

Peak Hill Central School

Newsletter

We are Respectful, Responsible, Safe and Successful

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From the Principal's Desk

This week as a school community, we extend our condolences to Melissa and Clayton Apps after the loss of their son Darcy who was a student at the school prior to the family relocating to Queensland. The students and staff formed a Guard of Honour along the front of the school which was very much appreciated by the family. I was humbled by the respect shown by our student body on this sad occasion.

During the last fortnight we have had many occasions where we can celebrate being a *School on the Move to Excellence*.

In the last week the process for electing our school leaders for 2014, involved interviewing the students who have nominated for School Captain or Student Leader. I am very impressed with the maturity and insight demonstrated by the eleven candidates who will deliver their Leadership Speeches on Monday 11 December prior to staff and students voting. The successful students will be announced at Presentation Night and with the SRC will be badged at the Leadership Induction in early February. The students and their families have every reason to be proud.

On 1 December we will be very excited as the Summer Edition of *Central West Lifestyle* is published. The photo shoot in early September included a whole school photograph as well as a selection of shots showcasing us a special school with much to offer our students. The magazine will be available through the Front Office and at Presentation Night as a fundraiser through the generosity of the editors.



Congratulations to Corey Hando who won against some very strong competition the regional World Skills Challenge in Construction. The competitors were given the challenging task of completing a Saw Horse within the day. Corey demonstrated skill and effective time management so that he did not make careless errors. He will now compete at the national level in Perth in 2014. Well done Corey.

As a school community we are very proud of your achievement.

School Calendar - Term 4

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 25-29 November | School Spectacular |
| 12 December | Presentation Night 7pm |
| 13 December | PBL Rewards Activity Day |
| 16 December | Commendation Assembly 11:30am Distribution of Reports |

Bondi and Grace Fitzpatrick last week were selected to attend the ABC Careers Link Camp at Charles Sturt University. I commend both these students for their application and taking the opportunity to experience potential career paths. Thank you to Careers Adviser, Mrs Rachel Cody for encouraging and supporting Bondi and Grace in the process which they very much enjoyed. We also congratulate Amy Hart who has been selected to represent Western region in the state cricket finals in early 2014. This is a great effort from Amy and demonstrates her skill and sportsmanship.



The Aboriginal Dance Ensemble travelled to Sydney last Sunday to begin a week long intensive rehearsal prior to the *Schools Spectacular* performances this weekend. They are being accompanied and supervised by Mr Jeremy Whiterod, Ms Carmen Sarah and Mrs Kelly Dart for the week. The students are great ambassadors for the school and we wish Jaylen, Bondi, Grace, Mikaela, Taleica, Tiarni, Kyle and Kasey well. The show, celebrating 30 Years of *Schools Spectacular* will be televised this Saturday evening on Channel 9 commencing at 7 pm.

Also excelling in the Performing Arts is Year 8 student Wynona Douglas. At the Variety Gala at Dubbo Regional Theatre she received an Encouragement Award for Tap Dancing. She will also perform in her studio's production of *The Nutcracker* on 7 December. Tickets are available from Dubbo Regional Theatre.



Principal

Mrs Paula Payne

Deputy Principal (Rel)

Mr Jamie Sampson

Administration Manager

Mrs Tanya Stanford

Aboriginal Education Officer

Mrs Vicki Sharah

Assistant Principal Primary

Mrs Tracey Lickess

Miss Sarah Browning

Head Teacher Maths and Science

Mrs Maria George

Head Teacher English

Mr Jeremy Whiterod

Head Teacher T&L

Mrs Rachel Cody

Middle School Coordinators

Miss Tara Lightfoot and Mr James Peter

WAP Access Coordinator

Ms Crystal Williams

P & C 2013

President

Mrs Donna Kopp

Vice President

Mrs Narelle Peters

Secretary

Mrs Cathy Goodwin

Treasurer

Mrs Margaret Edwards

A Member of the



Students in Stage 5 are this week enjoying the bi annual Sport and Recreation excursion to Narrabeen. Thank you to Mr Wade Richardson for organising this variation to routine and supervising students throughout the week. Meanwhile senior students are completing mandatory Work Placement for their VET courses in Dubbo. Thank you to Mrs Catherine Doyle and Mrs Pauline Allen for their organisation and all the staff who are assisting them with supervision.



This week Jacob Bell from Kindergarten shared his writing with me. He was able to read and talk to me confidently about his writing and the experiences in class which helped develop his ideas. I was also impressed by Shelby Dargan in Stage One who was very proud of his efforts in Spelling. Well done to these boys who are making improvements in their learning.



I encourage all families to purchase black leather shoes for the new school year. Joggers are appropriate for sport but canvas brightly coloured sneakers are not school uniform and do not support growing feet. It is mandatory for students to meet Work Place Health and Safety requirements in practical subjects. Your support in this matter would be appreciated. I would also ask that boys have grey cotton shorts and that girls where appropriate navy shorts or a skirt to improve the image of our student body. I will be working with the Student Leaders next year to design the sports uniform and school guernsey which they have requested.

Please be advised that all parents and community members who attend the school are required to sign in at the front office. This practice is a Department of Education and Communities' requirement and extends to anyone who enters school grounds, even for School Tuckerbox visits.

I look forward to catching up with many of you over the next fortnight. I extend a warm welcome to all parents and community members to our Presentation Evening on the 12 December. It will be held under the COLA commencing at 7 pm and will be a celebration of our school's achievements in 2013. It is expected that all students attend in full school uniform including Year 12, 2013 as this is the last formal school occasion they will attend.

**Mrs Paula Payne
Principal**

“quoted”

yindyamarra winhanga-nha

“the wisdom of respectfully knowing how to live well in a world worth living in”

From the Wiradjuri Nation, Australia



Bubbles Galore in Kindergarten!

We decided to take a hands-on approach to letter recognition and handwriting this week when many of the kindergarten students expressed confusion between the letter 'd' and the letter 'b'. Blowing bubbles created an easy and fun way to remember the difference - to write a 'b' you do the stick and then the bubble - just like when you blow bubbles! We then went inside and practiced, practiced, practiced our 'b' writing - let's hope that this experience sticks in our minds and helps us remember in the future. If you see a Kindy student be sure to ask them - how do you write a 'b'?

Miss Rachel Heywood
Kindergarten Teacher



Breakfast Club



Every Thursday morning, the Brekky Club offers delicious fresh pancakes for all students to enjoy. Pictured is Dylan Hauser who turns up every week to lend a hand, even when it comes to cleaning up. Thanks Dylan.

**Mr Matthew Sharah
Chaplain**



Middle School



The Middle School continues to learn, laugh, play, explore, research and investigate. At Peak Hill Central School we pride ourselves on our commitment to learning and as we near the Christmas Holidays you can guarantee that our staff and students will be working hard up until the final minute of Term 4. As the year draws to an end we begin to celebrate the success of our students through our Positive Behaviour for Learning Framework. Students will soon be participating in a variety of fun and exciting rewards in the coming weeks relevant to their progress through the levels of Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. The Middle School Outdoor Learning Centre is continuing to progress with the completion of the footings ready for concreting for the Shade Sail Shelter. Preliminary Construction students have been hard at work surveying and excavating over the past few weeks to assist in this project. Currently our Middle School staff have been meeting to plan for 2014. Through the development of integrated units of work, teachers are working together to create diverse and enriching activities to engage students. Next year, additional resourcing in the Middle School will see increased groupings of students such as extra classes in English and maths and smaller classes in Art and technology. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Middle School staff for their commitment and proficiency throughout the year.

**Mr James Peter & Ms Tara Lightfoot
Middle School Coordinators**

Regional World Skills Challenge & VET Construction Simulated Work Placement

Congratulations Corey Hando!

Winner of the Macquarie Region World Skills Challenge

On the 19 of November Corey Hando represented Peak Hill Central School in the Macquarie Region World Skills Challenge against three other students from Lithgow High School and Canobolas Rural Technology High School. The event was held at Peak Hill Central School in the Trade Training Centre. Wade Greenwood (RVEC) and Crystal Williams were the convenors of the event and Gavin Dart was our industry expert guest judge.

On the day, students were given plans of a Saw Horse design and students were required to plan their work, read and interpret plans and construct the project. All students that participated on the day did so with great pride and represented their schools well. The competition was very evenly matched however at the end of the day Corey's project adhered to the set criteria and he was able to edge in front of the other students.



Throughout the rest of Week 7 the Preliminary VET Construction students participated in a Simulated Work Placement in which the students constructed two rabbit hutches. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of challenging tasks to develop their skills in carpentry. The project proved to be difficult but an enriching exercise for our students.

Mr James Peter
WAP VET Construction Coordinator

ANNUAL TRIATHLON

The Annual School / Community Triathlon will be held on Week 10 Wednesday 11 December 2013, commencing after 2pm. Students from Year 3 to Year 12 will all be attending the pool for Afternoon Sport so they will need a \$2 entry fee and their swimmers on this day. The event has been running for 14 years now with great participation from all ages, especially in the teams event.

Having a go is what counts, regardless of swimming, cycling or running ability and speed.

The format :

Teams - 2 lap swim, 3 laps around Lindner Oval bike, 1 km run

Open boys and girls, Open Mixed (1 boy), Open Mixed (1 girl),
under 15 yrs boys / girls, under 13yrs boys / girls, under 11 yrs boys/girls, under 11yrs mixed.

Individual - as above , but under 11 years do 2 laps bike.

Under 10 yrs, 11yrs, 12yrs, 13yrs, 14yrs,15yrs, 16yrs, 17+yrs.

The nomination sheet will be located on the notice board outside Room 2.



Duke Of Edinburgh

From Wednesday the 30 October through to Saturday the 2 of November Mr Whiterod, Ms Heywood and ten year 11 students participated in the Adventurous Journey component of the Bronze level of the Duke of Edinburgh program.

Following a year of developing the skills, practising the camp craft and planning and replanning the trip around bushfires and park closures we finally got to go on our Adventurous Journey, or AJ! The AJ is all about getting out there and going on an expedition or exploration in a challenging environment.

More than any other section of The Award, the AJ is about team work and social connection. It is about participants going somewhere that they have never been and doing things they have never done while working cooperatively as a group.

The group spent 3 nights camped out in Myall Lakes National Park where we hiked about 12km with all our equipment and stayed in locations only accessible by foot or boat. After several days without running water, of cold nights in the wild and canned food cooked on gas stoves, all were happy to celebrate the last day with a trip to the beach at Nelson Bay and a pancake breakfast in the park.

Highlights of the trip included having a lakeside campsite entirely to ourselves, beautiful sunsets miles from civilisation, playing water-football in the warm sandy shallows of the lake, Mr Whiterod's cooking, fashioning clothing out of paperbark and palm fronds, and sliding down the giant sand dunes of Dark Point.

Less enjoyable but equally memorable moments included carrying 20-30kg packs up mountains, insect and goanna attacks, Ms Heywood sheltering behind garbage bags because her tent door broke, the dreaded visits to the longdrop and Bondi's emotive rendition of *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

Everybody who attended thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the memories of such good times with such good people will last forever. This year's Duke of Ed Students must now successfully complete the *Volunteering*, *New Skill* and *Physical Recreation* components of the Duke of Ed by next February and will receive the Bronze Award for 2013. Those who complete all areas will be invited to enrol in the Silver Award which will give them the opportunity to prepare and embark upon an Adventurous Journey of their own in the 2014.

Mr Jeremy Whiterod



Careers Corner

To start this fortnight's article I want to promote a wonderful opportunity available to our Year 10 students who might be interested in a School-Based Traineeship with Parkes Shire Council. Applications are currently open for interested students wanting to gain a traineeship in Automotive and also Business with Parkes Shire Council. All students in Year 10 were emailed the application package on Monday, but need to apply quick as applications close Friday 29 November. Students also need to be aware that this offer has also been advertised to the Parkes high schools and in the newspaper, so they will be competing against students at other schools. A School-Based Traineeship allows students to gain a qualification while also participating in a minimum of 100 days paid employment. At the end of the two-year period, students gain a nationally recognised qualification as well as experience in the workforce. This puts them in very good stead should it be an avenue that they wish to pursue further.

I would also like to encourage students to develop their resumes if they have not already done so. Year 10 recently submitted one as part of an assessment task in Work Education. There are plenty of great websites with ideas on how to format a resume and what to include and what not to include. At this time in the year, opportunities for holiday work are often advertised. By having a largely up-to-date resume, you are well positioned to apply for a job should the opportunity present itself. So, what if you are a student with no actual employment history? That's fine. Employers understand that you have to start somewhere. What employers are after in our workforce today is evidence of employability skills (communication, teamwork, problem solving, initiative and enterprise, planning and organising, self-management and learning). These skills are developed through our experiences at school, as part of sporting teams, our involvement in the community or through any volunteer work that we might have done. Students should begin considering their own experiences and examples of when they have developed and demonstrated each of the employability skills. More information about Employability Skills can be found by visiting the Myfuture website (<http://www.myfuture.edu.au/The%20Facts/Skills/Employability%20skills.aspx>). While thinking about developing their resume, students should also start considering who they could have as their referees. Don't forget to ask this person if they are willing to provide a reference for you.

Last week Grace and Bondi Fitzpatrick attended the ABC Career Links Camp at CSU Bathurst. They were given the chance to participate in hands on learning experiences introducing them to what career options are available in Media, with special reference to the ABC.

Feedback from the camp tutors was very positive. I would like to congratulate both Grace and Bondi on being ambassadors for our school and look forward to the presentation of their short film at a later date.

Another student who has embraced the chance to attend university is Isabelle Goodwin who will participate in the Girls' Choices Summer School, held at the University of Newcastle's Callaghan campus from 8 – 12 December 2013. We know that Isabelle will enjoy her time at this residential school and look forward to hearing about her experiences upon her return.

As we move nearer to the release of the HSC results, I would like to remind students and parents about the free Careers Advisory Service (19 December to 24 December from 9am to 5pm). This service "offers professional, friendly and impartial advice following the release of your HSC results". The service can be contacted on 1300 300 687 or via www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au. The website also "contains helpful information to assist you in clarifying course choices, employment opportunities, career pathways and training options".

Also a reminder for our HSC students that the ATAR release is Thursday 19 December. Students will need their UAC PIN (and BoS student number or UAC number) to access their ATAR. They can call UAC Customer Service on 9752 0200 if they've lost their PIN and it's best to do that before ATAR day.

I received an invitation in the last fortnight for students to attend A Career in Radiation Oncology seminar in Orange on Friday 21 March 2014 from 12:30pm to 3:00pm. This seminar is aimed at students interested in physics, biology and/or maths who want to learn more about a career as a radiation oncologist, radiation therapist and radiation oncology medical physicist. The students will be provided with hands on experience with the opportunity to speak with current members of the profession. The seminar will include a tour of the Orange Radiation Oncology Department so participants can learn about the most recent and upcoming technology used in Radiation Oncology. Study requirements and career opportunities will also be discussed. Interested students are asked to see Mrs Cody for more information.

Dreams can come true, but there is a secret. They're realized through the magic of persistence, determination, commitment, passion, practice, focus and hard work. They happen a step at a time, manifested over years, not weeks. Mark Twain

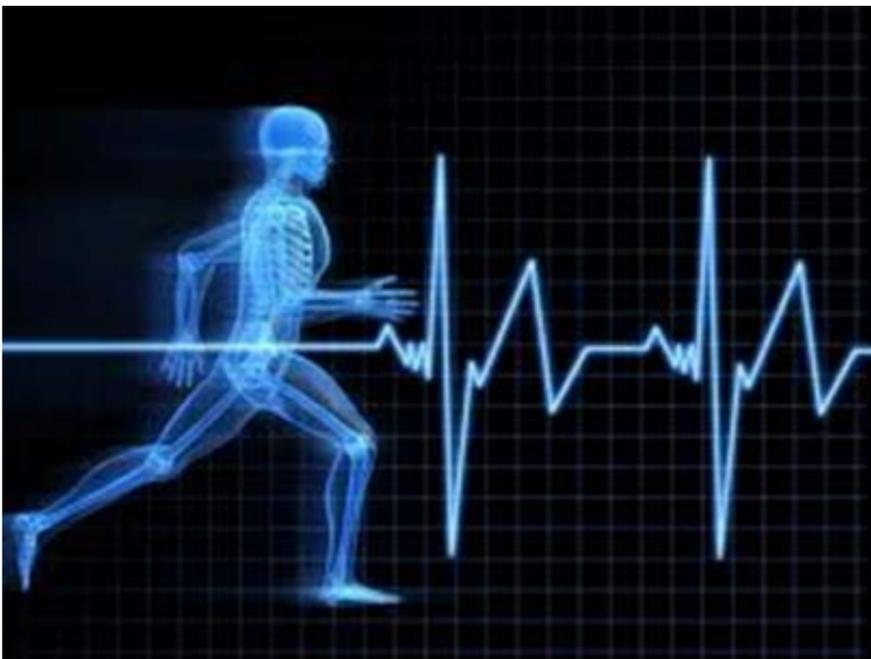
Rachel Cody
Careers Adviser



Western Access Program

Collaborative · Connected · Innovative

PDHPE



PDHPE (Personal Development, Health, and Physical Education) is one of the most popular courses chosen by students in the HSC throughout NSW. Course modules include Health Priorities in Australia, Sports Medicine and Sports Performance. For the HSC years of 2013 and 2014 the course is being delivered by Scott Olsson from Yeoval Central School. The greatest asset that this subject has is the quality of the co teachers to challenge, motivate and further educate the senior students. Students from Yeoval, Peak Hill, Trangie, Tullamore and Trundle are working hard to achieve their best possible result in PDHPE.

Scott Olsson
Yeoval

Belrose Excursion



School Noticeboard

Congratulations PBL Winners

Week 7



Jakaya Stewart
Stage 1



Kheiryn Ridgeway
Stage 4



Amy Hart
Stage 6

Week 8



Shaylee Wright-Edwards
Stage 2



Rona Fitzpatrick
Stage 3



Georgia Westcott
Stage 6

Secondary Students Need Calculators

From Year 7 onwards, students learn a range of numerical skills that involve calculator operations. As they progress these skills become increasingly difficult. Skills learnt in the classroom need to be practised with regular repetition. Without their own calculator, it becomes difficult to develop these important calculator skills.

The office is able to purchase and sell calculators at cost price for \$25. At present there are 6 calculators for sale.

Maths Packs are available containing exercise book, ruler, geometric set, blue, black, red pen, pencil, eraser, sharpener and calculator for \$35 dollars. There are 3 available at present.

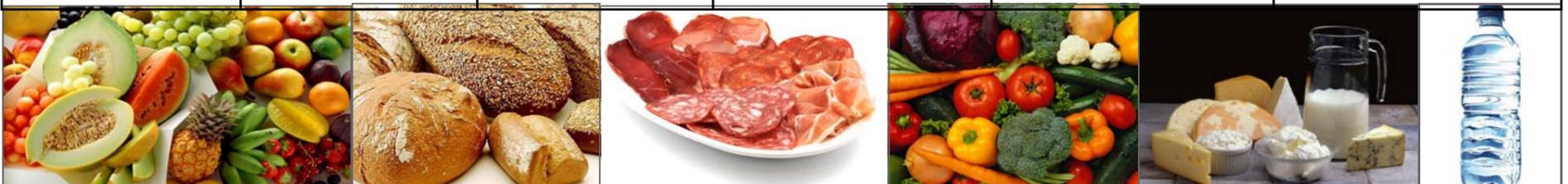
When students are often asked where their calculator is located, it is often at home. We encourage all students demonstrate responsibility and bring all their equipment to school each day.

Mrs Maria George
Head Teacher



Term 4 2013 Canteen Roster

| 2013 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Week 8 | Week 9 | Week 10 |
|------------------|--------|----------------|------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Monday | | | | | Ellen Hart |
| Tuesday | | | | | Jo Robinson |
| Wednesday | | | Gail Hando | | |
| Thursday | | | | | Mary Wright |
| Friday | | Julie Westcott | | Tanya Wright Alisa McNeil | |



Community Noticeboard

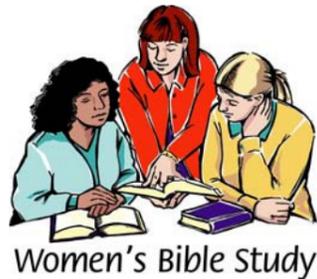
Westlink Church

Women's Bible Study

Each Friday

5.30pm to 6.30pm

Westlink Church, 119 Caswell Street



Women's Bible Study

Westlink Church

Service

10am Sunday

Westlink Church, 119 Caswell Street

Programs on offer

Singing – 3 day group workshop

10 – 12 noon (8-14yrs) 2 – 4 (15+)

2 hrs per day, 3-6 students per class

Dates: 7-9 Jan OR 21-23 Jan

WORKSHOP INCLUDES:

Correct Breathing/Vocal Technique

Identify your vocal type and range

Vocal Hygiene – How to look after your voice

Learn to sing simple harmony

Learn how to use a microphone

Basic Performance skills

Cost of Program: \$80

Guitar – 3 Day Group Workshop

10 – 12 noon (8-14yrs) 2 – 4 (15+)

2 hrs per day, 3-6 students per class

Dates: 14-16 Jan OR 28-30 Jan

WORKSHOP INCLUDES:

Learn basic music reading

Learn how to read a chord chart

Learn basic chords

Correct positioning of guitar

Learn about guitar aids (Picks, Capos, Amplifiers)

Cost of Program: \$80

Summer Holiday Music Programme

Individual classes – voice, guitar, piano,
keyboard, recorder

GAIL SMITH – OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Get a taste of your chosen instrument over the summer
holidays

Half Hour individual lessons

Dates: 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th Jan

Book between 1 and 4 lessons

All materials provided, however students require
instruments at home to practice

Please note:

No refunds will be given, however make up lessons may
be provided due to illness

BOOK NOW! 0414 478 535

Caswell St Youth Idol 2013

Friday December 6

The talent quest for this year's *Meet up the street* event will be held at the Peak Hill Ex Service's Club, the Junior section starting at 6:30 pm to be followed by the Open section to commence at 8:30pm.

An 'audition' session for the juniors will be held on Wednesday 4 December starting at 4pm at the Westlink church hall. Any young person (18 or younger) who wants to compete in this section will need to perform at this session first. The prize categories will be sorted at this level and the best of each category will perform on the Friday night.

Note that each contestant is responsible for their own backing. This could include iPod, CD or live accompaniment.

All contestants be aware too that photos will be taken on the night so be sure to communicate to those taking entries if you do not wish your photo to be taken or published.

Anyone who cannot make the time of 4pm needs to contact Pauline Allen 68691534 or phlibrary@yahoo.com before Monday 2 December to discuss the possibility of another time.

Parents need to be aware that Club needs to adhere to legislation so rules apply; a responsible adult needs to accompany any young person attending the Friday night event.

Cash prizes will be awarded to winners on the Friday night.

GYMNASTICS

Bookings are now being taken for a beginner level recreational (non-competitive) gymnastics class for high school aged students, to commence in Term 1 of 2014 at the PCYC.

It is proposed that this class will run:

- Thursday evenings
- during school terms,
- from 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Classes will cost \$15/week, with costs calculated and payment required on a per term basis. For example, a 7 week term would cost \$105, whereas a 10 week term would cost \$150. There will also be a one off payment of approx \$50 required in order to register with Gymnastics NSW.

Why Come?

This class will be ideal for PCS students wanting to engage in a regular form of physical activity in a non-competitive environment. The classes will focus on building strength, flexibility and balance; there will also be the opportunity available to learn basic acrobatic skills (backflips etc).

Interested?

Interested parents/students should email Kerry Hodges (Head Gymnastics Coach) with their details; further information, including start dates, will then be forwarded to all interested parties at a later date (early 2014).

Email the following information to Kerry at kerry@ipstarmail.com.au

- Your name
- Your child's name
- Your child's age
- A contact phone number (Gymnastics correspondence is all conducted via email, this phone number is "just in case")
- Whether your child has any previous gymnastics experience*

*It is not necessary to have experience to join this class, this is just to help gauge the likely range of abilities within the class.



SANTA'S COMING!

CTC/TIMES OFFICE

69 Caswell Street.

YOUR \$6 PHOTO with

SANTA while you wait

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER

MEET SANTA

3pm / 4.30pm



Merry Christmas



Lifestyle Solutions[®]
pioneering change for good

BECOME A FOSTER CARER

Make a difference in a child's life, and they will make a difference in yours.



Unfortunately, many children in New South Wales are unable to live with their birth families and need care and support from someone like you. Become a Foster Carer and help us work towards providing secure, stable and safe home environments for disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people.

Children and young people in Foster Care deserve a life full of the ordinary experiences other children have. If you are interested in becoming a Foster Carer or would like more information go to www.lifestylesolutions.org.au/Foster-Care.

Lifestyle Solutions is now operating an office at 195 Clarinda Street in Parkes to serve the surrounding districts. Entry is via Jansens Lane or Clarinda Street or you can call the office on 6862 4775.



Peak Hill Central School
2013
Presentation Ceremony

We invite all parents, grandparents
and community members to join us
for our annual
Presentation Ceremony

The ceremony will be held on
Thursday 12 December
commencing at **7.00pm** under the
school cola. Light refreshments will
be held in the hall prior to
commencement. We encourage
everyone to join us in this
acknowledgement and celebration
of the successes of 2013