

CREEKSIDE NEWS

September 06, 2019

Tell Them From Me

We wish to advise that the *Tell Them From Me 2019* survey window is now OPEN and would like to invite our community to participate in the survey, which has been designed for parents and carers to provide our school with worthwhile feedback regarding our practice. This process is extremely valuable for our school and we use information gleaned from your opinions and points of view to work even harder to provide a meaningful, supportive learning environment for your child.

Why you should participate:

Parents and carers are an important and valued part of our school community. We will use survey outcomes to make practical improvements and inform school planning. Drama, Dance, Rock Band and Ukelele groups were this year introduced into the school as a direct result of survey outcomes from 2017 and 2018 and we're sure that you will agree with us when we say that these initiatives have been widely enjoyed in 2019, and demonstrate the value that we place on the feedback of our students and community.

What it involves:

This online survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and is anonymous and voluntary. If you have more than one child at our school, and you feel that your children's experiences differ, you can complete the survey more than once. Importantly, we know your time is valuable, so you can access the survey in your own time until October 25, 2019. Please type/ copy this link into your web browser bar – it should open at the Parent Survey page.

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/2zy66>

Attendance

Unfortunately, during a recent attendance check, it has come to light that unexplained and unjustified absences, including consistently late arrival to school by students, have become an increasingly concerning trend at our school. As you may or may not be aware, there are a number of avenues available to parents and carers for reporting absences, including the *School Stream* app; the opportunity to email or phone classroom teachers and/ or the school; or by also formally notifying the school in writing of any forthcoming, or recent, student absences. Whilst we understand that a particularly tricky year in terms of the large number of bugs and viruses present in the wider community, along with a very harsh flu season, has had a significant impact upon health and student attendance, it is very important for us all to understand and respect that education for your child is important– and regular attendance at school is essential for them to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. Dora Creek Public School values partnerships with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people, and when your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and they will build and maintain friendships with other children.

As a further point of reference, please bear in mind that the school may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. The school may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If this request is denied, the school may record the absences as unjustified. Along with this, if an absence is eventually reported outside of a seven day time frame, the absence will unfortunately be recorded as one that is **unexplained**, as per the NSW DET Attendance Policy, which is available at:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy>.

Please assist us in working hard together to firstly ensure that our students' attendance rate improves and late arrivals to school decrease; and, secondly, by ensuring that all absences are reported to the school in a timely manner. Within 1-3 days (best practice) is very much preferred but we do understand that people lead busy lives and will therefore do our best, as much as possible, to seek reasons for student absences from carers within a two day timeframe.

P and C News



Meeting- 7pm, Tuesday 17th September, 2019 in the School Library.

Fathers Day Stall

Well done and a heartfelt thanks to our hard-working P and C and the volunteers who assisted with our very successful Fathers Day Stall on Thursday of Week 6. We truly appreciate your efforts and hope that all of our fathers, grandfathers and male carers had a fantastic day and enjoyed their gifts.

Canteen

A reminder that the canteen has reopened for Wednesdays in term three. We are still short of canteen helpers, so if you can help out in any way, please advise either Kiri in the canteen, or the school office. We really need your support in making this happen so that we can continue to provide our students with this fantastic service.

2020 Enrolments Now Being Taken

If you are aware of any students in the community who are intending to enrol for Kindergarten in 2020, or you know of any local people who are seeking a change regarding their child's education next year, please suggest that their parents contact the school office as soon as possible. We are proud of what we offer our students at Dora Creek Public School and we encourage anybody who seeks a holistic education for their child-along with kind, caring, compassionate and talented staff who value every child we teach- to come along and enquire today about an education at our great school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/ 09 K-6 Reptile Show
- 20/ 09 K-4 Walkabout Park Excursion
- Senior Netball Gala Day
- 26/ 09 Final Day of Term 3 for students
- Responsible Pet Visit, K-2
- End of Term MUFTI
- 27/ 09 Staff Development Day
- 14/ 10 Students Return for Term 4
- 18/ 10 Year 6 Sports Gala at MHS
- 25/ 10 Grandparents Day
- 08/ 11 Jarjum Soar
- 11/ 11 Remembrance Day
- 02/ 12 Swim School begins

NOTES HOME

- Swim School
- K-4 Walkabout Excursion
- Netball Gala Day

Junior Netball Gala Day

On Friday, September 6, our junior netball teams headed over to beautiful Wangi Wangi, in very warm, and rather trying conditions, to participate in a gala day against a number of other schools from across Western Lake Macquarie. Dora Creek entered two mixed teams in this event, and they worked hard and tried their absolute best all day. It was great to see the team spirit on display from our kids, particularly given that a number of them would have been rather fatigued after playing back to back games for both teams. Our students appeared to really enjoy themselves and, from all accounts, they had a great day. Whilst everybody was tired, they were most definitely still smiling at the end of the day, particularly after purchasing some naughty (but delicious) treats from the canteen. Thank you to Mrs Dilley, who put the time and effort in to organise our teams for the day, and also to everyone who helped out with transport and support. We really appreciate it.



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EVERY MINUTE COUNTS....

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learning

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day...

Check the time your school starts. DON'T BE LATE!

SOUTHLAKES



LITTLE ATHLETICS

Southlakes Athletics Centre

Thompson Oval, Dora Creek
(behind Dora Creek Workers Club)



SOUTHLAKES



LITTLE ATHLETICS

Welcome to Southlakes Athletics Centre - a friendly local club, focussing on everyone having fun while learning the correct athletic techniques, & striving to improve performance & PBs.

Our season starts **THURSDAY 3rd OCT 2019** (5.15pm- approx 7.30pm; events start 5.30pm) & continues Thursday evenings until **MID-MARCH 2020**, with a small break over Xmas. Optional training is on Monday afternoons.

Online Rego - via **Little Athletics NSW website** (link below)

<https://memberdesq.sportstg.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=main&OrgID=9148&orgreset=1>

For **RETURNING MEMBERS** go to above link, click "Renew", enter your username & password.

For **NEW MEMBERS** go to above link, click "Join", select Southlakes as your centre, & follow prompts.

Our **SOUTHLAKES ATHLETICS CENTRE Facebook page** has regular posts, please LIKE our fb page to keep up to date.

Registration days (**once online rego is done**) - at Dora Creek WC to verify proof of age (new members) & to collect information including rego numbers & patches: **THURS 22nd AUG & THURS 19th SEPT both 5.30pm - 7.30pm**

We cater for children from **Tots (3 years of age)** through to 17 years of age. Older children may compete as adults. **Rego Costs for the season** - \$160 for U6 to U17 & \$110 for Tots. Seniors costs TBA.

Questions: southlakesathletics@gmail.com www.facebook.com/SouthlakesAthleticscentre/