**Principal’s Report**

**Mr Graham White**

**Farewell Mrs Keir**

Following Naomi’s announcement last week, a farewell afternoon tea was held today to show our thoughts and appreciation of the years Naomi has spent at Paxton School. Naomi has been a valuable and well-loved part of the school and she will be missed greatly.

We wish her all the best and look forward to seeing some of her future artwork.

**Small Schools’ Athletics Carnival**

All children who were present had a great day on Tuesday at the Small Schools’ Athletics Carnival at Turner Park.

Unlike last year, the weather was kind and the events were held in glorious sunshine.

The two carnivals (K – 2 and 3 – 6) both ran very smoothly. The attitude and enthusiastic participation of all our students was a pleasure to witness. Congratulations to all our kids! Thanks, too, to all the parents who were able to attend and support the carnival and in some cases help out with the events.

Some very good performances were achieved at the primary carnival and several students are likely to make the combined small schools team, which will compete in the zone carnival soon.

**Public Speaking Program**

Our successful public speaking program has been running for many years now and will take place, once again, over the next few weeks. All students are expected to present a prepared talk to their classmates and, later, some students will present their talks to a school assembly where a guest judge will nominate our entrants in the zone competition.

The ability to talk confidently to an audience is a skill for life and certainly a valuable asset in senior schooling and many social and working situations.

**Year 6 at MVHS**

Our Year 6 students will be visiting MVHS next Wednesday for their “mini lessons”. This is a regular part of the transition program from primary to high school and during the morning the students meet a couple of their teachers for next year and experience lessons in the two subject areas.

Years 6 always enjoy this day and we hope you have fun next week, kids.

**Mrs H’s Baby Shower**

Thank you to everyone who attended Alex’s baby shower last Friday. She had a wonderful afternoon and received some beautiful gifts.
Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser: [www.bit.ly/1hytn2E](http://www.bit.ly/1hytn2E)

Mental maths strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: [www.bit.ly/JkiUsY](http://www.bit.ly/JkiUsY)
Order forms will be going home next week to families for this year’s Thompson Pie Drive. Order form and money is due back to school by Friday 13th June 2014.

Whole school winter breakfast
The P&C will be providing a FREE hot winter breakfast for the whole school on Wednesday 4th June 2014. Breakfast will be served at 8.30am under the school COLA, It is a great way to start the day!

A very big Thank you to everyone who helped celebrate Alex’s baby shower and Naomi’s farewell.

It certainly was a wonderful send off for two beautiful ladies. We wish them both the very best for the future ahead.

Just for fun…..
We have started a guessing competition to guess the sex, weight & length of Alex’s baby. If you would like to join in the fun, please feel welcome to fill in your details and pop it on the board in the office.

Excel Hunter Tours - Sydney Shopping Trip
Saturday 8th - Sunday 9th November 2014.
Cost per person $260 which includes:
Coach travel both days, Muffin and juice on approach to Sydney, Lunch at the Star Garden Buffet, Overnight accommodation at the Holiday Inn Darling Harbour, Full buffet breakfast Sunday morning with late checkout if we decide to check out Paddy’s, wine and cheese on the way home. More detail to come…

Deposit of $50 can be paid at the school office to secure your seat.

SAVE the DATE
- 17th October, 2014 -
This year Paxton Public School celebrates its 90th year on this site. And to say Happy Birthday to our wonderful school, we are having a Country Fair.

A meeting will be scheduled in the next few weeks to discuss further details. If you have any ideas you’d like to share, please come along to the meeting or feel free to talk to one of the P&C committee members. We’d love to hear your thoughts

Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C
~ Together we can make a difference ~
Family Fun Day

An event to raise funds and awareness for SIDS and Kids Hunter Region.

Sunday 8th June 2014

10am - 2pm
Railway Stands
Newcastle Foreshore

Entertainment

Ruby the Clown
Come and meet Carly from NR

Magician
Airbrush Tattoo
Reptile Display
Face Painting
Crafter Corner
Sausage Sizzle

Free Entry

Come and meet Carly from NR

Entertainment

Ruby the Clown
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Magician
Airbrush Tattoo
Reptile Display
Face Painting
Crafter Corner
Sausage Sizzle

Free Entry

For More Info Call 02 4969 3777

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