Principal’s Message

Tell Them from Me Survey
Notes went home last week for any families who didn’t want their Year 4 – 6 students participating in the survey. This will be conducted next Monday to give us valuable information for future planning.

ICAS
Please see attached note for any student who wishes to participate in the ICAS competitions. Payments need to be made by 14 May 2015.

Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC)
PRC is now open for students to login. They will need their DEC username and password to access the website.

Swim Carnival Results
What a fabulous day we had at the Small Schools Swimming Carnival. It was a real joy to watch all our competitors trying so hard in every race they entered. Fabulous effort also in the relays with our Junior Boys and Mixed Teams winning their races! Good luck to Toby, Monty, Drew, Makayla, Nick and Matthew who will be representing our school at the Brisbane Water Swimming Carnival on Monday.

Headphones
Headphones are an essential learning aid in the classroom. As a health requirement, students should not be sharing headphones.

Easter Activities
Easter activities will be organised at school this year. Parents will be asked to come to our Week 9 assembly to see their creations.

Simone Champion
Acting Principal
2015 Term Dates for Students

- Term 1: 28 January – 02 April
- Term 2: 21 April – 26 June
- Term 3: 14 July – 18 September
- Term 4: 06 October – 16 December

School Development Days for Staff

- Term 1: Tuesday 27 January
- Term 2: Monday 20 April
- Term 3: Monday 13 July
- Term 4: Thursday 17 & Friday 18 December

In the Spotlight

Uniform Shop Opening
Days 8:45am – 9:15am
- Monday 16 March

Thank you Mrs McNeill

We wish to say thank you to Mrs Sharon McNeill, our Volunteer Primary Ethics Instructor who has been unable to continue in this role for 2015.

We thank Sharon for her time and commitment to our school in providing Primary Ethics sessions to our students over the past couple of years. This program was able to run due to her generosity and interest in our school community.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Last week I spent two days in Sydney at Annandale P.S. for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Training. They were 2 very long but enthusiastic days full of useful information and ideas to run the program in our school. Over the next few weeks I will be conducting some audits on resources for both the kitchen and garden.

Please consider how you might be able to assist with either time or donations. The main philosophy of the program is Planting, Harvesting, Preparing and Sharing.

I hope that you will become as excited as I am. I can recommend the SHARING TABLE website to see what over 800 schools in Australia are SHARING!

Jodie Gallagher

Good number sense

Maths is a numbers game but for some students the figures don’t add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.

Find out more:

Reading with your child at home

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life; whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list, it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.

Find out more:

Coming Events

HARMONY DAY Thursday March 19

Harmony Day is an Australian initiative which began in 1999 to celebrate our culturally diverse society. The continuing message of Harmony Day is ‘Everyone Belongs’ and in 2015 the theme is ‘Thank you’ to all participants for 15 amazing year of Harmony Day!

Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse background equally belong to this nation and enrich it. And how ‘Everyone Belongs’.

Education is a key focus of Harmony Day. It is in the schoolyard and classroom that children have and will learn important lessons of respect and understanding of cultural diversity. Students will be involved in three rotating group activities during the middle session from 12:10 to 1:40pm.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. We encourage children to wear something orange on this day.

Kid’s Kitchen has organised a special lunch menu for Harmony Day. The theme is Mexican and a variety of delicious dishes can be pre-ordered. A lunch order form was sent home with ALL students on Thursday. Please return your child’s order by Thursday 12 March.

For any dietary requirement or enquiries, please contact Courtney O’Malley Jones on 0409919001. Courtney will do her best to meet your child’s needs.

We also ask students to bring along something orange in their lunchbox e.g. carrots, apricots, mango or orange.

Kerri Jones
Please find attached a permission note and lunch order form for this extra-curricular activity. Transport will be by bus with a cost of $4 per student.

**NB:** lunch order forms **MUST** be returned by 11 March.

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**Cross Country Carnival – Wednesday 29 April**

Our annual Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday 29 April. This sporting event involves all students from Central Mangrove PS, Peats Ridge PS, Kulnura PS, Somersby PS and Wyong Creek PS. Students are to wear full school sports uniform with suitable running shoes. Parents and family members are most welcome to attend. Kid’s Kitchen canteen will be open on this day for counter sales and refreshments. Watch out for your special lunch order form coming home soon.

All children aged 8 years and above will compete in a formal cross country event and there will be tabloid activities for those under 8 years (non-competitors) also being held.

- Under 8/9/10 years run 2km (2 laps)
- 11/12/13 years run 3kms (3 laps)

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**EOI for Years 3 & 4 Jenolan Caves Overnight Excursion September 10 - 11**

An expression of interest form for this overnight excursion was sent home on Thursday with all Year 3 & 4 students.

As this excursion involves all Year 3 & 4 students of the Mountain Small Schools, there are limited places on the coach. Students will be allocated a seat on a first in basis.

**Please return the EOI form with a $50 deposit by Thursday 23 April in order to reserve your child’s place.**

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**Excursion Refund Policy**

When excursions or incursions are organised every item has a cost – transport, venue, etc. This total cost is then divided by the number of student expected to participate in the activity. Often, especially in the case of overnight trips, the school has to pay a deposit well in advance.

On occasions there are unforeseen circumstances, including illness that may prevent your child from attending this event. CMPS policy is that no refunds for deposits paid are able to be provided unless a student can be found to take the place of the cancelling student. The school will make reasonable efforts to find a replacement but this will obviously not be possible in all cases, especially with little or no notice.

If an excursion is cancelled by either the school or a third party, all monies will be refunded to parents.

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**Commonwealth Day – Monday 9 March**

Commonwealth Day is celebrated every year by 53 Commonwealth countries. The aim of commemorating Commonwealth Day is to promote understanding of global issues, international co-operation and the work of the Commonwealth of Nations to improve the lives of its citizens.

The theme of Commonwealth Day 2015 is ‘A Young Commonwealth’, which recognises the capacity, contribution and potential of young people who play a vital role at the heart of sustainable development and democracy.

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**Scholastic Book Club Orders**

Issue 2 of the Scholastic Book Club was sent home to families last week. Orders and payment are due by 18 March.

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**Wyong High School 2016 IT Selective Class**

Applications are open for current Year 6 students to apply for Wyong High School’s 2016 Year 7 Selective Information Technology Class. Application forms are available from CMPS office.

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**TEACHERS’ AWARDS TERM 1 WEEK 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>K/1P</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>Excellent sight word memory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George</td>
<td>Working hard on his writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmiline</td>
<td>Working hard on her spelling words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2/3/4G</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Super sound detective in class names</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josie</td>
<td>Positive attitude when working in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Helping others in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4/5/6M</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramani</td>
<td>Fantastic questions and thoughtful answers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drew</td>
<td>Excellent attitude to learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Principal’s Award**

| **K/1P** |                                          |
| Cooper   | Very neat handwriting                     |
| Axel     | Very neat handwriting                     |
| **2/3/4G** |                                          |
| Mariam   | Spelling layout                          |
| Breeanna | Handwriting                              |
| **4/5/6M** |                                          |
| Sarah    | Excellent BTN research and presentation   |
| Thomas W | Excellent BTN research and               |
RETURN SLIPS

REQUEST FOR THE SCHOOL OFFICE:
I/We request:

- A Private Vehicle Subsidy Form
- An Uniform Order Form
- Bus Pass Application
- Pinted copy of school handbook
- Student banking application package
- Book Mobile Application Form
- Other: ____________________________

Eldest Child’s Name & Class: _______________

Headphone
I wish to purchase headphones for my child @ $14 per set.
I have attached payment for my child’s School Levy.
Name: ________________________________
Amount enclosed: $_____________________

OR
I have made an online payment for this activity. My receipt number is: ____________________
Child’s name: _________________________
Signed: _____________________________ Date: _____

Community News

The Central Echo contains, at times, paid advertisements. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any products or services by the School, the NSW DEC or NSW Government

2014 – 2015 NSW Family Energy Rebate
$150 towards energy bills – Apply online now! Closes midnight 16 June 2015.
Eligibility criteria apply

Sensory Movie Day @ Tuggerah for families with special needs.
Children are free to move around, lighting on dim, sound lowered. Fire exits are monitored by volunteers.
‘Penguins of Madagascar’
11am Sunday 15 March
Tickets $8 each
Children under 2 years are free
Companion ID card accepted
Sibling and extended family welcome
Tickets can be purchased on the day

All students participated in our Clean Up Our School Day Activity last Friday afternoon.

THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP
Relaxing Fun
Great value Safe
Bonus! Residential Kids’ Camps include supervised transport from:

Entertain the kids these school holidays with a Sport and Recreation camp. Our popular Kids’ and Family Camps offer a range of exciting activities to keep even the biggest kid entertained. Try your hand at over 40 different activities, including fishing, slip’n’slide, abseiling, crafts, kayaking, cooking and more. Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Kids’ Day Camps start from $47. Family Camp weekends start from $63 per day for kids and $96 per day for adults (kids under 5 attend free; cost includes accommodation, meals and activities).

- Central Station, Sydney
- Penrith
- Lithgow
- Bathurst
- Orange
- Wellington
- Brooklyn
- Mooney Mooney.

Find out more:

- dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps
- dsr.nsw.gov.au/familycamps
- Phone: 13 13 02
- facebook.com/nswsportandrecreation