School News

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

It was great to see so many parents here for last week’s K-6 assembly. So many awards, showing that our students have all been working really hard on our Mawarra Movers principles. Finally, we have seen some of the fences come down and I can’t believe how spacious the walkways look again.

So many of our students have gone to zone sporting events over the past few weeks as well, and we have had many success stories from these trials and the swimming carnival. Mrs Scott and Mrs Smith will have more on these successes later in the newsletter.

Kids of Macarthur Charity

Each year, many of the Primary schools in the Camden/Campbeltown areas have a fundraiser to raise money for the ‘Kids of Macarthur’ charity. This worthwhile cause raises money through the children of Macarthur, to support the children’s ward at Campbeltown hospital. For the last two years Mawarra students have contributed to this cause, enabling the hospital to purchase much needed equipment for young children. For example, one of the six ‘Broslow trolleys’ equipped with resuscitation equipment at the hospital, was purchased by students of Macarthur Schools, as was a ‘Hot Cot’, which allows preterm and sick babies to be nursed in a waterbed-like cot. Kids of Macarthur and our local community are very lucky and grateful for your fundraising efforts. This year our SRC will conduct their fundraising for ‘Kids of Macarthur’ on St Patrick’s Day, Monday 17th March, 2014, with a Mufti-day. Please bring a gold coin donation. I hope you continue to support this worthwhile cause.

Absent Notes

At the beginning of the year I explained the importance of good attendance and that every absence requires an explanation from parents. This is a NSW government requirement, not just a school request. We will need to insist over the coming weeks on chasing up notes for those absences that are already unexplained. I hope that you can assist us if your child needs to be absent from school.

World’s Greatest Shave

This Friday, a small group of our students are being brave and shaving or dyeing their hair to support the Leukemia Foundation. 

Congratulations to: Joshua Pobje, Ethan Roberts, Makayla Astbury, Mia Hotson, Lachlan Burrows, Kaylee Merrick-Woolgar and Jordan Roffe for their efforts. Many thanks as well to the students and parents who have sponsored these students. There is still time though, as the shave and unveiling will happen this Friday morning at 9:00am at morning assembly. Many thanks to Courteney Pobje and Mrs Sorenson for being our hairdressers.

Morning Assembly

During morning lines it is most important to settle students and give them the messages they need for the day. Some mornings we are having difficulties with the number of parents who are standing around chatting on the edge of the assembly or on the raised area near the kindergarten rooms. Could we please ask that parents leave the assembly area when the bell goes, or listen to assembly from the space near the canteen where you will not distract our younger children. This space, however, needs to be clear as classes leave the assembly, as many classes need to fit through a very narrow space. Also our gates need to be locked in the morning at 9:15am. Your assistance at this time would be a great help to teachers.

Life Education

Coming up over the next few weeks the school will see a return of the Life Education Program. (Many will remember this program as Healthy Harold). Life Education is a non-for-profit organisation successfully supporting primary school drug and health education since 1979. Life Education’s comprehensive programs have been specifically designed to assist schools achieve the Health and Physical Education outcomes. Research shows that the earlier we encourage children to develop positive self image, self esteem and a feeling of uniqueness, the better equipped they are to make positive healthy choices later in life.

If you have not yet paid for your child’s visit to Life Education, could you please return your note as soon as possible. A free parent session has been organised for Monday afternoon, 24th March, 2014 at 2:10pm. If you would like to participate, it would be a worthwhile investment in your time. Please call the school office to reserve a space. The Life Education van can only accommodate a limited number.

Harmony Day

Harmony Day will once again be held at Mawarra next Thursday 20th March, 2014. I look forward to buying some of the Year 6 orange cakes…. They’re always so yummy! We are also asking students to wear something orange with their uniform and bring a coin. All money raised will be used to cover the cost of two Harmony Day shows we have organised for the students. Together for Humanity will present to Yr 3-6 on Thursday and Donna Jacobs will present a wonderful multicultural storytelling session to K-2 on Monday 24th March, 2014. Both will add to our students’ view of multiculturalism and tolerance, as well as being very entertaining.

Writing Competition – Year 5 & 6

What Matters? Is a writing competition that gives students the chance to say what matters to them in society today? What actions do you think should be taken to build a better society? What would you change if you could? What do you want other people to care about?

If you are interested in entering this writing competition, please see Mrs Noakes (4KN) for more details.

Mr Paul Mallia
Principal

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K-2 Easter Fun Day

K-2 will be having an Easter Fun Day on Friday 11th April, 2014, the last day of term 1. K-2 Children only are able to wear muti clothing on this day and a gold coin donation is appreciated.

Student News

Silver/Gold Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received their Silver and Gold awards at the assembly held on Thursday 6th March, 2014 at 12.00 noon.

6/3/14

SILVER

Sienna Nikolovski 1D
Michael Delander-Kourtis 1F
Findlay Purdie 1F
Evie Mair 1H
Elliana Dickerson 2P
Tristan Smith 2P
Nicola Lee 3H
Brody McHugh 3H
Kirra Vandersteen 5K
Stella-Rose Metcalfe 5S
Erin Holman 6K
Libbi Kynaston 6K
Isobel Mendez 6K
Bailey Smith 6K
Marcus Battistuzzi 6T

Student Welfare

Student Mentoring Program – Periodically we partner with the University of Western Sydney and Campbelltown TAFE. Their students, who are doing studies on child services or similar, run programs in our school. One program they participate in is a Mentoring Program. This is under the supervision of an Assistant Principal. The mentors are usually in the school for 2 days per week for between 10 – 20 weeks. Up to 30 children from years 3 – 6 who would benefit from being in such a program, are identified by their class teacher, supervisor or school counsellor. The mentors meet with children in small groups for a session of approximately 30 minutes once or twice per week. During this time they do craft, gardening or a similar activity, while speaking to the children about setting goals for self-improvement, resilience building or any concerns or problems they may be having. They then discuss different ways to resolve these issues. This program is dependent on the University or TAFE providing us with the students.

The weekly focus for the Mawarra Movers Positive Behaviour Program was discussed at a staff meeting and it was felt that changing the focus on a weekly basis was not allowing sufficient time for children to understand and model the desired behavior. As a result the focus on each behaviour will last for two weeks. The focus for the next two weeks will be “We only go to the office with teacher permission” please discuss and reinforce this at home with your child.

Student Welfare Committee

Sport News

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to the following children who are aged champions from the Mawarra Swimming Carnival held on Wednesday 19th February, 2014.

Junior Girls Champion – Annalise Denham
Junior Boy Champion – Lachlan Harloff
11yrs Girls Champion – Libby Clapson
11 yrs Boys Champion – Marcus Hennings-Townsend
Senior Girls Champion – Monique Munro
Senior Boys Champion – Jared Presland

From our Mawarra Carnival we sent 24 children to the Razorback Carnival for freestyle, relays and the individual medley on Thursday 27th February, 2014 and 21 children for stroke events on Friday 28th February, 2014.

Lachlan Harloff came 2nd in the junior individual medley final, 2nd in the 10 yrs boys 50m freestyle final and 1st in the 50m junior boys butterfly final.

Brooke Holman came 3rd in the senior girls backstroke final and 3rd as part of the senior girls relay team.

Erin Holman came 3rd as part of the senior girls relay team.

Monique Munro came 1st in the 100m freestyle final, 1st in senior girls individual medley, 1st in the 12yrs girls 50m final, 3rd in the senior girls breaststroke final, 1st in the senior girls butterfly final and 3rd as part of the senior girls relay team.

Chenoa Brimble came 3rd as part of the senior girls relay team.

As a result of these placing it is my pleasure to announce that Monique Munro has received the senior girls age champion for the Razorback Carnival.

On Tuesday 18th March, 2014 the following children will be representing Razorback Zone in the Regional Swimming Carnival; Monique Munro, Lachlan Harloff, Brooke Holman, Erin Holman and Chenoa Brimble.

We wish them well in all their events.

Mrs R. Smith
Swimming Coordinator

Razorback Trials

Congratulations to the following students who recently attended Razorback trials in a variety of sports.

AFL-Lachlan Burrows, Riley Fream, Chad Porter & Ethan Roberts
Touch-Charlie Redman, Chenoa Brimble, Libbi Kynaston & Monique Munro
Soccer-Abby Lenard & Gabby Bradley
Rugby League-Caleb Jones, Cameron Ryan, Charlie Redman & Riley Cumoe

The following children were selected in the Razorback team and will attend the Sydney South West carnival in the coming weeks.

AFL-Lachlan Burrows, Riley Fream, Chad Porter & Ethan Roberts
Touch-Libbi Kynaston

We would like to congratulate these children and wish them luck at their regional carnivals.

Recently Cameron Ryan attended the Sydney South West tennis championships and Chenoa Brimble, Caitlin Falk, Libbi Kynaston & Jared Presland attended the Sydney South West basketball carnival. Cameron and Chenoa have been chosen in the Sydney South West teams in their respective sports and will be participating in the NSW championships next term.
Congratulations to both students on this wonderful achievement and the whole school community wishes them the best at the NSW championships.

Narelle Scott
Sports Organiser

Library News

Book Fair
The Ashton Scholastic Book Fair will be at the school from 12th – 19th March, 2014. Children will come with their class during school time to see the books and write a wish list. Books will be on sale on Tuesday 18th March, 2014. I will be open for sales to parents from 8am – 9am and in the afternoon from 3pm - 4pm. Children will come with their class during the day to make purchases. The winners of the colouring in competition were Cash Hogarth KJ, Monique Wilson 1D, William Stokes 2B, Eliza Maglis 3H, Matthew Howlett 4KN, Lucy Wood 5K and Sarah Howlett 6K. Congratulations! These children will all receive a book to the value of $10 from the Book Fair.

Students who are representing the school at the swimming carnival on Tuesday can make their purchases on Monday 17th March.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Registration has now opened for the Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014.

Students in Kindergarten – Year 2 will participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge with their class teacher. Parents need to ensure they have returned the permission note to their child’s teacher in order for your child to receive a participation certificate at the end of the year.

Students in Years 3 – 6 must go online to register and log in the books they have read. Please go to the following website:

www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

Students use their school username and password to log into the site and enter the details of the books they have read. Premier’s Reading Challenge books are kept in special containers in the library making it easier for children to find and borrow these books, however many works of fiction and other books in the library are also Premier’s Reading Challenge books. If you have any difficulty logging in or entering books please see me in the library.

Mrs Dianne Crosslaw
Teacher/Librarian

P&C Mowing Roster
The first mowing day for the year will be this Saturday 15th March, 2014. The following parents who are rostered on for this day include Deborah Warr, John Whatmough, Bernie Gill, Tim Constantine, Andrew Wickham, Nick Sinclair, Phillip Dib & Dennis Eagles (Coordinator).

School Uniforms

New Uniforms
Plenty of summer stock still available.

Orders for the Microfibre Jacket, Track Pant and Rain Poncho are to be in by 19th March 2014

TERM 2 = Winter Uniform
Winter Stock has arrived, so why not get in early and purchase your child’s winter uniform.

PRE LOVED UNIFORMS –
Quality preloved summer uniforms are available at very low prices at the school uniform shop. The uniform shop also has a layby service; you just need to pay a 20% deposit and regular payments. No Cash refunds will be given. Credit Only and Returns must accompany a receipt.

Trading Hours Are - Monday, Wednesday & Fridays 8.30am – 9.15am & Monday & Wednesday Afternoons 2.30pm – 3.15pm.

If you have any enquiries please call Brooke on 0411 957 716

P&C News

Egg Head Day
Please support the first P&C fundraising event for this year, which is the famous “Egg Head Day” and Easter Raffle. This event was an eggciting time last year and we are looking forward to doing it again. Your child has received a note explaining this fun event and a raffle ticket book has already gone home. If you would like extra raffle ticket books, they will be available at the school office.

We will need the assistance of the wonderful Mawarra Mums to help wrap the Easter Prizes on Wednesday 9th April, 2014 - any time you can give will be appreciated.

Community News

Local Women’s Health Clinic
A women’s health nurse is available at Narellan Community Health Centre. Services available are Pap tests, Post-natal checks, Breast checks, and Women’s health information on menopause, contraception and healthy living. Free and confidential service. For more information please call 4640 3500.

Upcoming Events

Friday 14/3/14
*World’s Greatest Shave

Monday 17/3/14
*Mufti Day
P&C AGM -7.30pm

Tuesday 18/3/14
*Book Fair
*Regional Swimming Carnival

Thursday 20/3/14
*Harmony Day Fundraiser
*Paul Kelly Cup

Friday 21/3/14
*Year 3 Camp Sleepover

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