Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to school for Term 2, 2014 at Shoal Bay Public School.

It is a great privilege to commence as Principal of this school. In my travels around Shoal Bay and surrounding areas throughout the holidays it is obvious that the school has a wonderful reputation for providing high quality education for its students. Each person that I have mentioned that I was to be Principal of Shoal Bay PS commented on the dedicated and committed teachers, the enthusiastic students and the welcoming community. I look forward to enhancing the strong partnerships with these groups to further enhance the teaching and learning occurring in each and everyone of our classrooms. Mr Freeman has done an excellent job at leading this school in Term 1 and I thank him for his hard work and dedication throughout the term.

Over the coming weeks and months I will be learning about the school. This includes the students, parents, staff and the positive programs which underpin the strong educational opportunities that our school provides. I will be seeking your help in finding out this information. I value the input that parents provide in educating your children and if at any time you wish to speak with me please contact me at school.

Staff Changes

There have been some other staff changes including my commencement at Shoal Bay PS that will begin from the start of Term 2. Mrs Kylie Allardice has accepted a position as an Instructional Leader based at Karuah PS. Mr Troy Lockey will step into the role of Assistant Principal (relieving) for Stage 1. Mrs Sonya Cains has relinquished her Assistant Principal role for the remainder of this year and will remain as class teacher for 5C. Mr Peter Hamshaw has accepted the role as Assistant Principal (relieving) for Stage 3.

NAPLAN TESTS 2014

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008. On Tuesday 13th May, Wednesday 14th May and Thursday 15th May, students will undertake the 2014 NAPLAN tests. Friday 16th May is allocated as a ‘catch up’ day for students who may have missed a test due to unforeseeable circumstances e.g. illness.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. NAPLAN assesses skills in Literacy and Numeracy that are developed over time throughout the school. (Please see the timetable for tests below.)

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how individual students are progressing in Literacy and Numeracy skills against national standards for all Australian children. All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may wish to use these results to discuss their child’s progress with the class teacher.

Additional information for parents about the National Assessment Program can be found on this website: www.naplan.edu.au/parents/

Please contact me at school if you would like more information about the National Assessment Program (NAPLAN).

Narelle Mann
Principal

ANZAC Poem—Lost Souls

By Mikaela 8, 6B

Noone can fix the never ending bound-
aries of holes,
Many lay awake thinking of lost souls.
Dad’s Pop’s Uncles and Brothers,
Look at those teary Daughters and
Mothers.
The people who have lost family and friends,
Those people that know stories from
start to end.

Think of the people tortured until their
heart breaks,
Think of all the things that death takes.

And now we remember all who have
died,
And all who have kept many alive.

I lay the red roses down on the grave,
There are so many that no one can
save.
ANZAC
By Will A, 6B
The mournful cry of soldiers laid scattered across the battlefield was consistent and ongoing. Tears lazily roll down their cheeks carrying dirt and blood with them as they drop into the soil. Even though bullets have travelled through their delicate skin and left wounds, there are other wounds, deeper and more painful, the wounds of agony and being torn like paper, away from their families loving and caressing blanket of warmth.

As they lay helpless and left for death to take them away, watching their friends die, waiting momentarily as their soul dies away with their mates, as they are all consumed by darkness, but at least had the spirit and courage to battle out for our freedom. The spirit to undergo hell, suffer watching their friends die before their eyes, the constant rattling of weapons and deep roars of the impact of explosive, the agonizing effect of separation. And at the end, the simultaneous thud of rifles being dropped to the ground, the sound of surrender and cease.

We will graciously welcome our surviving troops home and heal their suffering and injuries, and we will mourn the loss of the loved, deceased and sorrowfully remember them who sacrifice their lives for our future. We will remember them for years to come, for generations, passed on after our deaths to join them once again for eternity.

We will remember them.
Lest we forget…

Nuf Nuf Money
Year 6 had a very successful Term 1 Nuf Nuf Day. Thanks to everyone for their participation and FUN. They raised $850.80.

Great Websites on Literacy & Numeracy

Entertainment Book
There are lots of NEW vouchers in this year’s Entertainment Book for around this area: Ocean View, Vues on the Bay, Searock @ Shoal Bay, Tea Gardens Hotel/Motel Waterfront Bistro, Medowie Macadamia Nut Café, Spinning Wheel Bistro, Red Ned’s Gourmet Pies, Bayside Roast, Oakvale Farm, Nelson Bay Cinema, PS Ferry Service, Toboggan Hill Park, Shark & Ray Centre, Sahara Trails Horse Riding, Oakfield Ranch Camel Rides, Fighter World and the Palms Golf Club.

Dads and Son Camping Trips

State Swimming
On Thursday, 10th April Toby F, Jack S, Sam T and Mitch A headed down to Homebush (Sydney Aquatic Centre), to represent our school at the NSW Primary School State Championships. We were full of nerves and excitement, being the first team to represent Shoal Bay in 19 years. It was an amazing experience. We came 19th out of 39 overall, but first in the Hunter region and we beat our personal best time by 10 seconds. We had an awesome time and we would also like to thank the Shoal Bay P&C for covering our entry and Fingal Bay Sports Club for assisting us financially. Thanks Toby F.

**NEW CLOSING DATE: 3rd MAY**

Merit Awards

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