School News

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

This week an invitation to next Thursday’s Education Week celebrations went home to all families. This year’s theme for Education Week is “Celebrating our Stories”, and teacher storytelling will form a part of the day, along with the open classroom time, a picnic lunch and assembly to end the day. I hope to see many parents, grandparents and family members here to share this occasion with our students.

Could children also be reminded to bring in their slip for the sausage sizzle to be held on the day by Monday 29th July, 2013.

Cecil Smith Retirement

After many years as Mawarra’s Crossing Supervisor, Cecil Smith has announced his retirement. Cecil has been a character in the Mawarra community for over 15 years. Rain, hail or shine, Cec was the friendly face at the school gate, morning and afternoon, where he got to know a whole generation of our students and their families. We all wish Cecil well in his retirement. I am sure he will continue to visit.

We will say goodbye to Cecil next Thursday when he will be a special guest at our Education Week Assembly.

Evacuation Drill and Lockdown Drill

After reviewing our evacuation and lockdown procedures, we will have a whole school practice, next Friday. You may wish to reassure your child about how these drills are nothing to be alarmed about and how practices like these will make ‘the real thing’ much easier if ever needed. Teachers will also do this in class prior to the drill.

PLASST Tool Trial for Disabilities and Students with Additional Needs

During the next few weeks our school, along with other public schools in the area, will be participating in the trial of a new tool (PLASST) being developed by the Department of Education and Communities for teachers to identify the learning and support needs of their students.

This trial is focussed on the development of a sound and reliable online tool that, when finalised, can be used by teachers in collaboration with parents and carers to identify the strengths and educational needs of students with additional learning and support needs. This information will assist schools in planning and personalising learning and support for individual students who require adjustments in their day to day learning.

The trial will involve teachers completing an online questionnaire about the educational needs of some of their students. Students themselves will not be required to complete any additional work or be formally assessed as part of the trial. This trial will not impact on students’ education provisions.

For further information about the PLASST trial, including the collection and use of data in the trial, feel free to call the school and speak with Mrs Drieman, Mrs Steinweiss or myself.

Student Medical Forms

During Terms 3 and 4 The Department of Education will be updating student medical records systems to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on your child’s health.

ALL CHILDREN will receive a copy of the new forms today. You will need to fill them out and return them to us as soon as you can.

The good news is we have already started collecting some of this information, which means less for you to do. The new forms will help us collect your child’s important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean we’ll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child. We appreciate your support as we start collecting the information, and if you have any questions please call.

Once again, I hope to see many of you here at school to celebrate Education Week next week.

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

Student News

Australian Government Assistance for Year 6 Canberra Excursion

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognizes the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution was paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.
We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. We hope that the excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

Mr F. Scott
Assistant Principal

Mawarra Movers
Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be a Learner
This term we are having a weekly focus for the whole school on outside/playground behavior. Class teachers will focus on behaviours inside the classroom. The next two areas of focus will be: Wear your hat when you are outside and Move quietly around the school.

Student Welfare Committee

Library News

Premier’s Spelling Bee
The school final will be held on Wednesday 21st August, 2013.

Book Club
If you would like to order anything from the latest issue of Book Club please send your order and money to the office. Last day orders can be accepted is Friday 16th August, 2013.

Book Week Activities:
Photo Competition
All students are invited to bring in a photo of themselves reading a book in a very unusual place. The photos will be displayed in the library. The last day to enter a photo is Friday 16th August, 2013.

Book Week Performance
This year the Book Week performance will be on Monday 12th August, 2013. Bronwyn Vaughn will be presenting “At the Foot of the Storyteller’s Chair”. The cost is $4.00 per child and the final day for payment will be Friday 9th August, 2013. A separate note has all the details for the show.

Book Fair
On Thursday 22nd August, 2013 we are having a Book Fair with books from Central Books. The children will have the opportunity to look at the books during their library lessons in the week beforehand. Central Books have a wide range of books at sale prices - often 50% or more off RRP. The library will be open for parent purchases from 8.00 – 9.00am and 3.00 – 4.00pm. Students will be able to purchase during the day.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
If your child has completed the challenge please fill in the validation slip at the end of this newsletter and I will go online and validate them as finished. All validations must be entered by Friday 16th August 2013.

Mrs D. Cronshaw
Teacher / Librarian

P&C News

P&C Mowing Roster
The next mowing day will be on Saturday 27th July, 2013. The following parents rostered for the the day include: Brendan McMurdo, Greg Burton, Bronwyn Smith, Stuart Purdie and Dennis Eagles (Coordinator).

Fathers Day Stall
This week a note went home from our fundraising committee advertising our Fathers Day Stall, to be held on Thursday 29th August, 2013. If you are able to assist with the wrapping and selling on the day, please contact the organisers. Remember to return your entry to the Fathers Day raffle too.

Mawarra Mums Relay For Life Team
A group of us, (some mums, some teachers), are joining together to do the Relay for Life in Camden this September. Our team is called the “Mawarra Mums”. We are doing this for a bit of fun, to increase our fitness and above all because many of us have been associated with Cancer in some way or other and would like to raise some money for this cause. The 24 hour walk starts on Saturday 21st September, 2013 and ends on Sunday 22nd September, 2013 at Onslow Reserve in Camden. Please help us by making a donation or better still if you want to join our team we would love your support.

http://relay.cancercouncil.com.au/2013/camden_2013 then search for Mawarra Mums. I will be attending an information night on the 20th August, 2013 so I will be armed with all of the necessary details then, but please do not hesitate to contact me in the meantime. 0408 208 781 or layingtheway@optusnet.com.au

Mrs Nicole Perriman

Uniform Shop
The Mawarra Public School Uniform Shop will be open Mondays, Wednesdays & Friday mornings @ 8.30-9.15am, Monday & Wednesday afternoons @ 2.30-3.15pm.
Free Skateboarding Workshop and Event
“Streetwise – Learn to skate”
Sunday 18th August, 2013 @ Kirkham Skate park 10.00am-12.30pm. For more information or to register, visit sba.org.au/hubs.

Singing
Singing teacher offering private lessons in local area, first lesson is free. For more information please contact Anneliese Drieman on 0433 903 773.

Infinity Health Outdoor Fitness
Come and get fit so you can keep up with your children.
Monday 7-8pm (Boxing)
Tuesday & Thursday - 5.30-6.30pm
Saturday – 7.30-8.30am @ Birriwa Reserve Netball Courts, Fitzpatrick Rd, Mt Annan. All sessions $12.00 (1st session free)
Please contact Alison Holderness on 0409 325 663 or Alison.holderness@bigpond.com

UNITING CARE MAWARRA OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE (OOSH)
Places are available for remainder of this year. Our qualified and experienced staff works to provide a quality educational program catering to the individual needs and interests of your child.
Providing we have adequate numbers, vacation care is around the corner. Please let us know ASAP.
Please call our coordinator for enrolment information on 0428 216 220. Fax: 02 4658 0223

HOURS OF CARE
Before School: Mon to Friday 6.30-9.00am
After School: Mon to Friday 2.30-6.30pm

Fee relief and places available.
Cost: $16.00 mornings, $22.00 afternoons

Camden Gems Presents…..
A Mum’s Night Out
CYBERPARENTING
Navigating your child through a techno world.
Friday 6th September at 7:30pm
Camden Anglican Church Hall,
Menangle Rd Camden (top of John St)
Cost: $8 Donation (to be paid on the night)
Coffee and dessert provided

To reserve your seat, please call/text Melanie on 0402 143 145 or email Melanie.pearce@gmail.com

Upcoming Events
Friday 26/7/13
* Gala Day

Monday 29/7/13
* Dance 2B Fit (primary)
* PPP Parenting Course @ 6pm
* P&C Meeting @ 7.30pm

Wednesday 31/7/13
* Dance 2B Fit (Infants)
* NSW Uni English Competition

Thursday 1/8/13
* Education Week Open Day
* Cecil Smith Retirement Assembly

Friday 9/8/13
* Athletics Carnival

Premiers Reading Challenge Validation Slip
I certify that my child_________________________
of class_________________________
has completed the Premiers’ Reading Challenge 2013 and has abided by the set rules and conditions.

Signed__________________________ Date_______
Parent/Guardian