PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE
What do you want for your child at Aberdeen Public School?
What can we build on?
Can we better support you, our parents?
We are genuinely seeking your feedback, have your ideas heard, come along to our meeting tomorrow night, starting at 6.30pm in the school library. This meeting will take about 30 minutes and then the normal P & C meeting will start.

KidsMatter
This week’s KidsMatter topic is Helping Resolve Conflict. Please take the time to read this informative article included in our newsletter.

Michelle Floyd – Principal

INTENSIVE SWIMMING
Intensive swimming commences next Monday 24th November to 5th December. Your fee of $63 includes bus travel, pool entry and a swimming cap. The final payment is due tomorrow 19th November. REMEMBER the 9 out of 10 pool drownings are preventable.

P & C DISCO THURSDAY
The P & C require all money and permission notes by tomorrow to enable catering to be organised. There is another order form attached to this newsletter.
K – 2: 5.30pm – 6.45pm
3 – 6: 7pm – 8.30pm

CANTEEN NEWS
Late Lunch orders
Late lunch orders are a consistent problem in the canteen. Late lunch orders make the tallying of items difficult to maintain correctly and adds stress for volunteers and students.
At the beginning of the year the committee made a decision regarding what to do if orders are late. Canteen volunteers have been lenient and tried to provide the appropriate items. This will no longer occur. ALL LUNCH ORDERS ARE TO BE AT THE CANTEEN NO LATER THAN 10.30AM. NO EXCEPTIONS.
If your order is late you will be given a vege sandwich and a piece of fruit ONLY at a cost of $2.50. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday 21st November
Michelle Ison
Donna French
Teneal Pittman
Monday 24th November
Rebecca Adam
Carly Baker
Catherine Henry

FORTHCOMING DATES
November
Wednesday 19th Early Birds & Parent Session
P & C Meeting 6.30 Library
Thursday 20th P & C Disco
24th – 5th Dec K – 1 Safety Visit
24th – 5th Dec Intensive Swimming
25th Tuesday St Joseph’s Orientation
28th Friday Scone High Orientation
December
4th Thursday Mini Fete
10th Wednesday Presentation Day
11th Thursday Year 6 Farewell
17th Wednesday Last day of school for students
P & C NEWS

P and C Association Meetings

How often does the P and C association Meet?
Most Associations meet once a month in school term. It is a requirement of the P and C Federation, of which we are affiliated, that the P and C Association meet at least once in the school term. The timing of meetings is set out in the P and C Association Rules.

Our P and C Association meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6.30pm in the school Library.

How long do meetings take?
There is no time limit for a meeting under Federation regulations, however some committees choose to make a motion to set a start and finish time to encourage the meeting to stay on task.

Our Meeting begin at 6.30pm and must finish by 8.30pm as passed in a motion at a previous meeting.

Meeting procedure
The P and C Association meeting is set out in the form of an Agenda. The Agenda sets the order of discussion/reporting and the topics for discussion. The Agenda allows time for all formal reports from the Principal and various subcommittees. Issues that need discussion from the previous meeting and new general business item.

During the meeting opportunity for any questions, queries and suggestions is made available for all those in attendance.

Decision Making
Items of interest may be proposed and discussed by anyone attending the Association meeting. If an action needs to be carried out a Motion is put forward by a P and C Association Member, then Seconded by another Association member and the issue voted on by all Association Members present and an Action noted. Only financial members can put forward or vote on motions made at a meeting.

Can I vote by Proxy on an issue?
No. Only Financial members present at the meeting where a motion is to be voted may vote.

Can I abstain from voting?
Yes. Any member entitled to vote on motions can vote for, against or abstain. Numbers of each votes are recorded with the motion.

Expenditure of funds
The P and C association has the authority to pass motions on the expenditure of funds. Expenditure of more than $500 must be motioned then advertised for voting upon at the next general meeting as part of Federation Rules and guidelines. Smaller amounts may be decided upon at the meeting they are proposed.

Special Meetings
Special meetings can be called to discuss a specific issue that needs addressing before the sitting of the next General P and C Association Meeting.
P&C Disco
Thursday 20th November 2014

K-2 Disco
5.30pm-6.45pm

3-6 Disco
7.00pm-8.30pm

Lolly bags, chips, poppers and glow sticks are available for purchase on the night.

$5 entry includes sausage sandwich and popper.

$2 entry for those not requiring dinner.

Please return to the office by Tuesday 18th November.

My child ___________________________ in class __________ will be attending the school disco on Thursday 20th November.

Enclosed is entry fee.

O $5 includes sausage sandwich and popper
O $2 just entry.
Helping resolve conflict: Suggestions for families

The skills needed for resolving conflict effectively are complex

They involve managing feelings, understanding others, communicating effectively, developing options and making decisions. Parents and carers play an important role in helping children resolve conflicts. You can also play a critical role in establishing positive guidance that teaches children the skills needed to resolve conflicts effectively.
How you can guide children’s conflict resolution

Set the scene for cooperation
Show how to cooperate and respect others through your own approach. Ask children to help solve the conflict and express confidence that they can work it out cooperatively. It is very important that children approach the conflict in a positive way, and believe that they can work together to solve it.

Help children handle emotions
Children may need encouragement and help to stay cool in a conflict – especially if they feel they are being accused or blaming. They may feel anxious and need support to stay calm if they feel intimidated. In conflicts that are particularly heated, children may need to have time away from each other to cool down before going on to work out ways of resolving the conflict. Taking time to calm down can help children overcome the tendency to react aggressively or withdraw from the situation.

Encourage empathy and respect for others
Teach children to listen to and understand the needs and concerns of the other person. Help them to ask why the other person wants something and consider what it might be like to be ‘in their shoes’. Learning to understand the other person’s perspective is a critical foundation for conflict resolution and for building positive relationships.

Practise communication skills
Effective conflict resolution relies on clear communication of feelings and wants. This can be especially difficult when under pressure in a conflict. Learning to speak clearly and respectfully takes practice. You can help children practise what to say to initiate conflict resolution, for example: “If we talk about this, I’m sure we can sort it out.” Practising assertive ways for children to express their wants and concerns is also particularly helpful, for example: “I want you to ask before using my things.”

Encourage creative solutions
In conflicts people often get stuck in their own positions and can’t see other options. This is why it is so important to get creativity going when thinking of possible solutions. The brainstorming rule, that no-one is allowed to say that something won’t work, is intended to help with getting creative. Steer children back to the point if necessary, but leave evaluation of the ideas they come up with for later. It’s okay for adults to help children think of alternative solutions if it helps them to get creative.

When enough is enough
Some conflicts are too big for children to work out. Sometimes children are not ready to sort them out and the conflict continues to escalate. If children’s conflicts become very intense or lead to physical aggression, then it is important for an adult to step in. When a mutual solution is not possible you can still help your child to think through the alternatives that are available to him or her and choose the best one.

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This resource is part of a range of KidsMatter Primary information sheets for families and school staff. View them all online at www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

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