Dear Parents/Caregivers,

As you read this newsletter I will be at the State Principals’ Conference, where many new innovations will be presented to Principals from across NSW. Our three very capable Assistant Principals will be on hand should you require any assistance before next week.

Kindergarten Orientation
Last week Mrs Steinweiss and Mrs Napoleone organised a very successful Kindergarten Orientation morning for our incoming Kindergarten students. Thanks to the many speakers who were able to make the session so informative.

Online Payment System
Last week a note came home explaining our new Parent Online Payment system (POP). Our Special Swim Scheme note has been our first big trial of POP and reports from parents so far have been very positive. Payments will be able to be made online for almost everything from now on. Look for the description of the event on future permission notes and use this in your payment online. If you have any problems, feel free to contact the school. Cash and cheque payments are still also welcome through the office.

Year 5 Camp
Next week, our year 5 students will head off on their annual camp to Teen Ranch, give students the opportunity to experience independence and teamwork like very few other experiences in their childhood.

Many thanks to our teachers who accompany the students to camp in their own time and remain on duty 24 hours per day. Many schools have moved away from the annual camping experience. I am pleased that we are still able to offer these experiences for years 4, 5 and 6.

Parents - Appropriate Course of Action
Sometimes when students are having friendship difficulties with others, parents become involved and, wanting the best for their children, attempt to take the matter into their own hands, approaching other students at school or after school.

The most appropriate course of action is for parents to bring matters to the attention of the school and allow us to intervene. Children are not to be approached directly by other parents in the school grounds, or on the way to or from school. We can usually find a much better solution once we are made aware.

Gold Medallions
On the term calendar, we have stated a cut off day for gold medallions. This is because the engraving company at this time of year is extremely busy preparing for many schools’ and sporting clubs’ presentation days/night. Parents can make our task much easier if all certificate trading can be done as soon as possible. Your assistance here would be greatly appreciated.

Mufti Day for Fire Victims
It has been proposed that we hold a Mufti-Day to raise money for the victims of the current bushfire emergency. This will be held on Wednesday 6th November, 2013. The SRC will promote this event next week.

Light Up Mawarra Date
The date for Light up Mawarra this year is Wednesday 11th December, 2013. This will be a social, community night rather than a fundraiser. Make sure you lock this date away in your diaries. We hope all children will be able to come along and perform. Light up Mawarra is a joint school, P&C event.

Date for Light up Camden is Saturday 16th November, 2013.

Back School Crossing
Children who use the crossing in Southdown Road need to remember to stop and look before they cross the road. We have had reports of children running across the road without slowing or stopping to look. The area is only a crossing when the flags are out at other times it is a normal road. As we have told the children, there is no magic wall to stop the cars even when the flags are out. They must stop and look before they cross at all times. Please discuss this with your children.

Finally, I hope the grandparents who attended our Grandparent’s Day today, had a wonderful time with their grandchildren. As I said on the invitation, “Grandparents are custodians of the values, stories and histories of our families and our communities.”

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

Kindergarten Orientation
Thank you to everyone who assisted us with Kindergarten Orientation. Our 2014 parents and students were provided with valuable information and opportunities, to ensure a smooth beginning to school life. The feedback received was extremely positive from everyone involved. Special thanks to: Mrs Troy for presenting on behalf of P&C, Mrs Elson and Mrs Moroney as guest speakers, our kindergarten models Tori Wilson, Ethan Heyburgh, Kiera Plumridge, Michael Delander-Kouritis, Ellie Fennor and Jack Searle and year 6 councillors for assisting in many areas and throughout the morning.

Mrs V. Steinweiss & Mrs C. Napoleone

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Student News

Public Speaking
This week we have had our annual public speaking final. This year I am happy to have students being involved from Kindergarten right through to Year 6. Students from all stages will be involved in an area final while Stages 2 and 3 have the opportunity to participate in a regional final.

These were the students involved in the final:
Stage 3: Cassie McMurdo, Shaeleigh McLeod, Riley Curnoe, Ryan Mills, Lachlan Taylor, Adena Toribio, Sally Price and Georgina Cunnon.

These students will represent Mawarra at the area final:
Kindergarten: Reese West, Ellie Fisher
Stage 1: Indianna Lee, Alison Critcher
Stage 2: Amelia Wood, Madeleine McPherson
Stage 3: Ryan Mills and Georgina Cunnon

Congratulations to all the speakers. Special thanks to Mrs Evans and Miss Forbes for adjudicating, Keziah Holderness for chairing, Lucy Mottram and Tayla Churchin for timekeeping and Makenzie Skinner, Tess Tyquin and Alyssa Heyward for helping with the impromptus.
Stop Press: Georgia Cunnion won her section yesterday against 41 speakers and now progresses to the regional final.
Due to flower girl commitments Keira Plumbridge will replace Ellie Fisher in the area final tomorrow at The Oaks.
Madeleine and Amelia will compete next Monday at Appin.

Mrs K. Took

Debating
I was very proud of my debating team who debated bravely and confidently against St. Andrew P.S. in the semi-final. It was a very close debate and it was only a point between us and them.
We went to watch St. Andrews compete in the final against Canley Vale and again they were the victors.
We can confidently say we were the 3rd best team in our region.
Congratulations team, fantastic effort.

Mrs K. Took

Mawarra Movers
Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be a Learner
With the hot weather children need to wear their school hat to school every day. We are very conscious of sun safety and children who do not have hats are asked to stay in the shade near the Kindy rooms. Please ensure your child has their school hat every day.

Student Welfare Committee

Library News

The library will be having a ‘Second Hand Book Sale’ on Wednesday 6th November, 2013. All books will be $1.00 each.
Books will be on sale from 8.30am and children will have the opportunity to buy with their class during the day. Proceeds from the day will be used to buy new books for our library.

Mrs D.Cronshaw
Teacher / Librarian

Mawarra Enrichment Day
On Wednesday 18th September, 2013 32 students participated in a fun-filled day in our school hall, with ten tantalising team challenges. Each of the challenges required teamwork and brain power and spanned across the curriculum areas. Year 6 students acted as team leaders and all participants thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Here are some quotable quotes from participating students:

“The activities were mind bending which challenged my brain”, “It was a great teamwork experience!” “I enjoyed working with different people from different grades”, “It was really interactive”, “When the pages came to life in The Fantastic Flying Books it was amazing!” “I loved the use of technology and the teamwork” “It made me think more than I do in class and it was a beautiful environment to be in”, “I participated in a series of mind boggling activities that tested our ability to work as a team and solve problems.”

Enrichment Team
Mrs Sharon Kynaston & Mrs Theresa Beauchamp

Live Life Well
Why is it so important that children drink water?
Water is good for us - our bodies are made up of 50-60% water. Water lost each day through breathing, sweating and going to the toilet needs to be replaced, especially in hot weather.

Adequate fluid intake is essential to good health. Not drinking enough fluid causes dehydration. Any level of dehydration can cause physical symptoms such as poor concentration in class, headaches and irritability.

Children rarely drink enough during break times at school and often forget to drink unless reminded. Crunch & Sip® provides an opportunity to drink water and helps to prevent dehydration.

How much water does my child need?
The recommended daily amounts of fluid for children and adolescents are:
5 glasses (1 litre) for 5 - 8 year olds
7 glasses (1.5 litres) for 9 - 13 year olds
8-10 glasses (2 litres) for 14+ years
(A glass is 250 ml)

Live Life Well Coordinators
Sharon Kynaston & Narelle Scott

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Sport News

A big congratulations to these outstanding athletes who recently represented Mawarra at the NSW PSSA athletics carnival. Here are their wonderful results.

Nakeisha Brimble – 5th 9 years 100m, 23rd Junior long jump, 32nd Junior 200m
Lachlan Roberts – 34th Senior discus
Lucy Wood – 18th Junior high jump
Junior girls relay team - (consisting of Nakeisha Brimble, Emily Buttifant, Amelia Wood, Lucy Wood)

All of these results are outstanding and these students should be congratulated for their efforts at the Razorback, Sydney South West and NSW carnivals. A special mention to Nakeisha for her amazing results in the 100m – 5th place out of all of the students in NSW. The whole of Mawarra community is extremely proud of all of these achievements. Congratulations!

Karelle Scott

K-2 Sports Fun Day

Well done to all K-2 students for their sporting spirit and excellent behavior. We all thoroughly enjoyed the racing events and the wonderful dancing performances. It was gratifying to see so many parents, carers and visitors, sharing this special event with our children. Your participation in our “visitors dance” was tremendous and strengthened the positive connection between school and home. Thank you to the year 3 students in 2/3H, who assisted in so many ways.

Looking forward to seeing you next year.

Mrs V. Steinweiss
On behalf of K-2 teachers

Community News

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by volunteering to host one of our exceptional international students. These students arrive in February 2014 for 3, 5 or 10 month programs in Australia. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Finland, Canada, U.S.A, Colombia, Mexico and Japan will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 to request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

Road Safety Program

Give Way the Right Way!

A four week program for children aged 5-9 years at Campbelltown Bicycle Centre (cnr Broughton Street and Moore-Oxley bypass, access via King Street). Registration $5 per child. Children must attend all workshops. Places are limited so book early! (Afternoon tea provided). Phone 4647 1283 fax 4647 3496 or email maria@camdenconnections.org.au
Dates: 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th November, 2013
Time: 4-6pm

Celebrate what makes you different makes you beautiful

An event presented by

This event will be held at Camden Civic Centre on 1st November, 2013. 7pm – 10pm. Gold Coin Entry
Interesting booths such as in your own words book, personalized jewellery, psychic readings and readings for the hearing impaired, scrapbooking, lingerie, prosthesis, swimwear, shoes. Different community groups, and much more. SMS your name & number to 0467 629 942 by 25th October, 2013 or via facebook. For a chance to win our fantastic mystery prize! Must be present to win…

Upcoming Events

Thursday 24/10/13
*Grandparents Day 10.15am
*Newsletter Day
Friday 25/10/13
*Public Speaking Area Final (Kinder/Stage 1)
Monday 28/10/13 – Friday 1/11/13
*Year 5 Broken Bay Camp
Tuesday 5/11/13
*K-6 Assembly @ 12noon