**Principal’s Report**

**Zone Cross Country**

Good luck to all of our runners at tomorrow’s Cross Country Carnival. We hope you do a personal best. Students will be supervised by Mr Westcott. All students need to be at school by 8:45 am to have their name checked off and to depart in their allocated vehicle. If you haven’t been a driver previously, please give your details to the office. You will need a copy of your licence and registration papers.

**Athletics Carnival**

The school Athletics Carnival is being held on Tuesday at Baxter Oval in Marks Point. You should have already received a note with all of the details. It is expected that all children attend. They may wear their house colours, or their usual school polo shirt and shorts.

If your child needs to get a lift to the carnival, and they are under 7, then you will need to provide a booster seat for them.

Students should be at school by 9 am on Tuesday, have their name marked on the roll and then drive to Marks Point. If you are able to assist with transport then that would be most helpful. If any students are travelling directly to the oval then please inform the school beforehand.

If you are able to assist with any of the events on the day then please see Mr Westcott. Mrs Irwin will be looking for help in the canteen as well.

Here’s hoping for good weather!

**Star Struck**

A note went home this week with the details of rehearsals etc. Please return these asap. The first rehearsal is on Thursday next week. There will be a further note coming out with costume details on it. Money needs to be paid quickly so that fabric can be purchased.

**P&C Meeting**

The first meeting for Term 2 will be held on Tuesday from 6:30 pm. All parents are welcome. All of our executive officer positions have been filled. It would be great to have some additional parents in attendance.

The P&C will be holding their annual Mother’s Day stall on Friday next week. Presents range from $1 - $10 each. If you are able to help with selling and wrapping please see your President, Sidone, or inform the office. The stall starts at 9:15 am and is generally finished by 11:15 am.

**Staff Professional Development**

On Monday the teachers began work on writing report comments for the half yearly reports. There will be a slight change to the reports this year because of changes to the NSW curriculum. English will have an overall achievement grade and an overall effort mark. There will be more room for a written comment. In Mathematics there will be a change to the wording of the strands taught. These are now called Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability. Working Mathematically is a part of each of these strands. Other subjects will remain the same.

Staff also attended mandatory training in Anaphylaxis. All staff know how to administer an adrenalin auto-injector (Epipen) if there is an emergency.

Mr Westcott attended the first in a series of professional development sessions today in implementing the Focus on Reading program. This program is designed to improve comprehension skills in students, with particular focus on students in Years 3 – 8. He will be providing training to all of the staff. This training will take approximately 18 months to complete as it is quite a comprehensive and complex course.

**Karin Hird**

Notes Sent Home This Week

Star Struck Costume 2014
Year 6 Leadership Conference
Class News

Kindergarten

Welcome back to school! The Kindergarten students have been very excited to share their adventures from their first school holidays!

Please check your child’s bag for their Term 2 homework book and the Talking and Listening (News) sheet that were sent home.

This term, we will be doing a lot of reading, writing and art activities based on a book called ‘Where is the Green Sheep?’ by Mem Fox and Judy Horacek. As part of this unit, I will be sending home a copy of the story, a green sheep and a diary/book. This is to record the adventures of our sheep. As only one child can take these home at a time, it may be a while before your child has his/her turn but it will happen!

Our school Athletics Carnival will be held next Tuesday. Parents are more than welcome to join us for this event. Yesterday, students in Kindergarten were given a note indicating which ‘house’ group they are in for all sports carnivals and the colour and animal mascot that represent that house.

Ms Hook

1/2

Welcome back everyone to what is a very busy term! We have high expectations of how our students will perform this term in all areas of school life and know they will make the most of all the academic, cultural and sporting opportunities during Term 2.

The Star of the Week this week is Ben. Our class received another postcard this week ... from Mrs Halligan (thank you to Sophie and Grace for your postcards in Term 1). All these postcards are proudly displayed in our classroom window. A special thank you to the parent helpers that have already let me know their willingness to come and help, never expected yet always appreciated.

This week we are also preparing for the Athletics Carnival. We hope to see you there next Tuesday!

Mrs Halligan and Mr Derbyshire

3/4

Welcome back! This term is going to be quite busy. Coming up soon will be public speaking. There is no set topic so the students can use their creativity to come up with something special. The students first speak in class and the best three from each grade will speak at assembly. We want each child to speak in front of the class but if this is going to be a problem, let me know and we could modify the situation. Perhaps they could speak to a small group. Palm cards will be needed. It is better to use less writing on the cards and more cards. Don’t forget home reading and we shall be testing times-tables this term.

Check that your child has all the equipment they need, especially lead pencils.

Mr Westcott

4/5/6

This term we are learning about biomes. Amazingly several students knew the meaning of this word from having played Minecraft! Biomes are defined as “the world’s major communities, classified according to the predominant vegetation and characterized by adaptations of organisms to that particular environment” (Campbell). In other words, rainforests, deserts, tundra etc. The focus of the unit will be man’s interactions with each of these areas. What we get from them, how we are protecting them and how we are damaging them. We will also look at the people that live in particular biomes and learn a bit about their culture and lifestyle as well. We will also learn what the characteristics are of each particular biome.

In English we will be completing a unit of work focussed around the question, “How do composers make their stories powerful?” A composer includes authors, film writers, storytellers and web site authors. A major part of the unit will be reading the graphic novel, “A Monster Calls” by Patrick Ness. A very powerful story that should lead to some interesting discussions.

We began yesterday by looking at two short films that told their stories without words. The students wrote a paragraph to convince you to watch their favourite of the two films. Some of the more convincing pieces have been published on our new class blog. You can find this by going to www.456nwps.weebly.com. During the term there will be artwork, writing and other work samples loaded onto this website. Only first names will be used. Photos and names will never be used together. This was covered by a form that you signed earlier this year. However, if you have any objections please let me know. It would be great if you could get on and make a comment about their work. Please only use your first name when commenting.

Mrs Hird
Office News

MedicAlert have sent to our school information regarding awareness of the MedicAlert bracelet. If you would like information, a brochure is available at the office.

Cake stall
On Thursday in week 2 Eva, Montana, Jarad P., Jay T., Sophie I and Tiahna will be raising money for cancer research. They will be having a cake stall. Prices will be 50 cents each.

Thank you to all the parents and staff for the warm welcome to your lovely school. I know I will enjoy working here with all of you.

Margaret

Coming Events

Term 2 Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 2 May</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
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Term 2 Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6 May</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting 6.30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9 May</td>
<td>Star Struck Rehearsal</td>
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Happy Mothers's Day to all our wonderful mothers!

For Mother's Day Sunday 11th May

There will be a Mother’s Day stall on Friday 9th May selling presents for $1–$10 each.

Canteen Roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 2 May</td>
<td>Need someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 5 May</td>
<td>Leanne Munro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 7th May</td>
<td>Need someone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Donations of cakes or slices for the Athletics Carnival would be appreciated. Please bring on the day for sale at the carnival.

Canteen Co-ordinator has no transport for the next few weeks. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Happy Birthday To:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>10 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shontelle</td>
<td>16 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>18 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallie</td>
<td>22 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsa</td>
<td>23 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle</td>
<td>31 May</td>
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</tbody>
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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 10 and 12 Polo Shirts and Caps have arrived.