FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK...

There has been some confusion about the note regarding school contributions and other fees. Let me clarify. We are asking for voluntary school contributions based on $30 for one child, $55 if you have 2 children at school and $75 if you have 3 or more. On top of this we have the compulsory costs to recoup for the school the expenses for books and subscriptions that we have already paid out. These are a Reading Eggs/Mathletics licence (all students K-6, already subsidised by the school) and possibly a school magazine subscription (Years 3 and 4 only), and a handwriting book and home reading book (K-2 only). Please refer to the previous notes handed out or the school website for these individual costs. It is cheaper than last year as we are not asking each student to use the GoMaths journal this year. So it’s very good value for money and on par or cheaper than any school in the area.

The P. and C. meeting tonight (AGM at 7.00pm followed by the monthly meeting at 7.30pm) will see a changeover of the executive group. I would like to thank and acknowledge the fine work done by Annette Hubber (President), Jen Thompson (Secretary) and Liz Freeman (Treasurer) over the past year. Annette put out to all families last week a bulletin highlighting the main focus areas for the P. and C. during 2013 and included a lot of thanks to a number of different people. For obvious reasons she said little of what she has contributed herself to our school in her role as President. I want to publicly acknowledge the huge amount of family and work time Annette has put into the task of leading this group of volunteers over her time as President. The tasks performed by all our parent volunteers, especially those who take on leadership roles, often go on behind the scenes and can be thankless. Thank you Annette and Jen and Liz for your contributions. We certainly hope there will be others who are willing to step into these roles at tonight’s meeting.

The school’s annual swimming carnival is scheduled for this Friday 21st February. All students Years 3 to 6 (and a few Year 2 students who are 8 years old this year) will be attending at the 25 m pool at Charlestown. All parents, other relatives and friends are invited to join us for this event. Hopefully the weather is kind.

After this week I am on 4 weeks leave to attend my son’s wedding and other family events in Tasmania. Drew Janetzki will be the Relieving Principal over this period.

Neil Sneddon
Principal

DIARY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 18th</td>
<td>AGM 7pm : P&amp;C 7.30pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 20th</td>
<td>Senior Boys Cricket.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 23rd</td>
<td>Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 25th</td>
<td>Cake Stall 1H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28th</td>
<td>Kinder Parent Afternoon Tea 3.15pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 6th</td>
<td>Community Garden Working Bee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 11th</td>
<td>Disco.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 19th</td>
<td>‘Solar Sailor’ Excursion Stage 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 20th</td>
<td>Harmony Day. Grandparents Concert K – 2 2.30pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 21st</td>
<td>Stage 1 Awabakal Excursion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 25th</td>
<td>Cake Stall 2T and K/6C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 10th</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 11th</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 10th</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 11th</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1.</td>
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Tuesday 29th April Term 2 Begins for Children
K/6A
Over the next week we are having parent meetings after school so the parents and staff can discuss educational and personal goals for the students. We then design an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for each child, capitalising on their interests and strengths while addressing areas requiring development. This ensures our programs are personalised and relevant to each student.

K/6C
K/6C has been learning about the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia. We have discussed the different events, medal tally and participating countries. All of the students have been very settled and are working well.

KM
KM students have begun to settle in well, especially at assembly and at sport. This term's class theme is 'My Family Tree'. Some children have already brought photos and other items about their family to show their friends in class. Well Done! Homework has started to, with alphabet sounds to revise each night.

K/1B
We are getting to know each other and the routines of K/1B. The Kindergarten children have started the Jolly Phonics program and are already blending these sounds together to make words - how clever! Year 1 have begun the Jolly Grammar program to build upon their knowledge from Kindergarten. Thank you for your efforts in homework last week Year 1 - you are super! Don’t forget the K/1B information session at 4pm in my classroom tomorrow.

1H
Yesterday the 1H class meeting was held, thank you to those who attended. If you were not able to make it, a sheet of information has been sent home. 1H have started some great art work based on our theme ‘Australia's First People. Keep a look out for it appearing in our room.

2T
2T have been enjoying Dreaming stories and learning about the Aboriginal people. We have tried to copy some of their art styles and even play the didgeridoo - with not much luck there! Homework has begun, thank you to parents for your support with your child’s learning.

3R
Thank you to everyone for completing and returning their homework each Thursday. The Premiers Reading Challenge log at the front of your child’s folder is where you can record any home reading done during the week. Children should be encouraged to select a book that is interesting and enjoyable for them. 3R have started independently writing some fantastic stories based on our focus text for this term, Farmer Schulz’s Ducks, and I have enjoyed reading each one.

4S
We have had a fantastic start to the term. I have been very impressed with students’ pattern writing using a passage from Farmer Schulz’s Ducks. This week we are investigating the relationship between multiplication and division, so make sure that you are really practising your times tables at home, 4S. Our annual Swimming Carnival is this Friday and it promises to be a good one.

5/6H
Thank you to all of the parents and caregivers who were able to attend our Parent-Teacher information night last night. If you were unable to attend, an information sheet will be sent home to you. Don’t forget the Swimming Carnival being held on Friday at Charlestown pool and the Zone Carnival on Monday and Wednesday of the following week at Swansea pool, for those involved.

5/6V
Things are starting to happen very quickly this term. Many thanks to all the diligent people who are focused on revising all their skills at home. Well done! Aussie Bush Camp extra notes will go out this week. 5/6V have been producing some quality pattern re-writes in accelerated literacy.

LIBRARY
The majority of students are back into the swing of the library routine of remembering to bring their library books and bags, well done! It has been an exciting week for our new Kinders who received their own library cards! This meant that they could borrow for the first time from our fantastic library!

QUALITY EDUCATION AWARDS: Weeks 3 and 4

K/6C
Week 3
Reece Brockway

KM
Week 4
Jak Whippa
Phoebe Buckton

K/1B
Week 3
Kane Freeman
Spencer Weekes-Bentley

K/1B
Week 4
Jake Eveleigh
Isaac Mitchell

1H
Week 3
Evelina Done
Flynn Bootland

1H
Week 4
Jye O'Brien
Polly Wilson

2T
Week 3
Christian D'Alessandro
Finn Bell

2T
Week 4
Jett Jones-Geisler
Ella Freeman

3R
Week 3
Ella Hoad
Vils Hobbins

3R
Week 4
Jackson Bosevski
Paige Finch
Thank you also to those parents who have purchased a headset for your child. The majority of students in all classrooms have now purchased their own headset. This will ensure that students have access to their own headset when it is required.

If you are newly enrolled students a note will be issued regarding the new arrangements with headsets this year.

All students have been learning about Cybersafety as well as useful tips through the Australian Governments Cyber Safety website. http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/

Please ensure to discuss the key messages with your children regarding cyber safety.

Mathletics- Reading Eggs Accounts have now rolled over for 2014

Your child's class is now using Mathletics and Reading Eggs- Australia's most used educational website. Students usernames and passwords have been issued out. Please see your teacher if your child has not received their Mathletics or Reading Eggs username and password.

Internet Permission Notes- Please note these notes are due back ASAP otherwise students will be blocked from using the internet.

Permission to publish Notes: This form is also due to allow students photos to be displayed if media are invited to our school or if students images are placed on our school website.

Stage 2 Students: will be diving into the Internet and review their email including updating their address books, inbox, rules and appropriate use of email. Students will also be looking at how to effectively find appropriate websites when researching and learning how to filter and acknowledge the website owner without breaking Copyright.

Stage 3 Students: will be working in further detail than stage 2 to review their email including updating their address books, inbox, rules and appropriate use of email. Students will also be looking at how to effectively find appropriate websites when researching and learning how to filter and acknowledge the website owner without breaking Copyright.

Please ensure to discuss the key messages with your children regarding cyber safety.

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Internet Permission Notes- Please note these notes are due back ASAP otherwise students will be blocked from using the internet.

Permission to publish Notes: This form is also due to allow students photos to be displayed if media are invited to our school or if students images are placed on our school website.

Early Stage 1 students will be becoming familiar with using a desktop PC including all of the parts of a keyboard They will be issued their log in cards that will be sent home to help them with logging into the DEC system.

Stage 1/ Students will be focusing on the basic features of Microsoft Office (Word) to start the first half of Term 1,
the running to win one of two $50 credits to their School Banking account. Competition opens 28/01/2004 and closes 11/04/2014. For full terms and conditions please visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking.

A RUBBISH FREE CEPS AND CLEANER WATERSWAYS AND OCEANS!! IS IT POSSIBLE??
Yes, it is possible! By reducing or eliminating the amount of plastic packaging bought to school or purchased at school, we can make a real difference.

This Term, as part of the new National Curriculum emphasis on Sustainability, we are concentrating on waste and how we can do things better at school and at home for our environment. All staff and students are encouraged to carry food and drink each day in reusable containers such as the ‘nude food movers’ available at supermarkets or similar, to ensure there is nothing to throw away, or wrap food in recyclable material such as brown paper bags. We presently feed our fruit and vegie scraps to the worms and use the rest for compost. We are considering introducing the three bins system which is used at home:

- Red- for waste which can’t be recycled- goes to landfill ( or the dump)
- Yellow-for paper and cardboard- we have these presently for inside use but not outside
- Green- for green waste – fruit & vegie scraps, lawn clippings, garden waste, bread scraps

Some Do’s and Don’ts

Do:
- Use reusable containers
- Use recyclable paper bags or wrap
- create less waste by leaving packaging at home for recycling
- Establish a worm farm and feed fruit and vegie scraps to the worms or compost them.
- Encourage your child to eat healthy, non-processed food eg. Fruit, vegies

Don’t use:
- Plastic bottles or bottled spring water- chemicals leach from continuous use of plastic bottles and tap water is far less expensive( and the same product!)
- Snap lock single use plastic bags or glad wrap
- Aluminium foil wrap or foil pie cases
- Pre- packaged food in plastic wrapping
- Juice boxes and straws etc

Litter that starts its journey in the playground will travel to local creeks, then on to major rivers or lakes and will eventually make it to the oceans and become marine debris.

Estimates suggest over a million seabirds may die each year and up to 100,000 marine mammals and turtles as a direct result of marine debris.

The Pacific Garbage Patch is one of the many garbage patches in the oceans of the world. It is the largest and has an area twice the size of France. Take a look for yourself! -http://greatpacificgarbagepatch.info/

Sue Timbrell

CEPS COMMUNITY GARDEN

Sadly the summer vegies are on their way out and it has been very rewarding harvesting, selling or giving away our cherry tomatoes and ordinary tomatoes, spinach, zucchinis, lettuce, kale, brussels sprouts, capsicum, beetroot, corn, cucumber, radish, leeks, shallots and beans.

I would like to again thank all those families who helped keep the vegies, flowers and herbs alive over the Christmas break. Two families who were not named in the bulletin as they were not part of the P & C roster but who came regularly to water were the Bootland family and the Robinson family. I am so sorry for this oversight as often happens when you start naming individuals. If there were others who came that I am not aware of – THANK YOU! I need every bit of help I can get. If there are any parents, grandparents, friends who would like to help ( no garden knowledge necessary!) please let me know.

You will notice the information signs now attached to the enclosure. These give the children very good information of the yearly planting cycle and how best to look after the plants in our gardens through the year. Thank you to Matt and Nikki Wright (parents of Jack) for the design and content of these signs.

Soon it will be time to prepare the garden beds for the autumn crop. Each class has their own garden bed and this year will plant seeds and germinate them in their classrooms. When they are ready they will be transferred to the gardens. The cost of buying seedlings is high when we can do it ourselves.

The P& C are holding a working bee to help prepare the beds and have a general clean up of the gardens on Thursday 6th March. Please come along and lend a hand, all students are welcome as it is your garden.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely

Sue Timbrell
Dear parents and caregivers,

We would like to remind you that the canteen will reopen this Thursday for over the counter sales and will commence operating next Thursday and Friday for lunch orders. The canteen will remain open each Thursday and Friday thereafter.

COMMUNITY GARDEN TIDY UP FOR SPRING CROPS - Thursday 6th March from 3.10 to 4.10

On the 6th March we are inviting families to stay back after school for an hour to help out with weeding and cleaning up the community garden beds in time to plant the Spring crops. The kids really enjoy helping out and we love the strength and organisation of the parent helpers. So if you have a spare hour after school we’d love to see you down at the community gardens.

CAKE STALL

Don’t forget 1H will be cooking up a storm for next weeks cake stall, so don’t forget to purchase your afternoon tea next Tuesday 25th February.

AGM & P&C MEETING - Tonight (18th February)

Please make your way to the office at 7pm tonight to attend the AGM at 7pm followed by our first P&C Meeting at 7.30pm.

BUNNINGS BBQ

A huge thank you to all the families who have volunteered to help out on the Bunnings BBQ, Kotara this Sunday, we hope the BBQ goes well. If you weren’t able to assist at this BBQ, we’d love you put your hand up for our next BBQ on Sunday, 1st June 2014.

REMINDER

Don’t forget to mention CEPS when you are purchasing your children’s school shoes from any Athletes foot store as the school receives $5.00 per pair of shoes sold which helps support the school. And if you are after a new home loan, speak with the Newcastle Permanent and they will give CEPS $600 if you take out a loan over $100,000 and mention CEPS.

Annette Hubber
P&C Committee

CANTEEN ROSTER
THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY
Jody Pavlou
Anna DeAngelis

FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
John Hobbins AM
Derrick Wong
Ian Stewart

THURSDAY 6TH MARCH
Nicole Mitchell
Peta Sutherland

FRIDAY 7TH MARCH
Liz Freeman AM
Annette Hubber
Kaylene Buckton PM

THURSDAY 13TH MARCH
Dayna Goldsmith
Niquel Redbrick

FRIDAY 14TH MARCH
Lucinda Brown AM
Lisa Weir
Renae Carr PM

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Limitations of children in traffic

- Limited concentration span
- Ability to scan is not fully developed
- Judgement of speed and distance is not fully developed
- Easily distracted
- Inexperienced road user
- Confused by sudden changes in traffic
- Unpredictable actions of children and environment
- Peripheral vision is reduced
- Limited concept of danger
- Reflexes not fully developed
- Poor directional hearing
- Size limits field of vision and conceals them from drivers
**Waste Fact Sheet**

**What a waste!**

We send more and more rubbish ‘away’ to landfill every year. There is no away, everything ends up somewhere and we are all responsible. Throwing stuff away is not just a case of ‘out of sight, out of mind’. Most of the stuff that we throw away takes quite a while to decompose. In fact, some of the stuff that we throw away will be around for much longer than any of us.

Have a look at how long the rubbish on the list below will be around for before it has fully decomposed:

* Paper - 2.5 months
* Milkcarton - 5 years
* Plastic bag - 10-20 years
* Tin can - 100 years
* Stryfoam - Never

* Orange Peel - 6 months
* Cigarette Butt - 10-12 years
* Disposable nappy - 75 years
* Beer can - 200-500 years
* Glass bottles and jars - Never

**More waste facts**

* Every year the average Australian family produces enough rubbish to fill a three-bedroom house, producing about 2.25 kg of waste each per day. (1)

* Worldwide, nearly 3 millions tonnes of plastic are used to bottle water every year. (2)

* Overall Australians threw away $2.9 billion of fresh food, $630 million of uneaten take-away food, $876 million of leftovers, $596 million of unfinished drinks and $241 million of frozen food, a total of $5.3 billion on all forms of food in 2004. This represents more than 13 times the $386 million donated by Australian households to overseas aid agencies in 2003. (3)

* It is estimated that 45 billion pairs of disposable chopsticks are used each year in China. (4)

* Australians produce an estimated 140,000 tonnes of e-waste each year but only about 4% is recycled. (5)

* Australia is one of the highest producers of waste per head of population in the world. In 1999, Australia ranked second, behind the USA, in terms of domestic waste generation. (6)

* It is estimated that over 13,000 pieces of plastic litter are floating on every square kilometre of ocean surface. (7)
ULINGA NETBALL (Cardiff South) are still looking for players of all ages.

If interested please contact:
Berniece Whitson 49547552 OR Sally Swan 0423 323 393 OR email ulinganetball@hotmail.com

Friendly reminder, ULINGA NETBALL are still looking for players of all ages for the 2014 season. If interested, please contact Berniece Whitson or Sally Swan.

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**ULINGA NETBALL**

**Cardiff South**

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**NETBALL Registrations for 2014 season**

Come and have fun playing netball in 2014.

We welcome players of any ability from 5 years to adult.

We are in need of players for under 8’s and 9’s, under 11’s and under 13’s to join our Saturday competition held at the Charlestown Netball Courts.

For more details on playing netball please email us at info@unitednetball.com.au or see our website at www.unitednetball.com.au