Thank you to all the people who have taken the time to welcome me back to school after my time off. I did have a wonderful time and have come back to school feeling very refreshed and ready continue to develop this great school.

Welcome back to all our students and parents. I love meeting the new Kinders each year. I look forward to catching up with all parents in the near future.

Congratulations to Mrs Graham on her fantastic organisation of the swimming carnival, the day ran very smoothly and from what I saw the children had a great time. Thanks to the parents and teachers who came down to the pool and supported our school it is always good to have a crowd to cheer on the competitors.

This year I have some extra funding for the school and I would like to know what the parents think would be the best way to spend it. This is a terrible problem to have (joking) and I needed your help to ensure we get the best result for our money to help the children achieve their best. Please come and talk to me if you have any ideas that could help our school.

Welcome, Mr McLoughlin who will be working with Years 5/6 on Thursdays. It’s going to be nice to have another male on staff each week.

At the moment the school has a wonderful feel to it. The children are very settled, their uniforms look great and as I walk around the classes each day I see many children engaged in a variety of learning activities. One goal of mine this year is to having the best teacher possible teaching your children where they are actively engaged in good learning opportunities. All teachers will continually be looking for ways to help achieve this goal and make our school even better.

Please come along to the P&C meeting and have your input and show your support for your child’s learning.

I would also like to remind all parents that they must report to the office before going to their children's classroom.
School Uniform

Uniforms look fantastic, thank you to parents/carers for sending your children to school in their correct uniform. Just to clarify a few things: Socks are navy Monday to Thursday and white on sports day which is Friday. Black shoes must be worn everyday except on sport day. Several students are wearing the new sports shirts and they look great. Flanagan's are out of stock at the moment but should have them in again by next week. We do have a NO hat NO play policy so school hats must be worn everyday and can be purchased at the office. Bike pants are NOT permitted to be worn at anytime.

House Captains

Congratulations to our elected House Captains and Vice Captains for 2015. They are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Vice Captain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tomalpin</td>
<td>Lily G</td>
<td>Jack G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allandale</td>
<td>Gemma D</td>
<td>Bailey R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pokolbin</td>
<td>Louise D</td>
<td>Tyluh S</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caledonia</td>
<td>Isabelle P</td>
<td>Keelee S</td>
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General Permission Note

A general permission note was sent home with ALL students last week. 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 20 Feb.

Spelling Mastery

Students will be involved in a new program for literacy this year called Spelling Mastery. Spelling Mastery is a six-level spelling series designed primarily for students in grades 1 through 6. Placement Test results determine the level appropriate for each student. Spelling Mastery uses specific strategies that encourage students to think their way through spelling rather than to memorise weekly spelling lists. Student work books will be paid for by the school this year and if the program proves successful then there may be a small cost to families in future years.
Voluntary School Contributions 2015
The voluntary contribution rate has stayed the same as the last few years. We will have a $25 gift card for one lucky family who will be drawn from a hat. To be eligible 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)

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.

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.

P&C Meetings 2015
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 5 March.**

PBL Reward System

**Our reward days for 2015 include the following:**

**Term 1:** School disco and an ice block.

**Term 2:** Movie and popcorn supplied at school.

**Term 3:** Free lunch at school ($4 max) with free time.

**Term 4:** PCYC and an iceblock on return to school.

To attend a term Reward Day each student must have **ONE** or more kookaburra cards, **LESS THAN two amber cards and NO red cards.**

An end of year PBL award will be given to all the students who followed our PBL system successfully for two terms or more throughout the year. A different coloured certificate will be given according to eligibility.

- **Gold certificate:** 4 terms of good behaviour.
- **Silver certificate:** 3 terms of good behaviour.
- **Bronze:** 2 terms of good behaviour.

**New program to promote resilience in students**
We are introducing a new program called Stop, Walk and Talk. This strategy is a great systematic program which teaches students how to deal with being bullied, bothered, teased, etc at school.

The program consists of teaching students to use 3 simple and progressive steps: Indicating through words and gesture to stop, walking away if the problem continues, and finally talking to a teacher if the issue is still not resolved.

All students have been introduced to Stop, Walk and Talk in their class. Lessons will continue throughout the year.
## Kearsley Canteen Roster - Term 1 2015

### February

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Julianne Duggan, Jane Hayes</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Teresa Hale, Colleen Coombes</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Renee Flaherty, Colleen Coombes</td>
<td>25</td>
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### March

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<th>Mon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Amy Archibald, Vanessa Rockley</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Julianne Duggan, Jane Hayes</td>
<td>11</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 amyarchibald@gmail.com for any questions regarding rosters.

### School Banking

Please send in bank books every Thursday for Mrs Duggan to process. Thank you. Some great prizes can be earned for regular banking!
Bringing Up Great Kids Parenting Program

Bringing Up Great Kids is a reflective parenting program to support parents to review and enhance patterns of communication with their children.

Australian Childhood Foundation: www.childhood.org.au

Venue: Cessnock East Public School
Date: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March 2015
Time: 10am – 1pm

To express your interest, please contact:
Lesley 4921 5758
Email: Lesley.Asher@newcastle.edu.au
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL


Topics covered include:
- Messages from the Past
- The Message Centre
- Giving and receiving messages
- The Message Behaviour
- Messages about me
- Passing on messages

Morning tea will be provided

Be a deadly parent
Give your mob the best start in life!

with Triple P – Positive Parenting Program

Triple P is a parenting program for all families that provides practical answers to everyday parenting concerns.
Families NSW is offering Triple P to all families with children aged 3-8 years.
Please note that bookings ARE ESSENTIAL so that we can keep course sizes manageable.
To find out more or to book into a course please contact

For more information visit www.families.nsw.gov.au
Want to re-enter the workforce but need to brush up on your skills first?

Come and talk with the helpful staff at CESSNOCK TAFE, FOUNDATION SKILLS AND PATHWAYS

OUR COURSES for Semester 1, 2015:

- **SEE Program (Literacy and Numeracy) – Skills for Education and Employment**
  10442/10443 – Free Course
  This course is for Centrelink referred clients to upgrade literacy, numeracy & employment skills.

- **Career Education & Employment for Women-Certificate II (CEEW) 10089 NAT**
  This course helps women reenter the workforce or education after a long absence. Work placement included in the course.

- **Blake’s Refresher for Education and Work (BREW) 10089 NAT**
  This course helps men reenter the workforce or education after a long absence. Work placement included in the course.

- **Tertiary Preparation-Certificate IV (TPC) 29603**
  This is a Year 12 equivalent course, a pathway to uni &/or employment.

- **English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)**
  This course is for people from non-English speaking backgrounds to improve English language skills for work or further study.

- **Skills for Work and Training (SWAT) 10089NAT- Certificate II**
  This course is equivalent to a YR 10 level of skills and knowledge.

CONTACT: Erol Engin (Acting Head Teacher Cessnock Hunter TAFE) 4993 0492

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Succeeding with Your Teens

For parents of teenagers 13–17 years

**Succeeding with Your Teens** is for parents who are walking into the teenage phase of parenting or who are already raising teenagers. This program has a particular emphasis on developing and maintaining the parent/teen relationship.

**Venue:** Cessnock High School  
**Date:** 17th, 24th Feb & 3rd March 2015  
**Time:** 10am – 12.30pm

To express your interest, please contact:  
Lesley 4921 5758  
Email: Lesley.Asher@newcastle.edu.au

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL


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**The simplest way**

...to put healthy treats in your kid’s lunch.

**Ingredients**
- Blueberry + Banana bread recipe
- Fruit and nana

**Method**
- Preheat oven to 220°C and spray a 20 x 10cm loaf tin with oil.
- Line base and sides with non-stick baking paper.
- Mash bananas in a large bowl. Add sugar, milk and eggs and mix until well combined.
- Sift flour and cinnamon on top of mixture. Mix ingredients together until just combined, taking care not to over-mix. Gently fold in blueberries. Spoon mixture into prepared loaf tin and smooth the surface. Bake for 35–40 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean from the middle.

**Hint**
- When cool, slice and freeze individual pieces in snap lock bags and keep for up to 3 months. Send to school as a healthy treat!
STUDENT SCHOOL BANKING

Thursdays is KPS's student banking day. Please bring your passbooks in and give them to the teacher in the morning so she can put them in the special grey satchel for your class. You will get a silver token each time you bank and at the end of term there will be a BANKING REWARDS DAY where you nominate your reward and "pay" for it with 10 silver tokens. Put these silver tokens in a safe place at home until this newsletter lets you know a rewards day is coming. PS Each bank day afternoon don't forget to ask your teacher to get your bank passbook out again so you can take it home.