FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Week 8 and the final newsletter for Term 2.

Term 2 ends Friday 27 June and students return for Term 2 Tuesday 15 July 2014.

The end of Semester 1 is upon us. It has been a very jam packed but productive term with many student successes celebrated. On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish each family a safe and relaxing holiday break and look forward to welcoming you all back in Term 3.

I ask that everyone keep a safe eye on our school over the two week break. If you observe any unusual or inappropriate activity occurring on school grounds please report it to the Camden Police on 4632 4499 and School Security on 1300 880 021.

Car Park

The car park safety upgrade is almost complete and new signage has been erected. Please note of particular importance the signs for restricted parking for Student Assisted Transport Vehicles. Please understand that under no circumstances are staff, parents or community members to park in these three designated areas between the following times: 8.30am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

By entering onto school grounds you agree to adhere to the following car park rules:

- 5km/h speed limit
- rear to kerb parking only
- park in the designated parking bays only
- do not park in restricted areas especially the end nearest the bins (signposted) as this is the emergency vehicle access point and blocking this entry/exit point may lead to catastrophic results
- the car park is one way
- exit not permitted via the entry
- entry not permitted via the exit
- disabled parking sticker must be displayed if utilising the disabled parking spaces
- no double parking at anytime
- children are never to enter the car park alone and are not to be called to a waiting car
- if entering and exiting the car park on foot, pedestrians must use the yellow crossing situated on the preschool side
- never, under any circumstance leave children in a parked car in the car park unattended

Please be aware that the safety of our children is the most important thing to consider when using the car park and failure to follow the rules set to ensure their safety may result in car park restrictions being placed on some vehicles.

School Administrative Manager Position

I would like to congratulate Mrs Tania Kennedy who recently earned the permanent position of School Administrative Manager at Rossmore Public School through merit selection. Mrs Kennedy has been relieving the position for the last 2 years. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr Craig Rolph who was the P&C parent representative on the panel. Mr Rolph was a valued member of the panel and was active in
the selection process. I thank him for his time and his participation.

**Attendance**
The school and Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) perform regular checks of each child’s attendance. Recently there has been a significant increase in unjustified absences and partial absences. This is a serious matter and I will be contacting parents of those children whose attendance rate is of major concern. Poor attendance may result in parent interviews with the school principal and HSLO; attendance improvement programs being implemented; and in rare cases referral to child protection agencies (educational neglect) or legal action taken by the Department (heavy fines).

**Parent Teacher Interviews**
Interview booking slips were sent home yesterday with your child’s report. If you would like to book a time to meet with your child’s class teacher, please complete the form (specific to each child’s class) and return to the teacher by this Thursday 19 June. All efforts will be made to accommodate requested times, however, this is not always possible especially during the more popular times. Confirmation slips will be sent home with students on Friday 20 June. If you are unable to make the interview, please contact your child’s teacher to arrange an alternate time or the school office to cancel your appointment.

**Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Teen Ranch Camp**
Detailed information regarding the final details, payment, medical form, permission note and what to bring for the Teen Ranch camps is being sent home this week. Please be aware that final payments for both camps are due by Friday 18th July 2014 (First week Term 3). Student assistance is available from the school to assist with meeting the cost of this event. Please contact or call into the office to collect the necessary paperwork. *Student assistance must be sought prior to the student participating in the camp and parent contributions paid in full.*

**Student assistance paperwork** (please return in sealed envelope marked confidential and addressed to me) **must be returned to school by Wednesday 25 June** to allow for processing. Parents requesting student assistance will be informed of their eligibility and percentage of cost covered as soon as possible after receipt of the paperwork. In some cases an interview regarding request for financial support, may be undertaken. *One form per child needs to be completed.*

**NAIDOC Day Celebrations**
On Thursday 17 July, seven of our students have been invited to attend the Cowpasture Community of Schools combined NAIDOC Gala Day Celebrations at Middleton Grange Public School. They will be joining indigenous and Non-indigenous students from the seven other schools in our community. This special event will allow students to develop a knowledge and understanding of the Aboriginal culture through participation in a range of exciting activities throughout the day. Students will engage in Aboriginal Arts and games, reflect on Dreamtime Stories and walk through the Dreaming Garden.

**2015 Kindergarten Enrolments**
Kindergarten enrolments for the 2015 school year are now being accepted. If your child turns 5 years old before 31 July 2015 and is within our school’s area, it is advisable to enrol him/her at school immediately. For more information, contact the office. In order for your child to participate in the Term 4 Kindergarten orientation program, the school needs to be informed of your intention to enrol. Further details will follow.

**Have a wonderful week.**
Sandy Juleff
FROM THE STUDENTS

Avatars

This term the Avatars have been learning about factual texts and have been reading about a variety of different animals. Students have starting writing their own information reports. Here are some examples of our work so far; about what pigs and elephants look like and where they live.

Pigs

Pigs have curly tails and small, pink ears. Pigs have four, short legs and a long pink snout. Pigs have a big, pink body.

Pigs live in barns because they have to stay warm. Pigs sleep on hay and straw. Pigs also live in grassy paddocks and in the mud. Pigs like to go in the barn when it rains to stay dry.

Ava Neal

Pigs

Pigs are big and they have four small legs. Pigs have curly, pink tails and they have two circles on the end of their nose. Pigs have big, pointy ears.

Pigs live in a farm yard with grass. Pigs live in a barn, in pens with straw and hay. Pigs live in a grassy paddock.

Adam Brien

Pigs

Pigs have small, curly tails and rough, pink skin. Pigs have small, floppy ears and four skinny legs. Pigs have two circles on their snout.

Pigs live in an indoor paddock so they can’t get wet when it rains and they can stay warm. Pigs sleep on hay. Pigs live in a barn with other animals.

Cooper Fullagar

Pigs

Pigs have floppy ears and they are pink. Pigs have a fat tummy and a pink curly tail.

Pigs live in a big red barn and they sleep on the warmest spot.

Silvano Nasato

Elephants

Elephants have floppy ears and white tusks. Elephants have a grey trunk and it is long.

Elephants live in a zoo and they like to live in groups.

Shiloh Barton

Elephants

Elephants are big and fat. Elephants are grey. Elephants have grey floppy ears and long white tusks.

Elephants live in a forest far away.

Omega Zhong

Elephants

Elephants are grey and they have two white tusks. Elephants have grey floppy ears.

Elephants live in the wild in Africa.

Rhys Rowbotham

Elephants

Elephants have big floppy ears and they have white tusks. Elephants have a long trunk and they are grey.

Elephants live in Africa and Asia in the grasslands. Elephants like to live in big groups

Rielly Nelson

LEADERS' UPDATE

The Finance and School Leaders held a Year 6 Fundraising meeting last Thursday and came up with some great ideas. Our first fundraising event is going to be a mufti day held on Thursday 26 June. We came up with the title of ‘Vivid Thursday’. You have to dress up in the brightest clothes you have that are appropriate for school and wear closed shoes (e.g sneakers). If you wear colourful clothes you have to bring a gold coin donation. Money raised will go towards the Year 6 Farewell and our present to the school.

At the end of next week the school holidays will arrive. We hope you have a happy and safe 2 week holiday.
SPORT LEADERS’ UPDATE

On Friday 13 June, Years 3-6 played fun activities that were run by the Sport Leaders. Some of the activities we ran were hockey, handball, Rob the Nest, Crazy Catch, football throws, hula hoops, skipping, and many more. We hope everyone had as much fun as we did. The week before it rained on the Friday so classes K-6 had to do sport inside the hall. Have a good 2 week holiday.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Term 2 Week 8

Congratulations and a fantastic effort to the following students who received honour awards:

Yellow
Dylan Lianna Payton

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Mental maths strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

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