School News

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the parents, staff and students who gave up their time on Sunday to be a part of the school working bee. The area between the year 3 & 4 blocks was paved and mulched, the new ‘ball-toss baskets’ were installed, gardens weeded and mulched, the frog pond cleaned out, the old back fence was removed, and there was a make-over of the dull undercover area near the Kindergarten rooms in preparation for a mural to go on the wall. The effect it has had on the look and feel of the school is great. Children were very excited, and some children were even seen hugging the posts that were painted in the Mawarra Movers colours. Many thanks to the Brimbles, the Mottrams, the Howletts, the Landouws, the Munros, the Taylors, the Skinners, the McMurdos, the Whitelaws, Mr Gow, Mrs Miller, Issac Coleman, Mr Eagles, Mrs Steinweiss and Mrs Cronshaw. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by our school.

More Success!

It is great to be able to constantly be proud of the amazing achievements of our students. For a relatively small school in the Macarthur/Campbelltown area, we certainly have a lot of students, teams and groups with success stories. Since our last newsletter we have had 5 students go through to state athletics, our Transition Dance Group has performed at the Elderslie High School Spectacular, our senior debating team has won the local competition and progressed to the quarter finals, and 4 students have gone off to the Premiers Spelling Bee, with Alyssa being crowned Area Runner-up. Congratulations to all of these students and groups. Many of the organising teachers have written separate stories about these achievements later in the newsletter.

School Fencing

During the school holidays, a new security fence will be built to replace the old timber fence along the Southdown Road boundary of the school. The front of the school on Macarthur Road will also have a new fence built. This fence is jointly funded by the school and our P&C Association, which held a very successful trivia night earlier in the year to raise the required funds. With these last two sections of fencing, the school will be completely secure, allowing us to do much more in the way of improvements to our school grounds.

Delay in NAPLAN Results to Parents

On Thursday 5th September, 2013 ACARA identified an error in the placement of the national average markers on the years 5 and 7 NAPLAN Student Reports for Language Conventions. Importantly the NAPLAN student data is correct. ACARA made the immediate decision to halt any further packaging and distribution of NAPLAN reports while options regarding the distribution of correct NAPLAN Student Reports were considered. ACARA is working closely with Test Administration Authorities (TAAs) in every state and territory to ensure correct reports are distributed. This matter will result in the delay of the distribution of student reports, possibly to the week of 13 October, 2013 however ACARA and TAAs will seek to minimise the delay.

I can’t believe that this term is drawing to a close. It has been busy but has gone so quickly. I wish you all a great spring break, and look forward to a busy Term 4.

Regards,
Paul Mallia

Kindergarten Orientation

We are looking forward to meeting the children and parents of Kindergarten students for 2014. The meeting will take place in the hall at 9.15 on Wednesday 16th October, 2013. Parents please come to the COLA area outside our hall, collect your child’s package, go with them to visit the kindergarten rooms and then join us in the hall for your information session. Morning tea will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mrs V. Steinweiss
Assistant Principal

Macarthur Sustainable Schools Expo 2013

On Wednesday 11th September, 2013 a group of eight Year 3 students represented Mawarra Public School at the Macarthur Sustainable Schools Expo at Belgenny Farm. These students were Indiana Glancey, Ruby Greenland, Alyssa Sheather, Shelby Gestro, Kynan Ferguson, Kurt Sorensen and Ashton Marsh. The day involved participating in eight different activities which promote sustainability and teach students how to think about energy use, waste, recycling and gardening. The activities included: creating a recyclable pot, making an individual worm farm, sorting waste, saving seeds, creating a solar oven and cooking in it, chooks and mini gardens, plant propagation and water bugs. Students from surrounding high schools and some primary schools presented at each activity station and did a commendable job.

The Mawarra students were joined by special needs students from Beverley Park Special School, as they moved through each activity station. To their credit our year 3 students were considerate and compassionate when working with the students with special needs. They displayed a maturity and sensitivity beyond their years and deserve high praise for the way they conducted themselves. The teacher from Beverley Park Special School made particular mention of the helpfulness, kindness and thoughtfulness these young year 3 students displayed.

Mrs Sharon Kynaston

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After lunch we linked up via skype with a school in India who were also doing a Sustainability Expo and we shared ideas. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and have returned to Mawarra full of enthusiasm to continue the sustainable work that we already do at Mawarra.

Next term they will be pairing up and running a mini Sustainability Expo for their classmates in 3KB.

**Student News**

**Silver/Gold Awards**

Congratulations to the following students, who received their silver/gold awards at the assembly held on Thursday 12th September, 2013.

12/9/13
Elijah Pierce 1M
Joshua Attard 1M
Billy Redman 1/2H
Ashleigh Denison 4M
Charlie Redman 4M
Emily Buttifant 4/5S
Brooke Holman 4/5S
Lachlan Burrows 5SR
Caitlin Falk 5SR
Erin Holman 5SR
Ella Day-Johnson 5/6S
Keziah Holderness 6T

**Mawarra Public School Writing Competition**

This year the Gifted and Talented committee were very excited to run our fifth school based writing competition for the students.

**We were very fortunate to enlist the adjudicating services of:**
Mrs Judith Evans – our school counsellor, Mrs Sharon Kynaston and Mrs Theresa Beauchamp. This year 19 students participated in the competition. All entrants received a mini to acknowledge their efforts.

Children awarded 1st place received a $30 wish card. Children awarded 2nd place received a $20 wish card. Children awarded 3rd place or an encouragement award, received a book prize.

**In Stage 1**
1st place goes to Cooper West with his story entitled “Dream Factory” 2nd place to Livinia Whitelaw with her story “Dream Factory” 3rd place goes to Ella Clarke with her story “The Unforgettable Gift”
And the encouragement award goes to Harry Elson for his story “My Wish came true”.

**In Stage 2** topics were “Write a letter to a cloud”, “Gone but not forgotten” and “Maybe next time”.
1st place went to Sharmini Chelvanayagam.
2nd place Rory Munro
3rd place Matthew Howlett
An Encouragement award went to Poppy La Hay

**In Stage 3**
1st place went to Madeleine McPherson with her story “City Girl, Country Girl” 2nd place Alyssa Heyward with her story “The Man in the Moon” 3rd place David Truong with his story “I have to admit I was tempted”

An Encouragement award went to Lachlan Taylor with his story “Haunted Castle”

Congratulations to all the children who entered, it is great to see so many participating in all the extra things that school has to offer. We look forward to seeing you all enter again next year when we run the Writing Competition again.

Mrs Evans, Mrs Kynaston & Mrs Beauchamp
Enrichment co-ordinators

**Debating and Public Speaking**

Last Thursday, the Mawarra Magpies debating team competed against Mt. Annan. The girls were the negative with the topic ‘That teachers should not set tests for primary school children’. Our team convinced the adjudicator that it is important as it prepares students for high school and helps the teacher identify problems so they could go on programs like ‘Mulitlit’. This team is amazing me more and more as we progress to the next round against Narellan Vale. Well done girls, I am very proud of you.

The teachers are finalising speeches with their classes for our annual public speaking competition. This year we have included Kindergarten and Stage 1. The school finals will be on Wednesday, 9th Octobe, 2013r for Years 3-6 and Thursday, 10th October, 2013 for K-2.

Mrs K. Took

**Mawarra Movers**

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

Congratulations to all the children who are able to take part in our ‘Club Zero’ celebration on Friday. This celebration has the most children attending, with over 95% of students eligible. I would like to thank all the parents who regularly talk about the Mawarra Movers program and our focus behaviours each week. Next term we are hoping for an even greater number of our students being eligible to attend.

Children can only attend Friday’s movie if they have returned the signed permission note. Please ensure these are returned to the class teacher by Friday. Spare notes are available from the office.

Student Welfare Committee

**Library News**

Please ensure your child has returned all library books. There is no borrowing in the last week of term. Borrowing will start week 1 of next term.

Mrs D.Cronshaw
Teacher / Librarian

**Sport News**

**Razorback Zone Athletics Carnival**

On Monday 2nd September and Tuesday 3rd September, 2013 a team of 41 students represented Mawarra Public school with pride and distinction at the Razorback Zone Athletics Carnival. On Monday field events and the 800m were run, with all track events being held on Tuesday. All students competed well and for some, this was their first experience at Zone level. Congratulations to the following students who achieved a top 10 finish in their event.

Ryan Boyce – 3rd in 12-13 Boys Discus, 5th in 12-13 Boys Long Jump
Chenoa Brimble – 8th in 11 Girls Discus

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Nakeisha Brimble – 1st in Girls 100m, 3rd Girls 200m, 2nd 8-10 Girls Long Jump,


Special mention must go to all our relay teams:
Junior Boys 4 x 100m relay team: Harry Gelder, Ethan Roberts, Kurt Sorensen and Kynan Ferguson. For the boys this was their first experience of a relay at zone. With tenacity and spirit they ran a blistering heat to finish first. In the finals the boys achieved a 4th place which is an outstanding result and something of which they should be very proud.

Junior Girls 4 x 100m relay team: Nakeisha Brimble, Lucy Wood, Emily Buttifant and Amelia Wood. For the girls this was also their first time together in a relay team at zone. They ran with quiet determination and style finishing strongly to come second in their heat. In the finals the girls achieved a 3rd place, another outstanding result which earned them entry to the State Athletics Carnival.

As Team Manager, I was privileged to spend two days with this wonderful group of students who embody the spirit and values of Mawarra Public School. From the first time students who were nervous and a little unsure to the seasoned veterans in Year 5 and 6, all students were exceptionally well behaved, respectful and sportsmanlike. A fact which was commented on by a number of officials and teachers at the carnival. The comradeship between team mates and encouragement from the sidelines for students competing in events was heartwarming and testimony to the great sportsmanship of all children who represented Mawarra at this carnival. Each and every competitor received a mini for their efforts and deserves high praise for their achievements and behaviour.

Special thanks to Mrs Theresa Beauchamp who coordinated all the entries and all the pre-carnival administration, ensuring both days were a complete success for both competitors, parents and teachers. Special thanks also to the many parents who attended the carnival and also to those who assisted in transporting students to and from the event. Your generosity and support of our students is greatly appreciated.

Sharon Kynaston
(Team Manager Zone Carnival)

Community News

Vacation Care at Mawarra
Vacation Care will go ahead in the Mawarra Hall again this September / October holiday.
We have a very exciting program including:
* Hatching eggs and baby chickens
* Excursions - bowling, movies and parks
* Circus fun
* The favourite Scooters and Bikes Day

We are open 8:00am - 5:30pm
For a full program and menu, please see Meridy or Natalie at OSHC or programs are available from the school office.

Rugby Holiday Clinic
Come along and enjoy a day of Rugby League FUN and learn new skills this school holidays!!!
For boys and girls aged 6 – 12 years old
Cost $25 includes:
» NRL football
» Kicking tee
» Water bottle
» Lunch and morning Tea

Date - Wednesday, 25th September
Time - 10am until 1pm
Venue - Bradbury Oval, Campbelltown

Register online at - www.sydneywestdevelopment.leaguenet.com.au
Drew Dalton – Western Sydney - Mobile: 0400 345 274

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

Camden Amateur Swimming Club
Swimming is a great way to get fit, stay fit, or just have fun with friends. Club nights are on Mondays from 6.30pm racing starts 7pm and there is nothing better than being at the pool on a balmy night. For more information please call 4655 8600, or come visit Camden Memorial Pool, Oxley Street, Camden.

K-2 Sports Fun Day
Friday 11th October, 2013 is K-2 Sports Fun Day. All classes in the infants, including the year two students in 2/3H class, will be involved. Children should wear sports uniform, and where possible their house coloured T-Shirt. The program for the morning includes:
9.20 – 10.50am Age and novelty events
10.55am Picnic Recess
11.30am - 12noon Dance presentation
We hope many of you can join us for this fun filled morning

Mrs V. Steinweiss
Assistant Principal

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday 8/10/13
*Staff & students return
Friday 11/10/13
*K-2 Sports Day
Wednesday 16/10/13
*Kinder Orientation @ 9.15