FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Playground Softfall
It was great to come back to school last week and see all the changes that happened over the holidays. If you have been up to the office you would have noticed the painting and the addition of a new door. It has certainly made a difference to the office environment.

Another holiday project was the softfall on the basketball courts, additional handball courts and running lanes. This project was funded mainly by the P&C with the school contributing some funds as well. The children were really excited and have enjoyed using the area. We are still waiting for the court markings to be completed which should happen this week. Thank you to the P&C and parents for making this project possible.

Education Week Update
As mentioned last week, Education Week will be celebrated in week 3. On Wednesday 30th July our rugby league team will participate in the Bulldogs/Goanna Cup and stage 2 and 3 students will travel to MVHS to watch their musical. On Thursday 31st July we will hold an Education week disco after school and on Friday 1st August there is the Zone Athletics Carnival which some students will attend. Open Classrooms will be at 12pm on the Friday followed by assembly at 12:30pm. Parents are welcome to stay and have lunch with their children.

If you wish to order a pie or sausage roll from the canteen all orders need to be placed by Thursday 31st July. Alternatively you can bring a picnic lunch to share with your children.

PAVe Project
As discussed at last week’s P&C meeting our school has agreed for years 3 and 4 to participate in the PAVe (Preventing Anxiety and...
Victimisation through Education) project. The great news is that we have been selected for both programs: Friendly Schools Plus and Cool Kids: Taking Control. These programs will help schools reduce all forms of bullying by developing student’s social and emotional learning, building positive peer relationships, and empowering students to cope successfully with difficult situations. For this to have a real impact we need all students to participate so please make sure consent notes are sent back quickly when you receive them. Below is a letter from the facilitators of the course.

PAVe
Preventing Anxiety and Victimisation through education

Your school principal has agreed for your school to take part in PAVe, an exciting new research project taking place in NSW and WA primary schools. The purpose of the project is to evaluate two interventions that enhance students’ social and emotional learning and foster the prevention of bullying behaviours (Friendly Schools Plus and Cool Kids: Taking Control). Grades 3 and 4 students are being invited to participate by completing a confidential survey on three occasions over the next three years. Your school will implement both programs.

A parent and student information letter and consent form for the project will soon be sent home with students in Grades 3 and 4. Parents in these grades are asked to discuss this project with their son or daughter and submit the consent form online via

PAVe Parent Information and Consent Form

OR return the completed consent form to their child’s teacher by Friday 8th August.

Read about the PAVe project in the Daily Telegraph
Further information can also be found at

Payment for excursion reminder
As mentioned in previous newsletters payment for excursions and activities will close one week prior to the date of the excursion/activity. No payments will be accepted after this date. The reason behind this is to accustom ourselves to a new system of school banking which is commencing in 2015.

OC Test
Applicants for Year 5 placement in an opportunity class in 2015 are required to take the Opportunity Class Placement Test to be held from 9.00am to 11.15 am on Wednesday 23 July 2014. All students who applied should have received a letter advising them of these details. The test centre for students from our school is:

Cessnock High School
Aberdare St
CESSNOCK NSW 2325

School Gates
Due to our cleaning hours being cut at the end of last term, teaching staff will now be responsible for locking gates each afternoon. As teachers conclude their afternoon crossing and bus duties they will be locking the gates on Wollombi Rd and Alfred St. This will happen between 3:10 and 3:20pm each day. If you are still on the school grounds after this time you will need to exit via the Campbell St gate.

Wear Your Beanie Day
On Thursday 31 July CWPS will participate in “Wear Your Beanie” for Brain Cancer Awareness. Children may wear a beanie and bring a gold coin donation for the Mark Hughes Foundation. All money raised
goes directly to Brain Cancer research at Hunter Medical Research Institute. All participating schools go in a draw to win a Rugby League coaching clinic with Mark Hughes and Danny Buderus. There is also a signed 2014 Knights Jersey up for grabs!

Livelifewell

Dairy foods are important for strong bones and teeth. The Australian Guide to Healthy Eating recommends children eat 2-3 serves of dairy foods, such as milk, cheese or yoghurt each day. Why not try including these high-calcium containing foods:

- milk on cereal or a tub of yoghurt at breakfast
- cheese on crackers after preschool
- fruit smoothie as a drink
- custard and fruit or as dessert.

Parenting Ideas


Many thanks for your support.
Mrs Ruth McGlashan

NAIDOC Celebrations

On Friday, almost 300 of our students joined students from Laguna PS, Congewai PS, Paxton PS, and Ellalong PS in a day of NAIDOC celebrations at Wollombi PS. Throughout the day, the children rotated between activities of creating a bush tucker garden, boomerang painting, learning & playing traditional Aboriginal games, learning Aboriginal dance with Patrick, Dakota & Michelle from Mt View High, making artworks from clay as well as cooking "Johnny cakes" and sampling some bush tucker jams. During the lunch time break, the children were entertained by the wonderful Drum Beat group from Weston Public school. The children were engaged in all activities and worked well with students from different schools in groups of students from K-6. They all represented our school wonderfully and should be congratulated on their great behaviour.

We would like to thank Mrs Floyd for organising such a great day!!

Jamie Oliver Stickers

Thanks to Cessnock Woolworths we had some very happy families last week. Cessnock Woolworths gave the school about 250 boxes of Jamie Oliver Stickers. The children just had to 'pay with a smile' to receive a box and the smiles were getting bigger and bigger as they came through the library.

Thanks also to Mrs Gerard and Mrs Metcalfe for all of the heavy lifting involved in picking them up and delivering them to the school. Mrs Rolt still has stickers in the library. If you need some, please see her on send in a note asking for them.
Hello everyone. The P&C Pie Drive is on again. Order forms will be sent home this week with your child's newsletter. Forms and monies are to be returned to the front office by Friday 1st August. Collection of pies etc will be on Monday 11th August from the infants building. This is a great fundraiser for the school P & C so please get your orders in.

It’s been a long time coming but finally our turfed area has been installed as you all can see and will be of great benefit and enjoyment to all students. The money it cost for the turfed area has come about due to the fundraising efforts of the P & C and all parents and extended family and friends that support our great school through the various activities that are put on throughout the year. Every dollar raised goes towards improving our school for the benefit of all students.

Ian Glover
P&C Secretary