Principals Report

Mr Graham White

Early Action for Success (EA4S)

As I wrote earlier in the year, our school has been fortunate enough to be included in the Early Action for Success program, which will run for three years. The program involves extra staff, extra training for teachers and is focussed on improving literacy and numeracy achievements in young students.

In Term 2, Cindy Sadler joined us for Mondays and Tuesdays weekly. Cindy is a highly accomplished educator and trainer and spent most of last term assessing all our students in Years K – 2 and working with our teachers.

This term, Sharni Wynands, a keen young teacher, will be joining our school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to help implement programs that Cindy and our teachers devised to improve the outcomes of all our K – 2 students.

This term, several young students will be changing literacy groups so that they are involved in the EA4S program. This is not a reflection on their progress but simply to allow them to participate in a vibrant learning program.

New Uniforms??

During our parent/teacher meetings this week, several parents have asked about proposed changes to our school uniform. Please note that there have been no decisions made about changes to uniforms and there won’t be without full consultation with the parents and carers in our school community.

However, some discussions / consultation do need to take place because the dress that is listed in our published uniform is no longer available. Also current departmental guidelines are very clear that a school uniform cannot prevent any student from participating in all activities, PE and sport included.

Departmental guidelines state that a school principal is responsible for managing school uniforms and I will ensure that the community has the opportunity to contribute before any additions or changes to our uniforms take place.

Retirement

As many of you may have heard, I will be retiring at the end of this year, my tenth at Paxton Public School. A new principal will be chosen by merit selection, which involves application and interview. This process will probably occur during Term 4 and will be led by our School Director.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Thank you to the parents / carers who were able to make the parent / teacher interviews that were held over the last two days. As mentioned previously, if you have any concerns about your child that may require extra time, please make an appointment time with your child’s classroom teacher or with Mr White.

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Term 3

- 31st July: Beanie Day
- 1st Aug: Zone Athletics
- 4th & 5th Aug: Public Speaking at Nulkaba
- 11th Sept: Public Speaking Finals
Jump Rope for Heart

Please remember to return your sponsorship forms and any funds raised.

Jump Rope for Heart was held on the last day of last term and a fun day was had by all. It is very important that all sponsorship forms are returned to the school as they are required to be sent back to the National Heart Foundation. There are still numerous forms outstanding – if you have lost your form, please notify the school.

Flu season is here!

Influenza is spread from person-to-person through the coughing or sneezing of infected people. Remind your child about these good hygiene practices to minimise the spread of infection:

- Anyone who is sick with influenza symptoms should stay home until their symptoms are gone.
- Cover the nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the garbage bin after use.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

If you or your child develops influenza-like illness, seek the advice of your family doctor as you would with any other illness.

The seasonal influenza vaccine, which protects against the pandemic influenza strain as well as two other influenza strains, is now available free to eligible people. More information about the vaccine is available from the NSW Health Immunisation Unit’s vaccination page.

Previous vaccination with the pandemic influenza vaccine, Panvax® is not a barrier to also receiving the seasonal influenza vaccine.

Keep brains ticking

If your child is working on a personal project or a school assignment, don’t forget www.SchoolAtoZ.com.au has lots of information and fact sheets to help with homework.

For students polishing their spelling skills, the free Spelling Bee mobile app also allows them to record a list of their own words and then test themselves. You might even want to challenge them with a list you create. Here’s where you’ll find the free app to download: http://bit.ly/Q9ez0G

Class 1/2
Excel Hunter Tours Sydney Shopping Trip

Don’t Miss Out!
Invite a friend to join you for a fun weekend away shopping…. 

- Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th Nov 2014.
- Cost per person $260
- Deposit of $50 can be paid at the office to secure your seat.

Price 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.

P&C Meeting

The next P&C committee meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 23rd July, 2014 at 9:30am in the school library.

~ Everyone is welcome to attend ~

---

Country Fair
- Friday 17th October, 2014 -

Plans are under way to make this year’s Country fair a wonderful day for everyone.

- The fair will start at 1pm and continue into the evening finishing at 6pm.
- We have various demonstrations and displays lined up to entertain the whole family.
- ABC Jumping castles have been booked to set up a variety of rides for kids of all ages. (Arm bands will be available for purchase towards the end of term three)
- Stall holders wanted!! If you know someone who may like to hold a stall at our fair, please invite them to come along. Information sheets are available from the school office.
- We will be asking each classroom for donations to help set up their own stall. That stall will be run by the class teacher, students and their parents throughout the afternoon. Your generous donations are always appreciated and will help make each stall a huge success. (more information will be sent home soon)

If you have any ideas you’d like to share, Please feel free to talk to one of the P&C committee members.

We’d love to hear your thoughts

~ Together we can make a difference ~

---

Thank you for supporting Paxton Public School P&C
GIRL GUIDES
The new MILLFIELD UNIT will commence on Monday, 21st July, 4.30pm
St Luke’s Church Hall

Our Program is for girls of all ages, but our groups are structured so that you can hang out with girls your own age, in a safe, nurturing and caring environment:

- Make new friends
- Learn new skills
- Have fun
- Be the best that you can be

Girl Guides is a non-denominational organisation, welcoming Girls from all cultures, faiths and traditions, and we are honoured that the community of St Luke’s has offered us the use of their hall for our unit meetings.

Your first two (2) visits are FREE so come try us out...
Unit Meetings are every Monday afternoon at 4.30-6.00pm, during school term, St Luke’s Church Hall

To find out more, Call Kylie on 0410 323 627
Email: cessnockguides@bigpond.com
www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

ELLALONG WOODCHOP AND MINERS CHALLENGE

ELLALONG HOTEL

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST 2014

As a mark of respect could all CFMEU members that are attending this event please wear their lodge shirts

AUSTAR COAL MINE

Healthy Dads Healthy Kids

A PROGRAM FOR MEN AND THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL Aged CHILDREN

Coming to Cessnock Term 3, 2014
Program starts - Tuesday 23rd July 2014 (3.30-5.30pm)
A 8 week program run at Cessnock Public School
Let your family be the next to benefit from this award winning program
No referral required

For appointments call us today!

“I cannot recommend this program enough. It has probably added years to my life expectancy, but probably more importantly it has added immeasurably to my quality of life and my family’s.” - Previous participant.

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, fit 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@eventsincsteamevents.com.au
www.healthydadshealthykids.com.au

HEALTHY DADS, HEALTHY KIDS

Child Dental Benefits Schedule

YES WE BUCK BILL!!

DENTAL BENEFITS

For eligibility please visit www.hunterdental.com.au

HUNTER DENTAL GROUP

Cessnock Greenhills Dental Practice
12-14 Market St, Cessnock Phone: 4993 3000

For appointments call us today!