PRINCIPAL’S COMMENTS

Greetings all and welcome to Week 8
Last night we had another great P&C meeting. I really enjoy the P&C meetings because we get so much done and we get feedback about the school and how we are seen by our community. The P&C really work hard and support this school more than any other I have known. We are so lucky to have these amazing people in the school and supporting us. Last night the P&C decided to support our PRAISE reward program. A really good discussion was had regarding the program. The PRAISE program runs for the entire year and rewards children for excellence in behaviour, attitude, uniform and attendance. Each term the children who reach their goals receive a celebration wrist band and a reward. This culminates at the end of the year when children who have 100% in all areas for the year reach Emerald status and receive a reward. This is a very extensive program and it is difficult to reach Emerald status without sustained effort. It has been noted that a lot more children are now reaching Emerald status and the question has been put that it is easier to reach the level. It is NOT! The culture of our school has changed and we have the vast majority of children focussed on behaving well and achieving in class. We need to celebrate the efforts of our children and encourage them to aspire to good behaviour and academic achievement. I thank the P&C for its support of this wonderful PRAISE program. The P&C has also decided to construct covers over the bike racks and the sand pits. This again shows the amazing insight and support given to our school by the P&C.

HARMONY DAY

As part of our Harmony Day celebrations this Friday, 21st March, we will be holding a mufti or out of uniform day. Instead of a gold coin donation we ask families to send in an Easter egg. These Easter eggs will form the basis of our raffle prizes that will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade on Friday 11th April. Raffle tickets will be sold at the Uniform Shop each morning. We hope to have enough eggs for lots of prizes.

In the spirit of Harmony Day I would ask people to consider buying the Easter eggs at Target or eggs that are UT2 certified. The manufacturers of these eggs are by companies who do not employ child or slave labour. The number of companies who use Asian or third world labour to produce their product is astounding. If you could help out Fair Trade and UT2 companies this would be great.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Welcome on board all our new Community Partners. Please watch the signs at the front of the school over the next month and support the people who support us.

SCHOOL SIGN

A huge thankyou to the P&C for purchasing the new sign on Fishery Point Road. The sign is already creating favourable comment from the community on the Peninsula. It adds another dimension to promote our wonderful school.

NEW TEACHERS

We have formed two panels to begin the process to select our new Infants Assistant Principal and a new Class Teacher. Both positions will be resolved by the end of the term. It will be very interesting to meet the successful candidates and welcome them to our school.

SKOOLBAG APP

The new Skoolbag App has been widely embraced by our community to explain absences and to communicate with the school. We are planning to include all notes sent home on the app so parents can have an electronic copy of notes as well as a hard copy. Look for this feature soon!

Have a wonderful week
Mark Stiller, Principal
Term 1 Week 8
DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

March
- 17th/18th/19th: Student Talent Quest
- 18th: P&C Meeting
- 21st: Hunter Rugby League Trials
- 21st: ICAS payments due
- 21st: Pizza orders due
- 21st: Student Talent Quest final
- 25th: LMG P&C Meeting Eraring Public School
- 27th: Pizza Day
- 31st: Young Leaders Day

April
- 1st: Infants Cross Country
- 3rd: Primary cross Country
- 11th: Last day of Term 1

CANTEEN ROSTER

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<td>27/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/3</td>
<td>Michelle M, Gabriala V, Leeann H</td>
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PIZZA DAY
Reminder Pizza Day is next Thursday 27th March and all orders are due in by this Friday 21st March. Thanks to everyone who has already ordered for supporting your school canteen.

NOTES SENT HOME DURING THE WEEK
Community Partnership Page

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following students who received a Merit Certificate at the Assembly….

Kindergarten to Year 2
- Isabelle S, Cooper A-E, Candice S
- Tristan McG, Benn H, Savannah W
- Jack W, Charlotte B, Ella R
- Taylah B, Kodie M, Nikita P, Aiden W

Year 3 to Year 6
- Brando G, Lili R, Jasmin L, Tiarna S
- Mackenzie P, Wesley McI, Danyell A-P
- Andrew H, Xander B, Connor G
- Chelsea R, Sean P-P

Computers
- Imogen McC, Zac H, Miley G

Assembly Award Winners
- Kobi J, Matthew S, Chloe G, Jada T

TALENT QUEST
Interested students from Yrs K-6 have been participating in a Talent Quest and the final will be held on Friday 21st March. Funds raised will go towards the Year 6 Farewell. This event is for students only.

LIBRARY NEWS

Library News Week 8
Library overdue notices went home last week; please return all overdue books ASAP. Please remember to place all library returns in the returns trolley at the library door before 9.30am.

If you do not yet have a paper copy of your reading log for the Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC), please see me to collect one. I am keeping a copy of the students reading log at school also.

Happy Reading
Mrs Tate

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Just a reminder that orders for book club closed on Monday 17th March. Sorry no late orders.

SCREENING CHECKS

The Screening Checks program, which includes, hearing, vision, speech pathology and occupational therapy, is now underway. We have now offered the chance of testing to some students in Stages 2 and 3. Please return the notes to the office ASAP.

Easter

HOT CROSS BUNS- Keep selling those hot cross buns. We have been given the opportunity to sell them at the price Bakers Delight sell them for, so buy them through the school instead of from the store and the school will received $2 from each packet sold.
MEGA RAFFLE: This Friday 21st March, Harmony day is an out of uniform day. Children are encouraged to come dressed in something orange for Harmony day and donate an Easter egg (one per family) to be used as a prize for our Mega Easter Raffle.

We would like to encourage our families to consider buying Easter eggs that have the “fair trade” sticker/symbol on them that signify they haven’t been made using child slave labour.

Raffle tickets will be sold every morning, outside the uniform shop. Tickets will be $1 each.

After Harmony day, we will be able to give you an idea of how many prizes there will be. If each family donates just one egg, imagine how many prizes we might be able to create.

The raffle will be drawn at the Easter hat parade: Friday, Week 11.

Points of Last night’s P&C meeting
- Agreed to pay for the praise award wrist bands and reward for Term 1
- Uniform shop will soon stock new sports shorts for boys, to go with the new girls’ sports skorts. A new light weight hat will also be available for summer.
- We were updated on the progress of the lower primary health screening test
- Discussed a trivia night for Term 2 and a skate competition for Term 4
- Discussed new technology

P&C – Parents and Citizens Supporting Our School

Helping With Homework
How much should you help your child with homework? When your child makes a mistake, should you fix it? Teachers talk about how parents can help kids take responsibility for their homework and avoid Thursday night meltdowns. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/helping-your-primary-school-child-with-homework

COMMUNITY NEWS

Eraring Public School 90th Birthday Fair
Eraring Public School will be holding a 90th Birthday Fair on Saturday 29th March from 11:30am to 3pm. The book on Eraring Public School written by Mr Doug Saxon will be launched and there will be many stalls with bargains to be had. It will be a great day for all. Enquiries: 4973 1196.

RSPCA Million Paws Walk
As someone who cares about our furry friends, we’d like to invite you to join us for the 2014 Million Paws Walk. It's Australia's biggest dog walk!

The walk takes place on Sunday 19 May - and it's going to be the biggest event on the canine calendar. Register now for our PAWSOME discounted entry price to save $$ from your entry fee.

You'd be barking mad to miss out on this great offer! : )
But that's not all...
If you register this week, you will automatically go into the draw to win a pooch pamper hamper from Doggone Gorgeous valued at over $500!
It's full of goodies for you to spoil your furry friend - how FURtastic is that?

But hurry this offer ends next week, so don't miss out.
Invite your friends, family, colleagues and canine companions to sit, fetch, roll over and walk to support mistreated animals!
For more information on Million Paws Walk, view the website or check out our walk locations across the country.

We hope to see you in the walk to fight animal cruelty!
Million Paws Walk Team

Conservatorium Youth Choir

Entry: No audition – enrolment through Conservatorium Office
Ages: from 8 years (Year 3 onwards)
Rehearsals: Monday’s 4.00pm-5.30pm, Peter Martin Studio at The Conservatorium
Description: The Conservatorium Youth Choir endeavours to foster excellence in musicianship and a love of music as well as to nurture young voices. It is available to all children from the age of 8 years from public and non-government schools and welcomes new members throughout the year. The CYC participates in various activities around the region and in the life of the Conservatorium. Students who join can expect to perform in a range of Conservatorium and community events often in collaboration with the Conservatorium's other choirs.
They experience music from a variety of cultures, exploring many styles and incorporating different musical and vocal techniques. New members are welcome at any time throughout the year.

Director: Christopher Blake
Cost: $99.00 per 9 week term
Contact: the office on (02) 4921 8900 or email: conservatorium@newcastle.edu.au