School News

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to school for 2014. I can’t believe the holidays have gone so quickly! I hope everyone had a relaxing break over the summer.

We once began the year in last year’s classes, until we were sure of the number of children we have at Mawarra in 2014, as we were extremely close to forming our 17th class. Yesterday we were able to determine that we DO have enough children to make that extra class this year, so we are busy working on revised class lists and class structures. We anticipate that students will move into their new classes tomorrow.

Building Works

You might have noticed that there is a great deal of building work happening around the school. The school is being upgraded to comply with disability building standards, so that all areas of the school can be accessed by students in wheelchairs. This will involve the installation of many ramps and hand rails, linking all blocks. This upgrade will also benefit parents with prams, and people with temporary mobility/health conditions. This is all funded through the Department’s properties arm and not by the school itself. Building works should be completed by Week 8 of term.

Australia Day Parade

Thank you to the families who were able to come along to the Australia Day Parade in Camden on Sunday. It was good to see our children in their school uniform, proudly representing Mawarra.

PPP Group Workshops (Positive Parenting Program)

Last year, we were fortunate to have had Ruth Waters present a series of three seminars about positive parenting. We have worked with Ruth to organise a series of 5 more in-depth workshops of two hours each to be presented this term to help parents with positive parenting. These will be on a Tuesday nights, beginning Tuesday 25th February, 2014 for 5 consecutive weeks. These courses are free, but require parents to commit to all five.

If you would like to participate, please contact the office to leave your name. Further information will come out from PPP, but I know that people fill their diaries early and this will allow you to set dates aside if you are interested.

Uniform Shop

A huge thank you needs to go to Mrs Troy and her small band of volunteers in the uniform shop for their ongoing efforts during the holidays. During those final weeks of the holidays and in the first week back at school they have committed many hours of hard work so that families are ready to come back to school. If you would like to volunteer in the uniform shop this year, I am sure Mrs Troy would appreciate any assistance, even if it is only one morning or afternoon per week.

School Development Day

On Tuesday at our School Development Day, the school staff continued their work on the introduction of the new English syllabus, as well as completing training on the guidelines for Child Protection.

The term calendar is being finalised at the moment and will be sent home early next week, but we have included a few of the really important dates for the term in this newsletter.

I look forward to a very positive 2014 at Mawarra.

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

Stranger Danger

To begin the year, please discuss ‘Stranger Danger’ with your children and the need to keep safe when going to and from school. The ‘Stranger Danger’ message is given often at school but should be supported by parents at home.

Library

The library will be closed for the first few weeks of term while stocktaking is finalised. If you have come across any library books or home readers could you please return them to school.

Mrs DiAnne Cronshaw
Teacher/Librarian

Student Welfare

The Mawarra Movers Positive Behaviour Program has begun for this year. We were extremely pleased with the numbers of children participating in our rewards program at the end of each term and are looking to similar numbers if not more children participating this year. All children start each new term on Level 0. We will be having focus behaviours each week throughout the year and ask for your support in discussing and reinforcing these behaviours at home.

Student Welfare Committee

www.mawarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au  mawarra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone (02) 4658 0990  Fax. (02) 4658 0223
Student Banking
Student banking will resume on Wednesday 5th February, 2014. Packages explaining the new program for 2014 will be sent home with today’s newsletter.

Staff Parking Only
The staff parking area is for STAFF ONLY during the hours of 8.00 am – 4.00 pm. In recent times a number of parents have ignored the sign at the front of the school. For safety reasons we ask parents to support this request. No cars are to be parked in loading zone at any time.

P&C News

First P&C Meeting
The school’s P&C Association meets on the third Monday of each month. The first meeting of the year will therefore be held on Monday night 17th February, 2014 in the school’s Library, beginning at 7.30pm.

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

Upcoming Events

Monday 3/2/14
*Kindergarten start

Monday 17/2/14
P&C Meeting at 7.30pm in Library

Wednesday 19/2/14
*School Swimming Carnival

Starting Tuesday 25/2/14
PPP Parent Workshop

Thursday 27/2/14
Zone Swimming Carnival

Friday 28/2/14
Zone Swimming Carnival