PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Intensive Swimming
Our Intensive Swimming Program will run from 23rd November until 4th December this year. Due to a successful funding application, the cost of this program has been revised down to $28. Students have been provided with notes detailing this change. This year’s program will have a limit of 120 participants. If you would like your child to attend this valuable program please ensure their permission note and money is returned to the office as soon as possible. Once these places are filled no further notes or money will be accepted.

Pupil Free Day – Friday 6th November
Friday 6th November will be a Pupil Free Day to allow for staff to participate in a professional learning workshop. Staff will be at school on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November. This means there will be no school for students on this day. Due to this variation the final school day for Term 4, 2015 will be Thursday 17th December.

Parking across driveways
We would like to remind parents that it is illegal to park across driveways. We have had a complaint from a resident in Segenhoe Street who has been blocked in their home on several occasions. As you can appreciate this is very inconvenient to the resident especially if they have to get to work or go out. Dropping off and picking up your children is a very busy time and it can often be difficult to find a park, however we ask you to respect the law and needs of others.

Lost property
Please label all your child’s belongings so that we can return items quickly and easily. There is a large selection of items in the lost property at present and we encourage students and parents to come and see if any of the items can be claimed.

Year 7 Selective High School Placement 2017
If any of our Year 5 students would like to apply for admission to a selective high school in 2017, information booklets are available at the school. Applications close 16th November 2015.

School Disco
Congratulations to our P&C on the success of last week’s disco. The hall looked creepy, spooky and altogether kooky! Many of our students were unrecognisable in their costumes. Well done to the mum’s, dad’s, big sisters and other talented family members that helped these students get ready. A number of students received extra special prizes of free movie tickets for their dancing and a special mention must go to Mr Larnach for winning the teacher dance off (Mrs Floyd disputes this!). A huge thank you to all the parents and teachers who came along to help out on the night. These events could not happen if it wasn’t for the support of our parents and staff members.
PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS
Week 4 Term 4
K Yellow Alexis D. – great development of her fluency when reading.
K Lime Grace G. – her wonderful fluent reading!
1 Blue Gabriella P. – for great contributions to class discussions.
2 Purple Liam D. – for always trying his hardest in everything he does.
2/3 Red Charlotte W. – tremendous effort in writing.
3/4 Magenta Brock P. – for improved commitment to learning and striving to do his best in writing.
4/5 Green Ella C - always striving to do her best.
5 Orange Dylan C. – showing leadership skills and respect for his peers.
5/6 Black Cody B. – an excellent and focussed approach to technology in the classroom.

Merit Awards
K Yellow Lucas D.
K Lime Chloë W.
1 Blue Nikau M.
2 Purple William G.
2/3 Red Malaki P.
3/4 Magenta Kate S.
4/5 Green Toby G.
5 Orange Kynan B.
5/6 Black Matthew J.

Kids Matter Awards
K Yellow Eden H. Confidence
K Lime Dylan S. Success
1 Blue Aaron F. Success
2 Purple Georgia M. Success
2/3 Red Hallie D. Responsibility
3/4 Magenta Lucy McC. Happiness
4/5 Green Laura K. Responsibility
5 Orange Drew W. Honesty
5/6 Black Jazmin S. Responsibility

Bronze Bar
Congratulations to Delta H. who received her Bronze bar at last week’s assembly.

Whooping cough information for schools
There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5
days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

**P & C NEWS**

Halloween Disco – The students looked fantastic at the disco on Thursday night - lots of scary costumes! Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the disco. We raised approximately $700 which will go towards the car park upgrade.

Hotdog day - Keep an eye out in today's newsletter for our last meal deal day for the year. A hotdog, popper and ice block - $4 on Tuesday 10th November.

Fundraising Planning meeting for 2016 - we would love to hear everyone's opinions. Come along Wednesday 4th November at 12.15pm in the cola.

Family Photos - A reminder that the P&C Family Photos are being held this weekend at the St Andrew's Reserve (rodeo grounds), Aberdeen. Back up location is the school hall.

Chocolate Drive - there is still some outstanding money owning for the chocolate drive. Please return your money asap.

**CANTEEN NEWS**

Roster for canteen:

**Wednesday 28th October**
- Bec Adams
- Jodie Mayall

**Friday 30th October**
- Nat Hall
- Kelly Maher

**Monday 2nd November**
- Amanda Wilks
- Nat Hall

We still have some vacancies available. If we cannot fill these days the canteen will close on that day.

Wed 25th Nov - 1 person needed 1-2pm
Monday 7th Dec - 1 person needed 8.30am - 2pm
Wed 9th Dec - 2 people needed 1-2pm
Monday 14th Dec - 1 person needed 8.30-2pm
Wed 16th Dec - 2 people needed 1-2pm
If you can only do a couple of hours that is fine, give me a call or text and we will sort something out.

Please contact Kelly 0488134550 if you can help out

OUR SUPPLIER IS OUT OF CHEESE AND BACON PIZZA AT THE MOMENT SO PLEASE CHECK THAT YOUR CHILD DOESN'T ORDER THESE, I WILL LET YOU KNOW WHEN THEY ARE BACK IN STOCK

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**EVERY DAY COUNTS**

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When your child misses just...</th>
<th>that equals...</th>
<th>which is...</th>
<th>and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day each Easter holiday</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1/2 a year of school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day a week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 1/2 years of school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days a week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years of learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days a week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years of learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This means that the best your child can achieve is equal to finishing Year 11.

**FORTHCOMING DATES**

**OCTOBER**
- Wednesday 28th - Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)

**NOVEMBER**
- Wednesday 4th - Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
- Friday 6th - Staff Development Day – No School For Students
- Wednesday 11th - Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
- Thursday 12th - Hunter Wetlands Excursion Years 1 and 2
- Tuesday 17th - Captain Speeches
- Wednesday 18th - Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
- Parent Information Session (2 – 3pm)

**DECEMBER**
- Monday 23rd untill Friday 4th Dec - Intensive Swimming
- Wednesday 25th - Year 6 Fete
- Thursday 26th - Youth Council Merriwa
- Wednesday 9th - Early Birds 2016 (12 – 3pm)
- Thursday 10th - Year 6 Farewell
CLASS NEWS

K Yellow
Today a note has been sent home about the Kindergarten excursion in week 7. Please have it returned to school by the due date. A big thank you to all of those that have sent in glue sticks for the class.

K Lime
Kindergarten have received their permission note for our Excursion which will be held on November 19th. Please return the note and money ASAP and if you have any concerns about payment please see myself or Mrs Floyd. Thank you to the wonderful parents who have donated some glue to our class, we appreciate it very much. Please continue to do home readers every night, all the students are really doing very well with their reading at the moment. :)

1 Blue
Thank you to everyone who came to the assembly on Friday, 1 Blue is very proud of their writing and it was great to have an opportunity to show some of it off. If there are any parents who would like to come in during writing or reading time and help out, please let me know.
Just a reminder that Library day is Tuesday, however if students wish to return books on Wednesday or Thursday they can do so at lunch. Home reading has had a large down turn this term, reading at home is very important and I hope to see an increase in student home reading throughout the term.
Homework books were sent home to all students could you please ensure these homework books are returned to the school each Friday for checking.

2 Purple
2 Purple have had a busy start to the term and are working exceptionally well. In writing we are producing some persuasive texts that are very convincing. In science we are learning about forces, pushing and pulling with some great experiments being tested.
School photos were great, with everyone looking their best and no one away.
Not long now until our excursion. Only a couple of weeks. Thank you everyone for bringing your notes in. Have a great two weeks.

2/3 Red
In Science this term we have been studying the topic area ‘Smooth Moves’. Specifically we have been looking at how force can be applied to an object to make it move. We have also investigated friction and undertaken some practical activities to demonstrate this concept. Students have been posing lots of questions about the topic area which has led to some interesting discussions. The latest intensive swimming notes have been sent out and it has never been so affordable. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to develop this essential life skill.
Regards, Mr Ramage

3/4 Magenta
It is week 4 already and we are very busy learning about beliefs and forces. Some of the maths concepts we have been learning have been quite tricky but students are really trying there best to understand how they work. Tomorrow we will be looking at mass. If anyone has any empty boxes/packets that clearly show the products weight in grams or kilograms that they could send in I would really appreciate it. The more the better so we can make lots of comparisons.

Thank you to everyone for being so well behaved at the school photos last week. I have seen the individual photo proofs and everyone looks smashing. Don’t forget to bring in your money for intensive swimming. At the new price of only $28 it is a bargain! Those people who paid before the discount will get a refund of the difference.
Regards, Renee Jones

4/5 Green
Students have been looking at beliefs in HSIE and CAPA this term. We have begun experimenting with different materials and started to come up with symbols for our own artworks. These artworks will be representations of our unique characteristics and show what our beliefs are. Well done to students who have been sharing ideas and reflecting on what they already know about their own beliefs and the beliefs of others.

The class is beginning to collect a few bits and pieces for later in the year, if you have any cardboard rolls from paper towel, kitchen wrap or toilets rolls please save them and send them in to class with your child.

5 Orange
Over the past 2 weeks all of Stage 3 have been split into small groups and have created their own newspaper or a research task. Students had to write articles, design the layout of the paper and create headline. And what headlines they were. Very cleverly written, I think that there are some potential journalist in the ranks. About half the papers are complete with the last few just needing to type in their final articles.

A big focus in math has been three digit multiplication, such as, 145 times 25. Most of the students have understood the concept.

Do not forget swimming notes, first in best dressed.

A new homework scheduled for the term has been discussed with children on Monday. Any problems see me or refer to file in One Note.

5/6 Black
Our Year 6 shirts look fantastic. A reminder to all that they should only be worn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
We are in the middle of organising the Year 6 Mini Fete. Students are busy ordering prizes, making posters and collecting equipment. Please save the date: 25th November – times to be confirmed.
A reminder that your One Note project on a camping site is due THIS Friday.
Tommy is currently in Barooga at PSSA Cricket, representing Hunter. They lost to CIS (Combined Independent Schools) yesterday and are playing Western today.