Principals Message
2013 is certainly off to a flying start. We welcomed Ms Louise Birch yesterday and now have all staff on deck. I am very impressed with the way all students, especially our new kindergarten students, have settled into school routines.

Parents and Citizens Association
Our first P&C meeting for the year will be held on Monday 25th Feb at 6pm. This meeting will include our AGM. Please come along to this meeting as you will help set our P&C direction for the year.

Meet and Greet Sausage Sizzle
We are planning to have a Meet and Greet Sausage Sizzle on 21st February, 6-7pm. This will give all families the opportunity to meet our teachers and is also a lovely way to welcome the many new families to our school.

Grandparent and Senior Citizen morning
We are planning to have a Grandparent and Senior Citizen morning on Tuesday the 19th March. Please invite an elderly relative, friend or neighbour along to join in the fun, entertainment and stay for morning tea.

Stage 2 Band Scholarship
We are offering scholarships to students in Stage 2 (Year 3/4) who would like to take up a musical instrument and join our school band. The only condition is that interested students have to commit to staying with the program for all of 2013. If your child would like to apply for a music scholarship please complete the form on the back of this newsletter.

School Uniform
We have been assured by our supplier that our outstanding uniform order will arrive before the end of the month.

Break-in
Unfortunately we had a break in on Saturday night / early hours of Sunday morning. Our safe was stolen along with a few smaller items and damage to some equipment, doors and a window. Please contact Muswellbrook Police on 65426999 if you have any information about this.

First Whole School Assembly for 2013
We will be holding our first assembly for the year, a captains’ assembly, on Friday 8th February at 9:15am in the hall. Whole school assemblies, where classes take turns in presenting a short item, will take place once a fortnight. Class awards and Principal’s awards are also presented at these assemblies. All parents and community members are welcome to attend our assemblies. Merit Awards only will be presented at this assembly.

Merit Awards:
KHL Angus & Chloe C.
K/1K Summer D & Max M.
1B Jae D & Kirra C.
2DP Liam H & Isabell B
3/4A Hunter D & Brianna H.
3/4P Danielle S & Hannah F.
5R Jack S & Taneka J.
6M Seth M & Kade H.

Michelle Floyd – Principal.

Application for Stage 2 (Year3/4) Band Scholarship
My child ……………………………………………………..
would like to apply for a scholarship to undertake music and band lessons in 2013. Both my child and I understand that they would need to commit to attending lessons throughout 2013.
Signed: ……………………………………………………………..
Date: ………………………………………..
LIFE EDUCATION: Healthy Harold

Life Education NSW will be visiting our school from Monday 18th February to Thursday 21st February. This not for profit community-based organisation offers a range of programs which empower children to make informed choices for a safe and healthy life. The program is part of our PD/H curriculum at Aberdeen and personal development lessons this term will be based around the concepts covered in the program. The program is usually $7 per child but due to sponsorship from Mt Arthur Coal the cost has been reduced to $2.

The range of programs in which the children will be participating are all age appropriate. A note and information sheet will be sent home on Thursday 7th February. Please fill out a permission slip for each child and return it to their class teacher with $2.00.

Kindergarten: Clued Up
Year 1: Harold’s Mystery Tour
2DP: All Systems Go
3/4 A & 3/4P: bCyberwise
5R: It’s Your Call
6M: Think Twice

TEXT BOOKS

Text books for our classes have now arrived. Each pack contains a handwriting text book and a maths book. All exercise workbooks are supplied by the school. The cost of this pack is $26, which can be handed into the office as soon as possible (students will be issued with their text books once they have been paid for). If there are any problems regarding payment, please ring Mrs Floyd on 6543 7271.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our school swimming carnival will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 6th February for all children turning 8 years and older this year. Parent assistance is welcome and needed on the day.

Muswellbrook Australian Football Club.
We will be holding rego days on Sunday 10th February and Sunday 24th February at Weeraman Field in Muswellbrook from 10am till 1pm. We will also be holding a rego day at the Muswellbrook Market Place on Saturday 16th February from 10am till 1pm. We have Auskick for 5 to 10 year olds, and junior footy in under 13’s, 15’s and 17’s and also seniors. Anyone wanting further info can contact Donna on 0488435119. Muswellbrook Australian Football Club sdmullane@bigpond.com

NEW... Family Daycare
Opening in Aberdeen with NewTrain. Hoping to commence mid February. Vacancies are left for 3 to 5 yr olds Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays 8.30am to 4.30pm - Am willing to start earlier if needed. Can also do before and after school care. Please Phone Julie on 0400346942

Scone Depression Support Group
A local group meets twice a month the group in its early stages will be facilitated by the Neighbourhood Centre, with the group to eventually work on their own.

A support group is a small group of people with a particular condition, such as depression, anxiety or bipolar disorder, who meet regularly to discuss their experiences, their problems and their strategies for coping.

What are the benefits?
Research shows that hearing from and sharing with others with similar experiences can be very helpful. A support group can provide the following gains:

• show you that you are not alone
• help develop new skills in relating to others
• permit you to ‘open up’ and discuss your situation and feelings
• give practical skills and advice – such as how to draw up and stick to a treatment plan
• provide new coping strategies – share your solutions and learn from others’ experience
• offer a safe place to sound off about frustrations of living with a disorder
• supply strategies for managing any stigma associated with your disorder
• strengthen motivation to stick with a treatment plan.

If you would like to join us just turn up at the Neighbourhood Centre (old Council Building) side entrance in Main Street, Scone on the first & third Thursday at the Neighbourhood Centre at 6.00pm
Lee Watts. Manager Scone Neighbourhood Centre

Afternoon Tea in Aid of Ovarian Cancer!
Mandy Morris, MBK Shire Young Citizen of the Year, is hosting an Afternoon Tea in aid of Ovarian Cancer!

When: Saturday 16 February
Time: 2:00pm onwards
Where: MBK Senior Citizen’s Centre, Market Street
Entry Fee: $5 for adults and $3 for children

Come along for a family friendly afternoon filled with yummy cakes, teas, coffees, face painting for the kids (and kids at heart) and information about Ovarian Cancer. RSVP 0448 464 400 by 13/2/13

Unable to attend, but wish to make a donation? Please visit

FORTHCOMING DATES

Swimming Carnival: 6th February
Band Lessons: Commence 13th February
Healthy Harold K-6: 18th-21st February
Zone Swimming Carnival 21st February
Bus Safety Kindergarten: 26th February
CLASS NEWS

Class KLH

Welcome parents to Class KLH – Kindergarten, Larnach, Hill. The children have all started off their year very well, appearing to have settled quickly and happily into their new routines. If there are any concerns on your behalf, please don’t hesitate to let us know. This week we will jump straight into our numeracy and literacy programs beginning with the numeral 1 and the letter ‘S’ which makes the sound “ssss” as heard at the start of the word school. Library will be each Wednesday, commencing this week. Literacy sessions are first up each morning and we would welcome enthusiastically parents, grandparents or carers who might like to help supervise small group activities. A note will be coming home outlining days and times and asking you to indicate which might be most suitable for you but please feel free to come and see what they are all about. Also, be on the lookout for another note outlining what the children will be needing specifically for their kindergarten year. We will be providing all pencils, scissors and glue.
NRMA bus safety will be on the 26th of March. From week 3 (11th February), Kindergarten students will stay until 2.55pm. Please arrange a meeting place with your child away from the Kindergarten rooms and covered walkways.

Class K1K

All children are settling in to class and school routines. If your child is a little teary, especially towards the end of the week, this may be due to tiredness and should pass as their body clocks adjust to school life. This week we are learning about the letter sound ‘s’ for snake. Playing games such as “I Spy” can help your child learn to discriminate beginning sound. Having a sound hunt to look for things starting with our weekly sound will also support your child’s learning. In maths we are learning to compare lengths.

Class 1B

Welcome everyone to 2013! And what an exciting year ahead of us! I am looking forward to teaching Year one this year and having a very productive year. I encourage all parents and caregivers to be part of your child’s education throughout the year. A separate letter outlining classroom units for the term will be sent home later in the week, I hope this proves helpful to you all. Just a reminder that home readers have been sent out this week and should be returned and swapped daily. I look forward to meeting everyone in the coming weeks.

Class 2DP

Welcome to Year 2! We make a special welcome to Isabelle, Liam H, Thomas and Liam W who are new to our school. Thank you to the students who have brought in their equipment. If everyone contributes a little bit then we have a lot. The Swimming Carnival is on tomorrow. Anyone who is either eight or turning eight this year is eligible to attend. I have the feeling that some of the children are a bit afraid to go. I have explained to them that as non-swimmers they will get to do fun activities all day. Thank you to everyone who brought back their home reader today. It is vital that the children read and are read to as much as possible. Home readers are due in Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please make a comment on how your child reads. They only need to read for approximately 10-15 minutes. If they are too tired to read then you can read to them. Spelling homework will begin next Monday. It will be due in each Friday. If you are having trouble getting it done, please contact either Miss Power or myself.

Class 3-4A

Welcome to 3/4A! Thank you to all our class members for a focused start to the year. Homework will begin next week. Don’t forget to bring your required folders and stationery supplies. I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

Class 3-4P

Welcome to a brand new year! We have been very busy getting to know everyone in our class. This term we will be learning all about Australia and where things are in it. We will be looking at the Earth and Space that we survive in and how to use the internet more effectively. Please make sure that your child has all the equipment they need at school with them each day. It is very hard for them to keep up with their work if they are unprepared right from the start.
**Class 5R**

Welcome to all students and parents involved in Year 5 next year. An equipment list for this year has already gone out to students. Please make sure you have all these items. This year books are being covered in class, including a homework book and they should be all finished by the end of this week. Students will need to purchase a Maths Plus book and a Targeting Handwriting book. The cost for these books is $26 and can be paid for at the office. An information session about what we are covering in class will be given later this term. I'm looking forward to a wonderful year with Year 5. If you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

**Class 6M**

Students from 6M have made an enthusiastic return to school and have warmly welcomed Mrs Mooring to Aberdeen Public School. During Term 1 we will be focused on developing our “Teamwork” skills to help us be considerate, responsible and respectful learners. In English, we are strengthening our narrative writing and focusing on the techniques we use to spell our list words. We are beginning to write our own questions to problem solve in Mathematics which are based on addition and multiplication strategies. We have also started our HSIE unit “Rainforests” and will be creating artworks about this topic. Mrs Wither will be working with us on Thursdays and will explore “Considered Choices” in Personal Development and Health. Don't forget homework is sent home on Monday and should be returned on Friday. Students will review their homework in class so please ensure that it is returned.