FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK.....

We are preparing for Harmony Day celebrations again this year. Harmony Day embraces tolerance in children for all different cultures in the world and encourages positive self-esteem and confidence. Harmony Day is Thursday 21st March, but due to a Stage 1 excursion on that day, the focus of our celebrations will be on the following Monday 25th. Students will be asked to wear something orange. We have welcomed students into the school over the years who come from different cultures and this, thankfully, is continuing and increasing. The theme of this year’s concert we will perform in Term 3 is “Celebrating Cultures Around The World”. In Term 2 we will have weekly lessons for all students from the Dance To Be Fit group that worked with us last year and the students enjoyed immensely. Class dances will be selected from different cultures and worked on up to the concert. More information about the concert and these lessons will come soon.

For parents/carers of Year 6 students there are a couple of reminders I would like all to consider. Firstly, all Expression of Interest forms for High School placement in 2014 need to be returned by this Friday, 22nd March. These were the purple booklets that were handed out earlier this month to all Year 6 students. Thank you to all Year 6 families who have already returned these forms. They are essential to ensure high school placement for 2014. Secondly, I have received some information from Hunter Sports High School saying that students who are interested in trialing for the targeted sports program there can start applying soon. This involves full time enrolment at Hunter Sports High covering all subjects with an emphasis on a targeted sport. Entry is by trial for students away from their drawing area. Interested parents can have a look at their website at www.huntersports.com.au. I also have application forms that are available to any interested parent of Year 6 students. If you would like to apply please call me or send a short note with your Year 6 child asking for the information relating to Hunter Sports High and I will give a pack to your child to bring home.

Please note on your calendar at home that this year the Department of Education and Communities has allocated one extra Staff Development (pupil free) day for teachers across the state to consider the introduction of new Australian curricula, especially in Literacy and Numeracy. At the start of Term 2, teachers will return on Monday 29th April for their normal Staff Development Day and then follow up with a second day on Tuesday 30th April. Students return to school for Term 2 on Wednesday 1st May.

This year Easter does not fall in the holidays and will consist of Good Friday on 29th March and Easter Monday on 1st April.

Neil Sneddon     Principal

DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews.</td>
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<td>18th</td>
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<td>20th</td>
<td>Solar Sailor Stage 3.</td>
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<td>21st</td>
<td>Transport Excursion Stage 1</td>
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<td>22nd</td>
<td>Ride to School Day.</td>
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<td>25th</td>
<td>Harmony Day.</td>
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<td>26th</td>
<td>Cake Stall 2T.</td>
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<td>P &amp; C Meeting.</td>
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<td>28th</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade.</td>
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<td>29th</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Easter Monday.</td>
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<td>11th</td>
<td>Grandparents Concert.</td>
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<td>12th</td>
<td>End Term 1.</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Children Return Term 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Dance2bfit Starts.</td>
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<td>8th</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival.</td>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>Stewart House – Out Of Uniform Day.</td>
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</tbody>
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STOP PRESS !!!
The P & C Meeting scheduled for tonight has been postponed. The next meeting will be next Tuesday 26th March 2013 at 7.30pm.
K/6A
We welcome our new student Owen, to K/6A. Owen is in Year 4 and a wonderful addition to our class. K/6A has six students now which gives us three in Stage 1 and three in Stage 2. The Stage 1 students are integrating into other classes for developmental play, singing, sport and assemblies. Stage 2 is integrating into assemblies and sport. This integration program will increase as the year goes on.
We are currently learning about Australia and other countries. The students enjoy using our lighted globe to find countries and googling pictures and information.

KB
The children of KB are hard at work learning their sounds in preparation for reading and writing. Sight Words cards will begin going home next week. We celebrated Red Day today. Thank you to the parents who have assisted with Playgroups so far - your help is greatly appreciated. Please bring in a decorated shoebox for our paper readers.

KM
KM all had a fantastic time at the disco! The students drew some great pictures of themselves having fun. They are also enjoying the sack races during sport. What an active class!

1H
1H are very excited about our excursion this Thursday to the airport and to see other forms of transport. We are going with Year 2 and Transport will be our theme for next term so it will really stimulate our thinking.

2T
2T are enjoying learning about transport and are really looking forward to their excursion to the Airport, Fighter World and the harbour on Thursday. Projects are also due this week to be presented on news days. We have been learning how to write information reports and will hopefully be able to write one on different forms of transport very soon.

3R
Thank you to all the parents that made time for an interview this week. It was great to share information about your child’s progress so far this year at school. 3R is now receiving times tables practise for homework as these are invaluable facts as our maths work becomes more difficult.

4S
4S students have been participating keenly in drama lessons with Mrs Ratcliffe. Some students have quite the dramatic flair! In our HSIE unit, we are currently investigating European explorers who set foot on Australia. Our Aboriginal artworks are coming along well and we hope to have them on display soon.

5/6V
How fast is this term going everyone? Parent/Teacher interviews are this week. It’s an excellent time to touch base and discuss lots of important learning factors. Our 2D assessment is in Week 9. Please keep reviewing the content on the sheet that went home.

5/6H
Year 6 are enjoying their Chinese lessons with Miss Yan. They are very clever being able to count to 10 and say some greetings. Year 5 are being challenged by “Mathletics” with Mr. Janetzki.

LIBRARY
When the two Kindergarten classes come to the library each week, the first part of their lesson is devoted to Measurement and so far this term they have looked at length and area. The remainder of the lesson is when they are able to return their books and borrow a new one. If there is time left, they can browse, read quietly or a story will be read to them.

QUALITY EDUCATION AWARDS: Weeks 7 and 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KB</th>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Week 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Macey McDonald</td>
<td>Charlee Buckley</td>
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<td>Jasper Hoad</td>
<td>Jack Wright</td>
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<th>KM</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucas Matheson</td>
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<td>Isaac Mitchel</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jordan Rebrik</td>
<td>Ella Freeman</td>
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<td>Mathias Norton</td>
<td>Kaidence Woods-Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brock Wilson</td>
<td>Emily Lane</td>
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<td>Zachary Thompson</td>
<td>Paige Finch</td>
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<td>Xander Krainz</td>
<td>Sofie DeAngelis</td>
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<td>Jye Simm</td>
<td>Georgia Quinn</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Coco Hubber</td>
<td>Lucas Beaumant</td>
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<td>Lachlan Robinson</td>
<td>Jordan Kohl</td>
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<td>Emily Spaan</td>
<td>Tayla Hicks</td>
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<td>Georgia Hall</td>
<td>Zane Walker</td>
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<td>Luke Wilson</td>
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<th>5/6V</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cheyne Bryant</td>
<td>Amber Dipper</td>
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<td>Chishan Burch</td>
<td>Michaela Kohl</td>
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**LIBRARY**

**Week 7**

TJ Hughes  
Mia Parkes

**COMPUTER**

During computer time over the next fortnight students will continue to focus on the following in each respective Stage.

**Kindergarten** : Kindergarten students will be developing their skills in typing as well as ensuring they can identify and label all of the parts of a computer. The specific program students are using is Dance Matt Typing  
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

**Stage 1:** Students in Stage 1 are also developing their typing skills. The specific program students are using is Dance Matt Typing  
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

“Everybody in this country should learn how to program a computer because it teaches you how to think” Steve Jobs

**Stages 2 & 3** : This year students in Stage 2 and 3 are learning to code. Yes you are reading this correctly. Students are learning to use the program **Scratch** which is free to download at home  
http://info.scratch.mit.edu/Support  
The Scratch program teaches students about the basics of programming in a child friendly way on how to create animations, games and well as voice overs with different characters.

Students have also been inspired from the leaders of the computer industry including Bill Gates (creator of Microsoft); Mark Zuckerberg (creator of Facebook); Jack Dorsey (creator of Twitter). The video highlights how coding needs to be taught in schools including primary schools. The video can be seen at www.code.org

The are some great quotes from the site including the following:  
will.i.am  
Musician/The Black Eyed Peas and Entrepreneur  
“Here we are, 2013, we ALL depend on technology to communicate, to bank, and none of us know how to read and write code. It’s important for these kids, right now, starting at 8 years old, to read and write code.“

**C.E.P.S. TALENT**

On **Saturday 2nd** and **Sunday 3rd March** Colby Donaldson participated at the Nippers State Titles in Umina. He won two gold medals: U9yr. boys board relay and U9yr boys surf swim relay. Congratulations on a SUPER effort!

On **Thursday 7th** March Colby and Taylor Fenton represented the Zone in the Regional Swimming trials for 9yr. Freestyle at Maitland Swimming Centre.  
Taylor came 5th in her heat swimming 50m in 40 seconds!  
Colby came 3rd in his heat swimming 50m in 38 seconds!  
Congratulations to both representatives. Colby will continue on to the State trials at Homebush on 2nd April. We wish him all the best at these trials.

On **Tuesday 5th March** Zone trials for League and Netball were held.  
Congratulations to Cooper Reid 5/6H, Sonny Bootland 5/6V and Jayden Ford 5/6V who trialled for league, with Jayden making it through to the “possibles and probables.”  
Well done!  
Congratulations to Demi Bootland 5/6V, Laura Wilkins 5/6V, Georgia Hall 5/6H, Tayla Hicks 5/6H, and Olivia Robinson 5/6H who trialled for Netball.  
Demi and Olivia made it through to “possibles and probables” with Olivia being chosen for the team.  
An excellent effort everyone and congratulations to Olivia.  
We wish her all the best in the next round of selections.

On **Tuesday 12th March** Zone trials for Soccer were held at Valentine Sporting Complex.  
Congratulations to you all on a fantastic effort. A special “thank you” to all of the parents and caregivers for offering your time to transport and support our students.

Maryanne Harris

**EASTER HAT PARADE SAUSAGE SIZZLE : 28.03.13**

If you would like to order lunch for your child / mum / dad / grandparent etc ....  
Please hand your order in ASAP.

Sausage with  
1 slice bread $1.50.  
Drinks $1.00.
CHARLESTOWN EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL presents ...

The Annual Easter Hat Parade

Date: Thursday 28th March
Time: 12.30pm
Venue: School Hall

There will be a visit from the Easter Bunny and the P & C will draw the Easter Raffle prizes. We would love to see you there!

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>AM Helper</th>
<th>PM Helper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25.03.13</td>
<td>Nicole Williams</td>
<td>Thamatya Rayner</td>
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<td>26.03.13</td>
<td>Jennifer Williams</td>
<td>PM</td>
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<td>27.03.13</td>
<td>Belinda Hoad</td>
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<tr>
<td>28.03.13</td>
<td>CLOSED DUE TO EASTER HAT PARADE AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>01.04.13</td>
<td>Rebecca Howard</td>
<td>Lisa Weir</td>
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<td>02.04.13</td>
<td>Narelle Chillingworth</td>
<td>PM</td>
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<td>03.04.13</td>
<td>Andrew Bailey</td>
<td>Vicki Holmes</td>
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<td>HELP NEEDED AM</td>
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<td>05.04.13</td>
<td>Margo Hughes</td>
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<td>Michelle Purcell</td>
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<td>Ang Brown</td>
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**School Holiday Autumn Fun**

**Oodles of fun at our libraries**

**Bookings essential on 4945 2452**

Build and decorate your own cardboard robot from recycled materials and get them ready for Robot Wars.

**When:** Tuesday 16 April  
**Time:** 10.30am – 12noon  
**Cost:** free  
**Ages:** 8 – 14 years  
**Venue:** Toronto Library, Corner Brighton Avenue and Pemell Street

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Share a local Dreamtime story with Aunty Danny on the beautiful new Naruta-Ka-Wa Story Quilt and then join to create a special artwork.

**When:** Tuesday 16 April  
**Time:** 2 – 3pm  
**Cost:** free  
**Ages:** all ages  
**Venue:** Windale Library, 20 Lake Street  
*Other locations and time available*

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Come along for Mask Making fun where you will design and decorate your own mask.

**When:** Monday 22 April  
**Time:** 10 – 11am  
**Cost:** $5  
**Ages:** 5 – 12 years  
**Venue:** Morisset Library, 39 Yambo Street

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Trucks, trains and buses come alive in this special On the Road Storytime. Look for the big blue library truck!

**When:** Wednesday 17 April  
**Time:** 10 – 10.45am  
**Cost:** free  
**Ages:** 2 - 5 years  
**Venue:** Ocean Street, Dudley

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Join us for a Movie Morning and watch The Silver Brumby, a classic Australian children’s story about the spirited stallion Thowra and the high country horseman who seeks to capture him. Rated G.

**When:** Tuesday 23 April  
**Time:** 10.30am – 12noon  
**Cost:** free  
**Ages:** all ages  
**Venue:** Toronto Library, Corner Brighton Avenue and Pemell Street

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Learn how to make balloon sculptures with young entertainer, Joel Howlett at his hands-on workshop, Balloon Twisting with JD.

**When:** Thursday 18 April  
**Time:** 1.30 - 2.30pm  
**Cost:** $10  
**Ages:** 6 years and over  
**Venue:** Belmont Library, 19 Ernest Street

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Budding scientists get to perform their own experiments at our Let’s have Fun With Science workshop.

**When:** Tuesday 23 April  
**Time:** 11.30am – 12.30pm or 1 – 2pm  
**Cost:** $8  
**Ages:** 5 – 12 years  
**Venue:** Charlestown Library, Corner Smith and Ridley Street

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Take I Spy to a new level and train to be a special agent. Learn code cracking, clue deciphering, observational skills and more to be awarded your licence to spy. Then go on a top-secret mission! (Wear black)

**When:** Friday 19 April  
**Time:** 10am-11.30am  
**Cost:** $5  
**Ages:** 8 – 12 years  
**Venue:** Swansea Library, 228 Pacific Highway

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Be amazed by award-winning magician, Joel Howlett at JD’s World of Magic show.

**When:** Wednesday 17 April  
**Time:** 11 – 11.45am or 1.30 – 2.15pm  
**Cost:** $8  
**Ages:** all ages  
**Venue:** Toronto Library, Corner Brighton Avenue and Pemell Street  
*Other locations and times available*
Calling all fairies, elves and princesses! Wear your most colourful clothes and come to our Rainbow Party for games, dancing and craft. Enjoy a delicious rainbow morning tea.

**When:** Monday 22 April
**Time:** 10 – 11.30am
**Cost:** $5
**Ages:** 5 - 8 years
**Venue:** Swansea Library, 228 Pacific Highway

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Recycle toys and make a three-dimensional artwork to create your very own *Toy Story*. You will have fun using a variety of materials and techniques with Kes Harper.

**When:** Tuesday 23 April
**Time:** 10.30am – 12.30pm
**Cost:** $22
**Ages:** 6 – 10 years
**Venue:** Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First St, Booragul

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**Creative time at the gallery**
**Bookings essential on 4965 8260**

Make lanterns using bamboo and paper through a range of art making techniques at our Made in China workshop with Ken O’Regan.

**When:** Tuesday 16 April
**Time:** 10.30am – 12.30pm
**Cost:** $22
**Ages:** 6 – 10 years
**Venue:** Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First St, Booragul

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Calling all toddlers! Have your own gallery experience with storytime and craft activities at our Rainbow Connection Preschool Art Class run by Kristy White.

**When:** Wednesday 17 and 24 April
**Time:** 10 – 11.30am
**Cost:** $16.50 ($8.35 for participating sibling)
**Ages:** 3 – 5 years
**Venue:** Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First St, Booragul

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Build your own artworks with clay at our fun with clay workshop with Jo Davies.

**When:** Thursday 18 April
**Time:** 10.30am – 12.30pm
**Cost:** $35 per child (includes firing)
**Venue:** Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery, First St, Booragul

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There are lots of other fun activities on offer for the kids around the Lake so make sure you:

- Follow us on Facebook (lakemaccity) and Twitter (@lakemac) to keep up to date with what’s on offer;
- Keep an eye out for our new information features in the newspaper for cool ideas for the family;