DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 14 March
Year 7 2014 Selective High School Test
Junior Band Rehearsals commence 8:15am

Wednesday 20 March
6:30pm Fundraising Committee Meeting – Block A
7:00pm P&C Meeting – Block A

Thursday 21 March
Harmony Day

Friday 22 March
Stage 2 Colonial Day Performance

Tuesday 26 March
K-6 Assembly 2:30pm – School Hall – Parents Welcome

Wednesday 27 March
Year 6 Kotara High School Visit

Thursday 28 March
Easter Hat Parade 10am – Parents Welcome

Friday 29 March
Good Friday

Monday 1 April
Easter Monday

Wednesday 3 April
Morning Tea with Principal – School Award Recipients

Thursday 4 April
Whole School Photographs

Friday 5 April
Lap-a-thon

Tuesday 9 April
Zone Cross Country – Stevenson Park

Thursday 11 April
Anzac Service 10am

Friday 12 April
Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 1 May
First day of Term 2 K-6

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PLEASE NOTE

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THE OFFICE WILL
BE CLOSED ON
THURSDAY MORNING
14 MARCH
UNTIL 9:25AM

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

This week we have continued our journey in quality learning. We have such amazing things happening in classes and extracurricular activities - our teachers and students are so busy!

TEACHERS AWAY

Many of our teachers have been ill this week with various forms of cold and flu so our children have been taught by wonderful casual teachers. It is vital for us to have a bank of reliable well trained casual teachers who can pick up the curriculum in each stage and ensure our students move forward in their learning. Each year we meet new teachers as often the great casuals pick up permanent work so we need to induct new ones. In any case parents can be assured that the teachers before the classes are well prepared. We do have systems in place to inform casuals of the special needs of each child in the room and these systems have been revised this year. If you do have any concerns please bring those concerns to my attention as you – the customers of our school are often in the best position to advise us of ways we can improve.

SCHOOL BANKING

The school banking which started last week was very well received by students and parents. 54 students opened accounts and with their deposits the school received around $300 donation from this one week. The benefits of saving money has been discussed in classes and children have been using this opportunity to think about the various scenarios in the future that would improve with extra money available to them – they are working out for example how much they need to save each week to buy a car! School Banking is every Wednesday – and you can open accounts via any branch of the Commonwealth Bank.

STATE SWIMMER!

Congratulations to Bryn Leonard England who was successful at the Regional Swimming competition and chosen to represent the Region at the State Swimming Championships. This is a wonderful honour for Bryn and the school.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

At the end of the year each school has two School Development Days -SDDs (19th and 20th December). As you would imagine it is hard for teachers to focus on teaching and learning so close to Christmas and holidays. We have therefore decided to change the date of the last SDD and staff will instead come to work during the coming school holidays replacing the day they should work on
20th December. Staff will be at work on Friday 26th April this year. This will not have any implication for students as on both days children would be on school holidays.

There is an additional School Development Day this year for all schools to prepare for the implementation of the new Australian Curriculums. That day is Tuesday 30th April. School resumes on Wednesday 1st May for term 2.

GIRLS WINTER UNIFORM
In 2012 we introduced a new uniform for girls - the tunic and blouse with long blue stockings – This uniform is only available at Lowes Kotara so if you are intending to buy this uniform for Terms 2 and 3 this year and you have not already purchased one, I recommend you contact Lowes and order yours soon so you will not be disappointed.

Girls who do not like wearing dresses may wear skorts, shorts or long pants. They MAY NOT wear the summer dress during terms 2 and 3.

GARDEN SAFETY
Recently a teacher was bitten by a spider in the garden. We have done a risk assessment and management plan and have set in place a management system for garden safety. Children will be warned of this plan when they work in the garden. Our General Assistant will be removing new webs and new gloves have been purchased.

ATTENDANCE
We have had a visit from the Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) who has a legal responsibility to check our rolls and run reports on absences. There are some children who arrive to school late regularly. The HSLO will be targeting lateness and has advised me that she will be patrolling the school regularly between 9:25 – 10am with a specific role of questioning parents re late arrival. There are some valid reasons for lateness but patterns of lateness are usually related to parents not being well organised. It is the parent’s responsibility to get children to school on time. Thanks to most parents who do achieve this every day.

ANAPHYLAXIS TRAINING
The Anaphylaxis Nurse Educator will be providing additional training to staff on Thursday from 8:30am – 9:20am. Parents are welcome to join us in the Connected Classroom. No children unfortunately.

Have a great week.

GAIL CORNFORD
PRINCIPAL

THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU...
A very big thank you to everyone who helped with and attended our car boot sale last Saturday. It was a pleasure to see so many people getting a bargain and supporting the school in the process.
I personally had a great time and was pleased to receive so many pointers on how I could improve the car boot sale for next time.
THANK YOU!

NATALIE CLARKE
COORDINATING TEACHER

2013 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)
NLSPS is entering the ICAS again this year. ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 3 to 6 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in a variety of areas. ICAS has also opened up the English and Mathematics competitions to Year 2. Permission slip and entry forms went home YESTERDAY.
The Computer test is due to be held on Tuesday 21 May, however our Stage 3 students will be away at Hill End at that time. This test will be held on Monday 20 May instead.
Please return your completed entry form, one form per student, with payment to the class teacher.

MRS DENNIS
EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS COORDINATOR

CAPA & GATS CLASSES – CALLAGHAN COLLEGE WALLSEND CAMPUS
Callaghan College Wallsend Campus is offering the opportunity for incoming Year 7 students to apply for their specialised CAPA and GATS classes.
Application forms for each of these classes are now available, these forms contain all the information needed to apply, including due dates and deadlines.
Any students interested in applying for either of these classes should contact me and I can forward them to you.
Further information regarding Callaghan College Wallsend Campus may be found at their website www.wallsend-h.schools.nsw.edu.au.

LINDA GUNNESS
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL – STAGE 3
CHESS ANYONE?
Our chess squad are eagerly awaiting the announcement of this year’s draw as they are keen to get the new season underway. In the meantime ... we are looking for a community member who could spare an hour or so each week to come in and give our guys some coaching and strategy tips. The squad really love their chess and would benefit greatly from the expertise of an adult enthusiast. If you can help out, please contact Mrs Dennis on 4957 1168.

PLAYGROUND AND SUSTAINABILITY
This week in the 3-6 playground Stages 2 and 3 will have access to new equipment. Stage 2 have special toys for their use only and Stage 3 have a new "Quiet Senior Area" to go to with picnic blankets and picnic tables to sit at. We also have new soccer balls to use on the grassed areas.

We are going to paint the lids of the blue bins red so as to remind the students they are for general waste. We will be moving recycle bins near the general waste bins and having student monitors check the correct waste goes in the correct bin.

Students will also be selling produce from kitchen garden to parents picking their kids up from school on Friday. We have a small amount of herbs to sell in order to raise funds for more seedlings. A table will be set up in the infants playground just before home time. We hope to make this a weekly event!

LAP-A-THON
- The annual Lap-a-thon will be held on Friday 5th April at Alder Park.
- This event is used to select the team who will represent our school at the zone Cross Country carnival which will be held on Tuesday 9th April.
- The children will be walking to Alder Park for their race and then going back to school.
- Children (ages 8 and up) can select to run in the competitive or non-competitive race.
- Parents are most welcome to come and support their child.
- Sponsorship forms will be sent home this week, so please remember to start seeking sponsors as this is one of our major fundraiser’s for the year.

The children will be running at the following times approximately;
10.00am 5, 6 and 7 year olds
10.30am 8 and 9 year olds
11.00am 10 year olds
11.30am 11 year olds
12.00pm 12 and 13 year olds

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY
The zone cross country carnival will be held at Stevenson Park, Mayfield on Tuesday 9th April. As this is so close to our carnival, those children who qualify by coming 1st, 2nd or 3rd in the competitive race, in each age group will be given their permission forms on the day of our lap-a-thon.

PARENT HELPERS FOR THE LAP-A-THON
I will need parents to help at our annual Fun Run on Friday 5th April. If you are able to assist with recording, time keeping or general supervision, between the hours of 9.45am and 1.00pm, please complete the form below and return to the school office as soon as possible.

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<th>LAP-A-THON</th>
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<tr>
<td>I am able to assist with the Lap a thon on Friday 5th April.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent’s Name:</td>
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<td>Child’s name &amp; Class:</td>
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<td>I am able to assist during the following times:</td>
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<td>✔ 10.00am – 11.30am</td>
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<td>✔ 11.30am – 1.00pm</td>
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**BAND AND MUSIC PROGRAM**

Our band and music program continues to grow as many new students are joining in and learning new instruments. Some private tuition timetables have changed slightly due to group sizes and abilities. Every Thursday and Friday morning at 8:15am Junior band will practise with Mrs Adams in the hall.

**Junior band will start rehearsing this Thursday morning 14th March.**

Senior band have already begun their rehearsals with Mrs Caban on Monday and Tuesday mornings. They sound fantastic. We can’t wait for our up and coming performances. If your child is interested in joining our music program please contact Mrs Oswald through the front office.

**MRS OSWALD**

**BAND COORDINATOR**

**CORDIALS, SOFT DRINKS AND SPORTS DRINKS**

Cordials, soft drinks and sports drinks are high in sugar, and often contain artificial colourings and flavourings as well as caffeine. For these reasons, cordials, soft drinks and sports drinks should be reserved only for special occasions. Too much of these drinks lead to excess consumption of sugar and kilojoules, which may lead to weight gain and tooth decay.

Take a look at the sugar content found in these drinks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drinks</th>
<th>Teaspoons of sugar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Can of soft drinks – 375 mL</td>
<td>8 to 9 tsp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottle of soft drink – 600 mL</td>
<td>15 to 18 tsp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit juice drink 250 mL</td>
<td>3 to 5 tsp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cordial – 250 mL diluted</td>
<td>4 to 5 tsp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>0 tsp</td>
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</table>

As you can see, water has zero spoons of sugar making it the best option. Choose water as a drink whenever possible.

**BOOK CLUB NEWS**

Book club will go out to classes today. Big bumper issue in Extra.

Additional copies are available from the office.

Orders are due back at school on Monday 18 March. No late orders will be accepted.

**MRS DOLEY & MRS MOYLAN**

**BOOK CLUB COORDINATORS**

**KD NEWS**

Yesterday the students in KD were given a Buddy Bear to take home. They discussed what it means to be a good friend. The sound of the week is ‘t’. Please encourage your child to practise the Jolly Phonics action whilst saying the sound. Have them be a sound detective and spot objects in the environment that begin with ‘t’. In phonemic awareness lessons, we are listening and identifying the final sounds in words. Don’t forget banking day is Wednesday.

**KG NEWS**

Last week, KG learnt about grouping and sharing objects. We learnt that ten objects can be shared into two and five equal groups. We also practised sounding words out by pretending we had a rubber band in our hand. First we said a one syllable word, then we stretched it out to see what sounds we could hear. We have loved learning about sounds. Well done, KG!

**KS NEWS**

We are learning about the sound ‘t’ this week. Last week we learnt about Pete Persistent. All of Early Stage 1 are enjoying playing and interacting across classes on Fridays. The school cross country is coming up and we will be going for a walk to Alder Park in the near future to familiarise ourselves with the venue. A note about this will go home with the children in the upcoming weeks.

**1H NEWS**

Mrs Horner has been sick this week.

**1O NEWS**

Last week 1O were learning about multiplication and grouping things together. I am very pleased with how everyone is reading. Keep up the home readers and bug club at home. Practise makes perfect.

**1/2M NEWS**

In 1/2M this week we have been making and learning about 3D shapes. We used toothpicks to make cubes, pyramids and rectangular prisms. Once we made our shapes we had to investigate how many sides and corners our shapes had.

The sound we were learning about last week was ‘qu’. These are some of the words that we know that start with qu. Quiet, quick, quiz, question, Questacon, quail, quince, quill, quickly and quietly. We used magazines and went on a scavenger hunt to find letters that we could put together to make some of these qu words. If anyone has any spare magazines at home that they are not using we would really appreciate it if you could send them in for us to use in class.
1W NEWS
This week we looked at the length of objects. We found items in the playground and ordered them from shortest to longest. It got a bit tricky when we put all the items from our groups together, but we worked it out.
We also arranged ourselves in order of height from tallest to shortest (with just a bit of help from Mrs Wallace).

2CN NEWS
This week 2CN is busy learning about “rows of” (multiplication). We have also played a fun game called “spaceships” with helps with our knowledge of division. Our recount writing continues to improve and we are now trying hard to edit and reread our own work in order to improve on quality. We have fun challenging each other with our skip counting on the Smartboard, trying to beat each other’s personal best. Who will be our next champion? We’ll have to wait and see.

2O NEWS
2O have been working very hard on writing personal recounts. We know how to write in paragraphs and include detail about the events. In Maths 2O are working on Multiplication and Division using the terms ‘rows of’ and ‘groups of’. Next week Mrs Osland will be taking Long Service Leave and Mr Brown will be replacing her until after Easter.

3/4E NEWS
3/4E have finally completed the class novel Tales of 4th Grade Nothing! We’re going to be wrapping up activities related to it then concentrate on literacy tasks linked to our British Colonisation unit. It’s also time to start looking forward to the Stage 2 Colonial Show now on 22nd March. Start thinking about what colonial clothes you would like to wear for the day (see note for details). Well done once again for everyone who handed in their homework last Friday. The next fortnight of homework was handed out yesterday.

Mr Edwards

3M NEWS
As part of their homework last week, many 3M students created and performed a dance for our class. The talent and enthusiasm in our class is very impressive! Well done to everyone - boys and girls - who had the confidence to get up and have a go. We are looking forward to seeing some more this week. The third homework sheet for the year went home yesterday and is due in a fortnight. This week in literacy we are focusing on "monitoring" our reading. This means we regularly check our understanding of texts we are reading. We have finished our spelling units based on "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing" and are now using HSIE texts to base our spelling rules on.
4D NEWS
There is no news from 4D this week.

4T NEWS
Week 7 already, we have a lot to go through in our HSIE Colonisation unit to prepare for The Colonial Show next Friday. The children are very excited about the opportunity to dress in clothes typical of that era. Last week we finished reading Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing and this week we will focus on writing a book review. Thank you to all students who remembered to hand in homework last week. Sam’s entertaining dance to “Return to Sender” was an excellent way to end the week. Well done Sam!

5/6S NEWS
This week we have been finishing off our Sadako unit with some beautify cherry blossom trees. Many of our Year 6 students have been studying hard for their selective high school tests. Good luck to all these students, we hope all the hard work pays off. In maths we are working on multiplication and division questions, so hopefully everyone is fine tuning their multiplication tables at home to help.

By Amelia-Rose Vial & Georgia Andrews

5/6C NEWS
In 5/6C we are linking HSIE, Maths and Literacy and designing a holiday to Japan for three weeks. We have taken the Australian dollar and converted it into Japanese Yen using the current exchange rate. We have included things like accommodation, travel, entertainment and food in our budget. It has been a very interesting exercise and some people will need good jobs in order to pay for our imaginary trip! Please remember to get your expression of interest form in for the Hill End excursion as soon as possible.

5/6D NEWS
In 5/6D we have been doing multiplication and division in maths groups also we have been doing independent work in maths. On Friday we did an internet research project about Australian aid organisations like World Vision and the Red Cross.

5/6G NEWS
There is no news from 5/6G this week.

ENVIRONMENT NEWS – COMPOST MONITORS
A big thankyou to Bailey Cooper (5/6D) and Harpah Powell (4D) for their ongoing assistance in collecting fruit break scraps from each classroom and then taking them to the compost bin. All this compost will produce beautiful soil one day.

MRS DRINKWATER
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2013
Due to the wet weather our school postponed our clean up afternoon to Wednesday 6 March. Students from Year 1 to Year 6 were designated to different parts of the school grounds to participate in this annual event.
Thank you!
MRS DRINKWATER

P&C NEWS
Don't forget that the next P&C meeting (& last for Term One) will be held next Wednesday night, 20th March in the connected classroom in Block A. We will commence at 6.30pm to discuss fundraising for 2013 & the P&C meeting will kick off at 7pm. If you have any items that you would like raised please let me know and they can be added to the agenda.
We are also still looking for assistance in the way of a minutes secretary, so if this is something you would like more information on or think you can assist with, please let me know.
The P&C is here to represent your interests. If you are unable to attend a meeting, please feel free to contact or approach me or any other member of the committee and we will be happy to raise any items at an upcoming meeting on your behalf.
DATES TO REMEMBER:
NEXT FUNDRAISING MEETING
Wednesday 20th March
Connected Classroom, BLOCK A
6.30pm
NEXT P&C MEETING
Wednesday 20th March
Connected Classroom, BLOCK A
7.00pm

Natasha Andrei
P&C President
Phone: 4957 3821 or 0413 188 945 or
Email: markandnatasha@bigpond.com
FUNDRAISING NEWS
A HUGE thankyou to everyone involved in the Blackbutt Twilight Markets Cake Stall!! We made a profit of $590 for a terrific afternoon of cakes, salted caramels, date loaves, glorious cupcakes, caramel popcorn, banana loaves, slices and delicious Florentines!
It was a great opportunity for the school community to support fundraising. It was lovely to meet some of the newer parents to the school, thank you for making the effort to participate.
Thank you to the following people who helped run the stall .... LeeAnn Upton, Anne Beness, Roberta Stephens, Kelly Turner, Annette Dean, Trina Stowe, Margaret Godfrey, Siobhan Purins and some terrific children who were fabulous sales people.
There are so many people to thanks for their delicious contributions to the stall, I am unable to list you all .... thank you so much, we had variety, colour and nothing left at the end of the day.
Thank you also to Fiona O’Connor for putting the wheels in motion and co-ordinating such a great community event. Once again, thank you for your contribution to the day, it is a such a fun and easy way to raise money for the school.

MICHÈLE STEVERSON
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

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<td>Nerida Bradica</td>
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<td>Karen Cooper</td>
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<td>25/3</td>
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<td>Jackie Masterson</td>
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<td>Colleen Scott</td>
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<td>Deanne Anderson</td>
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<td>Julie McNaught</td>
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<td>1/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
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Please note: * denotes a vacancy – please drop by the canteen if you are able to assist. Canteen phone no. 0417 571168

CANTEEN NEWS
Our first Red Day this year will be for St Patricks Day to be held this Friday 15th of March. The canteen will be selling lollies, cakes and other goodies at lunch time and prices will range from 20c to $2.
On Thursday 21st of March the school will be celebrating Harmony Day with a range of activities for the students. On this day the canteen will be selling a variety of different hot foods which will be available by pre-order only. Order forms must be returned by this Friday 15th March.
Reusable Lunch Bags are now available to purchase from the canteen. The regular bags are $8 and the insulated bags are $12. Each bag has a zipped compartment to hold the students’ money, are extremely easy to wipe clean and most importantly they reduce paper waste.

NEW LAMBTON FOOTBALL CLUB
New Lambton Football Club still has a limited number of vacancies in their U6, U7, U8, U9, U10 + U11 teams.
If you are interested please contact John at club@nlfc.org.au
New Lambton Football Club have 4 vacancies remaining in their U12 teams.
If you are interested please contact Mandy at club@nlfc.org.au