Welcome to Week 8 and the final newsletter for Term 2. Term 3 commences on Monday 14th July for teachers and Tuesday 15th July for students.

Please remember that there will be no canteen for the next two weeks.

Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Year 6 students recently returned from a 3 day educational tour of the national capital. During the 3 days they were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program towards the costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Canteen News

Unfortunately there will be no canteen this week or next week.

Michelle Finneran, our canteen roster coordinator, is beginning to organise canteen volunteers for Term 3. If you were able to help out next term (even if it was only for one day) please let her know. You can either email Michelle directly at msdshell@iprimus.com.au or leave a message for her at the office.

Please give volunteering a serious thought as without our canteen volunteers the canteen is unable to open.

School Banking

There will be no school banking during the last week of Term 2 – Thursday 26th June.

Captains’ Assembly

The Captains’ assembly will be held next Friday, 27th June, commencing at 1:45pm. During the assembly our Year 1 and 2 dance groups will be performing as will the school choir. Everyone is invited to attend.
Congratulations to:

- All students who completed a poster on Botswana for the CWA International Day competition – they were very impressive.
- Year 6 for their exemplary behaviour whilst in Canberra.
- Halle Boyd and Lawson McElrea for their fantastic effort at the Regional Cross Country carnival.
- The chess players who represented themselves, and the school, at the Interschool Chess Competition recently held at Glenbrook PS.
- The following students who have completed their Premier’s Reading Challenge:

Thank you to:

- Mrs Turner for hosting the CWA ladies on their International Day held in our library in Week 6.
- All families who donated bags of clothes for the Stewart House Clothing Appeal. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.
- Mrs Howat for all of her organisation and effort in making the trip to Canberra a successful one for Year 6.
- All parents who helped with the transport to Lapstone PS for the Opera House choir rehearsal.

Social Media Resources

Attached to the newsletter are four information leaflets on social media. They have been supplied to us by Senior Constable Michelle Jancso who is the Youth Liaison Officer stationed in Springwood. Whilst the information is aimed more at our Stage 3 students I believe it is useful for all parents to know about.

During Term 3 we will have an information session for all Stage 3 students with Senior Constable Jancso who will talk with our students about social media and social bullying. She will also run a parent information session that is extremely useful for all parents. Dates will be announced once they have been confirmed.

Out Of Bounds Areas at School

There are certain areas within the school that are out of bounds for students unless they are accompanied by their teachers and/or parents. This includes before school starts and after school finishes. They have been put in place to try and ensure all of our students are kept safe whilst on school grounds.

Unfortunately, two of these areas are starting to be used fairly regularly before and after school by some students. Whilst we have been lucky in that no student has been seriously hurt to date, there have been a couple of instances in the past fortnight where parents have rung the school frantically looking for their child as they had not arrived home from school. The missing children have all been found playing in the nature trail or on the play equipment.

I would ask that all parents have the same conversation that teachers are currently having with their classes regarding areas in the school they can and can’t play in during the day, specifically before and after school. Children should be arriving at school in the morning after 8:30am and should be going home after school at 3pm when the day has finished.

I am aware of some families who meet together after school for a short period of time which is fine however I would ask that you supervise your children wherever they are and remind other children that may have stayed back that they should actually be heading home.

If there are any questions please let me know.

Mr Giles

Winmalee Cup

Winmalee Cup is this Friday 20th June. We have 4 teams competing in the junior newcomers ball, junior soccer, junior netball and senior newcomers ball.

All permission notes, with payment, should have been returned to school by now. If payment is an issue please contact the office to arrange payment options.

Children need to be at school on Friday at 8:30am. They should bring their hat, recess, lunch and water to drink. If parents are attending the day and wish to take their child home with them please let the supervising teacher for that team know before leaving. Remaining students will return to school by bus by 3pm.
Library News

As we are now nearing the end of term it is time to return library books to the library.

Unfortunately we have quite a few students with overdue books. Please have a look at home to see if there are any books from the library lying around and return them to school as soon as possible.

Mrs Turner

Canteen News

The good news for the canteen is that the P&C are in the process of buying an oven for the canteen which will help with the popularity of the new ‘hot’ food on the menu. This will definitely help ensure that food prep is much faster and simpler. The aim is to have the oven installed for Term 3.

The bad news however is that the canteen will not be open for the final two weeks of this term (see below). We would love to be able to keep the canteen open and operating two days each week so we have opened a survey to get some feedback as to why it is not possible or convenient form some parents to volunteer. We have had some suggestions of split shifts, a child friendly area for mums and kids, etc. If you have a few minutes please complete the survey so that we can see what we can do to make it easier for people to volunteer. The survey link is https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VQVCSW2

Thank you for your support
Canteen Committee

The school canteen will be closed **Week 8 (Wednesday 18th June and Friday 20th June)**

**Week 9 Wednesday 25th June and Friday 27th June.** The reason for this is that I cannot get any volunteers for the day.

Canteen will be open on Wednesday 23rd July, 2014.

Please think about volunteering in Term 3 and Term 4, you will be placed on canteen with a parent that has experience. The children love to see their parents in canteen.

Thank you
Michelle Finneran

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is now open on **Tuesday mornings at 8:30 – 9:00am.** We are located at the side of the school library. The summer order form will be going out early in Term 3.

Thank You
Jean Martin
Uniform Coordinator

Playgroup – Every Wednesday

Wednesday mornings are an exciting time for many people in our school community. This is when our playgroup meet in the hall from 9am – 11am. It is an exciting time for children to meet and get to know other children they will end up coming to school with in the future. It is also a great opportunity for parents to mix with other families connected to our school and begin forming relationships that will last many years into the future. Finally, we have found playgroup to be an essential part of our Kindergarten Transition program for those children starting Kinder the following year. By the time they turn up in the school uniform they have a smooth start all because they already feel a part of our wonderful school.

Attendance is very informal and involves no cost. If you have younger children (including babies) at home and feel like meeting with other families in a similar situation on a Wednesday morning then drop into the school hall anytime from 9am until 11am.

BioBliz 2014

The most exciting part of the excursion to Glenbrook Lagoon was the Waterbug station. This was my favourite part of the excursion because I loved when the lady told us that when you find a sensitive or very sensitive macro invertebrate it will tell you how clean or polluted the water is. If it’s a sensitive waterbug the water will be clean but if it’s a very sensitive waterbug the water will be really clean. Such as Caddissflyed larvae which is very sensitive and a shrimp which is just sensitive.

By Savannah Burns 4/SS
UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
Great Western Highway, Werrington North
(Building AO)

ASTRONOMY NIGHT
Saturday 21st June (7-9pm)
The night will include a multimedia presentation, a
3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky
through the University’s 0.6 metre and 0.25
telescopes (weather permitting).

JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Wednesday 2nd July (10am – 12pm)
Kids Fun Day – Chemistry for Kids
Chemistry and chemicals are everywhere! Most
people think of chemicals as nasty toxic stuff but in
this program we explore the fun (and tasty!) side to
chemicals and chemistry.

Saturday 5th July (7-9pm)
School Holiday Astronomy Night
Seeing the Invisible
There is more to the universe than what we can see
with our eyes. An investigation into the science of
revealing the invisible throughout the universe and
what the unseen can tell us.

Wednesday 9th July (10am – 12pm)
Kids Fun Day – Rockets
Lots of fun for kids of all ages. Make and launch
your own paper rocket and watch water rockets
being launched. The program will also include a
short presentation, a 3D astronomy movie and
SAFE viewing of the sun.

Saturday 12th July (7-9pm)
School Holiday Astronomy Night
Our Moon
A close up look at our closest celestial friend.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession &
$40 family
Bookings essential:
Online: http://www.uws.edu.au/observatory
- “What’s On”

Enquiries:
Phone: (02) 4736 0135
(Mon, Wed or Thurs)
or email: r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

Student Assistance, We Can Help
During the course of the school year there are many
financial demands upon parents. Excursions,
uniforms, shows and textbooks are just a few. As a
parent I understand the constant pressure that
these costs can bring to a family budget and that as
parents we want to provide our children with all
opportunities made available to them. Each year
the school is provided with a small budget to help
any parents who may require some financial
assistance for school related expenses. If parents
require any assistance with school related
expenses please contact Mr Giles or your child’s
teacher. All enquiries are confidential.

Anaphylaxis – a shared responsibility
Being the start of a new school year it is just the
right time to remind everyone about this issue. We
now have a couple of students at our school who
have a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. This
anaphylactic reaction is likely to be life-threatening.
For this reason we ask that peanuts are not brought
to school. This includes peanut butter, nut spreads
(nutella), and nut bars.

The inconvenience to some children is recognised
and appreciated, but the consequences to children
with this severe allergy are extremely serious.

All members of our school community are asked to
be aware of the dangers of even the slightest
contact with peanuts or tree nuts for these children.
To help minimise the risk, simply washing hands
and cleaning teeth before coming to school would
really help.

Lost A Copy Of A Past Educom Issue??

The Educom Is On the Internet
Our bi-weekly Educom can be accessed from the
internet on our web site –
www.mtrivervie-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
If you are not receiving your fortnightly issue of the
Educom please contact the office and update your
email contact.

School Security, You Can Help
If parents or community members observe any
destructive or suspicious behaviour in the school
grounds please ring the School Security phone
number listed below. All reports are treated
discreetly; names do not have to be left with the
operator.

School Security - 1300 880 021
Join 1st Blaxland Scout Group

If your child is active and adventurous,
Scouts could be for them!

Scouts is a worldwide youth movement for boys and girls aged 6 through to 26. Scouts offers children an outdoor educational program that allows for socialisation in a different environment. Teaches them about working in teams, builds an understanding of the value of physical fitness, broadens their experience and develops an understanding of responsibility and leadership.

Scouts enjoy lots of fun activities including camping, hikes, abseiling, bike riding, swimming, playing, games, learning knots, first aid, orienteering, singing, making craft, objects, cooking, earning badges.

There are also outings to places such as the zoo and the movies, the polo match at race courses, craft fairs, making merry at the public gardens, and more.

Our Group currently has places available within all of our Sections, and we look forward to having new members.

For more information please contact our Group Leader, Adrian Watt at adrianwatt@me.com.au You can also check out the Scouts NSW website at www.nswscouts.net.au

To join us, contact Adrian Watt on 0411 106 785.
Certificate II in Skills for Work and Training Course 10697

School/ Office Assistant Program

This free course provides a pathway to work and further education and training, with a specific focus on the skills needed to work in a school/office environment. It is designed for people who are interested in working in a range of educational settings as a teacher assistant (known as a School Learning Support Officer). The course also provides skill development in school/office administration.

Specifically, it aims to:

- Develop knowledge, skills, understanding, attitudes and values to support students with disabilities in a school environment;
- Enhance core employment and vocational skills, and provide relevant experience in the school/office environment;
- Promote career opportunities, further training and employment pathways.

When: 2 – 3 days per week (Monday-Wednesday):
All classes between school hours (9.30am- 2.30pm)

Where: Blue Mountains TAFE, Mitchell Street, Wentworth Falls

Please come along to our Course Information Session to find out more and meet with the teachers on
Tuesday, 24th June, 2014 at 11.00am in
Room BG 15/16, Wentworth Falls TAFE

For further information, please call the Course Coordinator
Prue Mogg on 47532107 or
Blue Mountains TAFE Customer Service on 47532100 or
or email Prudence.Mogg@det.nsw.edu.au
Learning and fun outdoors!

Looking for a fun and healthy school holiday activity that won’t break the bank? Get your kids off the couch and unhooked from the iPad with a Sport and Recreation Centre holiday program.

Sport and Recreation Centres are government-run facilities. These overnight and day adventures are offered in great Australian bush and coastline locations for kids aged 5 to 16.

See your child blossom

Our programs use challenging, adventurous activities to help kids develop independence, self-esteem and social skills.

Under the supervision of friendly and qualified staff, conquering these age-appropriate challenges can help kids develop confidence as they master new skills and make new friends.

Our affordable school holiday packages include all activities, accommodation, nutritious meals and 24-hour supervision. Supervised transport is also available to and from most camps.

Sport and Recreation Centres: getting kids active outdoors for over 60 years.
**Our friendly staff are always ready to help with your booking and answer any questions. We recommend you book as early as you can to ensure your child doesn’t miss out.**

**Tel:** 13 13 02    **Language assistance phone:** 13 14 50

**Email:** sportrec@communities.nsw.gov.au


### Introducing online enrolments

Your enrolment can be submitted online 24/7! Enrolments close on the Monday one week prior to camp. Book early to avoid disappointment.

**How to enrol**

Call 13 13 02 to book and pay over the phone, or submit your enrolment with full payment online.


---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Camp name</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Cost 12 years and under</th>
<th>Cost 13 years and over</th>
<th>Transport available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1-DAY CAMPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berry</td>
<td>Kids’ Club (day only)</td>
<td>67874</td>
<td>1 Jul</td>
<td>7-9 years</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67875</td>
<td>2 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67876</td>
<td>3 Jul</td>
<td>10-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Ainsworth</td>
<td>Kid’s Club (day only)</td>
<td>67951</td>
<td>30 Jun</td>
<td>5-12 years</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67952</td>
<td>1 Jul</td>
<td>5-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67953</td>
<td>2 Jul</td>
<td>5-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myuna Bay</td>
<td>Kid’s Club (day only)</td>
<td>67846</td>
<td>10 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67847</td>
<td>11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2-DAY CAMPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broken Bay</td>
<td>Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying</td>
<td>67814</td>
<td>10 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>13 years &amp; 9 months - 16 years</td>
<td>$180.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3-DAY CAMPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broken Bay</td>
<td>Duke of Edinburgh Practice</td>
<td>67811</td>
<td>6 - 8 Jul</td>
<td>13 years &amp; 9 months - 16 years</td>
<td>$210.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5-DAY CAMPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borambola</td>
<td>Snow Combo</td>
<td>67859</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>9-12 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sports Crazy</td>
<td>67770</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>10-13 years</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
<td>$295.00</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broken Bay</td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67800</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>12-15 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hooked on Fishing</td>
<td>67804</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>12-15 years</td>
<td>$341.00</td>
<td>$376.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67808</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sky High</td>
<td>67810</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>12-15 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td>$320.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Ainsworth</td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67948</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Burrendong</td>
<td>Mountain Biking</td>
<td>67895</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>12-15 years</td>
<td>$237.00</td>
<td>$267.00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hooked on Fishing</td>
<td>67896</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$277.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Keepit</td>
<td>Kreative Kids</td>
<td>67924</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$265.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milson Island</td>
<td>Hooked On Fishing</td>
<td>67798</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$341.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67806</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67807</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cooking 4 Kids</td>
<td>67809</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$315.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myuna Bay</td>
<td>Adventure Camp</td>
<td>67848</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$305.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cooking 4 Kids</td>
<td>67850</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$345.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kreative Kids</td>
<td>67851</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>$345.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney Academy</td>
<td>Kids’ Club (day only)</td>
<td>66063</td>
<td>30 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>8-12 years</td>
<td>$267.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kids’ Club (day only)</td>
<td>66064</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>8-12 years</td>
<td>$267.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental Art (day only)</td>
<td>67792</td>
<td>7 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>5-7 years</td>
<td>$267.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7-DAY CAMPS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jindabyne</td>
<td>Snow Sports</td>
<td>67414</td>
<td>28 Jun - 4 Jul</td>
<td>10-16 years</td>
<td>$1,066.75</td>
<td>$1,076.75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>67418</td>
<td>5 - 11 Jul</td>
<td>10-16 years</td>
<td>$1,066.75</td>
<td>$1,076.75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


---

**www.dsr.nsw.gov.au**  
**Find us on Facebook** [www.facebook.com/NSWSportandRecreation](http://www.facebook.com/NSWSportandRecreation)

Our friendly staff are always ready to help with your booking and answer any questions. We recommend you book as early as you can to ensure your child doesn’t miss out.

Tel: 13 13 02  
Language assistance phone: 13 14 50  
Email: sportrec@communities.nsw.gov.au
Introduction to Coffee Shop
Do you want to learn more about the Hospitality Industry?

Opportunities
- This course will help you to get into further education, training and employment in the hospitality industry.
- It will give you practical experience in the modern coffee shop environment.

Subjects
- Prepare and serve espresso coffee
- Prepare Food
- Follow workplace hygiene procedures
- Clean and maintain kitchen premises
- Work with colleagues and customers
- Communicate with customers in a range of contexts
- Record routine written information
- Read and interpret a range of familiar texts

Entry Requirement
You must be able to read, write, understand and discuss printed information in English.

No previous hospitality skills are necessary.

Information
Information Session on
Monday, 23rd June 2014 at 11:00 am
Block K – Room K.1.22
Nepean College, Kingswood Campus
Or Call Eoin on 9208 9351
Course Starts 14 July 2014
This is a Free Course

Proposed Timetable
3 days per week Mon, Tue & Wed - 9:00 to 2:30
Full time course – No Classes in School Holidays

Contacts: Please leave a message
Eoin O’Caoimh - 9208 9351
Sue Rousham - 9208 9399
eoin.ocaoimh@tafensw.edu.au
susan.rousham@tafensw.edu.au
Course Information Available at:
nepean.wsi@tafensw.edu.au

This is a Free Course
What is ask.fm?
Ask.fm is a social Q&A website which promotes itself as offering the ability to ask anonymous questions to an individual's 'profile.' The website was launched in 2010 and is based in Latvia. Ask.fm is increasingly being associated with cyberbullying behaviour worldwide due to the perceived anonymity of users who post and answer questions.

What is the age classification for ask.fm?
The age classification for ask.fm is 13 years old, although much of the content may be inappropriate for that age group. It is important to know that these classifications are set by the website creator and are not overseen by an independent body.

How can my child stay safe on ask.fm?
It is important to monitor your child's behaviour online and identify changes in behaviour around technology use. Ask.fm has been associated with cyberbullying incidents due to users perceived anonymity when asking questions. Preventing anonymous questions from being asked on your child's profile could minimise their risk of being exposed to cyberbullying. This can be done by selecting Settings > Privacy, check the box next to Do not allow anonymous questions and click Save.

Am I really anonymous on ask.fm?
It is important to make children aware that they are never truly anonymous online and that their online actions can have offline consequences. The privacy policy on ask.fm states that any information collected by their website, such as username, email address or IP address, may be shared to “investigate, prevent or prosecute illegal activities, suspected fraud, and violations to the Terms and Conditions.”

How can Ask.fm use the information that my child posts?
By submitting content through the ask.fm service (by asking or answering questions, uploading photos or videos) you grant ask.fm a license to use, copy, reproduce, process, adapt, modify, publish, transmit, display and distribute such content in any and all media or distribution methods. In other words, all information that your child posts on ask.fm can be used by ask.fm for any reason they see fit.

Who can ask my child a question?
All ask.fm profiles are public and anyone can ask a question. It is important to know that you can restrict your child’s account from receiving anonymous questions.

Who can see the answers that are posted on my child’s Ask.fm profile?
Ask.fm profiles have no privacy settings - anything posted is publicly viewable (answers, images, videos). It is important that you speak with your child about what they may be posting on their profiles and how this might affect their reputation and relationships.

How can my child delete an answer on their profile?
Select × to the right of an answer and click OK.

How can I report something on Ask.fm?
Report specific answers by clicking Report on the drop down box to the right of an answer and selecting the appropriate reason for reporting. Click OK.
You can also report all answers on a particular profile by clicking Report, next to ‘answers’ and selecting the appropriate reason for reporting. Click OK.
Note: You can report even if you do not have an ask.fm account.

How can my child block someone that is asking inappropriate questions?
Once you get another question from the user harassing you press Block next to each question. This will take you to a screen which asks you why you would like to block the user. Select the appropriate reason and click Block.
You can unblock a user by going into the account’s privacy settings under Blacklist and unblock the user.

How can I delete my child’s account?
If after talking with your child about the ethical use of ask.fm and your family’s rules around technology, you may think it’s appropriate to delete the ask.fm account.
To delete a profile on ask.fm select Settings > Disable Account, enter your password and select Disable Account.
Open and supportive discussions around technology usage are vital in ensuring your child understands their responsibilities when using technology. Simply removing the technology is not the best response as it could potentially drive your child’s usage underground where there are fewer opportunities for
What is Instagram?
Instagram is a photo-sharing app which allows users to take photos, apply a filter and share content with either followers or the general public. Users are able to 'like' and comment on photos as well as send these images directly to individual followers. Instagram also allows users to post short videos.

What is the age classification for Instagram?
Instagram is recommended for users aged 13 years and above, however there are many underage users.

How are young people using Instagram?
Instagram is being used by young people to share photos, occasions and situations with their friends. The ability to like and comment on photos provides a useful communication function for young people as they explore and express their personality.

Should I be worried if my child is using Instagram?
Any application when used incorrectly, has the potential to cause harm. It is important that you openly communicate with your child about how they may be using an application and the legal and ethical ramifications of inappropriate use. They also need to be aware the dangers of communicating with people they don’t know via any mobile application.

What are the privacy settings on Instagram?
Accounts on Instagram can be shared with anyone, or with those you approve as followers only. This can be done via the Instagram app on your mobile device. First select the Profile option on the lower right-hand side of the screen. In the Edit Your Profile section scroll to the bottom of the screen and ensure Photos Are Private is in the On position and select Save.

What could be revealed through an image?
A concern with photos which are taken and shared via a mobile device is that they may contain geolocation information. Geotagging refers to the embedding of location data, such as GPS coordinates, in images taken on smartphones and some digital cameras. When these images are shared online, the location data is often also shared. This may allow others who have access to the file to determine where the image was created, potentially revealing your home address.

How can my child limit geolocation information?
It is important for your child and you to know how to disable the geolocation function for the camera on the smartphone or mobile device your child utilises. For iOS devices, this can be disabled by accessing Settings>Privacy>Locations and disabling for Camera. On Android devices, users need to open the Camera app, access Settings and disable GPS tagging. If you are unsure how to do this on your device, please access the online user guide for the model of device.

It is also useful to discourage children and young people from using the Photo Map function on Instagram. This capability plots users’ photos on an interactive map and could reveal sensitive location information.

What are the potential problems with Instagram?
It is important that young people only allow people they know and trust to access their photos and learn how to block and report inappropriate users. You can block users via the Instagram app on your mobile device. Open the profile page of the offensive user and select the Further Options icon on the upper right-hand side of the screen. Select the Block User option and when prompted by the dialog box, select Yes, I’m sure.

Sharing images that are rude, offensive or sexualised can see young people in breach of State and Commonwealth legislation that carry serious legal consequences. Ethically, young people need to be aware of the impact that their online behaviour has on others as well as their own reputation.

How can I delete my child’s account?
If after talking with your child about the ethical use of Instagram and your family’s rules around technology, you may think it’s appropriate to delete the Instagram account.

To delete an Instagram account log into the account at instagram.com, click the account username in the top right and select Edit Profile, click I’d like to delete my account in the bottom right.

Note: Accounts can not be reactivated and photos may be lost

Open and supportive discussions around technology usage are vital in ensuring your child understands their responsibilities when using technology. Simply removing the technology is not the best response as it could potentially drive your child’s usage underground where there are fewer opportunities for you to support them.

For more information visit www.thinkuknow.org.au
What is Kik Messenger?

Kik Messenger (Kik) is a free smartphone messenger application that allows users to send texts, pictures, videos and sketches. Kik uses a wireless connection or mobile data to send and receive messages.

What is the age classification for Kik?

The age classification for the messenger function is 13 years old. Kik also have a feature called ‘Kik cards’ which allows users to find images, videos and play games. This feature is restricted to users 17 years and older due to the inappropriate nature of some of the content available. It is important to know that these classification are set by the apps creator and are not overseen by an independent body.

What are the potential problems with Kik?

Kik is a popular application amongst young people of all ages. Issues arise when this app is used to transmit messages that are menacing, harrasing or offensive. In some cases this can see young people in breach of State and Commonwealth legislation. Ethically, young people need to be aware that the messages they send can have a significant impact on other people.

As Kik also has the capability for users to share images, it is important that your child is aware of the legal and ethical ramifications of sharing sexualised, provocative and nude images.

It is extremely important that parents and carers are aware of the issues associated with various apps and websites so that they can openly communicate with their child about their safe and responsible usage of Kik.

How can I limit who can contact my child on Kik?

Kik has a setting that allows users to ignore new people who may communicate with them. It’s a good idea for your child to enable this feature before they start using Kik to prevent people they don’t know from communicating with them.

To enable this feature select Settings > Notifications and turn Ignore New People to ON. This will hide any messages sent to your child from people who aren’t on their contact list.

How can I block someone on my child’s Kik account?

It is really important that children know how to block and report on every social networking site or app that they might use. To block a user in Kik select Settings > Privacy > Block List, click the + to select the username of the person you want to block and select Yes or Block to confirm. This will make sure that all messages from this user will be hidden.

Note: A user will not be notified when they have been blocked.

How can my child delete a user on Kik?

We recommend that you monitor your child’s use of Kik and be aware of who they are communicating with. This might mean going through your child’s contact list together to identify who they are talking to. It is important to ensure that their contacts are people whom your child has met in real life, trust, and want to communicate with on a regular basis. Consider deleting contacts that do not fall into the above categories.


How do I delete my child’s Kik account?

If after talking with your child about the ethical use of Kik and your family’s rules around technology, you may think it’s appropriate to delete the Kik account.

To delete a Kik account you require your child’s username and password. To delete the account select Settings > Your Account > Reset Kik Messenger. You then need to delete the Kik application from your child’s device. Ask a friend with Kik to send a message to your child’s old account and within a few days your child will receive an email (sent to the email address used to sign up for the account) from Kik saying you have unread messages. At the bottom of this email will be a deactivation link – click on this and within a few days your account will be deleted.

Note: If your child logs into their Kik account before you have clicked on the deactivation link the request will be cancelled and the account will remain active. It is important that you and your child agree to delete the account and understand the reasons behind that decision.

Open and supportive discussions around technology usage are vital in ensuring your child understands their responsibilities when using technology. Simply removing the technology is not the best response as it could potentially drive your child’s usage underground where there are fewer opportunities for you to support them.

For more information visit www.thinkuknow.org.au
What is Snapchat?
Snapchat is an application which is free to download on iOS and Android devices that allows users to send images ('snaps') to each other. Operating the app requires use of the device's data plan or wireless internet connection. Images can be drawn on using a whiteboard-style tool and can be given a caption. Images can be sent to other users for up to 10 seconds before they ‘dissolve’.

What is the age classification for Snapchat?
The age classification for Snapchat is 13 years old, although much of the content may be inappropriate for that age group. If children under the age of 13 sign up for an account they are given access to ‘SnapKidz’ which is a limited version of the app where users are not able to send images to other devices. It is important to know that these classifications are set by the apps creator and are not overseen by an independent body.

How are kids using Snapchat?
Snapchat is used by many young people to communicate with their friends and to send photos to each other. Snapchat can, however, be used for inappropriate purposes and it is important to sit down with your child and explain to them that it is not okay to share images that are rude, offensive or sexualised.

Should I be worried if my child is using Snapchat?
Any application when used incorrectly has the potential to cause harm. It is important that you communicate openly with your child about how they may be using an application and the legal and ethical ramifications of inappropriate use. Children also need to be aware of the dangers when communicating with people they don't know via any mobile application.

Does an image really delete on Snapchat?
There are many ways an image can be saved, even on Snapchat. iOS and Android devices have a feature which allows the device to take a photo of what is on the screen ('screencapture'). Snapchat notifies the sender if an image they have sent has been captured, however you are not always notified. There are also many other ways images can be saved without the sender being notified so it is important to encourage children to think before they post.

What are the privacy settings on Snapchat?
Snapchat has very limited privacy settings and it is important to monitor your child’s usage of the application. One privacy setting that is available is the ability to restrict who can send your child’s snaps. This can be enabled by going into the Settings menu, under Who can ... Send Me Snaps, select My Friends. This will ensure that only users on your child’s contact list can send images.

Is Snapchat a ‘safe sexting’ application?
It is important to know that there is no such thing as ‘safe sexting’ and Snapchat is no exception. Young people need to be aware that as soon as they send an image they have lost control over who can see it and what they will do with it. Sending sexually explicit images of someone under the age of 18, with or without their permission, could be an offence under State and Commonwealth legislation.

What are the potential problems with Snapchat?
Sharing images that are rude, offensive or sexualised can see young people in breach of State and Commonwealth legislation that carry serious legal consequences. Ethically, young people need to be aware of the impact that their online behaviour has on others as well as their own reputation.
Sexting is commonly defined as the sharing of sexualised or naked images via the internet or mobile phone, this includes mobile applications like Snapchat. Children need to realise that as soon as that image is sent they have lost control of it. Quite often we see images uploaded to the internet, including on various social networking sites, that have been shared between two people privately. Taking, sending and saving these sorts of images can also constitute child pornography offences and can have long term legal ramifications on a child’s future.
If these images become public, the child in the image can, and often is, subject to bullying and harassment. This may happen face-to-face at school or even online with people posting and sharing the image. It is extremely important that parents and carers are aware of the issues associated with various apps and websites so that they can openly communicate with their child about safe and responsible usage.

How do I delete my child’s Snapchat account?
If after talking with your child about the ethical use of Snapchat and your family’s rules around technology, you may think it’s appropriate to delete the Snapchat account.
To delete a Snapchat account you can go to https://support.snapchat.com/delete-account and enter your child’s account username and password. If you do not have your child’s password you can put a deletion request into Snapchat.
Open and supportive discussions around technology usage are vital in ensuring your child understands their responsibilities when using technology. Simply removing the technology is not the best response as it could potentially drive your child’s usage underground where there are few opportunities for you to support them.

For more information visit www.thinkuknow.org.au
The way we praise our children, even from a very early age, can have a lasting impact. When done effectively, it can really promote resilience.

It seemed to come out of nowhere. One day we had a happy, confident, thriving daughter who was doing really well at school and the next she was alternating between a quiet sullenness and loud arguments, telling us, “I just don’t care”.

The problem appeared to lie with her maths. She had previously found maths quite easy, and had got good enough marks to be put up into the ‘smart’ kids. The result: a very unhappy daughter and a significant slump (aka tailspin) in her performance.

Putting on our best parental hats, we tried to work out what was going on. Our daughter’s response to our gentle probing was “I should never have been put into the smart kids’ class because I’m dumb” and “My teacher just thinks I’m not “trying”.

Kids (and adults!) learn best when feeling confident and motivated to do well, even when the work is hard. The trouble is that in many instances our education system is set up to reward cleverness or smartness before effort. Those who excel in learning and passing exams often enjoy an elevated status and are held up as the example for others to emulate. There is much less recognition for effort alone.

What she needed was more of a growth mindset. Helping our children to develop a ‘growth’ versus ‘fixed’ mindset is what makes the biggest difference in determining our level of self-confidence, resilience and motivation. Professor Carol Dweck, in her book Mindset, describes how by choosing to develop a growth mindset we can start to learn from our mistakes, and feel we are succeeding when we master a new skill or piece of learning that has been challenging or difficult.

Our mindset is not something we are born with, it is formed and shaped through experience, and who we hang out with. We used to think that intelligence was innate, a ‘fixed’ quality, and we now know that is simply not true.

Tips for encouraging a growth mindset:

1. Look at learning as a way to stretch and grow the brain. Learning new things is great exercise for seeing new possibilities or ways of doing things. It encourages imagination and creative thinking.

2. When congratulating your child, use words that praise the outcome that has resulted from their putting in the work and effort.
When things go wrong, ask, “What could you do differently next time to get a better result?” Failure and making mistakes is normal. Learning to deal with them effectively helps build resilience.

Use the power of “Yet”. If your child tells you, “I'm no good at...” or “I can't do that”, your response could be, “You're just not there ... yet”. This implies that it is work in progress and success may come through perseverance. It’s not about false hope, but encouragement.

Other research is now uncovering additional benefits from adopting a growth mindset. It can:

- encourage a student to want to stay at school longer
- facilitate transition to university
- diminish bullying or aggressive behaviour
- develop resilience in the face of adversity
- help see challenge as opportunity
- develop tenacity in persevering to overcome obstacles
- help see effort as the route to mastery
- build the ability to use criticism as something to learn from
- promote inspiration and new learning from sharing in the success of others.

We all want our children to do well and one of the best ways we can help is to promote a growth mindset so they become more positive in their outlook as to their own capabilities, broaden their perspective of the world and elevate their resourcefulness.

Dr. Jenny Brockis is a brain health specialist. Her focus is on promoting optimal health and function for all brains. She is also an author and speaker, and mum to two young adults. www.drjennybrockis.com
Insights
Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose

Reading your child’s report

Reports can mean anxious times for children. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children.

Could try harder . . . always does her best . . . lacks concentration . . . easily distracted . . . a pleasure to teach . . . Do these comments, taken from a batch of student reports sound familiar?

Student reports bring mixed feelings for parents. Pleasure and pride if they are performing well but considerable angst when children are not progressing as you hoped.

Reports can mean anxious times for children too. Will my parents be disappointed or proud? This is the main concern of most children. Kids of all ages take their cues from their parents, so your reaction to their school report can affect the way they see themselves as learners and as people.

Before you rip open the sealed envelope containing the report do a little self-check to see if you are in the right frame of mind:

1. Are your expectations for your son or daughter realistic and in line with their ability?
   Expectations are tricky. If they are too high then kids can be turned off learning. Too low and there is nothing to strive for. Pitch your expectations in line with your child’s abilities. A quick check of your child’s last report cards may provide you with a good yardstick.

2. Do you believe that children learn at different rates?
   There are slow bloomers, late developers and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom, so avoid comparing your child to siblings, your friends’ children and even yourself when you were a child. Instead look for individual progress.

3. Are you willing to safeguard your child’s self-esteem rather than deflate it?
   Self-confidence is a pre-requisite for learning, so be prepared to be as positive and encouraging as possible. School reports come in different formats. Some are prescriptive while some use grading systems such as A, B, C, etc. with room for teacher comments. Regardless of the format school reports should provide you with an idea of your child’s progress in all subject areas, their attitude and social development.

   Here are some ideas to consider when you open your child’s report:

   Focus on strengths
   Do you look for strengths or weaknesses first? The challenge is to focus on strengths even if they are not in the traditional 3Rs or core subjects.
   Take into account your child’s effort and attitude to learning. If the report indicates that effort is below standard, then you have something to work on. If your child is putting in the required effort, then you cannot ask any more than that, regardless of the grading.
   Broaden your focus away from academic performance to form a picture of your child’s progress as a member of a social setting. How your child gets along with his or her peers will influence his happiness and well-being, as well as give an indicator to his future. The skills of independence and co-operation are highly valued by employers so don’t dismiss these as unimportant.
   Take note of student self-assessment
   Kids are generally very honest and will give a realistic assessment of their progress. They are generally very perceptive so take note of their opinions.
   Discuss the report with your son or daughter
   Talking about strengths first before looking at areas that need improvement. Ask for their opinion about how they performed and discuss their concerns.

After reports are read and discussed celebrate your child’s efforts with a special activity or treat. In this way you will recognise progress and remind them that the holidays are just around the corner when they can forget about assessment, tests and reports for a while.
Free Courses
Skills for Work and Training

Would you like to try out a new field?
Are you considering a new work direction?

For people from language backgrounds other than English with intermediate English skills

English and Computing (Kingswood Campus)
Info Session: Tue 24 June 2014
1:00 pm Block K1.23 – Kingswood
Contact: Maria Reid 02 9208 9545

English and Aged Care Nursing (Kingswood Campus)
Info Session: Tue 24 June 2014
1:00 pm Block K1.23 – Kingswood
Contact: Maria Reid 02 9208 9545

Proposed Timetables
Full-time day – during school hours
Up to 20 hours per week class time for 14 – 18 weeks
3 – 4 days per week

Course Information Officer:
02 4724 8244
nepean.wsi@tafensw.edu.au

Must be able to: read, write, comprehend and discuss printed information in English

Information Technology
Info Session: Thur 26 June 2014
10:00 am Block JG.12 – Kingswood
Contact: Alex or Patrice 9208 9445

Nursing
Info Session: Thur 26 June 2014
10:00 am Block JG.13 – Kingswood
Contact: Liz Agars 02 9208 9416

Child Care
Info Session: Thur 26 June 2014
10:00 am Block JG.14 – Kingswood
Contact: Liz Agars 02 9208 9416

Hairdressing
Info Session: Thur 26 June 2014
10:00 am Block J1.11 – Kingswood
Contact: Elizabeth Fisher 02 9208 9433

Women returning to work
Info Session: Thur 17 July 2014
10:00 am Block K1.24 Kingswood
Contact: Liz Agars 02 9208 9416

Intro to Coffee Shop
Info Session: Mon 23 June 2014
11:00 am Block K1.22 – Kingswood
Contact: Eoin O’Caomh 02 9208 9351

Tourism
Info Session: Friday 8 August 2014
10:00 am Block JG.14 – Kingswood
Contact: Liz Agars 02 9208 9416

Kingswood Campus: 12 – 44 O’Connell St, Kingswood
Penrith Campus: 117 Henry St, Penrith
Western Sydney Institute Website: wsi.tafensw.edu.au
Certificate II in Skills for Work and Training  
(for Women)

Are you looking to get back into work or to change your work direction? This course offers you a unique opportunity to review your situation, assess your skills and your options and to work out a sustainable plan to get into the job of your choice.

Proposed Timetable

Info Session
Thurs 17th July 2014 @ 10:00am
Rm K 1 24
Kingswood Campus, O’Connell St

Full-time for 18 weeks – starting July
9:30 am to 2:30 pm, 4 days @
Kingswood with school holidays off.

TAFE NSW fee free

Further information and to apply

Contact:  Liz Agars  92089416
Elizabeth.agars@tafensw.edu.au
Enrol now