Dear parents, carers and friends of our school,

Sporting Achievements

Congratulations to Tori Stewart who has been successful in gaining a spot in the Port Stephens Zone swimming team. She will compete at the Hunter Region Swimming Carnival on Thursday. Good luck, Tori.

Last week Blake Edwards and Emma-Kate Swan attended the Zone tennis trials. Both reported that the competition was pretty tough and that they had an enjoyable day. Blake missed selection by one point. Well done, Blake and Emma-Kate.

Schools Clean Up Australia Day

Last Friday we completed our own clean up at school resulting in a lovely, tidy playground. We hope that this reminded all about the need to care for our environment.

School Cleaning

Our school cleaners have been working extremely hard over the past week to ensure that our school is sparkling. The hall floor has been polished and buffed. The canteen floor has also been stripped and polished. All classrooms have been cleaned from top to bottom (including high fans and rafters). We have also had all our gutters cleaned of leaves. All of this has meant there has been some inconvenience for YMCA and Zumba classes that are held outside school hours. My apologies for this inconvenience to everyone including parents and community, especially as it was on such short notice.

P & C AGM

The P & C Annual General Meeting will be held tomorrow from 6.30pm in the library. Please come along and be part of our P & C. We meet on the first Tuesday of every month during the school term.

Staff Professional Learning

We continually are looking for opportunities for our staff to learn or be up-skilled so that we can cater for individual needs. At this week’s staff meeting we will have hands on training relating to anaphylaxis. This will complement the mandatory online training that staff completed at the end of 2014. The following week we will be looking at the online Mathletics program that your child can now access at home and at school. There are many aspects to this program the staff can use as part of the mathematics curriculum and the teaching and learning programs that can be offered to enhance students’ achievement. We will keep learning along with your child.

Dental Clinic

The Australian Mobile Dental Clinic arrived last Wednesday and have been kept very busy checking everyone’s smiles. Many families have taken the opportunity to use this service while it is located at our school. We hope that you have found this to be beneficial. Your feedback would be appreciated.

Healthy Lunchbox Session

Thank you to parents who came along to this session last Thursday. Cancer Council volunteers, Lucy & Rebecca shared lots of useful information and tips to make your child’s lunchbox a healthy one.

Scripture/ Ethics Lessons

Scripture lessons began last Wednesday and will take place every week with volunteers from our community giving their time to provide these lessons. We thank them all for giving their time so generously to provide these programs in our school. At the moment we have two ethics classes only due to the number of trained volunteers that are available. Please contact the office if you wish to be trained as an ethics teacher to fill a position at our school.

NAPLAN 2015

The National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy is scheduled to occur in week 4 next term (12th May – 15th May 2015). All students from years 3 and 5 will participate in the test which will cover Language conventions, Writing, Reading and Numeracy. More information for parents and carers is available on-line from:


Narelle Mann
Principal
From the Library

Premiers Reading Challenge 2015

Welcome to the NSW Premiers Reading Challenge for 2015. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read widely. The challenge opens on 2 March. Students in grades 3-6 will have a personal reading log to fill out and they need to read a total of 20 books between now and 29 August. We have a great selection of books that are listed on the PRC lists and you might already have some at home. Students are allowed to read 5 books of their own choice as well as 15 PRC titles (please see the rules on the PRC website).

Students in Kindergarten through to Grade 2 also participate. They need to read 30 books in the same time frame but we do this through our reading programs at school and of course I will be promoting Premiers Reading Challenge titles when they borrow each week in library lessons. For more information about the challenge, please have a look at the website. You will find the book lists for each level there as well.

https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

Book Club Issue 2

Scholastic Book Clubs issue 2 is coming home this week. The titles that are on the Premiers Reading Challenge list are marked with a PRC code. There are four easy ways to pay now as we are a LOOP school. See the back of the catalogues for more information.

Please remember if you would like us to hold your child’s book club order at school for any reason, just let us know, otherwise we send orders home with the students when they arrive. Thank you.

Parent Helpers

If anyone has some spare time and would like to do some dirty jobs for us in the library …. Please let us know ….

Thank you in anticipation.

Mrs Gai Swartz, Teacher Librarian.

Bunnings Family Easter Night

Thursday 26 March from 6-8pm. Bookings recommended in store.
P&C Fun Run

We will be holding an adid-as School Fun Run as a major fund-raising event this year.

Around the School

3/4C & 3/4N investigating using length

Tori made it to regionals for swimming .... :)  
Blake & Emma-Kate represented Shoal Bay at Zone Tennis

Dental Van visiting Shoal Bay School. Kids went up via lift ... most loved it

Mrs Bzadough working wonders