Dear Parents and Carers

Next week is Book Week, as well as Literacy and Numeracy Week. While we are not having a parade this year for Book Week, Mrs Solman has organised Kindergarten to entertain us at next week’s assembly with a play about the book ‘Where is the Green Sheep?’ Public Speaking medallions will be presented to grade winners at the assembly. Each class has also made some wonderful posters for the library that parents are welcome to view.

Regular attendance at school is absolutely necessary for all students. I have enclosed an excerpt from an article in a national newspaper that has some important facts.

“An analysis of the attendance records and NAPLAN results of more than 400,000 students from Western Australia found any absence from school leads to a decline in academic performance. The study dispels the belief there is a safe level of absence students can get away with before their grades will suffer.

“We were able to show that actually every day counts and days that you’re missing in year 3 and year 5, we can detect that all the way through to year 9,” the report’s co-author, Stephen Zubrick, from the University of Western Australia, said. “A 10-day period of unauthorised absence in a year is sufficient to drop a child about a band in the NAPLAN testing.”

Year 3 numeracy achievement in 2012 declined by 1.6 NAPLAN points for every unauthorised day of absence in the first two terms of that year. The most startling finding, Professor Zubrick said, was that students arrive in year 1 “with their school attendance careers already in their pockets”.

“For most children, year 1 sets the pattern for what school attendance will look like in the future,” Professor Zubrick said. “You’re learning more than reading and writing. You’re learning to show up.”

Let’s work hard to ensure all our students are at school and making the most of all learning opportunities.

Yours in Education
Karen Rayner
Relieving Principal

Quote of the Week: Life is about solving problems, facing challenges and enjoying life experiences.

Assembly

Next Monday 18th August, is a whole school assembly. All parents, family members and friends are warmly invited to attend. The assembly commences at 2.30pm in the school hall. The assembly item this week is by 1/2M and Kindergarten.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Please contact the office if you have changed your contact details, this information is important to us if we need to contact you in an emergency.

SCHOOL BANKING is every Tuesday. If you do not have an account with the Commonwealth bank please see the ladies in the office for a School banking pack to get you started.
**KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2015**
Enrolments for Kindergarten 215 are now being taken. Children turning 5 on or before 31 July 2015 are now eligible to enrol.

**Kindergarten Information Night**
An information session for Kindergarten parents for 2015 will be held on Wednesday 17th September at 6.00pm until 7.00pm in the school library. We look forward to meeting our new parents.

**TEN IDEAS TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH READING**

1. Together find information and interesting facts about things that intrigue or interest your child in books, magazines or on the internet. Read and talk about what you find out.
2. Recite and retell stories of all kinds including favourite stories read or heard, fairy tales, movie plots, local news stories, family history, poems and rhymes.
3. Make things together and ask your child to read out simple directions, eg recipes while you cook together.
4. Suggest that your child writes simple stories on the computer. Re-read and talk about the stories together or send an email response to them.
5. Do crosswords and other types of word puzzles or word games together in books, magazines or on screen.
6. Read the TV guide together from the paper or onscreen before watching a program.
7. Play games like ‘I spy’ and read directions and signs when driving and shopping.
8. Read and write notes, cards and letters together to family members, friends and neighbours.
9. Play board games and computer games together and read the rules, directions and clues.
10. Provide your child with plastic letters, crayons, pencils, chalk, pens and writing paper.

The N.S.W. Premier’s Reading Challenge closes on **Friday 22nd August**. Thank you to all those children who have already given me their completed sheets. There are still a lot of children who need to finish. Please come and see me if your child has lost their sheet or if your child needs to borrow more books to complete the Challenge.
Anne Solman- Teacher Librarian

**SCHOOL BAGS**
We have a limited number of school bags available for sale in the school office. Bags are $20 and include library bag, wallet & lunch bag.

**P&C Meeting**
Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th August 2014 in school Library at 1.30pm. Items on discussion will include Fete, Body piercing and coloured hair.
Everyone Welcome

**Uniform Shop News**
Open Monday’s & Friday’s 9am-10am
AVAILABLE NOW!!
LIBRARY BAGS $10.50

Payment can be made by cash, eftpos, or cheque. Lay-by/payment plan also available.
Thank you for your support.
P&C UPCOMING EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday 19th Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Fair Stall</td>
<td>Saturday 30th Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglican Church MBK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd Sep</td>
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Canteen News
Canteen is **Monday, Thursday & Friday Only**
9am-2pm
This week’s meal deal winner is Christian. S.

Price Update - Slush Puppies are now $2.50
NOW AVAILABLE!! NEW Pizzas $2.70

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers this week, Jane & Colleen.

Canteen Roster
Thursday 14 August Megan, Jane, xxxx
Friday 15 August Megan, Colleen, Jane, xxxx.
Monday 18 August Megan, xxxx
Tuesday 19 August Closed
Wednesday 20 August Closed
Thursday 21 August Megan, Jane, xxxx
Friday 22 August Megan, Jane, xxxx, xxxx.
xxxx indicates help is needed.
If you are able to spare an hour or two please see Megan in the canteen. Thank you.

This year’s Father’s Day stall will be held on Wednesday 3rd September. There will be Gift cards 50c, Gift bags $1 and a wide range of gifts ranging between $2 - $7.
If you are available to help on the day please see Helen in the office.
Thank you.

Hunter Tennis Academy
Hunter Tennis Academy now provides Tennis Coaching, each Friday afternoon at Olympic Park, Muswellbrook.
The first session starts at 4pm for 3-8 year olds,
Middle session starts at 4.45pm for 9-12 year olds and the last session starts at 5.45pm for 13-18 year olds.
For more information contact Kate or Kerryn on 65723889 or email info@huntertennisacademy.com.au

2014 INTER-SCHOOLS HORSE EXTRAVAGANZA
21 October 2014 at AELEC, Tamworth.
For more information contact the school office.

ST MATTHEWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL MUDGEE EQUESTRIAN DAY
Mudgee Showground
Monday 13th October 9.30am start.
For more information contact the school office.

BELLTREES PUBLIC SCHOOL HORSE SPORTS DAY
Friday 7 November 8am Start.
For more information contact the school office.

Writing an Application for an Arts Grant
Seeking arts funding can be a time consuming process and, at the end of it all, there’s no guarantee of success. Help is at hand.
Arts Upper Hunter will be running a workshop in Muswellbrook to make the process less stressful and to improve your chances of getting a grant.
The workshop will focus on items where applications often fall down, especially the budget. Many a good project idea has fallen over because the budget section hasn’t been completed properly.
In addition, participants will role-play being an assessment panel. Small groups will assess three applications and come together to discuss which should be funded. Previous participants in this activity have found it a valuable insight into the difficulties faced by panels assessing many applications.
The workshop will cover the most common arts funding sources but, in particular, the Country Arts Support Program, or CASP, which closes on October 1. CASP provides grants of up to $3,000 and, in the Upper Hunter, has a high success rate.
The workshop will be held at Arts Upper Hunter, Loxton House, 142 Bridge St, Muswellbrook on Monday August 25 from 10 am until 1.30 pm. The workshop is free and a light lunch will be provided.
To register attendance please call Arts Upper Hunter on 0409 382 509.
For more information please contact
Mark Reedman
Regional Arts Development Officer
0409 382 509
adman@artsupperhunter.com
PLAYGROUP
At Muswellbrook South Public School

You are invited to bring your little babies and toddlers to join Anne Watson from Family Insight for a fun and relaxed session of play, music, dancing and craft.
Anne is Early Childhood trained and has been working with Mrs Moore in our WARRAE WANNI Centre.

When: Every Wednesday from 10am-12pm  NOTE THE NEW TIME
Where: Heritage Hall
The large classroom at the top of the Primary Quad, just in front of the oval.
Who: Anyone in our local community with little ones from newborn to 5 years old.

BANGARRA DANCE WORKSHOP

I went to Bangarra Dance Workshop at Muswellbrook High School. We learnt a dance that means to be “Awaken by the 4 winds”. We worked with Elma, Luke & Rikki. They were a part of the Bangarra Dance Theatre. We performed at the end of the day to many adults & children. I thought it was fun and a great cultural experience. I would do it again if I got the chance. Thank you to Miss Marshall for organising this event.
Kylee H

Last Thursday 26 Aboriginal students in years 3-6 went to the High School for a workshop with the Bangarra Dance Theatre. We learned the dance called “The Four Winds” and we worked with Elma, Luke & Rikki. We performed at the end of the day for “Show and Tell”. It was really fun and I want to do it again. It was the most rewarding experience of my life. Thanks to Bangarra Dance for coming all the way to Muswellbrook and showing us some great dance moves, you are amazing and a big thank you to Dave Newham & BHP Billiton. Mt Arthur Coal for organising this amazing experience.
Chandon K
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN SI!

SI have been learning our numbers and colours. We love playing bingo!

We have been going to horse riding on Thursdays. We really like going on the trail ride after we play horse sports in the arena.
SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Current as at 1 July 2014

NO STOPPING

Means that in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

Maximum Penalty

$415
+ 2 Demerit Points

Penalty

$173
+ 2 Demerit Points

BUS ZONE

Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

Penalty

$311
+ 2 Demerit Points

DOUBLE PARKING

You are NOT PERMITTED to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

Penalty

$311
+ 2 Demerit Points

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: $311 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing (within 20m on approach & 10m on departure side of crossing): $415 + 2 Demerit Points
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: $173 + 2 Demerit Points

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice.
These penalties apply to offences in school zones only while the zone is active.
DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Wednesday</td>
<td>Every Wednesday, 0-4 years in Heritage Hall from 10.00am until 12.00pm. All are welcome and there is no cost!</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 September</td>
<td>Father’s Breakfast BBQ</td>
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<td>12 September</td>
<td>K-2 Fun Day</td>
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<td>17 September</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Information Session</td>
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<td>14 October</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Transition Commencing Tuesday 14th October Ending Tuesday 18th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 October</td>
<td>Kindergarten Zoo Excursion</td>
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<td>22 and 23 October</td>
<td>Stage 2 Dubbo Excursion</td>
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<td>4 to 7 November</td>
<td>(Stage 3) Year 6 Canberra Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 to 7 November</td>
<td>(Stage 3) Year 5 Great Aussie Bush Camp</td>
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