From the Principal        Term 1, Week 6  2013

What funny old weather we are having; hot, sunny, sticky, humid, rainy and windy. It comes and goes and is getting so hard to predict. The season has changed and now autumn is here, but I guess we are all asking what happened to summer? We had the hottest day on record in January but the rest of summer has been a bit of a wash out. Who knows what’s round the corner next. Just a brief reminder to make sure you have all of your children’s clothing, lunch and bag items well named. It is much easier to find and return them if they have a name on them. Please remember too that we are a uniform school and our purple set of school rules states clearly “wear school uniform”. That does include black shoes from Monday to Thursday. We are starting to question our students about their shoe wear as we know black school shoes or joggers are a reasonable price, so all students can wear the correct uniform. We welcome trendy solid colourful sport shoes on Fridays which is sport day. Please support us with our wearing of school uniform and check what your child is wearing.

Parent Information Sessions

Thank you everyone for coming to our Parent Information Sessions held last week. It is really important to find out about what your child will be learning and doing in their classes this year. We know that often parents have work and other commitments and cannot make it to some of our timetabled parent sessions. All classes will send out a paper copy briefly summarising the information relating to the sessions given. You will be able to find copies of these attached to this newsletter and in the school classes section of our school website.

Mounted Police visit our school

How exciting was it to have the Mounted Police visit last Thursday morning. All of our students had the opportunity to see them and some lucky students even got to pat the beautiful horses. What well trained and well groomed horses and so big, well over 16 hands. These 2 Police representatives from the Sydney Mounted Police came up to the Woy Woy area for the day to promote the Mounted Police presence and inform residents about how to best prevent and deter burglary and break ins. It was a wonderful experience for us all. It is reassuring to know our friends the Police are there to help protect us and enforce the law.

Greet and Meet Morning Tea
We are looking forward to your company at the morning tea on Wednesday morning. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet and get to know other parents, share some yummy food and have a cuppa. The Meet and Greet Morning Tea will be held in the hall and will start at 9:10am. Love to see you there!

**If you have a concern about your child**

Just a reminder that if you want to talk to your child’s teacher about a concern you may have, please remember to make an appointment or catch them at an appropriate time when they are not teaching or supervising students. A teacher’s prime duty of care is to the students in their care and they must not be distracted from this task. Feel free to make an appointment with your child’s Stage Supervisor if you want to discuss a concern further and if you feel the matter warrants a more confidential audience, please make a time to discuss it with me. We are here to work together to find suitable solutions that will support everyone. If you are working in our classrooms and supporting our students with their work tasks, please remember that your child still needs to follow all instructions given by the teacher. Our students love having family members in their classrooms helping but keeping the class rules and respecting what the teacher says is still the most important requirement. Thank you for always being there to help us out.

**Rule for this week**

Our rule this week is **“Be Responsible”**. This is our blue set of rules which include, Tell the truth, Do not steal, Care for your belongings and Accept consequences. All important life values as well. Please talk to your children about being responsible for themselves and their actions. We will be starting to teach our Values Program next week. This will begin with discussions around bullying, what it is and how we can prevent it. The **“Star Chart”** starts next week as well. Going on our school tone so far we will be expecting that all our students will be receiving a star on their first week. That will be fantastic! Well done everyone!

**Some handy little tips**

**All about apostrophes**

Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people for their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now. Find out more: [http://www.schoolatorz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-a-to-z/-english_glossary/8Qum/551/apostrophe+denoting+ownership](http://www.schoolatorz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-a-to-z/-english_glossary/8Qum/551/apostrophe+denoting+ownership)

**When older kids struggle with reading**


**Multiplication times tables**


**Sorting fact from fiction**


**4G Parent Helpers for Literacy Groups**

Parent helpers are required on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 9:50am to assist with Literacy Groups. If you are able to assist please see Mrs Grejsen. Thank you

**School Photos**

School photo envelopes are being distributed to all students on Tuesday, 5 March. A variety of photo packages are available for purchase and it is requested that you please return your completed envelope (with correct payment enclosed) to your **child’s teacher** by Monday, 18 March.

- All students having their photo taken are asked to return a **completed** order envelope even if payment is included in a sibling’s envelope. Please ensure it is stated clearly which child’s photo has the money in it. (A
If you have 4 or more children being photographed there may be a reduced rate payable. Please phone The School Photographer to enquire about this.

- Please make all cheques payable to “The School Photographer”
- A sample copy of the ‘My School Days’ album may be viewed at the office.

Families wishing to have a ‘Family’ or ‘Sibling’ photograph taken are asked to collect a special YELLOW order envelope (for Family Photos only) from the school office. Please include payment for the family photos in the yellow envelope and not in your child’s white class photo envelope.

The Photos are being taken on the following dates:

- Monday, 18 March – K-3K, Early Intervention and Preschool
- Wednesday, 20 March – All other classes, School Leader and School Service Officers, House Captains, Year 6 Group photos and family photos
- Thursday, 25 March – Preschool

All students are asked to wear their summer uniform for the photos. Thank-you

Centenary Signature Pavers

If you haven’t yet ordered your paver, an order form is attached to this newsletter. We will soon be placing our last order, so this will be your last chance to have your family’s name included in our Centenary path.

Announcements

Guitar Lessons at Woy Woy Public School

Guitar teacher Simon Dawes holds lessons at Woy Woy Public School on Friday afternoons from 3pm. All ages and all styles are accommodated, with competitive rates. Contact Simon on 0415 911 480 or dawes1986@gmail.com.

Coast Care Counselling Inc

Coast Care Counselling Inc, will now be operating from the Schools as Community Centre (Beachside Family Centre), based in the grounds of Woy Woy Public School from March, every Thursday. This is low cost counselling for all the community and we would like to welcome Kylie and her skills to our service. Please contact Kylie directly for appointments on 0435 809 506.

Considering Special Religious Education?

SRE, better known as Scripture, has been a regular part of the public school program in NSW for 140 years. It is normally taught by accredited volunteers from churches in the local community. There are many ways that children can benefit. Special religious education:

- affirms that each child is unique and of great worth to God
- aids moral and spiritual development
- offers children the Christian values of faith, humility, generosity, forgiveness and love.
- provides tools to use in times of crisis
- gives children an overview of basic Christian beliefs
- provides opportunities for exploring the big issues of life

Children are welcome to attend any SRE class that their parent or carer chooses. SRE teachers are people of faith. They are from local churches. They give their time and energy voluntarily, so that children can explore aspects of life that may not otherwise be available to them. All SRE teachers meet state child protection requirements. They are trained and authorised. They use an approved curriculum.

Your local Christian churches SRE contact is David Gilchrist (phone 0448431234). Your local Christian Catholic churches SRE contact is Susan Simmonds (phone 0411 566 622).

Fun with Sounds

Fun with Sounds is on again Friday 22nd March at 10.30am in the Mingalatta hall at Umina. It is designed for 3-5 year olds, but please bring along any other little ones you have, we cater for all! Call Rosemary to register 4341 1832. Come along and see how learning to read can be easy!

Blackwall Girl Guides
Laughter, learning, friendship and fun... come along to find out what Guiding is all about! Open Day is on Monday 4th March 2013 5-7pm Blackwall District Guide Hall, Memorial Ave, Ettalong. Ronnie Joyce Ph: 0412 773 623 or ronniej@smartchat.net.au

**Woy Woy Rugby Union**

Woy Woy Rugby Union is still taking new players. U5s - U7s $25, U11s $80, U12s-U17s $90. Includes club shorts, socks, insurance and all refs fees for the season. Contact Cathy 0448 946 917

**Southern & Ettalong United Football Club**

Southern and Ettalong United Football Club is looking for players in all grades from under 5 through to under 16. All new members as well as returning players are welcome to join our family friendly club. All enquiries and registrations, please contact Christine Bonnici at registrar@southernettalongfc.com

**Canteen Supervisor Position at Gosford Public School**

Hours are 2 days per week job share ,5 days a week in 2014. Wages are in accordance with Fast Food Industry Award 2010. As a paid employee of Gosford Public School P & C, the Canteen Supervisor is answerable to Gosford Public School P & C, either directly or via the Canteen sub committee. To be considered for the position the following criteria must be met.

- Food Handling Certificate or equivalent
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Demonstrated understanding of healthy eating and ability to prepare, cook and promote healthy foods
- Demonstrated time management skills and the ability to control day to day running of the canteen
- Knowledge of the Fresh Tastes@School NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy
- Ability to relieve, if required, on other days
- Understanding WH&S principles.

It is a requirement of employment that a Prohibited Employment Declaration and Consent to Employment Screening checks will be completed. Applications for employment should address the listed criteria and be accompanied with a current resume, including two referees. Please forward applications to esee@bigpond.net.au. Phone 0408 241 098

**P & C News**

Don’t forget our Meet n’ Greet Morning Tea Wednesday 6th March 9am-10am to welcome new families and old friends. Please come along to meet your P&C, have a cuppa and snack.

**The Uniform Shop** is open on the following days:

- Monday 8.30am – 9.00am
- Thursday 2.00pm – 2.30pm

If you can spare 1/2 an hour and would like to volunteer in any capacity, please feel free to leave a note with your contact details at the uniform shop or school office.

Unfortunately, we will no longer be taking consignments, however any donations would be appreciated and will be sold for $5. If you have any current consignment items, please come and see us in the uniform shop to collect your items or donate to the shop.

**Our next meeting**

Thursday 14th March – 7pm in the staff room, all are welcome and it would be wonderful to see some new faces!

We still have positions on the P & C to be filled, these are:

- Canteen Treasurer
- Uniform Co-Ordinator
- Uniform Treasurer
We are hoping to fill these positions at the next meeting. You must be a current financial member, which only costs $1 for the year.

Canteen News

Roster

Monday 4 March       L.Jobson                          Monday 11 March  T.Watson
Tuesday 5 March       T.Potter                          Tuesday 12 March  T.Potter
Wednesday 6 March     V.Hyde, K.Piper                    Wednesday 13 March  F.Fry
Thursday 7 March       -                                Thursday 14 March  -
Friday 8 March        K.Willoughby                     Friday 15 March  K.Freewater

Thank you to all the new volunteers and our regular volunteers for helping on our Green day. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

Dates to remember

- Harmony day        Thursday 21st March The canteen has a special lunch order planned for this day (orders in by 15th March please)
- Pizza Day          Thursday 11th April

Up & Coming Events:

- Disco           Tuesday 12th March
- Harmony Day      Thursday 21st March

Regards Fiona Fry, President

Downloads

1-2-3 Magic Parenting
CSaCC (Beachside Family Centre)
Meet and Greet Morning Tea
Mary Mac's Trivia Night
Paver Order Form
Kindergarten Booklet
Stage 1 Booklet
Stage 2 Booklet
Stage 3 Booklet
K-6 Costs 2013