**Principal’s Message**

**Macleay Swimming**

Congratulations to the 28 competitors who participated in the Macleay District Swimming Carnival on Wednesday of last week. Our students swam well and were great spectators, encouraging each other in their swims.

It was disappointing that some students were disqualified in their events. Four Swim NSW representatives were the stroke judges at the carnival and disqualified swimmers whose stroke did not comply with the swimming regulations. They are quite strict with their rulings so that students are not sent on to the next level and then get disqualified.

**Parent parking**

As stated last week in the newsletter, the driveway gate will be locked from 3:15. Last week I stated that the gate will not be re-opened until after the main bus leaves, however after trialling this for a week, and in consultation with the supervisory staff we have agreed that it is not necessary that the gate be closed until the main bus. The staff on the afternoon duty will open the gate when they deem it is safe to do so, ie after all the walkers have left and once the traffic has calmed after parents picking up their children have left. Please do not ask for the gates to be opened earlier as the staff have a duty of care to the students whom they are supervising.

**Playgroup**

Our playgroup started this morning and will operate every Monday morning during school terms. If you have neighbours with small children please let them know!

**Student absences**

I am very concerned with the high levels of absenteeism amongst some of our students. It is important that students attend every day at school. If you take your child to the doctors could you please ask them for a doctor’s certificate. A note explaining all absences is required within 2 days of an absence.

Debbie Bradshaw
Principal

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**What’s Happening**

**Week 5**

- 26th Feb Lower North Coast Swimming Carnival
- 26th Feb Head Injury visit for Year 5 & 6 students
- 28th Feb School Clean Up Day
- 28th Feb Assembly

**Week 6**

- 6th March – 6.00pm - Parent Workshop on Reading – How to help your child read at home

**Voluntary School Contributions**

We would appreciate it if every family would pay our school’s voluntary contribution of $44 per FAMILY, by the end of term 1.

The School Contribution helps cover the cost of many items which are used daily by every child. These include items such as library books, home readers, computers, mathematics materials, art equipment and to subsidise the increasing costs of bus transport to excursions.

**Chaplaincy**

The school chaplaincy program is a voluntary program that assists school communities to support the spiritual, social and emotional well-being of their students. If you do not want your child to participate in this program, please notify the school in writing.

**Earn and Learn Resources**

Thank you to everyone that sent their Woolworth's Earn and Learn stickers to the school. We were able to redeem the points to purchase a number of resources for the playground and the classrooms. These resources included new sensory balls, class sets of whiteboards, art and craft supplies, a lovely new mat and a number of other writing resources.

**Literacy Cafe – opening Week 6**

We are excited to announce that we have transformed Homebase 4 into a shared space that will house the debating teams, Students Representative Council, and the School Band. Additionally, at designated lunchtimes the space will transform into a Literacy Café and will be staffed to support students with writing. The Literacy café will initially be opened to students in Years 3 and 4 who would like to spend time writing creative pieces and improving their literacy skills. Art and craft supplies and computers will be available to assist students with quality publishing. The Literacy café will also be open to all students on Thursday and Friday mornings from 9-9:20am for students (and parents) needing assistance with homework.
Kindergarten Information
Just a few reminders for our kinder parents and carers-
1) Sport day is Wednesday.
2) Library day is Thursday. Can you please make sure your child brings their library bag and book this Thursday. They will need to return the library bag that was loaned to them last Thursday.
3) Home Readers go home for the first time today. Please listen to your child read and initial the yellow reader card so we know they have read to you. If the card is initialled a new book will be sent home on Tuesday.
4) Thanks to everyone for making sure your child is doing their homework and practising their new sounds!
Many thanks from Mrs D.

News from A and R Class
A huge thankyou goes to Ms Bashford; we really appreciated her stepping in and working with the Stage 3 pupils for the last month. Mr Ashley is expected to return tomorrow.

We thank those parents who have sent in a box of tissues and soap on tap. It is greatly appreciated and it is extremely helpful if families can assist us in this way.

Library day is Thursday for both classes. Books can be returned and borrowed any day of the week. The students do not need to wait until Thursdays.

Please encourage nightly home reading. This is progressing very well for most students. We check home reading journals daily and encourage the pupils to bring their home reading book each day.

Literacy and Numeracy homework is in its third week and most pupils are returning regularly. Some students still need to organise a homework book and develop a regular homework routine.

Students should be well under way researching their Japanese Speech information and drafting their notes. Please see Mrs Rose if you are experiencing difficulty, or are unsure how to begin or need another note. Remember the due date is Monday.

100 Club lucky $2 tickets are available for sale at the office and at assembly this Friday, to help fund the Canberra Excursion. Please return your excursion notes and it is advisable to begin paying off the excursion or organising a payment plan.

We are also running an Easter egg guessing jar competition. If you would like to assist by sending in a bag of small Easter eggs or a couple of medium size eggs, this would truly be appreciated. The SRC pupils will be selling 50 cent tickets for a guess to win the jar of Easter Eggs.

Mr Ashley and Mrs Rose

House Ticket Tally
Congratulations to 1O for winning last week’s draw. The winning house was Hunt and the five lucky students were Courtney, Kesha, Tyrelle, Sophie & Makayla

PSSA Boys Cricket
Well done to the Cricket team for a fine effort last Friday against Aldavilla P.S. They were only narrowly defeated by 51 to 50. Great effort boys and thanks to Mr Donato for coaching and encouraging the boys.

Parent Helpers for Infants Sports
We are seeking parent helpers to assist with the running of our K-2 sports program on a Wednesday afternoon. Willing helpers will be asked to assist with groups of students rotating through activity stations teaching Athletic and Fundamental Movement Skills.

Helpers will need to be available from 2:20 to 3:20 and are asked to bring a drink and a hat. Its great fun and the children would love to see you.

If you think you would like to help please ring Helen or Bev at the office and register your interest. Due to safety issues younger children will not be able to come along as the children will be using discus and shot put equipment.

FREDERICKTON PUBLIC SCHOOL PLAYGROUP
Monday’s 9.30am – 11.00am
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL ON 65668217.

Toby and Zoe enjoying Playgroup today.

ASSEMBLY THIS FRIDAY 28th FEBRUARY.
9.30AM START
Canteen News

LOLLIES OR CUP NOODLES ARE NO LONGER SOLD AT THE CANTEEN

Freshly homemade Muffins - 75c
Pumpkin/Feta, Tandoori Chicken, Chicken/Mushroom, Bacon/Pineapple pizza’s - $4.00
Beef, Vegie & Chicken Burgers - $4.00
Tomato & Basil Quiche - $1.50 each
Tomato & Basil Quiche with salad - $5.00
Quiches - $1.20
Custard and Fruit - $1.00
Elderflower Cordial - $1.00
Small Salad - $3.00
Baked Potato – Corn & Ham - $2.50
Baked Potato – Bolognese Sauce - $2.50
Fried Rice pack - $3.50
Hokkein Noodles Pack - $3.50

If you have grown extra produce that you would like to donate to the canteen, we would love to have it and make it into something yummy.

Thank you to all the people who brought in mint.

If you are available to help in the canteen please contact the office and put your name down on a vacant date.

Also each week Tracey will have a Weekly Special Dish, this week it is: SPINACH & RICOTTA GNOCCHI with a tomato sauce and a crusty roll $5.00.

Canteen News – We are continuing with the “Canteen Rock Star Award” in the canteen. Students who order something new and fresh off the blackboard will be in the running to receive a canteen voucher to be used the following week off the blackboard menu. Last week’s winner: SEAN HOOLE

Sean please see Tracey in the canteen to receive your voucher.

Hokkein Noodles & Fried Rice packs now available at the canteen. ($3.50)

Clean Up Australia Day
Friday 28th February 2014

Students need bring in gloves and a plastic bag.
DURRI ABORIGINAL CORPORATION MEDICAL CENTRE

All parents or caregivers of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander children 5 - 16 years of age are invited to take the opportunity to make an appointment at Durri ACMS for their annual Child Health Check. These checks will cover everything from their ears, teeth, eyes, growth and development. It is a great opportunity to check the progress of your child’s health and address any concerns you may have. To make an appointment with our Child Health Nurse please ring reception on 6560 2302 and ask for Tracey Houston.

South West Rocks Nippers News

With only 2 Nippers Day's left this season we still have some important things going on.

1. 2nd March Normal Nippers Day.
2. 9th March LAST DAY OF NIPPERS, please bring a plate of food to share. There will also be Hotdogs, Sausage Sandwiches and drinks for sale.
3. NIPPERS PRESENTATION: SUNDAY 30th of March, 1pm till 3pm, at the Surf Club in the main area upstairs. The kitchen will open early; there will be meal specials for anyone who wishes to stay.

Janelle is putting together the pictures of the kids from this season; this is the kid’s favourite part of presentation day. If anyone has pictures that could go into this please forward them to Janelle ASAP at nelndave@hotmail.com

Parents please remind your kids to give a big thank you to our wonderful age managers and water safety, because without them our kids would not have the amazing time they do at nippers....they are worth their weight in gold. A huge thank you to all of them.

We have 5 children travelling to Umina for the NSW State Championships this Friday, best of luck to the Schubert and Askew kids. Let’s hope the weather is better than last year.

Thank you Shannon.

KEMPSEY TREE and Produce Fair

Saturday 1st March 8am - 12
At Riverside Park (alongside the Riverside Markets)

KEMPSEY riverside market
Saturday 1st March 8am - 1pm
Eden St, Kempsey on the banks of the beautiful Macleay River!

www.kempseyriversidemarkets.org.au

KEMPSEY LANDCARE Network Inc.
www.macleaylandcare.org.au