

# Tempe Talk



*Quality teaching with exceptional opportunities in a diverse and caring learning environment for your child.*

Unwins Bridge Road, Tempe 2044  
Email: [tempe-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tempe-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

ph: 9558-3780 fax: 9558-8940  
Website: <http://www.tempe-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>.

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No. 2

## From the Principal

I recently had the pleasure of attending a function where Kristina Keneally was the guest speaker. She spoke very warmly of Tempe Public School and was very generous with her praise for our school.

Once again this year Ms Friday is co-ordinating our



SPARK reading program. Each Thursday ten executives from the Stocklands Corporation come to Tempe to offer one-on-one reading sessions with ten of our students.

Many parent volunteers are also giving their time to assist students with reading under the Volunteer Reading Tutor Program coordinated by Ms Ricci McArthur. Ms McArthur is a specialist in teaching children to read and diagnosing reading delays. If you are interested in participating in this program, please ask at the office for an application.

At the completion of your initial training and participation, Ms McArthur will issue you with a certificate which can be included in your resume.

## Money Collections

Throughout the school term, educational activities occur which require various payments. Please note that these activities are wholly planned to enhance your child's education and skills.

This term all children have participated in the following:

- **Sports in Schools (SIS)** - designed to develop coordination and physical ability. Professional sports teachers have delivered fun, challenging and expert sports lessons to improve fundamental movement skills utilising innovative and original equipment not generally available to the students. The children will continue with this program in term 2.
- **Mathletics** – online mathematics program which allows practise, competition and application of maths skills. Once the students have paid their annual registration fee of \$15 they are issued their password and able to access the program anywhere in the world.

Again I am reminded of the talents of our students and the activities that they undertake beyond the school grounds and hours. Congratulations to Patrik Borlandelli who recently won a swag of trophies and a medal at his state-wide division of Karate.

Patrik studies Karate at Tempe Public School on Monday and Thursday afternoons.

Well done Patrik !

*Mrs Jenny Liessmann*



## Book Packs

The book packs were very successful this year and we foresee that they will be available again at the end of 2011, ready for 2012 classes.

## Student Representative Council

Mr Hugh Miller and the SRC have thrown themselves into their leadership role this year and are organising the daily and weekly assemblies as well as many other incidental activities.

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March the SRC coordinated our annual Harmony Day assembly – an event devoted to celebrating the diversity of our local and national community.

The SRC's charitable work has also begun with their support for Stewart House clothing bags collection and on 5<sup>th</sup> April they will be conducting a Mufti Day and collecting a gold coin donation from students not in school uniform. This donation will go toward supporting our Showcase later this year.

## Live Life Well @ School

Your child's physical health can affect their mental health and their ability to improve academically.

Ms Melissa Baker and Mr Barton Williams are investigating ways to increase your child's participation in physical activity during school hours as well as their understanding of good nutrition.



Already all teachers talk with their class daily about what constitutes a healthy lunch however many students still bring lots of 'junk' food to school and expect to be able to do their best. Please make sure that your child has plenty of 'nude food' (unprocessed food) in their lunch box. They don't need sweet treats such as chocolate and sugary cakes every day.

Munch and Crunch weekly award is presented to the class with the greatest percentage of healthy, nutritional food on any given day.

## School Drama



During term 2 students from KB, 3/4W and 4/5M will be working on a project which is funded by the Sydney Theatre Company called School Drama.

The STC actor Luke Kerridge and Sydney University English Lecturer Robyn Ewing will actively be involved on a weekly basis.

Ms Beard, Mr Williams and Mr Miller have already attended a briefing session and planning day where they met the teaching artist and planned the content of the drama visits. Mr Kerridge will be working with the students from these classes at TPS building their literacy skills using professional drama techniques.

The program operates for 7 weeks beginning 4<sup>th</sup> May with the following times:

- Wednesdays 9:15 – 11:15 KB
- Wednesdays 12:05 – 2:05 3/4W
- Thursdays 9:15 – 11:15 4/5M

Contact Mr Miller if you would like further information regarding this program.

## Sydney Story Factory

This term Mr Hugh Miller has forged links with a journalist from the Sydney Morning Herald in order to offer additional writing opportunities for our senior students.

Senior students have already participated in a session designed to assist them develop their critiquing skills. A number of journalists and creative artists recently visited our school and sought the opinions of our students regarding a new business venture designed to provide writing opportunities for school students. This venture will be called Sydney Story Factory and will be based in Redfern.

Our students will benefit by having professional writers run writing workshops onsite at Tempe PS over the next two terms. Contact Mr Miller if you would like further information.

## IKEA Fence Project

During term 2, Sydney-based artist, Julie Doye will be working with year 6 and creating visual artworks suitable for reproduction along the IKEA fence on Princes Highway.

Julie will run workshops with 15 students at a time, developing their understanding of public art.



## Sports In Schools Term 2

This program will continue every Wednesday for all students at the very reasonable cost of \$40 for the whole term.

A note will soon arrive home requesting payment for these professional coaching lessons.

## Year 6 Poetry Workshops

Soon students be writing poems based on what 'home' means to them. These poems will be reproduced on the same IKEA fence as their visual artwork which will be displayed along Princes Highway.



## ABC Reading Eggs

This program, similar to Mathletics, allows students to access reading and comprehension skills online.

The program is tailored to meet the needs of early readers from Kindergarten to year 2 and costs \$15 for the whole year. Once your child pays the registration fee, they will receive a password which allows them to access the program from anywhere.

## Teaching Early Numeracy (TEN)

K-2 teachers; Ms Kristie Beard, Mrs Jo Bladwell, Ms Melissa Rudens and Ms Dianne Tonpi have all undergone the latest training in teaching early numeracy. This training has included training in assessing early numeracy skills and planning programs to improve numeracy outcomes for their students.

If you would like more information about this area of your child's learning please make an appointment to talk with her.

## Best Start

Each year as they begin Kindergarten, all students in NSW government schools undergo assessments of their early literacy, numeracy and social skills.

Ms Beard and Mrs Bladwell have completed all of these assessments and the results have been distributed to parents. At a school level these assessments help the teachers to program to address your child's needs. The results are also gathered by the Department of Education in order to build a complete picture of the skills that Kindergarten students bring to school.

## SWITCH project

During February, ten students from yrs5 and 6 participated in a project coordinated by Newtown Police.

The aim of this project was to uncover and address any fears students have about going to high school. Reports from the students involved indicated that they enjoyed the sessions and learned valuable lessons about planning and being organised.

## Help Needed on Tuesdays

Each Tuesday afternoon from 2:15pm, students from Tempe HS have been congregating in our playground. A very small number of these students have created some problems in our playground.

If you have a Tempe HS student who collects their younger brother or sister from Tempe PS at 3pm on Tuesdays, please ensure for their own safety, that they remain in the high school playground until 3pm.

High school students are NOT to be unsupervised in our playground during school hours.

## Opportunity Class Placement Tests for 2012

Parents are advised that applications for current year 4 students are available online from 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/learning/k-6assessments/ocplacement/onlineapp/index.php>

Important dates related to OC applications:

- 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011 - Applications MUST be returned online or to school
- 13<sup>th</sup> July 2011- Parents advised of their test centre via letter from the Department of Education
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2011 – testing day
- Late October 2011 - Results posted to parents

## Tempe Talk online

Tempe Talk is available online at: <http://www.tempe-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

## Senior Camp

During mid-March over 45 yr 5 and 6 students headed off to Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre for 3 days of Outdoor Education with Ms Layton and Ms Baker.

Firstly I'd like to thank both members of staff who put their lives aside and re-organised their families, to take your children away for 2 nights and 3 days. The teachers receive no additional pay or recognition for the privilege of staying awake almost 20 hours/ day over 3 days to supervise the children – they do this because they believe that the experience is invaluable for the children. Thank you to those many parents who recognised this with a simple thank-you to the 2 teachers – they appreciated it !

Secondly – a huge congratulations to the Tempe kids who went camping ! Again you made your teachers proud at every activity – whether it was archery, fishing, the high ropes course, I have included a page of photos later in the Tempe Talk.

When the transport connections let us down, you were sensible and understanding – well done !



Year 5/6 Camp March 2011



Great Fishing



Friendship time !



Archery



Team – building Activities



SOS Survivor style !





Server Duty



High Ropes Course



Working in the Kitchen



Bush Walks



Boomerang Throwing Time



Cooperation and Problem Solving Activities



More Fishing



## Parents & Citizens Association

Thank you to all of the families who helped out at the recent Election Day barbecue and cake stall.



Hard working Barbecue Crew



Junior Voters and Barbecue Critics



Our Master Sausage Sizzle Chef –  
Premier Kristina Keneally

The next P&C meeting will be held in the staffroom at 7pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

Come along and find out what is happening !!

## 2011 Diary Dates

*Please note that as dates become available they will be added to this list.*

31/03 3/4A & 3/4W Excursion to Centennial Park  
04/04 Pacific Islands Artwork Excursion – 3-6  
04/04 P&C meeting  
05/04 SRC Mufti Day for Showcase – gold coin  
08/04 Easter Hat parade

**08/04 Last day term 1 – all students**

**28/04 First day term 2 – all students**

29/04 ANZAC Assembly  
02/05 P&C meeting  
04/05 Mothers Day stall  
05/05 1/2R & 1/2T Excursion to The Rocks  
06/05 Mothers' Day Breakfast  
10/05 NAPLAN yrs 3 & 5  
11/05 NAPLAN yrs 3 & 5  
12/05 NAPLAN yrs 3 & 5  
16/05 Spell-a-thon sponsorship cards issued  
23/05 Cross country @ Gough Whitlam Park  
24/05 UNSW Computer Skills test - \$7.70  
25/05 Waste Watchers incursion  
26/05 Waste Watchers incursion  
01/06 Spell-a-thon testing day  
06/06 P&C meeting  
08/06 Zone Cross country @ Gough Whitlam Park  
08/06 UNSW Science test  
21/06 UNSW Spelling test  
21/06 UNSW Writing test  
22/06 Semester 1 Reports home K-6  
27/06 Semester 1 Interview week K-6  
**01/07 Last day Term 2 - all students**

03/07 NAIDOC Week begins

**19/07 First day Term 3 – all students**

27/07 2012 Opportunity Class test – year 3

01/08 P&C meeting

01/08 Education Week begins

02/08 UNSW English test

16/08 UNSW Mathematics test

24/08 South Sydney Zone Athletics @ Hensley Field

31/08 Father's Day stall

02/09 Father's Day breakfast

05/09 P&C meeting

21/09 Tempe Showcase Night

**23/09 Last day Term 3 – all students**

**10/10 First day Term 4 – all students**

10/10 P&C meeting

27/10 Kinder 2012 Information Evening

02/11 Kinder 2012 Orientation Morning 1

07/11 P&C meeting

09/11 Kinder 2012 Orientation Morning 2

11/11 Remembrance day Assembly

05/12 Year 7 Orientation Day – yr 6

07/12 Semester 2 reports sent home

12/12 Semester 2 Interview week

15/12 2011 Presentation Day

15/12 Year 6 Farewell Dinner

16/12 Picnic Day

**16/12 Last day Term 4 – all students**

## *Student Contributions*

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Each month students will be invited to contribute to the Tempe Talk Newsletter. In future editions only original work from students will be reproduced.

The topic for this Tempe Talk was *Responsibility.*

