Principal's Report

Mr Graham White

Anti-Bullying

Bullying in schools is often in the news and our school takes it very seriously, indeed. In 2012 a committee was formed which revised the school Anti-Bullying Plan. The group comprised of parents, students and teachers and all contributed to the development of the policy.

The agreed definition of bullying is:

The repeated, intentional harming or hurting of a person, or their belongings, by another person or persons. It is distinguished by how the targeted person feels. Bullying takes many forms and can be physical, verbal, social and psychological. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

What Bullying is Not

Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

Mutual conflict: involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution.

Social rejection or dislike: is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

Single-episode acts: of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied.

Currently in our school in Personal Development, the early years are doing a unit incorporating making friends, friendship skills and how you can be an “everyday hero” who stands up to unfair or unkind behaviour that they see.

The middle years are working on recognising bullying and strategies to use while the senior class is concentrating on cyber-bullying, which is a major concern amongst teens.

Very importantly, please speak to the school if you have concerns about bullying at school.

School Photos

Gavin, our wonderful photographer, will once again be doing our school photos next Tuesday, 11th March. Envelopes were either sent home yesterday and today.

Please be aware that NO CHANGE will be given so please ensure that correct money is placed in the envelope. Credit card facilities are available on the bottom of each envelope. Full school uniform is required.

Child Dental Benefits Scheme

The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) commenced on 1 January 2014 and provides access for basic dental services to children ages 2-17 years.

The total benefit entitlement will be capped at $1,000 per child over a two calendar year period. A child’s eligibility is assessed at the beginning of each year and requires receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A or a relevant Australian Government payment.
Services within the CDBS include examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions. It does not cover orthodontic or cosmetic dental work or any services provided in hospital.

A participating dental practise is Hunter Dental Group at Cessnock which will fully bulk bill to Medicare. Phone: 4990 1279.

Books in Homes

The Books In Homes launch will be a community event on Friday, 21st March (Week 8). Further details to follow.

Calendar – Upcoming Events Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 12th March</td>
<td>MVHS Yr 6 Information Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, 11th March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 11th April</td>
<td>Last day Term1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, 18th April</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 21st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon, 28th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, 29th April</td>
<td>Children return for Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NSW School Terms 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Tuesday 29th Jan to Friday, 11th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Monday, 28th April to Friday, 27th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Monday, 14th July to Friday, 19th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tuesday, 7th Oct to Friday, 19th Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Homework help

Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practise their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments?

The free School A to Z app has been created by the Department of Education and Communities to help parents and their school-aged children, wherever and whenever they have homework and study questions.

Find out more:
http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/school-a-to-z

When lunch comes home again – uneaten

Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds.

But it's a battle families can do without and there are some simple steps to help avoid it.

Find out more:

Help with English

Does your child need help with spelling or writing? Here are some resources that may help.

Find out more:

Maths

Struggling to remember everything you learnt in maths? If you need a refresher course, here are some tips and tools to help you to help your child.

Find out more:
Thank you to everyone who attended the fundraising meeting on Monday.

We were able to discuss some wonderful ideas for 2014 and look forward to working together to achieve some great results.

~ Fundraising Opportunity ~

Paxton Public School P&C has been given a wonderful opportunity by Hope Estate to assist with upcoming events and functions.

We are currently seeking interest from parents/carers to volunteer at CMC Rocks the Hunter, Sat 15th & Sun 16th March 2014.

If you would like more information about how you can get involved in future events, please see Carol Avery or Allarna Young.

~ School Shirt Order ~

Thank you to all parents/carers who expressed interest in ordering a navy school shirt. An order has been placed and shirts will be back by Friday 14th March.

The cost of each shirt is $30 and payment can be made at the school office (cash only)

Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C
~ Together we can make a difference ~
At our Millfield Venue the children are building friendships and learning cooperation.

When children have positive experiences they develop an understanding of themselves as significant and respected, and feel a sense of belonging.

Relationships are the foundations for the construction of identity – ‘who I am’, ‘how I belong’ and ‘what is my influence?’

If you are interested in sending your child to preschool to begin their learning journey, please contact Hunter Mobile Preschool on 49346725 or visit our website for more information Huntermobilepreschool.com.au

---

**YEAR 6-7 TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL IN 2015 INFORMATION EVENING**

Mount View High School would like to welcome your child in 2015.

We would like to invite parents and their children in Year 6 to our information evening.

Monday 10th March 2014
5.30pm to 6.30pm in the school hall

This will be a wonderful opportunity to:
- meet Mount View High School staff, including the Year Advisor for Year 7 2015, Miss Renee Agricola
- view the facilities of Mount View High School
- hear about subjects on offer for Year 7 2015
- be advised of the enrolment process and
- receive information about our transition program for Year 6 into Year 7 2015.

If you have any queries please contact the school on 49109366.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

---

**BELLBIRD JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

**2014 REGISTRATIONS**

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

1. Complete online registration at www.myfootballclub.com.au
2. All players must attend one of our registration days to complete registration paperwork, payment of fees and ordering of merchandise

**REGISTRATION DAYS**

- When – Please phone for appointment
- Where – Charmichael Park, Bellbird
- Time – 6:30PM until 7 PM

New Players require birth certificate or passport – copy only

Players from 4 years of age

must be turning 5 before

31st December 2014

5-7 years $80 • 8-11 years $95
12-18 years $110 • Seniors $200

PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ONLINE OR CASH/CHEQUE ON DAY
NEW PLAYERS RECEIVE FREE SHORTS AND SOCKS
ALL PLAYERS RECEIVE A CLUB POLO SHIRT

Further details are on our website
www.bellbirdjuniorfootballclub.com

PLEASE PHONE BELINDA
ON 0412-971-479

---

**Junior Creative Writing**

@ Cessnock & Kurri Libraries

**Who:** Children and Young adults aged 10-16 yrs

**Where:** Cessnock & Kurri Public Libraries

**When:** Monthly

**How?** Contact the library for more information and to join our group

---

**KURRI KURRI LIBRARY**

Karen Bruce: Ph: 49371638
karen.bruce@cessnock.nsw.gov.au

**CESSNOCK LIBRARY**

Sandy Ryan: Ph: 4934394
sandra.ryan@cessnock.nsw.gov.au