School News

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

You would all know by now that Mr Scott has announced his immediate medical retirement. I know that this has come as a huge surprise or shock to many past and present families. The timing was equally as much a shock to us here at school, but unfortunately Mr Scott did not have a say in the timing.

After over twenty years of service to Mawarra, it is impossible to list the things Mr Scott has done for the school nor measure the impact he has had on so many young lives. He was a true professional, who shaped Mawarra and played a huge part in the reputation it has enjoyed. It is sad that given the short notice of his departure, we were unable to organise a retirement function before he left, but that will occur in the near future and many families, past and present will want to attend. We will give plenty of notice and hope that you can pass this information on to those who are no longer at the school.

In the meantime, Mrs Ruscoe has taken over the class four days per week, with Mr McDermott taking them each Wednesday, to continue on with Mr Scott’s program. Mrs Cronshaw will oversee Stage 3. Mr Scott has already made plans to continue his association with the school to assist in the transition to life without him. Mrs Napoleone will relieve in the role as an additional Assistant Principal until a replacement is found for Mr Scott. This process will begin shortly.

Classes for 2014

Parents are already asking about class formation for 2014. It is far too early yet to have classes organised for next year. At this stage, we are once again very close to the magic number that will give us our 17th class. Until our numbers are finalised, it is impossible to know what our classes will look like, how many composites there will be or which teachers will be on each grade.

Parents can assist in three ways:
- If you know of a friend, family member or neighbour who will be applying to come to Mawarra next year, ask them to contact us now so that we can include them in our planning.
- If you will not be returning to Mawarra next year, let us know now to assist us with our planning.
- If you would like us to consider any special needs or exceptional circumstances, (social / academic), when placing your child in a class next year, let us know well in advance so that this can be taken into account when forming classes. Don’t leave it until next year’s classes are announced.

Bus Shelter

How great is the bus shelter looking!!! It is only through the generosity of our community that this bus shelter has become a reality and looks so great. I have already spoken of Mr Bell’s persistence in liaising with TAFE to construct it, but also need to thank the Tyquin family who have organised and supplied the footings, Mrs Skinner who has helped Mr Eagles with painting and the Whitelaw family who are currently organising the roof. Once it is finished, we will have an official opening with an opportunity to thank all of our community helpers.

Congratulations Ivy and Mykaiah

Congratulations to two of our talented visual artists who have been successful in the recent South-West Sydney Director’s Choice Art Exhibition. Ivy Maglis won the Open Category of the competition with her artwork “Cattitude”.

Mykaiah Lopez was awarded a “highly commended” for his work entitled “Borderless World”.

Both students will be at the Director’s Choice Exhibition and Award Ceremony tonight along with the Principals from South-west Sydney, where they will have the opportunity to discuss their artworks with guests.

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

Year 4 Camp

Just a reminder that the final payment for the year 4 camp to Teen Ranch is due by Friday 29th November 2013. Payments can be made through the school’s online payment system or at the office. Students will be at camp from Wednesday 4th to Friday 6th December, 2013. All medical notes need to be returned to your child’s class teacher as soon as possible. Both this form and the packing list can be found on the school’s website. If you have any further queries about camp please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs D Cronshaw

Student News

Bushfire Appeal

Recently NSW has experienced catastrophic bushfires. The SRC came together and decided to pitch in and help these poor victims with a multi-day. Yesterday children came to school dressed in mufti and each brought a gold coin donation or any change they had. In the morning the Captains drew a big sign saying “HOPE” under the cap. “HOPE” under the COLA and students placed their coins on it. You will be happy to know that we raised $755.50.

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We hope this will help the bushfire victims. Thank you for everyone’s help by bringing in donations.

Silver/Gold Awards

Congratulations to the following students, who received their silver/gold awards at the assembly held on Tuesday 5th November, 2013 at 12 noon.

20/9/13
Silver
Emma Heyburgh 2W
Kaiden Vandersteen 2/3H
Alyssa Sheather 3KB
Chad Landouw 4/5S
Piper La Hay 6T
Ivy Maglis 6T
Rhiannon Walton 6T

Gold
Chad Landouw 4/5S

11/10/13
Silver
Blade Hill 1M
Charles Arnot 1/2H
Thomas Fisher 2/3H
Aiden Astbury 4/5S
Monique Munro 5SR
Cassandra McMurdo 5/6S
Sophie Rix 5/6S
Brendon Ross 5/6S
David Truong 5/6S

Gold
Monique Munro 5SR
Georgia Chivers 5/6S
Cassandra McMurdo 5/6S

18/10/13
Silver
Ethan Heyburgh KR
Makayla Crick K/1F
William Stokes 1K
Tom Tyquin 1M
Emily Fauvarque 2W
Emily Wooden 2/3H
Nicholas Whatmough x 2 3/4B

Gold
Libby Kynaston 5/6S

24/10/13
Silver
Tori Wilson KR
Zach Ritchie 1M
Liam Wheeler 1M
Eliza Maglis 2/3H

Gold
Kyle Ritchie 3KB
Alyssa Heyward 5/6S
Tayla Churchin 6T

1/11/13
Silver
Malia Brimble 1M
Ruby Giles 1/2H
Dakota Brady Osborne 1/2H
Marcus Delander-Kourtis 2W
Lachlan Fenner 2W
Harry Elson 2/3H
Jack Constantine 2/3H
Carson Plumridge 2/3H
Isabella Rae 2/3H
Riley Crick 3KB
Matthew Howlett 3/4B
Ciara McIntyre 4M
Lucy Wood 4/5S
Sarah Howlett 5SR
Mackenzie Hayes 5/6S
Isla Wilson-West 6T

Gold
Tayla Churchin 6T

Mawarra Movers

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be a Learner

Our next focus for the next fortnight will be on safety. Many children are running on concrete and this can cause nasty injuries if they fall. Children are also climbing on and over the wooden railing around the grassed area outside the library, again nasty injuries could result from a fall. Children are being reminded to be safe at school and we would appreciate you discussing this at home.

Student Welfare Committee

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Science and Maths Expo at UWS

On Monday 4th November, 2013, I had the absolute pleasure of accompanying 10 students to the University of Western Sydney campus at Parramatta to attend a Science and Maths Expo. With over 1000 other primary school students, we spent the day viewing presentations about how the mathematicians and scientists of the future are our current primary school students. Fostering a love of maths, science and problem solving will be vital as we attempt to solve the problems facing humanity in the future.

The students learnt about the awesomeness of science with a terrific presentation by the CSIRO explaining concepts of physics and chemistry with fun everyday items. We learnt how to “awesomatise” things. During the break students were able to join in hands on activities with lizards and snakes, create coloured slime, make milk rainbows, measure blood pressure and healthy vital signs and explore scientific toys and gadgets.

After morning tea, we were treated to another science demonstration by the Fizzics.com.au group. We used a Van de Graaff generator to create static electricity, skateboards to control gravity and high and low air pressure to blow up a huge balloon in one breath.

Lachlan Burrows, Matthew Greene, Adam Talbot, Keziah Holden, Ivy Maglis, Hailiee Wright, Sarah Howlett, Lucy Wood, Aiden Astbury and Amelia Wood are all to be commended for their outstanding behaviour and avid interest in the activities and science experiments and shows. Photos of our day are available to be viewed on our school website.

Special thanks to Mrs Wright for assisting with transport, without the support of positive parents students would not be able to enjoy the benefits of these extra curricular activities.

Sharon Kynaston
Enrichment Co-ordinator

3KB Eco Sustainability Mini Expo

On Wednesday 6th November, 2013, students from 3KB participated in an Eco Sustainability Mini Expo which was run entirely by their classmates who attended the Macarthur Sustainable Schools Expo at Belgenny farm, earlier in the year. The day involved six different activities to promote sustainability and teach students how to think about energy use, waste, recycling and gardening.

We spent our day involved in activities which included: weeding, watering and feeding our current vegetable gardens, create a recycled bottle vertical garden, creating and layering our own individual worm farms, using recycled materials to create bottle top mobiles to keep birds away from vegetable gardens, making a recyclable pot plant from paper bags, newspaper and string and finally designing and making a pizza box oven which was used to melt a marshmallow with a chocolate drop topping.

Very special mention must be made of our presenting students: Jasmyn Barry and Shelby Gestro – Worm farms, Kurt Sorensen – Bottle vertical garden, Ashton Marsh – Weeding, feeding and watering, Kynan Ferguson – Recycled pot plants, Ruby Greenland – Bottle top mobiles, Alyssa Sheather and Indiana Glancey – Pizza box ovens. These children really stepped up and showed leadership skills with terrific explanations, practical help and problem solving abilities throughout the day, as groups of 3 or 4 of their peers rotated through the activity stations. These presenting students took their roles very seriously and displayed great organisational and practical skills throughout the day and they deserve high praise for spreading the message of sustainability to their classmates.

A great day was had by all with students heading home with a bottle top mobile and two recyclable pots housing a tomato and lettuce seedling and their very own worm farm.

Next Monday all students from 3KB will be involved in an Eco Audit of our school in order to better understand ways that we can be more efficient with our energy and water use, reduce waste and encourage sustainable biodiversity at Mawarra. Specialists from the Environmental Education Centre will be guiding the students through the process of the audit. We will keep you posted as to our findings and future directions.

We are becoming the Eco warriors of Mawarra and together we are learning lessons about sustainability that we will carry with us all our lives. Please view our photos on our school website gallery.

Sharon Kynaston & Theresa Beauchamp
Eco Schools Sustainability Co-ordinators

Library News

The library will be having a ‘Second Hand Book Sale’ on Friday 8th 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

Live Life Well

Why shouldn’t students eat snacks like muesli bars or fruit leathers during Crunch&Sip?

Foods such as fruit-topped muesli bars and fruit leathers are often high in sugar and energy, and low in other nutrients such as vitamins and minerals. Fruit and vegetables are lower in energy and high in nutrients, making them the ideal snack option.

Fruit leathers, roll-ups and sticky muesli bars also have the tendency to cling to teeth, which increases the risk of tooth decay.

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Fruit and vegetables are the only foods allowed to be eaten during the Crunch&Sip break.

Live Life Well Coordinators
Sharon Kynaston & Narelle Scott

Canteen News
The canteen will be open between 5.00 – 6.30pm for “Light up Mawarra “on Wednesday 11th December, 2013 to sell drinks, chips, icecreams and tea and coffee. (No hot food). Enquiries – Emma 0414528959.

Upcoming Events

Friday 8/11/13
*Milo Cup (Cricket)
*2nd hand book sale in library

Monday 11/11/13 – 22/11/13
*Kinder transition 1.00pm – 2.55pm

Thursday 14/11/13
*Musica Viva (Teranga Performance)

Monday 18/11/13 – 29/11/13
*Swimming School

Community News

Keeping Kids in Mind” Parent Course
Parents love their children and want the best for them. However, after separation, parenting often gets much tougher. Keeping Kids in Mind is a 5 week course for separated parents who are experiencing on-going conflict. The course is designed to:
* Assist parents to see through their children’s eyes the experience of parental separation.
* Develop greater understanding about how to support children following family separation

The course covers the following topics:
Grief and loss after separation, the hidden world of children, rebuilding resilience, bridging the gap, looking back and moving forward.

Cost of course is $100 per person including parent workbook.
A flyer with all the details is available at the school office.