Principal’s Report

Our students are out and about experiencing all kinds of extra-curricular activities this week and beyond. On Wednesday, our selected students who entered the Hunter Water Watercatchers short film competition, were able to experience first-hand how to act in, and film, a short film from the script they produced. Even though it was a rainy day, the experience will live with them for a long time. Thank you to Miss Perry for coordinating the group of students and we hope our film is successful.

PSSA State Athletics

Congratulations to Teia M from 5/6G who competed at the PSSA State Athletics Championships this week. Teia represented our school as part of the Regional Athletics Team. She placed 3rd in the 100 metre sprint heat, 4th in the semi final, and progressed to the final in which she came 4th! What an amazing achievement! Well done Teia!

Great Aussie Bush Camp

Next Wednesday, our Stage 2 and 3 students will be heading off to the Great Aussie Bush Camp for a two night, three day stay. Mrs Burton, Mrs Knight and Mr Burley will be attending the camp. We trust that the students will have the time of their lives. The information note, including what to take to camp, is available on the school’s website, in the Permission Notes section at the top of the home page.

Choir and Dance Group

Our choir and dance students have been busily rehearsing for two upcoming events that they will perform at. On Sunday, 26th October, the choir and dance group will be performing at the Kurri Kurri Community Festival, being held in Rotary Park this year. Their performances will be from 9:30am. They will then be travelling to the True Colours Festival, coordinated by Songroom, at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday, 28th October. Students in Year 3 and 4 will have the opportunity to travel to this event to watch performances from our local schools across Kurri Kurri and Cessnock.
Swimming Program & Active After School Sports

Our Stage 2 swimming group has started their four week swimming program with Mrs Grant. They are attending Kurri Kurri Pool on Tuesday afternoons. Active After School Sport starts on Monday, 20th October. We will be hosting a gymnastics program in our school hall, from 3:30pm. Notes were distributed to interested students this week and are available in the school office for collection, as well as on the school’s website, under the Permission Notes section.

Careers Through Reading

Mrs Selina Darney, from University of Newcastle, will be visiting the school on Monday morning, to discuss the Careers through Reading program with our Year 5 students. Following this introduction, Year 5 students will be participating in a five-week program, conducted by the University, to gain a better understanding of career paths, both at University, and in the wider workforce. A great opportunity for our Year 5 students moving into their final year of primary school next year.

Staff Movement

Ms Whitelaw-Bacon and I will be attending a school financial management course on Monday at Kurri Kurri TAFE. Mrs Burton will be relieving in my absence. Mrs Megan Macbeth will be relieving for Ms Whitelaw-Bacon. On Wednesday, 22nd, I will be attending a School Planning Day at Maitland District Office for part of the day. Mrs Harris will be relieving in my absence.

Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received an award at this weeks assembly.

Principal’s Awards: Hamish K/1 and Shelby.
Citizenship Awards: Mia W and Emily G.
Library Awards: Isaac T and Bailey.
Certificate of Excellence: Jarod F and Isaac T.

Live Life Well at School

Active & Healthy - Kids love to be active. Making physical activity a part of their daily routine is not only fun, but also healthy. Physical activity is important for healthy growth and development. It is also a great way for kids to make friends and learn physical and social skills. Encouraging kids to be active when they are young also establishes a routine that could stay with them throughout their life. If you are a parent or carer of a young child, the two points to remember are:

* Children need 60 minutes (up to several hours) of moderate to vigorous physical activity every day.
* Children should not spend more than two hours a day using electronic media for entertainment (e.g. computer games, TV, Internet), particularly during daylight hours.

Why is physical activity important? Children between 5 and 12 years of age greatly benefit from being physically active. It can:

* Promote healthy growth and development.
* Build strong bones and muscles.
* Improve balance and develop skills.
* Maintain and develop flexibility.
* Help achieve and maintain a healthy weight.
* Improve cardiovascular fitness.
* Help relaxation.
* Improve posture.
* Provide opportunities to make friends.
* Improve self-esteem.
Pete the Sheep Performance
Our K-2 students travelled to Cessnock Performing Arts Centre on Thursday to watch a live performance of Pete the Sheep. What a wonderful experience for them!

Year 6 Fundraising
We will be holding a Year 6 fundraising meeting in the school Library on Monday at 3.30pm.

Bookclub
This week Issue 7 of Bookclub was sent home with students. We had a great response last time, with many children very excited to receive their new books when they arrived!
It is easy to order. Just look over the flyer with your child, select the books you want, mark them on the order form on the back of the flyer, and return the order form to the office with payment by the due date. Please make sure your order is in a secure envelope. Families can place multiple orders in the same envelope if needed. The books will arrive around two weeks after I send the class order to Scholastic.
You can also pay for your order online if that is an easier option for you. The website is on the order form. You pay by credit card, after nominating the school from a drop down box. You do not order the books online. You return the order to school, with the payment receipt number included. I then have to send this off with the order, as a record of your payment. Each flyer always has a ‘Red Label Book’ for $2. These books are highly recommended and also make great presents (especially with Christmas just around the corner!).
The orders for this issue of Bookclub are due to the office, no later than Monday, 27th October. Unfortunately, no late orders can be accepted.
If you have any questions about any of this information, please see me. Mrs Burton

Shaun Graham - Principal
Remember when you believed in anything and everything?

Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children’s tendencies to being tricked, fooled and misled by their peers. We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this.

We are looking for parents of Kindergarten – Year 6 children (especially 10 and 11 year olds) across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers. To participate go to:

http://tinyurl.com/childsvq5

Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652 or rebecca.seward@research.uwa.edu.au