Welcome back to another fantastic year at Kearsley Public School. I would like to welcome all our new families that have joined us this year. Kindergarten and new students are settling into routines well with their first full week of school.

It’s a fast start to the year.

This week we commenced our Song Room program, choir, dance and gardening groups. The students have all been really active and appear to be enjoying our new activities and their time at school. Lots of smiling faces.

New Assembly Time

This Friday at the school assembly, 9:05am in the hall, the sport house captains will receive their badges in preparation for the swimming carnival next Friday 15 February. Please remember that this is for the children who are turning 8 years old this year and above. All other children under 8 will have their normal day at school.

P&C

Our first P&C will be held on Monday 11 Feb starting at 2:30pm in the library. On the agenda will be the proposed new welfare system for the school and P&C events for the year. If you are unable to attend this meeting and would like to add something to the agenda could you please come and have a talk to the principal.

Improved Communications

To assist with the school communication of sending and receiving information from parents all notes that need to be returned to school will be printed on YELLOW paper.

If you have any concerns about your child at school you should first arrange a time to meet with the class teacher and discuss the issue with them.

**Important Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 2:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>5/6 Class Meeting 3:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Feb</td>
<td>4/5 Class Meeting 3:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Feb</td>
<td>Kinder Class Meeting 3:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Feb</td>
<td>1/2 &amp; 2/3 Class Meetings 3:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Feb</td>
<td>School Swimming Carnival (8years and older)</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Feb</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 April</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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Classroom Meetings

Kearsley PS teachers will be organising opportunities for parents to come in and discuss class directions, expectations and feedback in Week 3 (11-14 February). Teachers have sent home information to inform parents of dates and times. Hope to see you here, strong partnerships help successful learning outcomes for kids. Any questions please contact your child/children’s classroom teacher. Mr Lamph is hoping the P&C meeting will be over in time for parents to attend the 5/6 classroom meeting, but if not parents can leave early from the P&C meeting.

New Ideas

The school is always looking for ways to improve the school. Many of these ideas come from the parents and students. Sometimes we can make the ideas happen, but not always. So thank you for the suggestion like lower netball rings, cheap ice blocks, letters between schools for Paint The Town REaD and extra library time at lunch. Unfortunately we are not allowed to get the swimming pool. If you have suggestions that you think would be good for our school please come along to the P&C or just stop one of the teachers and have a chat to them. Hope you are around to help us this year.

General Permission Note

A general permission note has been sent home. It gives students permission to use the internet, permission for walking excursions, permission to have photos taken at school etc. A separate permission note will need to be filled out for each child. Please initial each one and sign at the bottom and return to your class teacher.

Swimming Carnival

Kearsley Public School will be holding their annual swimming carnival on FRIDAY 15 February. **Children from Yr 2 who turn 8 this year and all primary children will be involved.**

There will be a variety of activities for **ALL** students including non-swimmers.

The students will need the following items:

- TOWEL
- SWIMMING COSTUME
- SUNSCREEN
- HAT
- LUNCH

**Students may wear their house colours or school uniform on the day.**

Colours are:
- Allandale – orange
- Caledonia – green
- Pokolbin – blue
- Tomalpin - white

**No transport** will be provided by the school. Parents are asked to have their children at Cessnock Pool by 9.05am and to collect them by 2:30pm. Cost will be $2.50 per child to cover the cost of pool entry to be paid to Mrs Fairlie at the pool gate.

Season ticket holders will pay nothing but are advised **to bring their season ticket with them.**

All parents and friends are most welcome to attend the carnival at a cost of $2.00 to be paid at the gate.

Permission notes need to be returned to school by Monday 11 February.

If there are any questions, please direct them to Mr Falla at school.
Canteen Opening 2012

The school canteen opened for 2012 on Wednesday 6 February. It’s great to see the familiar faces from last year on the canteen roster, your help is greatly appreciated. We would also love to see any of the new families who have joined us this year and can spare some time to help out. A new canteen menu has already been sent home. A canteen helper roster can be found on the back page of this newsletter.

P&C Meeting

The first P & C meeting for 2013 is on Monday 11 February at 2:30pm in the library. We would love to see as many parents as possible attend. We would like to extend a special invitation to our new families to the school who may wish to join the P&C.

ICAS Competitions Yrs 3 –6

Once again the University of NSW is conducting the “International Competitions and Assessments for Schools” (ICAS) for students in years 3 - 6. These are external assessments in Computer Skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, Mathematics and English. If your child wishes to enter there is a fee for each competition. It is NOT compulsory for students to enter these competitions, only if they wish to do so. You can choose which competitions you wish to enter. A detailed note will be sent home with this newsletter. The money for all competitions you are entering needs to given to your class teacher by Friday 8 March 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Tuesday 21 May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Tuesday 5 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td>Tuesday 18 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>Monday 17 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Wednesday 31 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Tuesday 13 August</td>
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ALL SYSTEMS COMPUTING CESSNOCK

REPAIRS & UPGRADES
NEW PC’S & NOTEBOOKS
ANTIVIRUS SOLUTIONS
ONSITE SERVICE
SHOP 2/99 WOLLOMBI RD
CESSNOCK WEST
02 49914122
We’re your computer people!

School Banking

Thank you to Mrs Duggan for running our school banking. Money and deposit books should be sent to school each Thursday.

Don’t forget to check out our website at www.kearsley-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Cessnock Basketball are now taking nominations from teams for competitions starting in 2013.

NB: Competitions will commence Week beginning 4th February. Draws have been done, however, if new teams wish to nominate we can incorporate them into the draw from March. Uniforms with numbers displayed must be worn. The first competition runs for the first 2 terms of school, and the second for terms 3 and 4. Semi and finals will be played and trophies/medals awarded.

Monday Night: From 6pm open mixed comp - (Each team must have a minimum of 2 females on the court at all times).

Tuesday Night: From 4.20pm - Rookies is a competition usually for children up to Year 4 who wish to progress from the “Learn to Play” stage, the backboards remain lowered.

From 5.00pm - Super 12’s Comp (Can be mixed – no requirements)

Wednesday Night:

4.15 - 5.00pm - Learn to Play is for the littlies who want to come along and have fun and learn basketball skills from some of our more senior players. The backboards are lowered for this level.

From 5.10pm - High School Comp (Can be mixed – no requirements)

4.00 - 4.45pm - We now offer a program for children with special needs

Most competitions will have at least 2 divisions (depending on numbers).

(NB Times may vary depending on the number of teams in each competition. Draws may change during the competition if new teams wish to come into the competition).

Membership/Game Costs:

Learn to Play: $40 per term. Price includes 12 month membership (normally $55), starter pack (ball and drink bottle – one time offer) or $5 per week (no starter pack if you pay this way).

Rookies Competition: $55 membership per year (usually children in Years 3 & 4 at school) plus a game fee of $6 per player per week.

Super 12’s Competition: $70 membership per year open to any child up to the age of 12 years. Plus a game fee of $7 per player per week.

High School Competition: $70 membership per year. Plus a game fee of $8 per player per week.

Adult: $85 membership per year plus a game fee of $10 per player per week.

Special Needs Program: $5 per week

These times and costs are subject to change.

NB: High school children are welcome to play in the Monday Night Mixed Comp as well as the High School Comp. Primary school children are welcome to play in Division 2 of the High School Competition as well as Super 12’s. One membership covers all competitions.

Canteen Roster February 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
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<td>CLOSED</td>
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<td>Melva McLennan Davina Lawless</td>
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<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Wes Batey Tina Batey</td>
<td>Sandy Robinson Angela Matuissi</td>
<td>Tina Batey</td>
<td>Nicole &amp; Lynne Dunnicliff</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Renae Flaherty Colleen Jones</td>
<td>Wes Batey</td>
<td>Amanda Penfold Allison Powell</td>
<td>Melva McLennan Dusty Lawless</td>
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