Principal’s Report

What a great day we had at the swimming carnival on Tuesday, 3rd February. I was very impressed with the level of participation and competition in all ages. I was also impressed with the outstanding behaviour of the students at the carnival. Although the carnival is held very early in the term, I was humbled by the great attendance on the day. The Cessnock PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival will be held on Wednesday, 18th February. Zone participation depends on lap times, set by the PSSA, so students will be notified of their entry in to the Zone competition as soon as we receive the time standards. Hebburn house were the Swimming Carnival Champions for 2015. Results of individual champions will be announced on Monday morning’s assembly and students who have been named champions will receive a medallion at our next whole school assembly.

P&C Meeting

Our first P&C Meeting for the year will be held on Tuesday, 10th February from 6pm in the school staff room. If you are not a member, but you wish to vote at this year’s AGM, in March, you will need to pay for membership at, or before next Tuesday’s meeting, to be eligible to vote.

Moving into Year 7 in a NSW Government School

Expression of Interest forms for Year 6 students moving in to Year 7 in 2016, have been sent home this week. The local High School, Kurri Kurri High School has been added to the forms for your convenience. These forms will need to be returned to school no later than Friday, 20th March.

School Fees & Office Payments

Voluntary School Contribution fees have been set at $45 per family for 2015. 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. When making payments at the office, please ensure the correct money is in an envelope, clearly marked with your child’s name, class & what the payment is for. The correct money would be appreciated as we don’t have change. Thank you.
Anaphylaxis Notification to Parents

Due to the fact that we have a child with anaphylaxis at the school, the school requests that no nuts or nut products be sent to school with your children. The school does not use nuts or nut products at any time, during teaching & learning activities, or as prizes or treats.

On another note, in relation to food, I have noticed a few children bringing chocolates and lollies to school in their lunch boxes. This shouldn’t be encouraged as part of a healthy balanced diet, particularly at school, as we are trying to create a healthy environment within our school community.

About Your Local AECG

The AECG gives Aboriginal people a voice at a Local level & takes their views State wide. The strength of the AECG depends on the participation of all concerned i.e.; Education Department, Schools, Teachers, Parents, Students, Aboriginal Organisations & the wider community.

The AECG is an Aboriginal community based organization made up of volunteer members who are involved in Junior, Local, Regional & State AECG’s throughout NSW. The AECG is recognized as the principle source of advice on behalf of Aboriginal communities on issues relating to Education.

We want to empower our communities to become involved in all levels of Education i.e.; Pre School, Kindergarten, Primary, Secondary, TAFE, UNI. The AECG’s focus is on communities having input into Aboriginal Education at all levels. This will empower our people & will contribute to improving all outcomes for everyone.

All meetings are 3.30 for a 4pm starting time - Term 1 Meeting 23 Feb (Week 5) @ Bellbird PS.

Best Start Assessment

Students in KH will be continuing their Best Start Assessment for Literacy and Numeracy next week, on Thursday, 12th and Friday, 13th February.

Students in K/1W completed their Assessment last week. Parents will be contacted in the near future to arrange for an interview to discuss the report, once it is generated. A description of this assessment was provided to parents in the Kindergarten Information Booklet given out at the orientation sessions last year. Please contact the school if you require further information about how this assessment is completed.

Mosquitoes

Pelaw Main Public School is currently experiencing high volumes of mosquitoes in our school grounds, as a result of recent weather. If your child normally reacts to the bite of a mosquito, it is advised that you apply insect repellent to your child before they arrive at school.

Scholastic Book Club Reminder

A reminder that Bookclub orders are due in by Monday the 16th of February. No late orders can be accepted, as the order is placed the night it is due.

Staff Movement

Mrs Lenore Sparkes, our new instructional leader, will be absent over the next three weeks, due to health reasons.

I will be attending a School Planning workshop on Wednesday, 11th February at Maitland District Office. Mrs Burton will relieve in my absence.

Merit Award Poster

Your child, or children, should be receiving an A3 poster this week, to allow them to track their merit cards on a visual display at home. This could be used as part of a home reward system as well. Let me know what you think of it.

Assembly Awards

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

Principal’s Awards: Tahrlee 5/6G & Halle S 3/4C

Certificate of Excellence: Hannah H 5/6G

Citizenship Awards: Lara H 1K & Jaida 3/4K
