



# NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Presentation Evening**  
**6.30 – 8.00 PM**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Year Six Farewell**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Parent Helpers Morning Tea**  
**11.10am**  
**School Disco 6.30 – 8.30 pm**  
**Community Hall**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Mufti Day**  
**Last Day of Term 4**

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> & Fri 21<sup>st</sup> December**  
**Staff Development Days**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013**  
**Staff Development Day**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013**  
**Students Years 1 to 6 return**

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013**  
**Kinder students commence**

special person dressed in red might also drop in to wish us all a merry Christmas!

The Year 6 Farewell dinner will be held at the Kinross next Monday from 6.30-8pm. Students from Year 5 and the teachers will farewell our fantastic Year 6 students as they venture into the new world of secondary education.

Our whole school disco will take place at the Table Top Community Hall for students K-6 and our friends from Gerogery and Mullengandra PS next Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 6.30-8.30pm. The theme will be **a character** – from a book, TV, movie, or even a character from your imagination!

To finish off the year, next Wednesday (19<sup>th</sup> December) we will have Mufti day where students are welcome to come to school in their casual clothes. We will also have a BBQ lunch, finishing off the sausages left over from the Albury Christmas Family Fun Day.

Well done to the Year Six (2013) Buddies for their fabulous leadership and assistance with the "Teddy Bear's Picnic" last Thursday. The new Kinder students for 2013 and their families enjoyed a picnic lunch under the shady trees near the library as a way to welcome them into our school community. The K/1 students also joined them with their teddies! Thank you Miss Kirk for your wonderful organisation with the transition program.

Student Reports will be sent out to parents on Friday. Parents are requested to be aware of

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is hard to believe that we only have a little over one week left of the school year. But what a busy week it is shaping up to be!

The annual school presentation evening will be held on Thursday from 6.30-8pm under the COLA. Students will be recognised for their achievements while each class will present items for your entertainment. If we are very lucky, a

this and look for their child's reports on their return from school.

In 2013 Table Top PS will reintroduce School Captain leadership positions to represent our school and to enhance the leadership opportunities for our senior students. The existing Year 6 Student Leader positions will remain in place. Students from Kindergarten to Year 5 and our staff will vote for one boy and one girl captain after listening to the candidate speeches tomorrow afternoon from 2.30pm. The 2013 captains will be announced at the Presentation Night.

Thank you to those who assisted with the successful Table Top P&C BBQ at the Albury Christmas Family Fun Day at QE2 Square last Saturday. This was a wonderful fund-raising opportunity and a fun way to promote our great school to the wider community. Special thanks to Graham Singleton and Stephen McCrohan for taking on the leadership role for this project.

At the last P&C meeting, parents expressed an interest in the types of iPad apps that would be appropriate to support their children's learning. Here are a couple of free apps that I would recommend. They are available in the Apple app store.



**Mathletics.** This app gives access to Live Mathletics and a number of maths activities which are used in school. It is a fun way to get children interested in learning their maths concepts.



**School A-Z.** This app has been created by the NSWDEC to support learning. It provides maths and spelling games, literacy and numeracy dictionaries and support for homework projects.

Scripture lessons will conclude this Friday with a puppet show for all students who attend Scripture.

### P & C XMAS HAMPER RAFFLE



Tickets went home yesterday for this fabulous raffle. If anyone would like more tickets please see Mrs Scott at the office.

Items for the hamper should be delivered to school by no later than Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, Thank you.

### CSU Study

Many thanks to those adults who have already responded to the **Cross Generational Physical Activity: exploring the experiences of parents and primary school aged children** survey. Many children have completed the survey and the researchers from CSU appreciate more adults to balance the child responses. Please consider taking the time to go to Survey Monkey and complete the short survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PhysAct>

### JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS – THE FLYING FRUIT FLY CIRCUS' NEW SHOW –

#### CONTROL ALT DELETE



**SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES - TICKETS NOW ON SALE**  
**See it before the rest of the world!!**

21 and 22 December – 1:30pm and 6:30pm

All tickets are \$16.50 (including booking fee)

Book online at [hothouse theatre.com.au](http://hothouse theatre.com.au) or call 02 6021 7433

## SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

Congratulations to the following award winners from last Friday's School Assembly:

### K/1 AWARDS

**Ethan T** ~ for great art work

**Elizabeth S** ~ for great citizenship

### 2-3 AWARDS

**Avie L** ~ for awesome writing

**Ethan S-S** ~ for awesome reading

### 4-6 AWARDS

**Jacinta S** ~ for a fantastic effort on the excursion

**Bair C** ~ for being a great representative of TTPS on our excursion

**Imana D** ~ for participating enthusiastically on the excursion

**Bella W, Kelsey S, Bair C, Ellie B, Ethan B** ~ for being great Buddies to the new Kinders

### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



## NEWS FOR NORTHERN SPIRIT from JAMES FALLON HS

*Last Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December, all Year 6 students enrolled at James Fallon HS came for their final high school orientation day. This day was a typical high school day, with a timetable for classes to follow. The students were extremely confident in their new setting, and our teachers were impressed with the maturity and willingness to learn in many of our new Year 7 students.*

*The class groups were trialled to see how they might work, and after feedback from the day and from Year 6 teachers, the classes will be confirmed via letter in the last week of term to families. If families have not yet put their enrolment forms in, it is a priority that this occur, so that we can ensure that their children have been placed in classes for next year.*

*Our first day at high school for Year 7 is one we encourage families to come to for the first half hour, where students can mark this rite of passage with their families at students of high school. It is a very big step for our parents, too, so families, if your Year 7 2013 child tells you that it is uncool to come, ignore them – it is very cool to come for that first moment in your child's high school life! All Year 7 students will meet in the Hall on their first day, **Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2013**, at 9am.*

*For our students and families in Year 5, our Year Adviser for Year 7 2014 is Mr Hamish Taylor. Mr Taylor is a teacher of Technology and Construction, with many years of experience in working with young people. He is very much looking forward to meeting with you at our first parent information night next year, which will be held in the JFHS school hall at 7pm on **Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2013**. More information will follow on this.*



# INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose – No. 1 parenting educator



## Thank goodness for Christmas

*The real strength of Christmas lies in its use of rituals. Most families develop a strong sense of ritual at Christmas.*

**Kids today need Christmas more than ever. Not for the gifts and presents – most children get their fair share throughout the year. They need Christmas for the escape, and for the mystery and magic that is associated with childhood.**

There are few secrets left for kids these days. In this information- age they are bombarded with news and views of all sorts. Childhood was once a type of secret garden that was full of mysteries. The wider world was there to be discovered by children, rather than something that was thrust upon them. Kids are now more knowing, more street-wise and in many ways, more cynical than in the past.

Christmas for all its commercialism still has its mystery and magic. I liked the way my children would, dispensing with logic, keep the secrets of Christmas alive for as long as possible.

I remember how, my eldest as a young teen and his eleven year old sister, knew that the idea of Santa sliding down a chimney in a red suit was a tad nonsensical. Yet they didn't let on for the sake of their younger sister. Perhaps, once a year they still wanted to believe in the magic. Teenagers, like adults, are always on the lookout for activities that anchor

them back to their childhoods.

The real strength of Christmas lies in its use of rituals. Most families develop a strong sense of ritual at Christmas. My own family's rituals that evolved over two decades, are now entrenched in my children's psyches as they move into adulthood. One, in particular, is so insistent that we keep certain Christmas traditions in place that she has become the family Christmas organiser. She's not leaving anything to chance!

Christmas for kids is all about anticipation. From a commercial sense, Christmas starts in November and slowly builds up toward the Big Day. Much of the anticipation is built around the receiving of presents.

As a parent you can build a sense of anticipation and broaden kids' focus away from the notion of receiving presents and gifts. Christmas gives you a chance to build a sense of generosity in your kids and also to develop their appreciation for family traditions and rituals. You don't have to wait until Christmas Eve for the rituals to kick in. You can start earlier by involving kids in the whole build-up to Christmas.

**Here are five simple ideas you can use right now to switch your kids on to Christmas:**

1. Put up your own advent calendar at the start of December. Even better, get kids to make their own.
2. Get kids to clear out their cupboards of toys, clothing and items they don't need. They can pass them on to someone who can use them.
3. Go with your children to choose a gift to donate to the local 'giving tree'.
4. Ask your kids to help you send your Christmas cards to your family and friends.
5. Adopt a Christmas tradition from another country. Do some research online or ask around for different traditions.

**Have a wonderful Christmas with your family!**





PARENTS, RELATIVES  
AND FRIENDS

ARE INVITED TO

TABLE TOP PUBLIC SCHOOL'S

PRESENTATION

EVENING

ON

THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2012

Commencing at 6:30 PM

AT

TABLE TOP PUBLIC SCHOOL

