Principal’s Report

The school website has been updated to include photos of our 2013 classes as well as our swimming carnival photos. There will be constant updates weekly so please visit the site regularly with your children. The school is open to feedback about the site, but please bear in mind that, because our website is serviced by School Website Services, there are limitations!

Just a quick note to ask parents of our Kindergarten students in the K/1 class to wait outside the building in the afternoon, as there are two other classes still participating in lessons that could potentially be distracted by the noise level. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

PBL

Last Tuesday, the school conducted an evaluation survey with students and staff about student behaviour, school rules and reward systems. This survey is the first step the school is undertaking to introduce the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) system within the school. PBL is a consistent, school-wide system of support that helps define, teach and support appropriate student behaviours, creating a positive school environment. The next step in the process will be for the P&C to nominate a parent or community member to be actively involved in the PBL team that is established. It is important that this team is represented by all stakeholders in our community. The first PBL meeting will take place after school on Wednesday, 13th March. More information will follow in the next few weeks.

PLPs

All parents of Aboriginal students should have been contacted about meeting with their classroom teacher on Thursday, 7th March, throughout the day. This is to develop a Personalised Learning Plan (PLP) for your child. If you haven’t received any information about this meeting, please contact the school.

Kindergarten - Best Start

Parents of children in Kindergarten will be meeting with their child’s teacher to talk about the Kindergarten Best Start assessment that was conducted in Week 3 of this term. If you haven’t received notification of this meeting, please contact the school.

Meet the Teacher Evening

On Thursday, 7th March, the school will be hosting a Meet the Teacher evening for parents to discuss facets of their child’s education, in particular what will be taught in their classroom this year and how you can support your child. It will also be an opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have for your child’s education.

Year 2 and students in K/1 will have slightly continued over ….
different times to see their child’s teacher. The evening will be held in the hall, please ensure you are on time for your interview but bear in mind there is only a short time to meet. Hope to see you there.

**School Uniform**
Our school uniform policy clearly states that boys and girls are to wear grey shorts/skorts or skirts. Dark blue/navy shorts/skorts or skirts are not part of the uniform. Please be aware also, that the policy clearly states that jewellery is discouraged from being worn and that only sleepers or studs can be worn as earrings. Necklaces, bracelets and coloured headbands are not part of our uniform. Thank you for abiding by this policy.

**Year 5/6 Fundraising**
Well done to both 5/6 classes and their families for a very successful cake stall on Thursday/Friday to raise money to sponsor an orangutan and help protect its habitat. Thank you to the school community for your support.

**School Photos**
The school photos will be taken on Friday the 15th of March. All students will need to wear their Summer uniform. Jumpers can be worn but will need to be removed for the photos. Every child received an individual named envelope. Please do not lose these envelopes as they are individually bar coded. Please place the correct amount in each envelope as the school does not handle the money or give change. Envelopes are collected and given straight to the photographer on the day and need to be returned to the office no later than Thursday the 14th of March. This year you are able to order and pay online but envelopes still need to be returned to school with the order reference number recorded on the envelope. Each class will have a group photo taken then individual photos. Parents who want family groups need to speak to the office staff for special envelopes. The school leaders, sports leaders and library monitors will also have a photo taken. These photos may be ordered when the prints are returned to the school. Any orders received after photo day are subject to a $20 search fee.

**Chess Club**
Did you know chess originated in India as a representation of two armies - one black and one white. Heat 1 Competition Winners - Lochlan Bilby, Ethan Brown and Tahlia Hinton. Congratulations to these students who advance to the next round. Good luck to the people in Heat 2 for next Wednesday!

**Library News**
Welcome to a new year of borrowing and enjoying books. It would be appreciated if every child could have a Library Bag for borrowing. They can be purchased from the Library for $2 or you can supply your own.

This year we will be having an Author Visit in Term 3. Cameron Stelzer will come and talk to our children about his books. The cost will be approximately $4.

In Term 3 we also have two Theatre bookings. Possum Magic by Mem Fox on Wednesday 14th August and Emily Eyefinger by Duncan Ball on Tuesday 10th September. Both these productions are on at the Civic Theatre.

We will be taking Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students to see Possum Magic and Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 students to see Emily Eyefinger. We have booked 58 tickets for each production and so the first 58 students to return the permission note with money will be the ones attending these productions. The cost will be approximately $25. More information and permissions notes will be sent out in Term 2 for these Theatre productions.

**Eco-Explorers Week 6**
Dakota Jones 3W
Sacha Mason 1L
Isabel Crawford 1L
Blake Masterman 2H
General Information

Uniform Shop
Just a reminder to place your orders for winter uniforms by no later than Friday 8th of March. Order forms are available at the office or canteen.

P&C News
Reminder: AGM is held 12th March at 1:30pm in the hall. If you would like to hold an executive position this year please attend this meeting. We welcome all new members of our school community to become involved in the P&C. Many hands make light work! For more info just ask Judy at the canteen or see Mr Graham. The countdown to Easter is on! The P&C are requiring donations of the ‘Easter kind’ (chocolate eggs and other goodies) to raffle off at the Easter Hat Parade. Please hand in your donations to the School Office no later than Tuesday 26th March 2013. A huge thank you goes out to all the parents and friends that have put up their hand to help out in the Canteen. I look forward to meeting you all and making new friendships along the way. Judy Mayer - President

Kurri Pre-school
are currently taking names for children requiring pre-school education for children eligible to attend pre-school up to 2015 ie. Born before 1.8.2011. We also still have positions available for 2013 for children aged 3-5. Please contact Kurri Pre-school on 49372110 for further information.

Kurri Kurri Netball Club
Registrations for 2013
Saturday Between 9-11
2nd, 9th & 16th March
5-7 years FREE
8-9 years $20
10-17 years $30
Contact: Deb Davis
Phone 0412 053 923

Shaun Graham
Principal

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Fruit & Veg Made Easy

Do you struggle to get your kids to eat fruit and veg? Do you think fruit and veg are too expensive and take too long to prepare?

Eating more fruit & vegetables could be the simplest change you can make to improve your family’s health! Did you know almost half of parents in NSW don’t eat enough fruit and 8 out of 10 aren’t eating enough vegies? Remember children learn from their parents, help them by practicing healthy eating habits yourself.

Join us for a free Fruit & Veg Sense session, showing you:
- How small changes can make a big difference
- Money saving ideas $$$
- Tips to tempt fussy eaters
- Easy, family-friendly recipes

These Fruit & Veg Sense sessions are brought to you by the Eat It To Beat It program and the session will be running in your area:
- Stanford Merthyr Infants School on Monday 18th March 2013 from 9:15am to 10:45am

To ensure adequate resources please register for these session at www.cancercouncil.com.au/eatittobeatit/register or phone 4923 0710.
General Information

Cessnock Family Support Service

Tuning in to Kids
A six session parenting program for parents of children aged 3 years to 10 years
Would you like to learn how to:
be better at talking with your child?
- be better at understanding your child?
- help your child learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your child?
- teach your child to deal with conflict?
Tuning in to Kids shows you how to help your child develop emotional intelligence.
Children with higher emotional intelligence:
- have greater success with making and keeping friends
- have better concentration at school
- are more able to calm down when upset or angry
- tend to have fewer childhood illnesses
Where: Cessnock Family Support Service
5 Hall Street, Cessnock
When: 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th March 2013
10am to 12pm
Contact: Cessnock Family Support Service
Phone: 4990 4507
Contact service to register for attendance or further information
Cessnock Family Support Service is funded by NSW Community Services,
Department of Family and Community Services

GIVE AWAY
Four guinea pigs (four months old) and two older guinea pigs.
Please see Leonie (Keleigh’s Mum)