UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 15 July       First day of Term 3 – K-6
Wednesday 16 July     P & C Meeting 7pm Connected Classroom
Thursday 17 July       NAIDOC Week Assembly – 10.30am – All Welcome
Tuesday 22 July        Junior Hunter Dance Festival Performance at Newcastle Panthers
Wednesday 23 July      OC Placement Test
                            Stage Zone Public Speaking Final at Shortland PS
Thursday 24 July       Senior Hunter Dance Festival Performance at Newcastle Panthers
Friday 25 July         Zone Athletics Carnival
Mon 28 Jul – Fri 1 Aug Education Week
Monday 28 July         Stage 1 Zone Public Speaking Final at Plattsburg PS
Tuesday 29 July        ICAS English Competition
                            Zone Athletics Field Events
                            Early Stage 1 Zone Public Speaking Final at Mayfield West PS
                            Music Night
Wednesday 30 July      Knights Rail Safety Talk
                            Oz Tag Gala Day
                            Education Week Assembly
Thursday 31 July       Year 1 Wombat Stew Excursion
Tuesday 12 August      ICAS Mathematics Competition
Wed 27 – Friday 29 August Year 4 – Great Aussie Bush Camp
Thursday 28 August     Year 3 – Outdoor Education

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome back to school! Term 3 2014 is going to be as busy and exciting as the previous terms. That is a promise!

NAIDOC

This week our school will celebrate NAIDOC by holding a special assembly on Thursday July 17th at 10:30 am. All parents are welcome and our Aboriginal families have been sent a special invitation as on this occasion they are our guests of honour. This year the NAIDOC theme is a commemoration of the wonderful Aboriginal service men and women who fought for us in any war. For many years those service members who were Aboriginal were not given the recognition that they deserve but happily
those days are gone. NAIDOC is a time to celebrate Aboriginal culture and each classroom will be doing class based activities and lessons to ensure this focus. Our Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee has agreed that local stories would be another theme of the assembly so some of our student leaders will be retelling those stories at the assembly. Morning tea will follow the assembly so community and families are welcome to stay on at school for that.

Mrs Staden who teaches 5/6S has been working in senior classes to develop picture stories of our school. The best pictures will be chosen to be made into tiles and will form a wonderful artwork for the school. We were hoping that this artwork would be ready for NAIDOC but it looks likely that it will develop over term 3. Thank you to the P&C who donated $1000 toward this work. Other funding came from the Aboriginal funding given to all schools by the State government.

Lots of work happening around the school!
During the school holidays our wonderful General Assistants, David, Phil and Bruce worked hard to organise the erection of new soccer posts and basketball ends and the relocation of a basketball end into the Junior playground. This work is not complete yet as the basketball ends cannot be erected until the concrete sets (a few weeks away). The new courts will be marked out soon. Students will be educated to ensure they use the soccer and basketball ends carefully as the installation of all of these sporting fixtures has cost a lot of money (around $7800 ). This infrastructure was funded by the money raised in the school lapathon as well as a donation from the P&C ($2000) and school global funding. We are very grateful for the support parents give to our fund raising and hope you can see it is put to good use.

- Carpet tiles have been laid in the hallways of Block B. This is a very heavy traffic area and we hope the tiles will stand up better to wear. This carpet was funded by the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) via the school allocation for asset management – the same funding that provided...
- water saving bubblers in block B and in the Junior playground’s weather shed and...
- painting the OOSH and Block D external walls.
- The DEC also funded a small amount of additional furniture for senior classes (chairs and fold up tables for Parliament in the hall) and staff room chairs.
- The current work being done near the canteen is repair work to underground pipes. We hope this work will be complete by the end of week 1 or 2. The canteen will be fully operational from Tuesday.
- The huge pile of dirt in the front yard behind the demountable came from the holes we dug for the soccer and basketball ends. It will be used as part of a landscaping project underway in Term 3 led by Mrs Tweedale. This project will see Rosie the Rhino moved from the front of my office into the garden. She will be joined by another animal and be the start of what we hope will be a wonderful attraction in our school.

New Staff and roles
This term we welcome Miss Belinda Martin to our school staff. Miss Martin is replacing Mrs Dennis who took an appointment to Caves Beach Public School and said a sad good bye to her wonderful class 3/4D at the end of last term. Miss Martin will be the class teacher for 3/4D for the rest of the year. I know all students and families will make her very welcome. As Mrs Dennis was also relieving in Stage 2 as Assistant Principal on Fridays for Mrs McCallum who is taking leave on Fridays this year, Mrs Hogg who teaches 2/3M (for Miss Metcalfe who is on maternity leave) will relieve as Assistant Principal for Stage 2 on Fridays. We are indeed fortunate to have such wonderful teachers joining our school family.

Merewether Selective School offers
Eleven of our students were offered a place at Merewether High School for Year 7 2015. Congratulations to those students and to all who applied. Several students are on the wait list so more offers could be made.

Whole School Performances/Concert
Last year we provided a whole school performance K-6 in our school hall. A huge amount of work goes into these performances as well as a huge amount of time out of class and away from our core business. We are keen to remain a school that provides opportunities for our students to perform in our own hall but our school hall is rather small and we are growing! We are trialling some different ways of making sure parents see performances as well as developing a scope and sequence of performances so a whole school major performance is not expected every year.
This term (Term 3) K-4 classes are building on the skills learned in the Term 1 Dance to be Fit program. We are employing Dance to be Fit teachers to again deliver their wonderful dancing skills based lessons starting in Week 2, but this time with a focus on performance and with a view to providing a wonderful concert for parents. The cost of lessons to parents will be detailed in a separate note this week. The cost of tickets and dates for the concerts will also be detailed separately. With the aim to provide good access and visibility there will be two shows (day and evening) and at this stage tickets will be for inside the hall only and without designated seats.

In Term 4 Years 5 and 6 will be providing a similar show using the Dance to be Fit team.

Education Week
The school assembly for July 30th will be a special Education Week assembly. More information about Education Week activities soon.

Student Welfare and Discipline Policy
Every two years schools review their Student Welfare and Discipline Policies. Our policy is on our school website and as part of the review for 2014, we would like to get parent feedback with regard to the key elements and spirit of the policy. Would you please take time to complete the survey in the link on Survey Monkey below? We will keep the survey open until July 25th to enable time for parents to see it either this week or next. Your support in completing this feedback via the survey is much appreciated and the results will inform any modifications we make to our policy.

Teachers and students will also be consulted in the review.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/M5Z6TPV

3/4C News
Welcome back to a new, exciting and busy term. The children have lots to look forward to over the next couple of months. Our science unit this term is Light Fantastic. The children will learn all about light, where it comes from, how it is used and how it travels etc. I am sure they will enjoy the many experiments that accompany this unit of work. Art and computer time has remained the same (first session Thursday morning). I am looking forward to working with you throughout the term to enhance the learning of your child.

Visual Art News
Welcome back everyone after the holidays.
This week we are celebrating NAIDOC week and recognising elements of Indigenous Art.
Kinder students have been appreciating the illustrations of Bronwyn Bancroft and how her designs rely on warm and cool colours rather than traditional earth colours. Photographs display students with their interpretations of the sea turtle using oil pastels and acrylic paint.
The older students from Stage One and Two have also painted wooden slats with earth colours and warm and cool colours. The lines were hand painted and the dots were printed using cotton buds. The works will be on display on the front of the school for NAIDOC celebrations and classrooms will be also covering Aboriginal culture this term.
Mrs Drinkwater, Visual Arts Teacher.
TERM 2 SCHOOL DISCO

CANTEEN NEWS
Welcome back to all students, teachers and parents for Term 3.

Fruit available this week include red and green apples, oranges, watermelon, grape cups and mandarins.

**P & C NEWS**
The P & C meeting is this Wednesday 16th July 2014 at 7pm in the Connected Classroom.

**School Banking. New rewards released in term 3.**

The School Banking program provides children with an opportunity to make deposits into their personal Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account at school each week. The program is about how often your child makes deposits, not how much they deposit.

To encourage regular savings behaviour the program offers an exciting Rewards Program. Every deposit earns your child a Dollarmites token, and once they’ve collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for a reward.

**Rewards available in term 3 are:**

- Handball *(whilst stock lasts)*
- Scented Pencils *(whilst stock last)*
- Shark or Penguin Keyring
- Whale Shark Pencil Case
- Moneybox *(new release)*
- Swimming Bag *(new release)*

Please send in your redemption card and tokens on banking day. Rewards will be delivered in 1-2 weeks. Pooling of tokens is not allowed.

If you wish for your child to participate in the program Youthsaver accounts can be opened at any branch of the Commonwealth Bank, or by calling 132221. Existing customers with NetBank access can open accounts online.
Ben Read’s School of Tap

As seen on ‘So You Think You Can Dance’

Learn tap from an original TAP DOG and have fun!!

WEDNESDAYS in school hall

Only $10 for 1 hour class

*Tap shoes not initially required

* Students can be taken to OOSH after class

Ben: 0438 699 095  schooloftap@live.com.au
New Lambton South

DRAMA CLUB

Only $10 for a 1 hour class

Come learn performance skills, build confidence & have fun with friends!

Tuesdays straight after school in the hall.

OOSH kids can be taken to and from care if needed.

LINDA: 0419 161 178
nlsdrama@live.com.au