Principal’s Report

I have been so impressed with the magnitude of blue merit cards that are coming across my desk this term. Piles of ten blue merit cards are filling my desk as I proudly send home letters to parents, reminding them that their children will be receiving a Certificate of Merit on one of our assemblies. Several students have also commented to me that they are very close to receiving a Certificate of Excellence for gaining 10 Certificates of Merit. Quite an achievement!

Partners in Learning Survey

At the P&C Meeting on Tuesday night, I directed parents to an online survey that we are conducting, to evaluate our partnerships with the community and to gauge how connected parents are with their child’s learning. The survey link is on our website, in the News Section. It is titled Partners in Learning Survey. The username and password are below. It shouldn’t take more than 10 to 15 minutes to complete. If you would like to participate in the survey but don’t have a computer or internet access at home, please contact the school and we can arrange a computer for you to undertake the survey. **Username:** pelawmain **Password:** parents123

Water Catchers Competition

Six of our students in Years 4, 5 and 6 have been working with Miss Perry on a Water Catchers Competition being run by Hunter Water. Students have been asked to develop a storyboard and script for a short film about water saving techniques, in light of new water wise rules and restrictions that have been introduced. Paul J, Michael M, Jayden M, Amy S, Shana S and Brandon F have been working hard to get a school entry submitted. If our school is selected to participate further, this will then be creating a short film in an attempt to win $10000 for our school to put towards water saving equipment. Good Luck!
Kullaburra Awards Night
The Cessnock AECG will be holding the Kullaburra Awards Night at Kurri Kurri High School next Wednesday, 20th August, from 4pm. Four of our Aboriginal students will be receiving awards on this night. These students will be published in next week’s newsletter.

School Uniform Pool
The P&C Uniform Shop is donating leftover stock of iron-on grey transfers of the school logo. These are great to go on the plain blue polo. If you would like one or two, they will be available from the school’s uniform pool. Several other items, including girls grey knit shorts and boys grey gabardine shorts will also be donated by the P&C, into the school’s uniform pool. Please ask at the office, if you would like items from the uniform pool.

Father’s Day Breakfast
The P&C will be hosting a BBQ Breakfast for all our Dads and their children on Thursday, 28th August. This will be a week earlier than Father’s Day so as not to clash with the Stage 3 Canberra Excursion. Dads and children will be able to have a FREE hearty breakfast of bacon & egg sandwiches or sausages sandwiches, donated by our P&C. Juice drinks and tea and coffee will also be available.

Father’s Day Stall
Our Fathers’ Day Stall will be held on Tuesday, 2nd September, in time for our Stage 3 students to also purchase items for dads and granddads, before they head off to Canberra. All classes will have the opportunity to purchase items from our P&C Stall throughout the day.

Regional Spelling Bee
Four of our students will be travelling to Tenambit Public School on Thursday, 11th September, to participate in the Regional Spelling Bee Competition. Paul J and Shanen B from Year 4, and Ebony R and Taia E from Stage 3 will be participating. We wish them all the best.

PLP Interviews
Next Thursday, our teachers will be conducting interviews with our parents of Aboriginal children as a follow up to the development of their child’s personalised learning plan at the beginning of the year. If you have received an interview request note, please ensure that it returned promptly so that these interviews can be arranged.

Debating Competition
On Monday, 18th August, our Year 6 debating team of Ebony, Joel, Makira and Josh will be debating against the Kurri Kurri Public School team in our school hall from 9:30am. 5/6G and 5/6B will provide an audience for our debaters. On Tuesday, our Year 5 debating team of Brandon, Marty, Tony and Jemma will be travelling to Kurri Kurri Public School to debate against the KKPS team from 9:30am. Mrs Grant will be travelling with the students. We wish them all the very best.

Kindergarten Orientation
We have scheduled our Kindergarten Orientation dates for Term 4. Our apologies for the misprint in the Newsletter regarding the dates last week. The dates are as follows:

- **Thursday, 23rd October** – 2:15pm – Parent Only Information session
- **Thursday, 30th October** – First student orientation session + parent workshop and afternoon tea
- **Thursday, 6th November** – Second student orientation session + parent workshop
- **Thursday, 13th November** – Third student orientation session + parent workshop

P&C Golf Day
Thank you to all who participated in our Golf Day, we had a fantastic turn out, a great day had by all. $3970 was raised to help with playground upgrades.

Canteen News
The canteen will be closed on Wednesday 20th August-Book parade and Grandparents Day.
Ashton Scholastic Book Club

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school. I am pleased to announce that our school is participating in Scholastic Book Clubs this year. Twice a term during the school year, I will send home a Club flyer with a different selection of books offered. You’ll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children’s reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as $2).

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 class will receive their flyers early next week, during Library lessons. There will be additional order forms in the Library, if you would like to look at some of the other flyers. Each flyer always has a ‘Red Label Book’ for $2. These books are highly recommended and also make great presents!

The orders for this issue of Bookclub are due to the office, no later than Friday, 29th August. Unfortunately, no late orders can be accepted, as I will place the orders over the weekend.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however, there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read. If you have any questions about any of this information, please see me.

Mrs Burton

Breakfast Club

Parents please note, there will be no Breakfast Club on Tuesday or Thursday next week.

Partners in Print

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6 – 22nd August</th>
<th>Class 5/6G</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7 – 29th August</td>
<td>Class 5/6B</td>
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The following link from the “My Little Bookcase” website, provides parents and carers with strategies to encourage reluctant readers: www.mylittlebookcase.com.au/reading-tips/reading-tips-how-to-engage-reluctant-readers/

It is a fantastic resource and contains some great ideas to help engage your children with reading.

Book Week and Grandparents Day

Our book week parade will be combined with Grandparents day on Wednesday the 20th August. The book week theme this year is Connect to Reading. Students are asked to come dressed as their favourite book character.

There will be a Book Fair in the Library on that day starting at 9am until 10am for Parents and Grandparents, then the book parade will commence in the hall at 10am. It will reopen at lunch time for Grandparents and Students to purchase some books. By purchasing a book you are helping our Library to obtain new resources. There will be an interesting choice of books starting from $2. Cash will be the method of payment on the day.

We are asking that students bring in fresh flowers and some morning tea to share with their Grandparents, on the day please take the food and flowers to the staffroom. For families with more than one child you only need to provide one plate. Come along, have some morning tea & join the fun.
Eco Explorers Week 6
Liam B 2C, Hamish W 2C, Shannen 4L & Halle 4L.

Live Life Well at School
Did you know... Sedentary living causes over 20 different health problems including heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers. Obesity can make nine different conditions worse including chronic back pain and stroke. Get active and stay healthy!

Physical activity can be:
- sport and organized games
- playing with the dog
- backyard cricket
- climbing trees
- housework

Year 6 Fundraising Meeting
There will be a Year 6 Fundraising meeting on Monday afternoon at 3.30pm. All welcome.

Can’t Wait for Cricket Season to Start?
Learn How To Score Runs and Take Wickets For FREE!

Maitland’s Ultimate Free Pre Season Cricket Workshop – Howzat!

★ Take Part In The Fast Bowling Challenge!
★ Show Off Your Skills In Fielding In The Bullring!
★ Lead Your Team In The High As A Kite Catching Competition!
★ Learn How To Score Boundaries And Sixes In Batting Master Class!
★ Compete In The International Twenty 20 Cup!

Sunday September 7 2014 10am-2pm Maitland Park, Maitland

Free Pass To Holiday Cricket Camp

Book Now For Your Chance To Score A FREE Pass To The Ultimate Cricket Camp These Holidays @ Maitland Park!

“The Ultimate Cricket School taught Christian how to take his batting and bowling skills to a new level. He is so confident after his time at the Preseason Cricket Workshop. Christian says bring on the cricket season!” - Andrew Wansey

www.supersportscamps.com.au