Prinicipal's Report

Mr. Graham White

Book Week Celebration

This afternoon at our school, our students will participate in our traditional Book Week activity, a parade of characters from books. As I've written before, this need not be an elaborate costume because many of the characters from books are “normal” people leading “normal” lives, wearing “normal” clothes but the story becomes interesting when something out of the ordinary occurs. I am pleased to be able to report that there will be 100% participation by students at our school in our Book Week activity.

I am also pleased to be able to write that our school contains many students who are developing a genuine love of reading. For many years, for example, the students in our senior classes have all appreciated daily quiet reading times. To put that to the test, I just now visited the 5/6 room to ask what kids are reading. Every student but one had a book under their desk for quiet reading and titles included:

- The Hobbit
- Cyclone Tracey
- Pennies for Hitler
- National Geographic magazine
- Eric Vale

(The other student chooses from a selection of books in the classroom related to a history unit of study on Australia’s involvement in war.)

During my time working in schools, many things have changed but reading has always been and remains most schools' number one priority.
Books in Homes

I have been asked a couple of times recently about our popular Books in Homes program for this term. The program runs over Terms 1, 2 and 4 each year, so no books this term. All our students will select and receive their last three books for 2014 after the holidays.

Literacy and Numeracy Week

This week is National Literacy and Numeracy Week, an initiative of the Federal Department of Education and is designed to provide schools with the opportunity to highlight literacy and numeracy practices.

At our school currently we have several significant things occurring:
- ReadSmart is a program developed in our school which is showing great results with participating students
- Books in Homes is funded equally by the school and our P & C and I am not aware of another school in the area which provides this wonderful program to all its students
- Our teachers of our junior classes are participating in professional development in both literacy and numeracy as part of the Early Action for Success program and the latest recommended practices are being implemented in both classes with great effect.

School Entrance

All this rain has made the entrance to the school very slippery and awkward. Please be careful until the holes are filled next week.

Canberra Excursion

The excursion for Years 5/6 to Canberra is fast approaching and the children appear to be quite excited. Last week further information was sent home which included:
- Student Permission and Medical Information
- Itinerary
- General information (Leaving/Departure times, behaviour, packing list, etc)

If you have not received this information, please contact the school to organise a copy.

As you are aware, the children will be leaving in a little over 2 weeks. Please take advantage of the payment system that we are offering as students will only be able to participate in this excursion if full payment has been made by the 5th September 2014.

A payment reminder, with amounts owing, was sent home to students yesterday.

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Term 3

- 28th Aug: Book Week Parade
- 4th Sept: K – 2 Excursion – Reptile Park
- 5th Sept: Footy Colours Day
- 11th Sept: Public Speaking Finals
- 16-18th Sept: Year 5-6 Canberra Excursion

NSW School Terms 2014

| Term 1 | Tuesday 29th Jan to Friday, 11th April |
| Term 2 | Monday, 28th April to Friday, 27th June |
| Term 3 | Monday, 14th July to Friday, 19th Sept |
| Term 4 | Tuesday, 7th Oct to Friday, 19th Dec |

Enrolments for 2015

Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015 are now being taken. If you have a child starting school next year, or you are aware of someone, please see Leah in the office for an enrolment form.
FRIDAY - 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2014

10:00 am - FATHER’S DAY GIFT STALL

- All gifts will be priced - $5.00 each
- The stall will be held during class time. Your child’s teacher will accompany the class as they choose their gift. Every student will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for someone special

1:15 pm - THANK YOU PICNIC LUNCH

- Students can invite someone special to join them for lunch – 1:15pm
- Lunch orders will be available for visitors or please feel free to bring along a picnic.

2:00 pm - FATHER’S DAY RAFFLE

- Tickets for the Father’s day raffle have been sent home with students. Tickets will also be available to purchase during lunch on Friday. (extra raffle books available at the office)
- Father’s day raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the picnic lunch – 2pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend
Lantern Making Workshops at Cessnock & Kurri Kurri Libraries

Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries will be running free lantern making workshops in the lead-up to the Spring Awakening Festival at Cessnock TAFE on Friday September 12 – come along and make a beautiful paper lantern to be part of this very special annual event. There will be two workshops – the first will be at Cessnock Library on Tuesday September 9 at 4 pm, the second will be at Kurri Kurri Library on Wednesday September 10 at 4 pm.

All materials and tools provided – places are limited, so contact Cessnock or Kurri Kurri Library now to reserve a spot. For further enquiries or to make a booking, call in to either library or ring us at Cessnock Library on 49934399 or Kurri Kurri Library on 49371638.

Paxton Bowling Club
Charity Trivia Night in Aid of Jodie’s Place

Saturday 20th September at 6pm

$30 per ticket includes meal ($15 to Jodie’s place & $15 for meal) tickets available from the club

Come along, bring a friend or come with a group of friends or workmates

Tables between 8 & 10

Great prizes and raffle

Bookings by Sunday 14th September.

Bookings and payment by 14th September

LET’S ALL SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR THIS LOCAL CHARITY