**Principal’s Message**

Welcome back. We started well, with students settling back into class work very quickly. This term will be a busy and interesting one with lots of opportunities for families to be involved and have a look at what has been happening in classes. **Week 5 is Education Week** and our open day is on Wednesday 14th August. There will be an opportunity to go around & visit your children’s rooms, watch a peer support lesson run by the senior students and be entertained by the students with a routine from the Footsteps Dance lessons.

At the end of term the school will be holding its **biannual concert** where all classes put on an item with all students. This will be on Tuesday 17th September. There will be a matinee and an evening performance. Further details regarding the concert, purchase of tickets and the things needed by students will be coming home throughout the term.

Our **Gymtastics** program commences on Thursday 1st August. Once again all classes are involved and will have a ½ hour session though the day. Details of this came home last term & payment is still being collected. The cost for the 8 week program is $32.00 per student. There will be an opportunity towards the end of the program for parents to come and watch their child’s lesson.

Finally, the school is also participating in the **Wollondilly Performing Arts Festival** with one of our largest contingents of students in week 7 starting 26th August. This is an annual event and we will have a senior and junior dance group and a choir group.

**The Next P&C meeting occurs in Week 5 on Tuesday 13th August. Meetings are held in the Staffroom from 7pm.**

Prior to this meeting I will be running a **Merit Selection Training Session** (panel training). This allows people to be trained and participate in the selection of staff at public schools. When a vacant position on the school staff occurs it is often filled through the Merit Selection process. This is for Classroom Teacher positions and all Executive positions. It also applies for the Administration positions in schools. If you would like to know how the process works, or be trained so that you are able to be called by the P&C as a representative for a panel then please come along on Wednesday 13th August from 5.30pm. This is before the P&C meeting.

**Notification of Staff Development Day.**

As you are aware Every NSW Public School has set Professional Learning Days during the school year. These usually fall at the beginning of Terms 1, 2 and 3. Since 2010 the NSW Government and Department of Education and Communities introduced an additional 2 days which fall at the end of Term 4. Under the Procedures for School Development Days, 2010 the school may apply to adjust these to better fit with the professional learning it has been focussed on in Australian Curriculum, Focus on Reading and the Literacy and Numeracy Continuums. PTO.
By holding this conference earlier in the year the staff will be able to trial and implement the teaching practice and knowledge they have gained immediately instead of waiting until the new school year begins.

It should be noted that this will not impact on your children with regard to attending school. The Staff will be at school as per normal on Friday 2nd August. This will all take place outside of school hours. Additionally the students would not attend the school at the end of the school year as these are Staff Development Days and the last day for students in Public Schools is Wednesday 18th of December.

If you have any concerns with this change to the Staff Development Days please contact Mr Angus at the school. This notification is consistent with the procedures for School Development Days 2010.

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**CANTEEN NEWS**

**CANTEEN ROSTER FOR TERM 3 – WK 2**

Wednesday 24th – 26th July, 2013

4th Wednesday: Kim Pes, Amanda Ormerod, Peter Van Mierlo
4th Thursday: Amanda Biffin, Janine Taylor, Stacey Hayter
4th Friday: Jodi Stucki, Kylie Dodd, Sharon Heyburgh

NB. If you are unable to do your duty day you need to find your own replacement. Phone Rita Atkins as a last resort. Phone numbers cannot be put in the newsletter, a copy of all numbers are available in the Canteen.

We had a very good response to our end of term meal deal. 195 students participated. All profits from the day go towards purchasing supplies for the students.

Thank you to William Hoffman from Kindy who kindly donated $5.00 to our meal deal.

**Potato Bake is a new item in the canteen for winter lunches, priced at $3.30 each.** They have been sampled and are delicious.

We are still in need of volunteers so if you can help out contact Rita at the canteen.

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