**PBL Focus:** ‘What to do when someone bothers me in the playground.’

**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

Dear Parents

It is always pleasing when we receive positive community feedback about our students and school. Last Thursday afternoon our Aboriginal Dance group performed for the special Muswellbrook Harmony Day celebrations and did such a great job both in performing and using their manners at the food stall, that we received some great comments from community members. Well done dance group! Thanks also to Ms Marshall and Mrs Kelman for organising this performance.

Our own Harmony Day celebrations will be held this Friday commencing at 10.15am (a bit later than the usual school assembly). The school will become a ‘sea of orange’ as trees get decorated in the Harmony day colour of orange. All parents are invited to attend this special celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the different cultures that make up our school. We will also have a special performance from a ‘mystery’ performer.

We have decided to combine Grandparents Day with our Easter Hat Parade to make it a really special day. This will be held on Thursday 10th April. We look forward to lots of parents and grandparents joining us on this day.

Our school photos will be next week **Wednesday 26th March**. Students are asked to come dressed neatly in their school uniform ready with a big smile. Information packs have already been sent home.

Parent teacher interviews will be conducted in week 10 of this term. Each Stage will set up in the school hall and interviews will commence at 2.00pm. A separate note will be sent home this week. This will be a great opportunity to speak with class teachers about progress to date and any concerns you might have.

Yours in Education,

*Karen Rayner*

Relieving Principal

**Quote of the week:** "While we try to teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about."

**Assembly - Please Note The Change**

This Friday 21st March, we will be having a special school assembly for Harmony Day. All parents, family members and friends are warmly invited to attend. The assembly commences at 10.15am in the school hall. Hall display is by 5/6K, Foyer display SW and SI.

**School Contribution**

Thank you to those families who have paid their $20 per child School Contribution. These funds form a vital part of our school budget and allow the school to provide quality and varied opportunities for all children at Muswellbrook South. If you are yet to pay your child/children’s school contribution please consider doing it soon.

**Important Information**

If parent/carers occupation and/or education information has changed since completing your child’s school enrolment form please phone or see the front office to update this information. It is important to keep this information up to date for funding purposes.

**Easter Raffle**

The P&C are organising an Easter raffle and are asking for donations of Easter eggs. Please hand any donations into the school office. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the raffle. Please see Helen in the office if you are able to help.

Thank you for your support.
Netball News
On Friday I had the pleasure of taking the senior girls netball team to Singleton for the PSSA Zone Trials. The girls played four 20 minute games against Roger Street, Denman, Singleton Heights and small schools. The girls played really well and displayed excellent sportsmanship. We tied with Denman 2 all.
A special mention and congratulations to Chloe Franklin, who made it to the probable and possibles round playing WD.

Mother’s Day Stall
Our P and C Mother’s day stall will be held on Wednesday May 7th. If you are available to help on the day please see Helen in the office.
Thank you.

Muswellbrook And Upper Hunter Eisteddfod
The Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Eisteddfod are now taking entries for a variety of categories. If you are interested in entering the Speech, Drama and Public Speaking division, I may be able to help you. Entries for this division close Friday, 11th April 2014. Competition sessions will be running from Monday, 2nd June until Friday, 6th June 2014. The competition will be conducted at Muswellbrook Public School hall on these dates.
The following entry fees apply:
Individual entry $5.00
Duologues $8.00
Groups $10.00
If you would like an entry form so that you can enter the Eisteddfod or you need some guidance, please come and see me at school and I will help you out. The Eisteddfod is a fantastic opportunity to show case and refine your speech and public speaking skills- why not have a go?
Mrs Crooks
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TIPS: FOR PARENTS TO DEVELOP GOOD ROUTINES
This is very important as children NEED routine. These habits are a great foundation that will help kids throughout their school life and into the future:

DEVELOP INCENTIVE PROGRAMS to encourage and reward the behaviour you want to see. Everyone likes to be rewarded for trying hard and doing their best. Kids respond to small rewards, praise and little treats. Nothing big or expensive, maybe just time with you kicking a ball in the park, a bike ride or fish and chips! You could also use a chart and put a sticker up for each time the child gets ready for school on time – at the end of the week you agree on a reward for their efforts. Being makes everyone happy.

KIDS NEED TO UNDERSTAND ABOUT CONSEQUENCES. If the child does not do what you agree or they break the rules, then they need to know that there will be consequences for their actions e.g. NO computer or TV, no pocket money or maybe ask them how they intend to “make up” for their behaviour. Follow through with the consequences!

DON’T GET INTO ARGUMENTS WITH YOUR CHILD. Kids know how to push your buttons, so instead of ongoing arguments just say what you need to say and walk away. Tell your child you have made a decision and that is final. Your child will soon learn that you mean what you say and that arguing will not work.

Be CONSISTENT. You will confuse your child and create anxiety if you constantly change the message you give them. If you tell your child they have to be at school every day and then let them stay home because it is convenient or because you give in to their demands, then the child learns that you will cave in under pressure and that you don’t mean what you say!

Uniform Shop
Next week’s opening hours for the Uniform Shop
Monday 24th March 9am to 10am
Tuesday 25th March 2.45pm to 3.45pm
Wednesday 26th March 9am to 10am
Friday 28th March 9am to 10am

SALE!!! $5 tracksuit pants and jumpers (old stock).

Bucket Hats Have Arrived!!
Hats are available to purchase at our Uniform Shop – Monday and Friday mornings. They can also be purchased from the canteen week days. We have a layby system, payment option, eftpos and will help you in any way possible.

Now Taking Orders For Winter Tunics
If you are unable to come during uniform shop hours order forms are available in the school office for your convenience. We are still looking for volunteers to help in the uniform shop. If you have an hour to spare please see Shellie on Monday or Friday morning.

Canteen News - open every day Monday to Friday.
This week’s lucky lunch winner is Molly H from 1B.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers – Colleen H, Mel S.L. Sue P, Tara Shonnea, Kylie C and Odette E.

The canteen does need more volunteers, if you are interested please call in and see Bec.

Canteen Roster for the next two weeks –
Thursday 20 March Bec and Colleen
Friday 21 March – Bec, Mel, Colleen, Sue, Tara and Kylie
Monday 24th March Bec and Cherri
Tuesday 25 March Bec and Mel
Wednesday 26 March Bec and Shornea
Thursday 27 March Bec xxxxx
Friday 28 March Bec, Mel, Kylie, and Emma
Monday 31 March Bec and Cherri
Tuesday 1 April Bec xxxxx
Wednesday 2 April Bec and Shornea

Please note xxxxx indicates we need more volunteers. Please see Bec if you can help out.

We would like to thank Anne from Family Insight for donating a cooler to the canteen.
Remember to bring your lunch order BAG BACK TO THE CANTEEN to go into the draw to win a FREE MEAL DEAL.

Please hand lunch orders in between 9am and 9.30am.
We are open for break 1 and break 2. Five days a week.
Eftpos is available for lunch order payments or hat purchases by adults only.
Thank you for supporting our school canteen.

What’s Happening in the Community?

Sunday Pastels With Jean Davies
Following the success of the "Follow the Page” pastel workshops in 2013 Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre will be conducting FREE Pastel Workshops, once again under the expert guidance of Jean Davies.
The workshops are scheduled to take place on the fourth Sunday of every month at the Arts Centre from 10am until 1pm, with the first workshop to take place on 30th March.
Whether you are a beginner, of any age, or fine tuning your craft join us at the Arts Centre.
More information or to reserve a place contact the Arts Centre on 65493800 or arts.centre@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Singleton Horse Sports
The Singleton horse Sports hosted by Mt Pleasant Public School will be held on Friday 16th May, at Singleton Showground.
More information
www.mtleasantpublicschool.com.au

Claim The Date
Coolah Central School Horse Sports will be held during Term 4 on Friday 17th October.
Enquiries to 63771101

www.majesticcinemas.com.au
ALL YOU NEED IS
THIS VOUCHER!
$9.90*
($11.90 FOR 3D)
ALL TICKETS!

Bring this coupon to Majestic Cinemas Singleton for a $9.90 movie ticket ($11.90 3D) Valid until 30/04/2014
*Conditions - coupon must be surrendered to receive ticket offer. Not valid with any other offer. Coupon valid for up to 4 tickets per use.
## DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Every Wednesday</th>
<th>Playgroup every Wednesday, 0-4 years in Heritage Hall from 9:30-11:30. All are welcome and there is no cost!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 March</td>
<td>House Debate in the hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 March</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 March</td>
<td>Zone Rugby League</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Zone X Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 April</td>
<td>House Debate Final</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade and Grandparents Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>Term 2 Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>GATS Launch at Muswellbrook High School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TERM 1 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WK</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17/3 Hunter Life Ed Van</td>
<td>18/3 P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>19/3 Playgroup</td>
<td>20/3</td>
<td>21/3 Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>24/3</td>
<td>25/3</td>
<td>26/3 School Photos Playgroup</td>
<td>27/3</td>
<td>28/3 Zone X Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>31/3 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>2/4 Playgroup</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>4/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2/3R Exposition

Dogs are better than Cats!!!

We strongly believe that dogs are better than cats. Dogs are playful, loyal, can help their owners and are easily better than cats.

Firstly, dogs have a loud bark and can protect people’s homes from thieves, warn owners of fires and scare away wild, dangerous animals.

Secondly, dogs have an excellent sense of smell. They can help police find illegal substances, stolen goods, dangerous objects and lost people.

Thirdly, dogs can be trained to get the paper, help the elderly or disabled, perform intelligent tricks and follow their owner’s instructions.

Finally, who would you prefer to be protecting your child, a cat or a dog?

So in summary, cats are lazy and dogs are great!
say cheese

School Photo Day is
26 March 2014

Have your child’s school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash and money orders only (sorry no credit card accepted)

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact us

e admin.nhvcc@msp.com.au
p +61 2 4966 8292
f +61 2 4966 8293
www.msp.com.au
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sign</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Penalty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="No Stopping Sign" /></td>
<td>No Stopping&lt;br&gt;Makes that under no circumstances are you permitted to stop on a length of road to which a No Stopping sign applies. ARR - 167</td>
<td>Penalty $304 + 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="No Parking Sign" /></td>
<td>No Parking&lt;br&gt;Makes that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups and must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle. ARR - 168(1)</td>
<td>Penalty $169 + 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bus Zone Sign" /></td>
<td>Bus Zone&lt;br&gt;Makes that you must not stop your vehicle in the indicated zone unless you are driving a public bus. ARR - 183(1)</td>
<td>Penalty $304 + 2 demerit points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Help keep our kids safe!**

**Obey these parking signs at all times.**