CANTEEN CLOSURE !!!
FRIDAY 7 MARCH AND MONDAY 10 MARCH
UNLESS SOMEONE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS TO HELP THIS DAY !!

Principal's Report

RAM Equity Funding

One of the changes being introduced by the Department of Education and Communities (DEC) is in regards to funding. We now receive Resource Allocation Model (RAM) equity funding. This means that the DEC calculates aspects of our school's funding using information collected through the enrolment process including parental level of school education, highest non-school qualification and occupation category. From this a FOEI score is calculated for each school and the rate of funding is determined for each child in the school. In other words schools with many students from welfare dependent families will receive more funding than schools in areas of greater wealth.

Schools have always received small amounts of money to assist families in need with payments for books, uniforms and so on. This year, as a result of RAM equity funding, we have received some additional funds in this area. When we are providing opportunities for our students we do not want some students to be missing out because of their parents' circumstances, or for any student to made to feel less worthy because of their parents' circumstances.

If you are one of our families who are genuinely struggling financially then please come and see me for assistance in supporting your child to participate in things such as Star Struck or excursions. We can discuss your circumstances and what the school can do to support your child in achieving success and participating equitably at school.

We will use some funding as direct financial assistance and we will use some funding to pay for school learning support officer time to assist students with literacy and numeracy.

Clean Up Schools Day

Tomorrow we are holding our Clean Up Schools day. It would be very helpful if your child could bring gloves to school tomorrow.

We have been invited to support Clean Up Australia Day at McDonald's Wyong, Lake Haven & Swansea next Sunday 2nd March 2014, from 9.00 am—12 noon.

The message from McDonalds is: We would love it if as many families as possible to attend, even just for 30mins is a great help. As this give a great message to our children, just how lucky we are to live in this beautiful country. It also teaches them just by throwing rubbish on the ground that someone still needs to pick it up. We have designated areas within walking distance, but if you know somewhere in your local area, just come & register, grab a bag. We have 30 sets of gardening gloves, if you have any of your own we'd appreciate if you could bring some down. Don't forget the hats, sunscreen & enclosed shoes just for safety. If you're thinking of attending Wyong we will have 101.3 attending doing live broadcasting from 9am-12noon. With some giveaways. From 11am-2pm there will be a jumping castle there as well as face painting.

School Photos

Friday of next week is our school photo day. We will begin with a whole school photo and then move through each of the classes. Students have their individual photo taken as well. There will also be photos taken of the Band and the Guitar group. All Band students should have their instruments with them. We will need just a couple of guitars for the Guitar group photo. There is also a Year 6 photo and a photo of the Captains. All students should be dressed in their best school uniform. Black school shoes are preferable. Students should not be wearing any jewellery. Family group order forms are available at the office.
Planning for the New English Syllabus

This year we are teaching the new English syllabus, based on the Australian curriculum for the first time. To support teachers in using new online software for the tracking of student progress all teachers will be off class for half a day on Monday. Mrs. Hook and Mrs. Halligan will have planning time together in the morning and Mr. Westcott and I will be planning together in the afternoon session.

P & C Meeting

The P & C will be meeting on Monday evening from 7.00 pm. The P & C is a vital part of our school community. They run our School Canteen and Uniform Shop and they organise a variety of fundraising events including the upcoming Easter raffle. Money from fundraising pays for the buses for major excursions, has bought school signage and the new soccer posts and this year is purchasing class sets of novels and readers. Please come along and support your child and the school.

Tennis Try Outs

Last week Jesse K attended the tryouts for the regional tennis team. Only two students were selected, both from Year 6. Jesse performed really well and this was a great experience for him. Well done, Jesse!

Karin Hird
Principal

Class News

Kindergarten

Ms Hook

KH students had a great time at the World of Maths session! We were joined by some older students to help us read the activity instructions and solve the challenges.

We have been learning about sprints in Sport and how we can move our bodies to run faster! We will be playing more games to help us practise our new skills.

Thank you to Cherelle, Shontelle’s mum, who joined us on Wednesday for our music session. She used her singing skills and knowledge to lead us through some vocal warm up techniques and introduced a couple of new songs. We sang Fungi Alafia for her, a greeting song from Ghana that we have been learning.

1/2

Our Star of the Week this week is Keely. The Super Spellers who received 100% in their spelling test last week were Aliyah, Keely, Torhi, Daniel, Ben, Grace, Alyssa, Jye, Cooper and James. Wow! Well done again 1/2.

This week, class 1/2 enjoyed ‘World of Maths’ visiting on Monday. We were presented with some amazing, hands on Maths challenges which the students really enjoyed. This week students have been sharing news about their family. Next week students can talk about (and bring in if appropriate) a toy they enjoy playing with.

The home readers are organised and ready to go! Any type of plastic envelope/folder or even a book bag can be used for home reading. Each week, 2 - 3 books (depending on the level) will be sent home in the home reader folder and we ask that books are returned on either a Monday or a Wednesday to be changed.

A big thank you to those parents who have already helped by donating some class supplies, any extra glue, tissues, pencils and non-permanent markers are always appreciated. It is also very helpful with the parent helpers who are coming in; we always are on the lookout for these very special people. All volunteers need to see Kelly in the office to complete a Working With Children Check form.

Mrs Halligan and Mr Derbyshire

3/4

This week we have been learning about measuring, using centimetres and metres. In Literacy we have begun learning how to write a narrative. We have been reading the story The Ducks That Sank and studying the story as a guide to our own story writing.

In Art we have been talking about Sydney Nolan and his Ned Kelly series of paintings. We have also begun a painting of our own using Sydney Nolan’s painting as a model.

Many children have been earning ‘Dojo’ points and each time they score five they earn a PBL award for their place mat. Ask your child how many they have earned.

Mr Westcott

4/5/6

This week we have been learning about amphibians. The students have been expanding their vocabularies with words such as metamorphosis and have been learning about various frogs and their behaviours.

In Mathematics, we have been revising the different strategies for addition and subtraction. These include the jump strategy on the number line and the compensation strategy. We are also working to ensure automatic recall of number facts to 20 so that students aren’t needing to count on for these easier questions.

Today we have done some more work on positive rela-
relationships and discussing appropriate responsibilities for children of their age.

It has been very pleasing to see the students who are scoring very well on weekly spelling tests and that a couple are receiving their bronze home reading award tomorrow. Well done!

Mrs Hird

Zone Swimming

On Monday and Wednesday students from Nords Wharf School competed in the Zone Swimming Carnival held at Swansea pool. This carnival attracts swimmers from more than twenty schools.

Our representatives were: Ben, Bella, Sunny, Sophie, Liam, Madison, Taj, Jay, Keeley, Stanley, Jesse G, Alyssa, Shaylee and Dylan.

Many of our swimmers gained places in their heats with some registering times that gained them a place in the finals. All students were well behaved and were excellent representatives of our school.

A big thankyou goes out to all those parents who helped with transport and went along to support our children. A very special thankyou goes to Mrs B who got to the pool early and secured a great spot for our school.

Office News!!

School photos envelopes were sent out last week—if you wish to purchase school photos, please complete the envelope and return either with correct money or pay online by Friday 7 March.

Family photo envelopes are available at the office to collect if you would like a family photograph taken.

Emergency and medical contact review sheets will be sent home with your child / ren tomorrow. As this contains some confidential information could you please check your child’s school bag for this sheet. These need to be returned by Friday 21 March 2014.

Kelly and Sue

P & C NEWS

Our P & C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 3 March at 7.00 pm in the staffroom.

All positions will be declared vacant. All community members interested, come along and join a wonderful and supportive group of people working together to raise money for our students!!

Come along and make a difference!!

Happy Birthday To:

Joel 27 Feb
Savita 3 March

Coming Events

Term 1 Week 6

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<tr>
<td>Monday 3 March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting and AGM 7.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 5 March</td>
<td>NO GUITAR LESSON— make up lesson Friday 14 March</td>
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Term 1 Week 7

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<tr>
<td>Friday 14 March</td>
<td>School Banking reps at assembly and open savings accounts afterwards</td>
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<td>Friday 14 March</td>
<td>Guitar make up lesson</td>
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Canteen Roster:

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<td>Friday 28 Feb</td>
<td>Meghan May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 3 Mar</td>
<td>Trish Irwin</td>
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<td>Wed 5 March</td>
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A HUGE thank you to Megan Adams and Bec Green who filled in at short notice last Monday 24 February. You are WONDERFUL !!!
Merit Awards

Class Awards
K
Shontelle
1/2
Keely
Alyssa
Ben
3/4
Elloise
4/5/6
Shaylee
Lachlan
Kaitlyn

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open each Friday morning from 9.00 until 9.30 am for uniform sales.

Old style Stubbies brand size 12 Sport Shorts—6 pairs only MUST GO $5.00 each.

Size 6 and 10 Polo Shirts and Caps have arrived.

As this will be my last year with NWPS, I need someone to train in running the Uniform Shop—if anyone is interested please see me on Fridays.

Thanks Kylie

Kindergarten World of Maths Session
SWANSEA-CAVES JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB
2014 SEASON LAUNCH !!!

This Thursday, 5pm-7pm, 27th February @ Parbury Oval

Knights Players, JAM Tuition Rock Bands, BBQ, Skills Training

online registrations: www.swanseajrl.leaguenet.com.au

* Exciting news for 2015: GIRLS Rugby League is coming to Swansea-Caves JRLFC!!!!

Contact Mark on 0437 821 435 or swanseacavesjrfc@hotmail.com for details

Aaron and Jack received their ‘Grey Wolf’ Award at Scouts—the highest level of achievement in Cub Scouts
SWANSEA FOOTBALL CLUB
2014 SEASON

PLAYERS NEEDED
U/10, U/12 & U/13's

Phone: 49712859 / 0437673561
Steve Sohr

catherine hill bay
CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY

TOO BIG FOR THE BILLYCART!

The October 2013 bushfires at Catherine Hill Bay exposed thousands of bottles covering the beautiful headland. Wonderful regrowth is rapidly returning and this manmade disaster will be soon out of sight / out of mind. We made this disaster; it is time for us to fix it!

In November 2013 we had 28 remarkable volunteers including residents of Catho and Nords Wharf, and people from Gwandalan Scouts, Catho Surf Club, Catho Boardriders Club, Waratah Fire Brigade, Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association, Lake Macquarie City Council, Local State Member and others, collect along the headland approximately 3 tonne of bottles with thousands still to go!

The plan for the 2nd March 2014 Clean Up Australia Day is to collect as many bottles as possible. Making this task easier is offered assistance from local communities, Bay Surf Club, Bay Progress Association, Bay Boardriders Club, LakeCoal, Odyssey, Take 3, National Parks and Wildlife, Rose Group, Lake Macquarie City Council and the Local State Member, Mr Garry Edwards MP. The Mayor of Lake Macquarie City Council, Jodie Harrison will also be coming to help.

Having recently witnessed the thousands of bottles that litter the coastline there is no doubt that the Bay is only one of many areas along our coast that are coated in bottles. As a kid I use to pull my billycart around the streets competing with likeminded scavengers in search of bottles as this was our prized pocket money.

We need to re-establish a cash for bottle incentive scheme to stop tossers and encourage recycling.

The headland can’t speak but we can so we welcome and need your help.

When – Sunday 2nd March 2014 commencing at 9.00am and finishing at 1.00pm.
Where – Start at “sign-in” station - eastern end of Montefiori St (car park / washery gates).
Volunteers – appropriate clothing please – no thongs / gloves / hat / sun screen / water.
Progress Association BBQ – at 5 Clarke St, commencing 1.00pm – food provided / BYO.
Register – you can register on-line via the Clean-Up Australia Day website OR sign up below.

Any questions please call Damien – M: 0419263380
ABSENCE NOTE

Student Surname: ________________________________
First Name: ________________________________
Class: ________________________________
Date/s of Absence: ________________________________
Reason for Absence: ________________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature: ________________________________
Date: ________________________________

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