Principal’s Report

Mr Graham White

How can we possibly be at the end of Week 10? For all sorts of reasons, this term has absolutely flown!

We have some exciting things happening after the holidays at Paxton Public School. I recently heard that our school will be receiving an extra staffing entitlement that will concentrate on Literacy and Numeracy in the early years of school. There is also extra funds for teacher professional development that will ensure that our teachers are up to speed on the latest thinking on literacy and numeracy teaching in the K-2 area.

More details after the holidays.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all students who participated in last Friday’s school cross country event. The students didn’t let the weather dampen their efforts and all students put in a huge effort to complete the course. Thank you to all the adults that came to support the students on the day.

An extra congratulations to the following students who will be representing the school at next Thursday's zone cross country. They are: Noah, Paige, Aidan, Charly, Lathan, Bailey, Nelson, Samson, Samantha, Connor, Courtney, Jack, Jackson, Kirrilly and Aimee. Good Luck!
Easter Hat Parade

We will be holding our annual Easter Hat Parade next Tuesday, 8th April and family and friends are invited. To help celebrate the day, all children will be making their own hats at school during class; however, if you would like to send in any small decorations, ornaments, etc, you are more than welcome. All other craft supplies will be provided.

The P & C will also hold a BBQ lunch and orders were sent home yesterday. If you did not receive one, please pick up an order form from the office.

World Autism Awareness Day

We had a good response yesterday with our out-of-uniform day in support of World Autism Awareness day raising almost $50. Thank you to everyone who sent in their gold coin donation – a cheque will be forwarded next week.

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, 10th April</td>
<td>Zone Cross County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 11th April</td>
<td>Last day Term1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, 18th April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon, 21st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon, 28th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues, 29th April</td>
<td>Children return for Term 2</td>
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</tbody>
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School holiday kids and family camps

It’s not too late to book your child into a NSW Sport and Rec holiday camp. There are also family camps available year-round, for an active, family-friendly (and pocket-friendly) getaway. Find out more: [http://bit.ly/1hWxTra](http://bit.ly/1hWxTra)

Managing screen-time

Helping kids find the right balance between activities, homework and screen time is a challenge that only gets harder as they grow older. Commonsense Media has lots of useful resources to help – from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screentime limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them. Read the article here: [http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk](http://bit.ly/1pBIfmk)

Books to boost brains

Literacy skills often progress suddenly in leaps and bounds. The secret is to keep kids of all ages reading over the weekends and school holidays. Even 20 minutes a night can make a huge difference to their reading, comprehension and general knowledge. It’s also a great way to settle their minds down before sleep (for adults too!). If your child hasn’t found a book that grabs their imagination, why not try them on a series book from the Premier’s Reading Challenge list? Here are top suggestions for all ages, including young adult: [http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0](http://bit.ly/1dLSGC0)

Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?

It's no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that “everyone else is doing it”, you can get the facts a glance from School A to Z’s technology glossary. You’ll also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: [http://bit.ly/188OerY](http://bit.ly/188OerY)
Thank you for the fantastic donations we have received from the wonderful Paton school families so far for our Easter raffle – your kindness is most appreciated.

If you would like to contribute to the raffle, your generous gift can be left at the office.

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**Easter Hat Parade**

*Next Tuesday – 8th April 2014*

To help celebrate Easter this year, The P&C will be holding a BBQ lunch

- BBQ lunch starts at 1:15pm
- All family members and friends are welcome to attend.
- Pre order lunch forms went home yesterday – if you would like another one they are available at the office.
- Our Easter raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the hat parade – if you would like more raffle ticket to sell/purchase, there are extras available in the office.
- Please return all sold & unsold raffle books by Tuesday

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**Thank you to this week’s canteen volunteers**

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**P&C Meeting**

- Wednesday 7th May 2014.
- 9:30am in the school library
- Hope you can come along and join us

~ Everyone is most welcome ~

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**Don't Forget!**

- Raffle tickets due back to school = 8th April
- Easter BBQ lunch = 8th April
- Easter raffle drawn = 8th April
- P&C meeting = 7th May
- Mother’s day stall = 9th May
- Thank you picnic lunch = 9th May
- Mother’s day raffle drawn = 9th May
- Whole school winter breakfast = 4th June
- Thompson pie drive = June (date to be confirmed)

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**Mother’s day is just around the corner…**

Mother’s day celebrations will be held on 9th May 2014

- A Mother’s day gift stall for students to purchase a present for someone special
- All gifts will be $5.00 each
- Thank you picnic lunch – students are able to invite someone special to join them for lunch (bring your own picnic lunch or order from the canteen)
- Mother’s day raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the picnic lunch – tickets will go home first week back in term two

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Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C

~ Together we can make a difference ~

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Page 3
Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids
A PROGRAM FOR MEN AND THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

Coming to Cessnock Term 2, 2014
Session 1 - Tuesday 6/May/2014
Then every Tuesday for the rest of term 2.

How will you and your children benefit?
✓ Spend quality time in fun physical activities with their kids that lead to optimal physical, mental, and socio-emotional health
✓ Shed kilos without giving up the things they love
✓ Learn how to transform the dinner table from warzone to peace train
✓ Get active, fitter and healthier with their kids
✓ Receive the latest information on physical activity and nutrition

More information or to register your interest.
Please contact Zane Osborn – 0410 866 141
zane@pinnacleteamevents.com.au
www.healthydadshealthykids.com.au

Hunter YLA Leadership Conference

Empowering Newcastle’s Youth:
A brighter workplace & community

Join other future leaders for a day of leadership building exercises, practical workshops and panel discussions featuring local political and community leaders including an opening address by Sharon Claydon MP, Federal Member for Newcastle.

This FREE conference event includes entry, a networking lunch, Conference Delegates Showbag and Certificate of Participation.

Date: Saturday 12 April
Time: Registration opens at 10am
Conference Concludes at 3pm
Venue: Wallsend Pioneers Memorial Hall
Cnr Newcastle Rd & Cowper St
Wallsend NSW 2287
Cost: Free - Lunch provided
Age: This event is targeted at people aged 15-24
RSVP: youthweek@hunteryla.org.au
Visit hunteryla.org.au for more details.

This event has been generously funded by Newcastle City Youth Council and is a registered 2014 National Youth Week event.

Visit the Wetlands in the Holidays
During the school holidays the Hunter Wetlands Centre at Shortland is offering fun activities for kids and families. Kids can learn bush skills, go on a bike safari, make bush perfume or join Tantrum Theatre drama workshops and participate in the creation and performance of ‘Reptilla’. Booking is essential for school holiday activities - go to www.wetlands.org.au for dates, times and costs.

For families there are walking trails, a discovery playground, dip-netting, reptile talks, bike and canoe hire. Bring a picnic or enjoy a fresh and delicious lunch at the Spoonbill Cafe.

Easter Saturday is great time to visit for a fun filled morning with craft, face painting, games, BBQ and a special treasure hunt.

Note: the Centre will be closed Good Friday and Easter Monday.
All entry $5, school holiday special - children 3-12 yrs only $2.