Principal’s Report
Thank you to the school P&C for a well-attended meeting last Tuesday. We have some great strengths within our parent body, and the wider community, and it is good to see we are tapping into those strengths to make our school a wonderful learning environment. The newly elected executive board is as follows:

President: Judy Mayer
Vice Presidents: Shane McTegg and Kelly James
Secretary: Sarah Blackmore
Treasurer: Rowena Boughton
Canteen Manager: Judy Mayer
Uniforms: Pam Webb
Fundraising: Jodie Ross-Jackson

Over $20,000 was raised in this last year; we would like to thank everyone within our school community for this amazing result. These funds will be helping our school transform the playground. If you would like to know more about our P&C activities please see Judy at the canteen on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

School Cross Country
Next Monday, all primary students will be participating in the school Cross Country at Jacob’s Park. This will be held during normal Sport time, weather permitting. The Cessnock Zone Cross Country will be held at Cessnock Racecourse on Wednesday, 9th April.

The Boys’ Open Cricket team will be playing Abermain Public School in the second round of the PSSA Knockout on Wednesday, 19th March at Booth Park from 10am. This game was postponed last Wednesday, due to a previous commitment from Abermain Public School.

School Uniform
After a discussion between school staff and the P&C it was decided that the wearing of head pieces, and headbands be restricted, as it is not part of our school uniform. Please ensure your child is wearing the proper school uniform, including the right jewellery, and no wristbands or head pieces. Please ensure your child is bringing a broad-brimmed hat to school, particularly on Sports Day, Monday, as it is very difficult to place students in a shaded area when a class is involved in sport outside. NO caps should be worn into the school grounds.
SMART Science Show
On Monday, 24th March, Years 1 to 4 will be participating in a series of workshops, presented by the University of Newcastle. The Smart program mixes entertainment and education in demonstration based science shows. The program aims to inform, inspire and engage school-aged students in science. This will be at no cost to the students.

Harmony Day
We will be holding a Harmony Day Assembly on Friday 21st March 2014 at 2.30pm. Students from Mozambique and the Philippines who are studying at Newcastle University will be attending our assembly to share information and music from their countries. The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

NAPLAN Assessment
The National Assessment for Year 3 and Year 5 students in Literacy and Numeracy will take place on the 13th (Writing and Language Conventions), 14th (Reading) and 15th May (Numeracy), 2014. All parents of Year 3 and Year 5 students will receive a separate letter with these details as well.

School Fees
Voluntary School Contribution fees have been set at $45 per family for 2014. These fees enable us to supply students with classroom resources, such as maths equipment, technology support and stationery. If you are able to make this payment, please do so at the school office. Thank you.

Staff Movement
Miss Perry and I will be attending the third day of professional learning in the Stronger Smarter program on Wednesday, 19th March. We will be visiting several Aboriginal heritage sites in Wollombi during this day.

Partners in Print
Our next Partners in Print program will be on Friday, 21st March from 9:30am in 5/6G. Information and an expression of interest will be sent home this week with students in 5/6G. We hope you are able to attend. Partners in Print – 9.30am to 10.30am Fridays.
Week 8 – 21st March 5/6G
Week 9 – 28th March Year 5/6B

Live Life Well at School
Do an hour of physical activity everyday
Children need at least 60 minutes of activity each day. Children are not going to have enough physical activity while at school. Families can plan extra activity into their lives to make up the difference.

Active tips for busy families
• Make time to be active as a whole family.
• Go out and play basketball, tag or soccer, throw a ball or ride a bike with your children.
• Meet friends or family in a park and take balls, hoops, Frisbees, bats or other outdoor games to play.
• Set a limit on television watching, computer time and video games to no more than 2 hours a day.

Shaun Graham - Principal