From The Principal’s Desk

Last Thursday the students, staff and parents from Kearsley Public School attended our school swimming carnival at Cessnock Pool. It was great to meet so many parents/grandparents and it was nice to be so warmly welcomed to Kearsley P.S.

Our students displayed great sportsmanship and enthusiastically supported their friends and houses. Caledonia reigned supreme and won this year’s carnival while demonstrating their new found musical ability. Congratulations to all participants and good luck to the team from Kearsley P.S at next Friday’s Zone swimming carnival. My thanks to the staff and parents/grandparents who helped to make our day successful and enjoyable.

Our parent information sessions were held this week. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who attended these very important meetings. If you were unable to attend please contact your child’s teacher to obtain the note regarding the topics that were discussed.

Clean up Australia Day will be held at school next Friday. If you have gloves for your child/children to wear, please send them on Friday 28th with your child.

Parents/carers of Year 5/6 students, need to keep an eye out for notes regarding high school orientation and the Canberra excursion.

Sue Holt
A general permission note has been sent home today. 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 by Friday 21 Feb.

**Zone Swimming Carnival**

The Cessnock Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 28 February at Cessnock pool. Good luck to all our participants: Rhett D, Jake G, Korey T, Sam A, Braith G, Lloyd D, Jordarna B, Zoe G, Gemma D, Darcy B, Louise D, Isabelle P, Sophie R, Bradley R, and Chloe S. Please meet Mr Falla at the pool at 9:10am.

**Voluntary School Contributions**

Students were issued with invoices for school contributions. The contribution rate has stayed the same as the last few years. Please make your payment by the end of term 1 to go into the draw for a $25 GIFT CARD.

- $30 for families with 1 student ($7.50 per term)
- $50 for families with 2 students ($12.50 per term)
- $60 for families with 3 or more students ($15 per term)

The eldest student in each family has been listed on the statement. These fees are not compulsory but are very much appreciated as they are put towards purchasing much needed supplies and equipment used daily by the students of our school.

**Swimming Carnival Age Champions**

Congratulations to our Swimming Carnival Age Champions: Snr Boy Champion Lloyd Duggan, Snr Girl Champion Sophie Rockley, 11yrs Boy Champion Braith Gosney, 11yrs Girl Champion Darcy Balazic, Jnr Boy Champion Sam Archibald & Jnr Girl Champion Jordarna Barber. The winning house on the day was Caledonia. Medallions and ribbons will be handed out at our weekly assembly on Friday 7 March.

**General Permission Note**

A general permission note has been sent home today. 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 by **Friday 21 Feb.**
ICAS Competitions 2014 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 7 March 2014.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>SITTING DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
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<td>Science</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Wednesday 4 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
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<td>Tuesday 17 June</td>
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<td>Writing</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td>Thursday 19 June</td>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>$8.80</td>
<td>Tuesday 12 August</td>
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Clean Up Australia Day

At 2:30pm on Friday Feb 28, as part of Clean Up Australia Day, we will be cleaning up in and around the school grounds. Senior students will be walking down to Jeffery Park to clean up our community. Could the students please bring a pair of gloves to wear for the clean up and an old plastic shopping bag to collect the rubbish in. Children will only be picking up paper litter, not anything sharp or dangerous. Parents and community members are most welcome to come along and help the students.

Kearsley Cougars Soccer Club

Registrations for Kearsley Cougars Soccer Club are now being taken, for more information please grab a flyer from the office.

PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

This year in PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) we have made a few adjustments to the program. Firstly Kookaburra Cards are now colour coded to correspond to each term. For example Term 1 is blue, Term 2 is green, Term 3 is pink and Term 4 is yellow. The reward structure is now 3 awards = ice block or pencil, 5 awards = lucky dip and 7 awards = canteen voucher. Over the course of the year each term tally is collated. Students can achieve Bronze level (10 awards), Silver level (15 awards) and Gold level (20 awards).

P&C Meetings 2014

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in the school library. We would like to extend a special invitation to our new families to the school who may wish to join the P&C to attend. **The next meeting will be the AGM which will be held on Thurs 6 March.**

Prohibited Employment Declaration

All parents/carers who volunteer in any capacity (reading groups, canteen, P&C, driving students to and from sporting/excursions etc.) at Kearsley Public School will need to fill out a prohibited employment declaration form. These can be collected at the office or we can send one home with your child. A new form needs to be done each year, so if you filled one in last year a new one will need to be done for this year, thank you.
## February

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<td>Renee Flaherty</td>
<td>Sandy Robinson</td>
<td>Amanda Vine</td>
<td>Melva McLennan</td>
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<td>Colleen Jones</td>
<td>Tina Batey</td>
<td>Sarah Kedwell</td>
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## March

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<td>Amy Archibald</td>
<td>Chris &amp; Linda</td>
<td>Amanda Vine</td>
<td>Amanda Penfold</td>
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<td>Vanessa Rockley</td>
<td>Cunningham</td>
<td>Amanda Penfold</td>
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<td>Louise Robertson</td>
<td>Bobbie Orr</td>
<td>Melva McLennan</td>
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<td>Jane Hayes</td>
<td>Leanne Robertson</td>
<td>Nichole Levett</td>
<td>Dusty Lawless</td>
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<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Tina &amp; Wes Batey</td>
<td>Linda Cunningham</td>
<td>Amanda Penfold</td>
<td>Nicole &amp; Lynne</td>
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<td>Carol Wilton</td>
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All volunteers who work in the school canteen, reading groups or who volunteer and are on school grounds need to pay a membership fee to be covered for insurance purposes. Please pay your $2.00 P & C / Canteen membership to the school office ASAP. Amy Archibald is doing canteen rosters and can be contacted at amykarchibald@gmail.com for any questions regarding rosters.

**School Banking**

School banking is on hold till further notice. Commonwealth Bank are implementing new software.
10th February 2014

Dear Local Schools,

Below is an introduction to the Child Dental Benefits Schedule which started on 1st January 2014.

**Child Dental Benefits Schedule 2014 Introduction**

The **Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS)** commenced on 1 January 2014 and will provide access to benefits for basic dental services to children aged 2-17 years. It will replace the existing Medicare Teen Dental Plan (MTDP) which was a prevention only scheme.

The total benefit entitlement will be capped at **$1,000 per child** over a two calendar year period. A Childs eligibility for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule is assessed at the beginning of each year and requires receipt of **Family Tax Benefit Part A (FTB-A)** or a relevant Australian Government payment.

The CDBS will provide individual benefits for a range of services including examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions. Benefits will not be available for orthodontic or cosmetic dental work and will not be paid for any services provided in a hospital.

All Hunter Dental Group practices will be accepting these vouchers and **Will FULLY BULK BILL to Medicare**.

This means as long as funds are available there will be **NO OUT OF POCKET EXPENSE**.

To make a booking please contact your local practice on:

- **CESSNOCK** 4990 1279
- **GREENHILLS** 4934 7877
- **DUNGOG** 4992 3366

We hope that you could pass this information on to your parents and students.

Yours sincerely

Dr George Patience & Hunter Dental Group team.

www.hunterdentalgroup.com

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**Can you help Kindergarten?**

Mrs Pitt would love donations of empty margarine containers with their lids and any old magazines for her craft activities. If you can help please drop them to the Kindergarten room in the mornings before school or send in with your children, thank you.
HELP Kearsley PS raise money simply by shopping at IGA. Collect a card and key tag from the office. NO forms to fill out they are already registered and ready to use!

Sacred Elements
02 4991 1100
info@sacredelements.com.au

AWAKEN VITALITY WITHIN EXPO
30th March 2014 10am—3pm
Come on out and join us for our bi-annual open day

Guest Mediums
Suzie The Ghost Whisperer & Helen the Psychic Medium
$15 Platform Shows
11am—Suzie 1:30pm—Helen

Stall Holders
Healers
Massage Insight Guidance Readers
Empowerment Inspiration

Grab a coffee or a bite to eat and enjoy the tranquility of our courtyard garden, ideal for relaxing in

19 Wine Country Drive, Cessnock
In the grounds of Calvary Retirement Village

Triple P Select Program
The power of positive parenting Thursday 13 March 2014
Raising confident, competent children Thursday 20 March 2014
Raising resilient children Thursday 27 March 2014

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
at Samaritans Neighbourhood Centre
198-202 Vincent Street, Cessnock

To book a place or for more information please phone

Cessnock Family Support Service on 4990 4507

TRIPLE P FOR EVERY PARENT
Financial assistance for this service is provided by Community Services, Department of Family and Community Services NSW

By shopping at any Ritchies Supermarket or Liquor Store, 0.5% of the money you spend will be automatically donated* back to us.

Use your FREE Community Benefit Card every time you shop

With our card...
our organisation gets the CASH!

*Conditions apply - see application form for details
CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

KEARSLEY PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT AND CITIZEN COMMITTEE
CADBURY EASTER EGG CHOCOLATE DRIVE FUNDRAISING – TERM 1

Thank you Kearsley Public School students, teachers, staff, parents/carers, grandparents and community for your amazing support for our Chocolate Drive. 100 boxes of chocolates have been allocated and will be delivered to the school on Friday 21st February. This has by far exceeded our initial expectations which is wonderful. At $30 per box profit direct to the school, this is a fantastic fundraiser for our school.

We have organised for P&C representatives to be at the school on Monday 24th February and Tuesday 25th February between the hours of 8.45am – 9.05am and 2.45pm – 3.05pm for a parent/caregiver/responsible adult to collect and sign for the chocolates from the school. If you are unable to collect on these days, please contact either myself (0417263424) or the school office to organise a collection time that is suitable to you.

As boxes are sold, please return the money in an envelope with your child's name on it to the school office. We would love to keep the children updated at Friday assemblies with our fundraising tally.

The fundraiser will run until the end of March. All money and any unsold chocolates are due back at the school by Monday 31st March.

Happy Selling and Many Thanks Once Again for your Amazing Support.

Yours Sincerely
Jenny Brooks
Kearsley Public School P&C Secretary
Who can use the Service?

- Families with children aged 0-12 years
- Families expecting a child
- Families who live in the Cessnock Local Government Area

Who is NOT eligible to access the service?

Families who are currently receiving ongoing casework services from Community Services or Brighter Futures are not eligible for our service. These families may be eligible for access to our Parenting Groups.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday
8am – 5.30pm

Cessnock Family Support Service

5 Hall Street
PO Box 253
Cessnock NSW 2325
Phone: (02) 4990 4507
Fax: (02) 4991 4556
admin@cfs.npo.org.au

Girls only Small Sided Football

Here’s your opportunity to play football for fun – with no competition and NO BOYS!

Coaching is offered across the Hunter Valley to allow girls aged 5-11 to enjoy the opportunity to play with their peers in a relaxed, fun and safe atmosphere.

Players can make new friends by joining an existing team, or gather a group of friends and sign up as a team at their local club. You don’t need to go it alone.

All girls will receive a free ball and set of shin pads courtesy of the newsletter’s main sponsor, Sportswonders and a Hunter Valley Football Association Junior Football kit.

Importantly, there’s no need to be a football star to join up to play Girls Only Small Sided Football – all skill levels are welcome, so COME AND PLAY FOOTBALL.

For further information on Girls Only Small Sided Football, contact the Hunter Valley Football Association on 02 4990 4507 or email info@huntervalleyfootball.com.au

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FROM

1st February 2014 at
myfootballclub.com.au

Don’t forget to check out our website at
www.kearsley-p.schools.nsw.edu.au