NICHO FLICKO FEST IS COMING!

Our first ever film festival. - Saturday 18th May 2013. - Everyone is invited!

‘Just do it!’
‘Wouldn’t it be nice if the world was chocolate?’
‘You are a toy!’
‘Please sir. I want some more!’

May just be some of the lines you hear your child repeating as they watch, deconstruct and analyse multimodal texts (video) in order to construct their own video in preparation for Nicholson St Public School’s first ever film festival.

The theme or signature item for the films is Water. Kindergarten are working on video poems, Year 1 & 2 are working on advertisements, Year 3 & 4 on stories and Year 5 & 6 on documentaries.

The films will be screened at NICHO FLICKO on the OPEN AIR CINEMA which will be set on the school grounds on the evening of Saturday 18th May 2013. So keep the date free.

A full length feature film will also be screened on the night as well as a delicious dinner available for all the family to enjoy.

It is very exciting that such an authentic learning experience is becoming a reality for our students.

DATES

5/3 - Regional Swimming Carnival
8/3 - Whole School Assembly led by 3/4M @ 9:30am
21/3 - Harmony Day
26/3 - Stage 1 @ Easter Show
29/3 - Public Holiday - Good Friday
1/3 - Public Holiday - Easter Monday
12/4 - Anzac Day Whole School Assembly led by 5/6H @ 9:30am
12/4 - Last Day Term 1
1/5 - Students return for Term 2
Cine-literacy and competence in creation of multimodal texts feature heavily in the new NSW English Syllabus documents. Students ability to master video texts and to be able to critique such texts is becoming more a necessity in the 21st century. No longer is it good enough for students to be able to read and write conventional texts but as the world becomes more visual we want our students to be able to be creators of texts and not merely consumers, we want our students to understand how such texts are used to convey meaning and affect the viewer. Nicho Flicko Fest has given them the most purposeful and authentic opportunity to do so.

See the Nicho Flicko trailer at https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/blog/42316-longlivelearning/entry/nicho_flicko_fest_trailer

MEET THE TEACHER

Information from last term’s Meet the Teacher afternoon is now available at https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/blog/42316-longlivelearning/entry/meet_the_teacher_notes

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Parents could you please help us by also reminding students they are not to share food from each others lunch boxes.

Could you also avoid sending sugary snacks such as lollies and fizzy drinks etc. for lunch. These foods are not helpful in getting peak learning and concentration from students.

For some healthy lunchbox ideas see:

http://www.nutritionaustralia.org/national/resource/whats-lunch

and


THANK YOU

Thank you to:

• Martin Foreman for helping us tidy the school grounds.

• Jennifer Smart for sharing her expert knowledge of film.

LET’S GET ETHICAL

Nicholson St PS has the opportunity to offer Ethics classes to students in years 3 and 4 as well as years 5 and 6 this year, with the younger years joining in for terms 3 and 4. The classes are offered at the same time as scripture classes (on a Wednesday from 2.35 for 40 minutes). We have one teacher trained up and ready to go this week -- Melanie Moss whose daughter Ariel is in kindergarten this year.

And now we need one more volunteer! Do it for the school. Do it for the kids. Do it for you! It’s a fun way to contribute.

It means completing the necessary paperwork and two days of training, then committing to the class every Wednesday afternoon. The curriculum is interesting and well thought out, designed by leading Australian academics specialising in philosophy and education. It’s a great opportunity to share ethical concepts and models with the Nicho students and an alternative to the ‘non-teaching’ of ‘non-scripture’.

Volunteer teachers will be supported by the Primary Ethics organisation -- which now has over 5000 students in primary schools across NSW -- as well as the Nicholson St Ethics Co-Ordinator, Tosca Looby. If you are interested, or just want to know more about the programme, please email or call Tosca on tosca1@aapt.net.au or 0410 652 494.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

To receive the school newsletter and other updates via email go to http://www.nicholson-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/news-notes and register.
LEAVE FORMS

If your child is away from school it is imperative that a note, signed by a parent or a doctor's certificate, be sent with them the next day they are at school.

If you wish to take your children on a trip for more than 3 days during school time you must notify the school and complete an Exemption Form prior to the students going. These forms are available at the front office.

GYMNASTICS PROGRAM

Week 3 saw the beginning of the gymnastics program at Nicho. We have two teachers who will teach our students over the next 8 weeks. Their names are Simone Francis and Stan Taura.

Simone Francis has represented Australia at both Trampoline and Tumbling world championships and is great with the kids. Stan Taura has excelled at most sports. He is currently still playing professional Rugby League and has a trial with the Cronulla Sharks this coming Saturday for the NSW Cup team.

Students from K-6 have been enjoying gymnastics this week. Please keep an eye out for more photos on the school website.

Rob Haigh

SCHOOL BANKING

The Dollarmite School Banking sessions are held every Friday morning before school. The Nicho branch is located outside the library in good weather and inside if it's cold or wet.

Parent school banking coordinators needed. If you're interested in volunteering (even 1 hour per month), please email Jane Morgan on jane@janemorgan.net

Jane Morgan

P&C NEWS

Well even though the weather kept us on our toes for most of the day, it actually held off its tremendous storm to let us have a lovely Welcome BBQ! A big thanks goes out to Year 6 parents and kids for fab food and service! I would also like to mention the Australia Day fundraiser that was organised by Woolworths and Kerry Guthrie, we raised around $450 and another big thank you to those parents that volunteered their time for manning the BBQ on that day!

The next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 12th Feb starting at 7:30 and all are welcome to attend!

Nicole Sorby

Parents, students and teachers enjoy the P&C Welcome Picnic.
**MUSIC NEWS**

**2013 Music Program – our biggest year ever!**
Thank you to everyone who filled out an Expression of Interest form for this year’s Music Program. We are on track to have our biggest training band and choir ever. Beginner recorder has begun and more will join up this week. The Guitar Ensembles are full and we can confirm that Trash Percussion will begin this week.

A quick run-down of the music timetable:
- **Recorder with Wendy Thorvaldson**
  - Monday Sydney Opera House Recorder group 8.15am
  - Tuesdays SOHR group 8.15am
- **Wednesday Beginners group** 8.15am
  - Wednesdays Sydney Opera House Recorder group 8.15am
- **Guitar Ensemble with David Brinsmead**
- **Senior Ensemble – Tuesday recess**
- **Junior Ensemble – Wednesday recess**
  - Training Band with Freddie Hill Wednesday 8am
  - Concert Band with Josh Salter Wednesday 8am

Our Training Band recruits are joining the program gradually. We have spent the last few weeks matching students with instruments and teachers for private lessons. We have a fantastic group of eager beginners across a range of instruments – just wait for their first performance!

**Concert Band with Josh Salter**
- Wednesday 8am

We welcome Josh Salter as our new Concert Band Conductor. The concert band kids have given him the thumbs up so it is going to be another great year for our senior performing group. Well done to our new concert band members who were successful at audition and held their own in their first rehearsal with their more experienced peers.

**Trash Percussion with Ian Watson**
- Wednesday lunchtime

The expression of interest for this fun, rhythmic group has been fantastic. Ian the drummer dude returns to make amazing music out of…trash.

**Choir for Years 3-6 with Maddie Cowell**
- Thursday 8am

Our numbers in choir have doubled for this year and Maddie welcomes them all with open arms. Now a message to the boys – don’t be shy you won’t be alone!

**Training Band and Concert Band News**
- **Wednesday lunchtime**

This year we have been able to organize for all of our band tutorials to be on the same day – Wednesday lunchtime.

**Week 6** is our first tutorial week. All band members divide up into their instrument groups – Flute, Woodwind, Brass and Percussion – to have a small group tutorial. We will send around an email reminder this week.

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**Lost Property**
A guitar was left in the instrument room over the holidays, please see Pat Estwick to reclaim it:
- Zeus ¼ Guitar model No CG60F in a blue guitar bag

**Performing arts opportunities in the wider world!**

**Sydney Region Dance Camp**
Sienna Shearer and Jack Reynolds attended the Sydney Region Dance Camp at the Seymour Centre last Thursday.

“I went along to the Dance Camp to learn some new moves for the Dance Group. I was a bit nervous because I haven’t had dance lessons but it was great fun and we learnt a lot. The teachers were really good and I knew some other kids there so I had a great time.” Jack Reynolds Yr6

“It was great fun, we learnt contemporary and jazz dances, we learnt two routines. The teachers were really nice. I agree with Jack, we can teach some new dance moves to the Dance Group here at school. I had a great time and I would definitely do it again!” Sienna Shearer Yr4

**Create East**

Online applications and paper forms are due by this Friday, 8th March. Auditions are held on Friday 15th March. Workshops 8-10 April.

Create East is a wonderful opportunity for students in years 4 to 6 nominated by their teachers from across the Sydney Region to join together for three days of workshops – at the end of which they will treat us to a theatre performance at the Seymour Centre. Nicholson Street kids have been part of this great even for many years – lets continue the tradition.

**Performing Arts Unit Festival of Instrumental Music**

**Sydney Opera House, August**

Once again our senior recorder students will form part of a 700-strong recorder ensemble at the Opera House.

**Sydney Region Expanding Horizons Concert**

**Sydney Opera House, August 19**

Our senior choir has been invited to be part of a massed choir at this event. Students from schools in China will join with schools from across Sydney in this exciting cross-cultural performing arts event.

**Sydney Region Band**

Applications for the Sydney Region Band are now open, please contact Kathryn Reynolds Kathryn@combsaw.com.au for more details.

**Parent Helpers**

The Music Program at Nicho would not run as smoothly or as busily without the help of our parent community – whether it be organising events, transporting children or providing morning tea. Others assist by imparting their own music experience to new students – assembling saxophones and bassoons, oiling valves, freeing stuck mouthpieces or even taking over rehearsals when our conductors are unwell. A big thank you to you all.

Kathryn Reynolds
HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOL KIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

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**Newtown High School of the Performing Arts**

**Entry of Students**

**Year 7, Year 11**

2014

Dance, Drama and Music Selection Procedures

To the Principal

Students currently in Year 6 or Year 10 2013 enrolled in public or non-government schools who are seeking entrance into Year 7 or Year 11 in 2014 in Dance, Drama or Music at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts, must participate in audition workshops.

**Year 7 Audition Dates:** Friday 21st June – Thursday 27th June 2013

**Year 11 Audition Dates:** Wednesday 19th June – Friday 21st June 2013

**Please Note:** To be eligible to apply, candidates must be Australian Citizens or holders of a visa granting permanent resident status in Australia on the day of their audition.

Initial registration for an audition is required online via our website

www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au

Closing date for registration is 1st May 2013

Newtown High School of the Performing Arts provides specialist education at the highest level to students having outstanding potential and/or achievement in, and commitment to, Dance, Drama or Music.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Gray
Principal

**Conditions:**

Each audition is assessed on its own merits. The examiner’s decision is final and no appeal can be made except on procedure. Information on individual student’s performances in their audition will not be given. The purpose of the auditions is for the school to select the top students as assessed by the examiners. These are the conditions under which students and parents/carers must agree to when applying to a audition.

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King Street Newtown NSW 2042 • PO Box 785 Newtown NSW 2042 • Phone 02 9519 1544 • Fax 9519 1657
newtown-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au • www.nhspa.nsw.edu.au
27 February 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: Increase in Fine and Demerit Points around School Zones

Leichhardt Council is committed to working with local schools to ensure the safety of school children. As you may be aware, young children are at greater risk in the traffic environment because of their:-

- small size – which can make them hard to see in traffic
- difficulty in judging speed and distance
- peripheral vision - which is a third narrower than that of an adult
- unpredictable behaviour.

For more information regarding these matters, please visit:

In recognition of the above factors, Council is keen to work with schools to address driver behaviour that places children at risk of injury. For example, double parking is illegal and especially hazardous around schools. Double parked cars block the line of vision for all other drivers, pedestrians and cyclists, force children onto the road, obstruct the flow of traffic and increase the chance of a crash or injury.

Fine and demerit point offences in school zones include:

- Double parking – $298 fine and 2 demerit points
- Stopping on or near a children’s crossing – $397 fine and 2 demerit points
- Approach children’s crossing too quickly to stop safely – $496 fine and 4 demerit points
- Disobey no parking sign – $165 fine and 2 demerit points
- Use a hand-held mobile phone while driving – $397 fine and 4 demerit points

School zone penalties apply to offences committed in school zones during posted school hours.

In an effort to ensure a safer environment for children, Council Parking Officers will be distributing pamphlets to parents and guardians dropping and picking up children from our local schools. The distribution of these materials will be supported by signage around schools, crossing facilities, and enforcement action by Council Rangers and Police to ensure compliance.

Council seeks your assistance in being alert to the relevant road rules and the need to comply with them around schools. For further information, please contact Alison Williams, Environmental and Health Education Officer via email: leichhardt@lmc.nsw.gov.au or phone 9367 9222.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Vogt
Manager, Compliance

Youth Taiko Camp Programs

This year Taiko camp has been split into two groups. Click on the hyperlinks to find out more.

» Ages 6 - 10 years program

» Ages 11 - 18 years program

The Youth Taiko Camp is a fun and action-packed music camp. It's an experience your child will be talking about long after they have participated. I hope to see you there.

Kind Regards,

Kerryn Joyce
TaikOz School Coordinator
Bring a smile to the face of a disadvantaged child this Easter by contributing to the

UnitingCare Burnside Easter Egg Appeal

Help bring a smile to the face of a child this Easter.

Easter is now only 4 weeks away!

When you’re shopping for Easter eggs this week, why not include a couple more for children who would otherwise go without?

UnitingCare, the community services arm of the Uniting Church, are collecting chocolate Easter eggs for children in UnitingCare Burnside services including foster care and programs for less fortunate children and families.

All eggs can be dropped off at the office and need to be received by Friday 8th of March so that we can deliver them to services in enough time.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Osborne on nosborne@unitingcarenswact.org.au