Meet the Teacher

3/4M 3.00pm, MM 3.15pm, KR 3.30pm

Wed 27th Feb – School Photo's

Editorial

I must congratulate our children on their excellent attitude and behaviour at the swimming carnival it was a great day. Thanks also to the P&C for running the BBQ and to the parents who volunteered to assist with time keeping.

Our student numbers are growing with many new enrolments across the K-6, this is great news for our school. We have 173 students at the moment which will allow us to form another class very soon in the primary area.

We will commence the first school assembly for the year this Friday at 12:20 in the hall.

In the weeks ahead we have school photos and Michael Salmon the children's story author and illustrator putting on a show in our hall.

This week Meet the Teacher is on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, you should have received a note from your child's teacher about times and location.

Have a great week.

*Nigel Sherrard
Principal*

2013 Swimming Carnival

Our annual Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 14th February. The staff and students had a wonderful time and many records were broken. Congratulations to Murray for winning the day but all the students were winners. We would like to thank Miss Ricketts and Miss Mack for organising such a great carnival. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the students on their sportsmanship and behaviour. We received lots of positive feedback from the pool attendants. Well done!

Senior Girl Champion – Dakotah Martin

Senior Boy Champion – Zayden Speechley

11 Years Girl Champion – Jordan Whitelaw

11 Years Boy Champion – Kaleb Philp

Junior Girl Champion – Sienna Speechley

Junior Boy Champion – Justin Cochrane-Adolfson

COMMONWEALTH BANK STUDENT BANKING

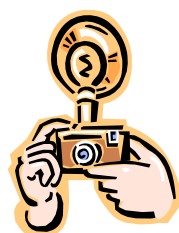
Don't forget student banking has started. We will be banking every Tuesday.



Class of the Week

Class of the Week
this week were

KR, 1/2V, 3/4M &
4/5R.



ASSEMBLY

Our school assembly will commence this Friday 22 Feb at 12.20pm. Mrs Baldwin and the Library Monitors will be hosting this weeks' Assembly.

PHOTO DAY

School photos will be taken on Wednesday February 27th. Family photo envelopes are available at the front office. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PUT CORRECT MONEY IN ENVELOPES. If you have difficulty and would like photos come in and speak to Jan in the office before the day.

2013 Swimming Carnival



*MURRAY
VS
DARLING*





Help your child **ACHIEVE!**

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child's teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

There's no doubt that the best outcomes for kids happen when teachers and parents work together to support children's learning. Here are 10 ways you can work with your child's teacher to maximise your child's chances of school success.

1. Know what your child's teacher is trying to achieve.

Like children, every teacher is different with their own specific expectations, goals and interests. Get to know your child's teacher and gain an understanding of their approach and aspirations for your child's class.

2. Keep your expectations reasonable and positive.

If your expectations are too high they may give up. Too low and they will meet them! The trick is to keep your aspirations for your child in line with their ability and their interests. Also be realistic about what your child's school can deliver. Sometimes our expectations of schools are not in line with their capabilities or their roles.

3. Support your teacher's expectations & activities at home. One practical way of supporting your child is to take a real interest in their home-based learning tasks and follow the guidelines laid out by teachers.

4. Send kids to school ready to learn and on time.

Maximise your child's chances of success by sending them to school in a good frame of mind, with plenty of sleep and a good breakfast. Also make sure they get to school on time. It's estimated that many kids miss up to two weeks of school a year when they are routinely late by just five minutes a day.

5. Inform teachers of your child's challenges and changes.

Life's not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter. Friends move away. Illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child's teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. Skill children to work with others.

Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others are practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties. Resist the temptation to solve all your children's problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together in the best interests of the child.

8. Participate fully in class & school activities.

There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child's schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child's teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. Trust your teacher's knowledge, professionalism and experience. Your child's teachers are your greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids and their objective professionalism puts them in a strong position to make judgement calls about your child.

10. Talk up what happens at school.

Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by talking up your school.

This type of 10 point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you'll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child's teachers.



Education &
Communities

Public Schools NSW

Compulsory school attendance

Information for parents



Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?

The compulsory years of schooling

In New South Wales, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school or be registered for home schooling. After they complete Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship);
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child:

- develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- to learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- make and keep friendships.

What if my child has to be away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child's absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may be required to:

- send a note to the school, or contact the school via electronic means such as SMS text message, fax or email, or
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

A small number of absences may be accepted by the principal. For example, if your child:

- has to go to a special religious ceremony
- is required to attend a serious or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.