

The Blue and White Armidale City Public School "the heart of Armidale" Quality Teaching since 1861

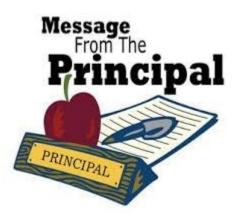
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## **Principal's Report**



Congratulations go to **Millie** on being selected to swim at the State Swimming Championships following the North West Swimming Trials. She was named Junior Champion at these trials.

**Millie**, **Molly**, **Oliver** and **Jimmy** are also to be congratulated on being selected as members of their respective North West hockey teams last week.

#### Information about reports for families - Kindergarten to Year 6

From next term, we are introducing updated school reports.

Our reports will be based on the new format that has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand.

Your child's report will still show their progress across all subject areas.

Teacher comments will appear in Mathematics, English, and the General Comment section, in line with department policy.

The general comment for Kindergarten students also covers all other key learning areas, including creative arts, HSIE (geography and history), personal development, health and physical education, and science and technology.

A new achievement scale and descriptions provide a clearer picture of your child's progress.

Parent–teacher interviews remain an important way to discuss your child's progress and achievement in more detail. We welcome your feedback or questions about the new report format, which will be provided via the Sentral Parent Portal in the last week of Term 2.

#### Opportunity class and selective high school assessments

We have been advised that families of students participating in the opportunity class or selective high school assessments for placement in 2026 will be informed of the date and location of this year's testing after 3pm on 17 April 2025 via the application dashboard. Testing will be carried out over three days and not at a school this year. More information can be found at <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/selective-high-schools">https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/choosing-a-school-setting/selective-high-schools</a>

#### Habits of happy families

Dr Justin Coulson provides seven habits of happy families in the following article. He includes a brief outline of what each habit might look like for you. It is well worth the read.

#### Dates to remember

Autumn Festival Parade will be held from 11.30am on Saturday, 5 April.

Daylight savings time ends, Sunday 6 April.

Harmony Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, 9 April.

Easter Hat parade and last day of term is Friday, 11 April.

Town Anzac Day march will be held on 25 April, which is in the holidays.

Staff return to school for Term 2 on Monday and Tuesday, 28-29 April. Students return to school on Wednesday, 30 April.

#### Take care,

#### **Deborah Nay**



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#### The Habits of Happy Families

As I have surveyed and worked with thousands of families over the years, there are a small handful of habits that I see parents practice that make their families happy. And they are astonishingly powerful. In this article I will share those habits by describing the principle, discussing how it works in practice, and offering a provocation to get you thinking.

#### 1. Assume Positive Intent

Principle: Your children are not actually trying to ruin your life. They're trying their best with limited skills and resources. Sometimes they can be clumsy. They only have their 'L' plates on. In Practice: When your child does something upsetting, pause before reacting. Ask yourself, "What need is my child trying to meet?" Then, address the need rather than just the behaviour. "I can see you're frustrated. Let's figure this out together."
Provocation: We wouldn't assume your colleague intentionally sabotaged a project, yet we're quick to believe our children are orchestrating psychological warfare against us. Your child isn't a criminal mastermind plotting your demise. They're just hungry, tired, or struggling to communicate. The fastest way to turn a good kid bad is to treat them like they already are.

#### 2. Laugh Together

Principle: Shared joy creates bonds that withstand life's challenges.

In Practice: Have family movie nights with comedies. Share funny stories. Play ridiculous games. Create inside jokes. Laugh at yourself when you make mistakes. Make silly faces, tell dad jokes, and celebrate the ridiculous moments of family life.

Provocation: Most families spend more time coordinating schedules than creating memories. The average household shares fewer than 20 minutes of laughter per week, yet we wonder why everyone feels disconnected. If your family hasn't had a proper belly laugh together in the last few days, your family culture is in critical condition.

#### 3. Fix Things Fast

Principle: Conflict is inevitable; prolonged disconnection is optional.

In Practice: Be the first to apologise, especially if you're the parent. Name what went wrong. Take responsibility for your part. Ask what would help. End with physical connection. A hug, high five, or fist bump resets everyone's nervous system.

Provocation: Your silent treatment isn't "teaching them a lesson". Nor is yelling or threatening, it's teaching them that love is conditional. Every hour of unresolved tension between you and your child is rewiring their brain to expect conditional acceptance in future relationships. Your pride isn't worth the therapy bills they'll have later.

#### 4. Stay Close

Principle: Children of all ages are biologically wired for connection with their parents.

In Practice: Create daily rituals of connection: bedtime stories, morning cuddles, after-school check-ins.

Sit on their bed for five minutes at night. Drive them to school when possible. Find small ways to connect throughout the day that show you're thinking of them.

Provocation: Your child's push for independence is a façade. Behind it is a child desperately hoping you

won't believe the act. While you're respecting their "independence" by backing off, they're interpreting you distance as abandomment. Your children need you more, not less—they just need you differently as they grow. They want your involvement in a supportive, not a controlling, way.

Principle: Being heard creates security and builds trust.

In Practice: Put down your phone when your child speaks. Make eye contact. Ask follow-up questions.

Reflect back what you hear. Don't immediately jump to solutions or lectures. Sometimes say, "Tell me

Provocation: If your screen time report shows more hours on social media than minutes of eye contact with your children, you're outsourcing the most important relationship they have right now to someone or something else. Your child will remember exactly zero of your "important" emails or instagram reels, but they'll never forget the times you chose your phone over their story.

#### 6. Create Meaningful Traditions

Principle: Family rituals create stability and identity in an unpredictable world.

In Practice: Establish weekly family nights, seasonal celebrations, birthday traditions, or Sunday dinners. They don't need to be elaborate—consistency matters more than complexity. Even simple traditions like Sunday morning pancakes create anchors of belonging.

Provocation: In a culture where kids construct identity through screens and peers, your family traditions are fighting for your children's sense of self. Without these shared experiences, your family becomes little more than roommates who occasionally share Wi-Fi. The traditions you neglect creating today are the memories your children won't have tomorrow.

#### 7. Have the Hard Conversations

Principle: Children need parents who are brave enough to discuss difficult topics.

In Practice: Create an environment where no question is off-limits. Talk about bodies, relationships, disappointments, and fears in age-appropriate ways. Don't wait for the "perfect moment". Use everyday opportunities to address important topics briefly and naturally.

Provocation: Your discomfort with difficult conversations doesn't make them unnecessary. It makes them urgent. The conversations you avoid having with your children will be filled by Google, YouTube, or the kid on the bus with wildly inaccurate information. If you won't have these conversations, someone else—or

something else-will, and you probably won't like their curriculum.



Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family. The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit <a href="https://paps.nines.org/l

#### **School Calendar**

#### Calendar

#### Term 1 2025

da Vinci Decathlon at TAS 3 Apr

Northern NSW Soccer Gala Day 4 Apr

5 Apr Autumn Festival Parade

7 Apr Armidale Zone 11's and 12's Rugby League

Vision Screening-Kindergarten 7 Apr

7-8 Apr Rugby Union Skills Sessions

5/6R Visiting Scientist Day 7 Apr

9 Apr Harmony Day and Harmony Day Assembly

9 Apr	Year 5 and 6 Expression of Interest due for Canberra	excursion

10-11 Apr PSSA State Swimming

10 Apr ACOS Massed Choir Rehearsal

11 Apr K-2 Easter Hat Parade

11 Apr Sydney Academy of Chess online final

11 Apr Debate Club

11 Apr Last Day of Term 1

#### **Notes and Money Due**

#### **Activity and Cost**

Stage 3 Expression of interest for Canberra Camp- \$50 cash

Picture Plate/mug orders due on Friday 4 April. Order forms are avail at the office.

Please ensure you check your parent portal regularly for all upcoming activities and payments that are due.





1 - Due Friday 4 April

# **Sports News**

**Congratulations** to **Millie** who achieved Age Champion at the Armidale Zone Carnival. Millie received her medal at yesterday's assembly.



# **Excelling with Honour Assembly**

**Congratulations** to the following students who received Excelling with Honour certificates at yesterday's end of term assembly.

	Kinder Purp	le Xavier and	l Lacie
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Kinder Blue Edmund and Hailyn

1C Sienae and Dolev

1R Oleena and Micah

2C Minh An and Archer

2R Violet and Jeffrey

3/4Mac Clara

3/4S Vera and Arotrika

3/4E Indie and Albert

5/6J Alfred and William

5/6S Bianca and Lachlan

5/6C Gemma and Hatem

5/6T Cafe and Chloe 5/6R Leo and Xingya





Armidale City Public School

# P&C Meeting

When: Wednesday, 2nd April 2025

Time: 6pm

Where: ACPS Library

If you would to come along, it's not too late to become a member of the P&C Association.

Inquiries: Narelle Watson 0412 882 159 watnef@gmail.com



#### **Donations Donations**

The ACPS P and C are having an Easter Raffle, to be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade, on Friday 11 April 2025.

For this to happen we need donations of Easter eggs or non perishable Easter related items.

These can be dropped off to the office any time before Friday 4 April. Thank you.







#### **General Information**

# Good for kids good for life





#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 heads of broccoli, cut into florets
- 500g pasta, any short pasta will work well such as bows, penne or shells
- penne or shells

   2/3 cup parmesan cheese,
- grated
   1/4 cup fresh mint leaves
- 1/4 cup parsley leaves • 1 clove garlic, crushed
- Zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 1/3 cup raw unsalted cashews (can be substituted for almonds, pine nuts or sunflower seeds)
- 1/2 cup olive oil

#### DIRECTIONS

- 1. Bring 2 pots of water to the boil.
- Add half the broccoli to one pot and par-cook until just tender. Drain and set aside.
- 3. Meanwhile, add the pasta to the other pot and cook for 2 to 3 minutes. Then add the remaining half of the broccoli, cooking until the pasta is al dente and the broccoli is tender. Set aside. This broccoli will not be used to make the pesto.
- Place the par-cooked broccoli, parmesan, mint, parsley, garlic, lemon juice and zest, cashews and oil into a food processor and blitz until well combined.
- Add cooked pasta and broccoli into a large bowl, add the pesto and stir to combine.
- Transfer to containers an store in the fridge ready to be added to the lunchbox.

For more recipes visit: www.swapit.net.au/resources/recipes-ideas

Artwork: "The heart of a child" by Lara Went, Worimi Artist

Mrs Ridley's Word of the Week

Word-Positivity (poz-a-tiv)

Definition- *The practice or quality of being optimistic and focusing on positive thoughts, experiences, and outcomes.* 

Origin- From the Latin "positus" (placed, positive).

#### Mindfulness activity

#### **Stretching or Yoga**

Do simple stretches or family-friendly yoga poses together. Many free resources are available online, and it's a great way to bond while relaxing.

# **Community Notice Board**







#### **LEARN, PLAY & GROW**



And more! Kids Vouchers Accepted Book 2 days, and get the 3rd at 50% off



**BOOK NOW** 



















HOCKEY NEW ENGLAND IS SECTED TO ANNOUNCE OUR OLUMERAL BOYS DRAFT PICE.
AND WE WANT YOU TO BE A PART OF IT!

THIS IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG MALES RETWEEN THE ACES OF 13 AND 16 TO SHOWCASE.
THEIR SALLES, TALENTS, AND POTENTIAL IN A FUN AND COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT.

ALL LEVELS WELCOMED. HOCKEY STICES CAN BE BORROWED AND NEW SAILLS CAN BE LEARNT

WHAT IS THE BOYS DRAFT PICE? THE CREET IS DESIGNED TO SIMPANCE BOYS HOCKEY OF THE NEW ENGLAND WITH TRAMS THAT ARE EVENLY MATCHED IT WILL DE COMPETITIVE FUN AND REWARDING

NATION TO AURIGESPHOLISTNEWSHIGLAND ORGAN

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK!



# STEWART HOUSE CHARITY DRIVE

Stewart House provides essential medical care, confidence-building activities, and a supportive environment where public school children in need can reset, thrive, and embrace a brighter future.

#### Envelopes must be returned to enter the draw!

Draw: Friday, 23 May 2025

#### **Important:**

Online payments ARE NOT an automatic entry into the draw.

Please return your envelope(s to your school with a receipt number (if paying online) for entry in the draw.







#### **NEW ENGLAND FUTSAL**

# JUNIOR/SENIOR MIXED COMP EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Age Groups: All Ages - Age splits will be decided once registrations are in Where: Glen Innes, Armidale, Tamworth and Armidale When: Starting week of 21 April, 18 rounds in total with a 3 week break after week 11 for

holidays Cost: \$220 per player (\$12.20 per week!)



#### REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY





#### HIPPY Armidale is enrolling now for 2025.

#### HIPPY School Readiness - early learning for families. Families Learning Together!

HIPPY stands for Home Interaction Program for parents and youngsters.

#### About HIPPY

HIPPY is a **FREE AND FUN** early learning program for school readiness, a 2-year program for families with 3- and 4-year-old children.

Parents and carers can be a HIPPY Tutor for two years and be paid for 30 hours per fortnight.

HIPPY Tutors support parents and carers to give children positive play-based learning experiences at home and in the community.

Join today! Phone: 02 67727243 or 0408488829 and ask about HIPPY.

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. The Brotherhood of St. Laurence holds the licence to operate HIPPY in Australia.

The views expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or officers of the Department of Social Services. (On appropriate document).

HIPPY was developed at the NCJW Research Institution for Innovation in Education at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the HIPPY Programs are affiliates of HIPPY International.

Curriculum materials (activity packs and storybooks) comply with the Australian Early Years Learning Framework.

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Email: ann.haining@familysupport.org.au
Phic 0.2 6788210
Mobile: 0408488829







# **4-12yrs Gala Days**- dates on our website

- 4-5 yr olds Mixed -Walla Rugby
- 6-7 yr olds Mixed Tri Rugby
- 8-12 yr olds Mixed -Gala Days
- Free Holiday Clinic 14 April 9:30 @ NEGS

#### Primary Schools 7s Term 1 and 2 - Chat to your school

#### North West Regional Youth Comp (NWRYC)

- Central North Clubs & Schools
- 13-16 yr olds girls (10a-side) Friday Night comp
- 13-16 yr olds boys Friday Night comp
- 17-18 yr olds girls 10 a side boys 15 a side Fridays Nights & Saturdays to enable club commitments
- Played in central locations

Register Now - visit our website for prices & to register. Free socks, shorts & jersey!

Email us your questions and follow us on facebook for upcoming events, training and clinics.

armidalejuniorrugby.com armidalejuniorrugby@gmail.com









# **Parent Pathways**

You can scan our QR code



Parent Pathways is a support service for parents and carers with children under 6 years old.



Parent Pathways connects parents and carers with someone who can help them meet their goals.

Other ways this service can support parents and carers



child care.



support.



Help with your study or work goals.



Study or training.

#### How to find more information



You can call us. 1300 012 476



#### FAMILY RELATIONSHIP CENTRE

COURSES FOR SEPARATED PARENTS

<u>Building Connections</u> - One session - FREE

This program aims to help separated parents have healthy and strong relationships with their children.

ways of communicating with the other parent
 the impact of separation and conflict on children
 setting goals for future parenting



Armidale 2025 - 2 Tuesdays - 11 & 18 March, 8 & 15 April -10.30am - 1.30pm, 6 & 13 May - 10.30am - 1.30pm

Tuning in to Teams - 4 sessions - FREE - 10am - 1pm Would you like to learn how to:

- be bether at klaing with and understanding your teen?
- help your teen learn to manage freir emotions, - help to prevent behaviour problems and leach your teen to deal with conflict?
- Armidale 2025- Mondays - 5, 12, 19, 26 May 2025

Tools for Dads - One 3 hour season - PEEE - 1 dear - 1 pm - 1 pm







## **Armidale City Public School**

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