Principal’s Report - Mr. Scott Campbell.

Today we are sending home refunds to all families who paid for the School Athletics Carnival. The carnival will be rescheduled and will be held on school grounds due to a lack of available days at Hunter Sports Centre. Please ask your child/children to check their bag for the refund as it has been paid in cash.

Last week Mrs Mandas & Mrs Marr attended a training course for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Program. We are hoping that this program will help us to make even better connections with our local community in the near future. Details will be available soon.

The Premier’s Reading Challenge has kicked off again for 2014 with a great app that can be downloaded from the PRC website. The primary age group can be hard to find books that maintain their interest at home. The Premier’s Reading Challenge team has identified a range of books that will inspire and engage kids aged between 9 and 13 years. NSW DEC have provided the following link:


This year our Assessment & Reporting process has undergone a little bit of a change. We have just completed the first round of PLP interviews for our Aboriginal students and these will be reviewed again in Term 3. An additional change for 2014 is the introduction of our Student Led Conferences (SLC) which will be a 3+ way interview between the teacher, student and parent/s. Reports will still go out in late term 2 but the SLC will be held approximately a week after the reports are sent home. We hope that all families take the opportunity to come up and celebrate their child/children’s quality work.

I must apologize for not publicly introducing our two newest staff members! We now have Mrs Lyn Owen employed as a Student Learning Support Officer (SLSO). Her role is to work specifically with children in each classroom in Mathematics lessons. We are also lucky enough to have found Mrs Lyn McGeachie who is working in the front office as a School Administration Officer (SAO) whilst Mrs Gardon is on leave. Welcome aboard Ladies!

Upcoming Events

March 10
High School Transition Forms sent home

March 12
NRL BLITZ VISIT 2pm

March 14
Kinder Vision Screening

Important Announcements!

Bullying - No Way!

We are holding a special Anti-Bullying activities day on Friday 21st of March to coincide with Harmony Day.

Thought for the Week!

What lies behind you and what lies in front of you; pales in comparison to what lies inside of you.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Weekly Focus – Persistence
**Term 1, Week 7 award winners**

**Principal’s award**

K/1N    Fortunato Pico  
1/2M    Nelson Niddrie  
1/2 O   Alirah-Jane Cullen  
3M      Ben Dezelak  
4B      Lucette Keamey  
5/6W    Melanie Hughes  

**Student of the Week:**

K/1N    Brendan Keamey  
1/2M    Cailan Jones  
1/2 O   Scarlett Clarke  
3M      Zoe Murdoch  
4B      Keisha Day  
5/6W    Sabrina Andersen  

**You Can Do It:**

K/1N    Hannah Dezelak  
1/2M    Codie Baker  
1/2 O   Sage Mullins  
3M      Mac Dobson  
4B      Sacchi Nicol  
5/6W    Eliana Hogan  

**Merit:**

K/1N    Riley Hogan  
1/2M    James Sims-Easton  
1/2 O   Conrad Dalwood  
3M      Amy Grainger  
4B      Tia Fuller  
5/6W    Kane Hodge
HARMONY DAY

21 March is Harmony Day.

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

On Friday March 21st students are asked to come dressed wearing ORANGE and will participate in fun activities that encourage getting along and working together. Parents are welcome to attend and more information will be given closer to the day.

Mrs Mandas

P&C NEWS

P&C meeting - The next meeting will be held TOMORROW Tuesday 11 March 2014 at 9am in the staff room. All new parents are invited to come along to our P&C meetings as they involve your children’s interests.

FUNDRAISING

Easter is only 6 weeks away!! We are seeking donations towards our wonderful Easter Raffle. Kindly hand your donations to our canteen volunteers. We need to collect donations before the end of March so that we have time to prepare the prizes and hand out raffle tickets in time to sell. So please dig deep, donations can consist of anything from Easter eggs, stuffed bunnies, decorations, etc. Aldi usually have a great range at very reasonable prices.

CANTEEN NEWS

We are seeking more volunteers for the canteen for Tuesdays. We have 2 Tuesdays free. If we cannot fill these days then unfortunately the canteen will be closed.

PLEASE NOTE: The canteen cannot accept $20 notes or $50 notes as we do not hold a float to accommodation large notes.

LUNCH ORDERS MUST BE HANDED IN BEFORE 9AM - the doors will close at 9.10am as late orders are consistently happening and they simply cannot be cooked in time.

Canteen Roster

This week 10th – 14th Mar
Monday - Sue
Tuesday - Shell & Ang
Wednesday - Louise
Thursday - Mel & Tammy
Friday - June & Kayleen

Next week 17th Mar – 21st Mar
Monday - Sue
Tuesday - CLOSED
Wednesday - Tina K
Thursday - Mel & Kayleen
Friday - Tammy & Tiana

Weekly Focus – Persistence
UNIFORMS

MEDIUM SIZE HATS HAVE NOW ARRIVED!!!

The uniform shop is only opened Friday mornings from 8.45am to 9.15pm. If you cannot make this time please put your name & contact number in an envelope and place it in the letterbox in the CANTEEN for us to contact you to make arrangements. You can also place an order & money in the letterbox and we will give the items and receipt to your child.

New Shirts: We expect a new delivery in approximately May 2014 (due to Chinese New Year). They are only $25.00 each and such a better quality. See the uniform shop on Fridays and remember you can layby your shirts with regularly weekly payments.

Skorts: our girls are looking beautiful in their new skorts. They are only $20.00 each so come along on Friday to purchase yours.

New sports bag: We have a great new light weight bag in stock that is great for taking to swimming lessons, out of school sports and excursions etc. Come and have a look – they are $13.00 each.

YEAR 6 CAN COLLECTION

Keep bringing in your cans and fill up our new recycling cage. PLEASE DO NOT CRUSH YOUR CANS. The money raised from the cans is put towards the students’ gift to the school at the end of each year.

Remember to keep the Ring Pulls in a zip-lock bag and hand to the canteen volunteers as they help Ronald McDonald House raise funds for much needed equipment.

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2014 International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

ICAS is a highly regarded assessment program for schools in Computer Skills, English, Maths, Science, Spelling and Writing. 2014 Sitting Dates & Entry Prices below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 ICAS Sitting Dates</th>
<th>PRICE (includes GST)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>20 May</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>4 June</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>16-20 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$18.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>17 June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$12.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>29 July</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>12 August</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>$8.80</td>
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Please choose your subjects and send correct money to school in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name, class and test subject selected.  Glenda Williams
**REMINDERS:**

1. **Classes K/1N, 1/2M, 1/2O:** Australian Reptile Park Excursion on Thursday 3rd April  
   Payment & Permission Notes ~ DUE NOW!!! $22.00 per student.

2. **Class 5/6W:** Canberra Excursion - Tuesday 24th June to Friday 27th June.  
   $50 deposit, due by Friday 21st March.

3. **Public Speaking:**  
   All students will deliver a speech to their class over the next 2 weeks. Students have been given a reminder about this. Thank you to those students who have come prepared with their speeches today.

4. **Years 3 - 6 Excursion:** Fort Scratchley & Newcastle Forehsore on Thursday 27th March  
   Payments & Permission Notes due Friday 21st March  
   $12.00 per student.

**PARENT HELPERS WANTED**

We are looking for parent helpers again this year. Last year our parent helpers assisted with Reading Groups, Home Reading and small groups in Maths and English. They were a valuable resource in our classrooms and school community.

If you or a family member are able to lend the students and teachers your time it would be greatly appreciated. We require parents/aunts/uncles/grandparents to help in all of our classrooms K-6 from 9am - 11am daily.

Accompanying the newsletter today is a Parent Helper note for our volunteers. Please fill this out and return it to Mrs Mandas.

We look forward to another successful year of our partnership!

*Mrs Mandas*

**STEPHANIE ALEXANDER KITCHEN GARDEN PROGRAM**

On Thursday 6th & Friday 7th March, Mrs Marr & Mrs Mandas attended the first training sessions for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program. This is an exciting initiative that our school was accepted into for this year.

Mrs Marr tested her culinary skills in the kitchen, while Mrs Mandas learnt about how to build the perfect garden for our school.

The process for this program will be very involved and will require teamwork from both staff and parents.

Once our plans are made we will be calling on parent involvement and support for this program.

In the meantime if you are interested in either the Kitchen or Garden areas (or both) please let either Mrs Mandas or Mrs Marr know.

This program will be an excellent opportunity for Belmont North Public School and we are excited to get things started. It’s going to be a great year ahead!!

*Mrs Marr & Mrs Mandas*
LOST PROPERTY

We have LOTS & LOTS of lost property in our basket on the school verandah.

PLEASE check to see if your child has misplaced any clothing.

UNIVERSAL TAE KWON DO ACADEMY

WHITEBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, Lonus Avenue, Whitebridge,

Tuesdays 5.30pm - 6.30pm

FLORAVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL, 76 Floraville Rd, Floraville, Mondays 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Come and have fun learning the most advanced techniques in martial arts and sport Tae Kwon Do (as seen in the Olympics).

We are a STA accredited academy with fully qualified instructors.

Ph: 49695591 or 0409655842 www.universaltaekwondo.com.au

BELMONT NORTH NETBALL CLUB

We are looking for U8 players to join our Belmont North Netball Club, please contact belmontnorthnetball@hotmail.com. Come try Netball Wednesday 12th March 4.30-5.30pm at BNNC courts next to Lenaghan Oval, Belmont North.

AUSTRALIAN AIR LEAGUE

Australian Air League meets Friday nights between 7.00pm and 9.00pm at Belmont Public School. Boys aged 8 years and older are welcome to join. Cadets will have the opportunity to earn badges, fly in planes, attend camps and train to be a pilot when older.

For further information call Norm Minton on 4971 2885.

Weekly Focus – Persistence