

# Muswellbrook South Public School

Proud and Powerful to be a Schools in Partnership (SiP) school.



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Week 3 Term Three

3 August 2011

Dear Parents and Carers of Muswellbrook South Public School,

## **STOP PRESS: Join us for Education Week School Assembly on Thursday @ 1.00pm.**

I am very happy to inform our school community that Mrs Karen Rayner has received special recognition from the school community and colleagues for her contribution to the improvement of educational opportunities for our students and staff, as well as her dedication to Public Education. Through the NEITA 2011 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards, Karen's nomination is among the first of those received for these Awards. The theme of the awards this year, **Teachers Count**, encourages recognition of the important work of inspirational teachers and education leaders by the community. Congratulations Karen on a very significant award.

This week we celebrate Education Week. Tonight we have the district awards, where staff and volunteers from our school will be acknowledged for their service and dedication to our school. Also, tonight our schools Aboriginal dance group will be performing the **Honey Tree Dance** and our school choir will also be performing. This night will begin at 5pm at Muswellbrook HS hall. All are welcome to come and celebrate the amazing achievements we have in Public Education. Today, our students experienced a day of Cultural Immersion from an Aboriginal Cultural group called 'Buudja Marrung'. Both presenters and their staff developed a whole day of didgeridoo playing, dreamtime stories, traditional sporting games and dance.

This Thursday we will be holding our schools Education Week Assembly at 1pm. We have moved it to Thursday as many students on Friday will be attending the Zone Athletics Carnival. Good luck to all those students.

Last Thursday and Friday students were acknowledged for their previous white, gold and pebble awards. Special thanks to Mr Russell who tallied up the old awards that enabled us to finally begin the new system. At last Friday's assembly I selected two students from each stage who received a pebble during the week. They were drawn out of the pebble boxes. These students will be acknowledged for their achievements on Monday, at 1.30pm by having afternoon tea with me in my office. Congratulations to this weeks 'Pebble People':

ES1 – (Kindergarten) – Montana F - KW  
Mitchell G - K/1 M  
Stage 1 – (Year 1/2 ) - Colby W - 2D  
Violet W - 2D  
Stage 2- (Years 3&4) – Tyron C - 4R  
Jake P - 4/5S  
Stage 3- (Years 5&6) – Thomas H - 5M  
Brianna C - 6C

As we prepare for an Australian Curriculum, members of the teaching staff will be reviewing the draft formats over the next couple of months with the assistance from the NSW Board of Studies.

The Board of Studies are developing new K – 10 syllabuses that incorporate the Australian Curriculum content. These consultations are in areas for initial implementation English, Mathematics, Science and History.

You are able to keep abreast of the developments by looking on the Board of Studies website, [www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/australian-curriculum](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/australian-curriculum).

A big thankyou to Adam Stewart Bricklaying for their donation of an oven to our school canteen. Adam and Shelly are proud South parents and their generous donation helps our canteen managers provide the healthy and delicious meals our children are enjoying.

Thank you parents/ carers for your interest and involvement in your child/ren's education at Muswellbrook South Public School.

It is wonderful to have parents and carers participating when they are available with excursions, carnivals, classroom activities, canteen or however you can. I am aware that quite a few of these opportunities are available this term and encourage you to be involved as it sends a very positive message to the students.

Yours in Education

Rebecca Langdon  
Principal

### **Assembly**

This week's assembly is a special Education Week assembly and will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August, commencing at 1pm. An assembly item will be performed by 4/5S. All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

### **Hall Display**

The hall display for Week 3 is 5M. The hall display for Week 4 and 5 is 4R. The foyer display is currently 4/5/6B and for Week 4 and 5 is 5M.

### **Congratulations**

Our new award system is now in place and all children's awards have been converted to the new system. Congratulations to our new Honour students: Kimberly Canning, Jackson Dunbar, Maddison Gothard, Kristina Verduci, Samantha Quinn, Jenna Besford, Georgia Dalley, Jayk Rann, Damon Boeckx, Jayden Dick, Charlotte Perkins, Ty Watson, Cassidy Watts, Nicole Boeckx, Ashley Merrick, Georgina Rowlands, Jarrod Watts and Ashlea Deller.

### **National SASS Week**

This week we also celebrate National Recognition Week for School Administration and Support Staff. This includes our Office Staff, General Assistants, School Learning Support Officers and Aboriginal Education Officers. Thank you to our wonderful staff who are so dedicated and passionate about their jobs here at South.

### **Jeans for Genes Day – Gold Coin Donation**

Jeans for Genes Day is this Friday 5 August 2011. Genes play a vital role in the health of every child. But there's a lot to learn. Help create healthier generations of children by supporting vital research to advance prevention and treatment of disease.

Wear your favourite jeans on Friday and bring in a Gold coin donation so Children's Medical Research Institute can fill the holes in our knowledge. Children are still to wear school shirts and jumpers with their jeans as well as approved school shoes/joggers.

### Support Unit Donation from ULAN + Alliance

An alliance formed between Australia Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) MVM Rail and Macmahon Contractors, the Ulan + Alliance, is proving it can not only construct railway lines, but is willing to assist our school.

We have been very fortunate at Muswellbrook South Public School to receive \$1500 in donations from Ulan + Alliance workers to be used towards educational items and playground equipment for our students in the support unit.

Thank you to Darryl Woodeson who is the General Superintendent of Ulan + Alliance, who created this opportunity for the school to receive the funds. Darryl mentioned the idea of supporting the school and special needs students requiring additional materials to the men on site and immediately his staff wanted to be part of creating this opportunity to raise funds. I believe, each Friday the men have a site BBQ, the staff make a donation and with this money they have decided to support Muswellbrook South Public School.

Thank you to Darryl, Brett and the staff on site at Ulan + Alliance. We are most appreciative of the donation and the opportunity to purchase educational and sporting resources for our support students.



Darryl Woodeson and Brett Peterkin from Ulan + Alliance hand over a cheque for \$1500 to Teacher Jo Whalan and School Principal Rebecca Langdon

### Kindergarten 2012 Information Night

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August at 6pm, we will be holding our second Kindergarten Information Night. At this night we will be discussing the various programs we have sitting within our school. We will present information about reading, spelling, counting and our new award system. This evening is something new and beneficial for all parents of a Kindergarten child and will provide important information to allow a child a smooth transition into Kindergarten 2012. This evening will be held in the school library, baby sitting and supper provided. **Please contact the school if you are going to attend.**

### Boys Touch

Congratulations to our boys touch team who defeated East Maitland Public School 10-3 at Maitland Park on Monday. All students played extremely well with their defence in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half being outstanding. The boys play Aberdeen Public School in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of the knockout very soon.

### 2011 Hunter Primary GATS Camp

On Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 3 students from Muswellbrook South Public School attended the Hunter Primary GATS Camp in Morisset. These students were Nicole Boeckx, Jarrod Watts and Liam Davies. GATS stands for Gifted and Talented Students.

#### Nicole Boeckx - Science

The GATS Camp was fun and educational as well as being a great learning experience. I had a great time and I wish that I could go again. While at the GATS Camp all students worked on an elective subject, my elective was Science. We all got to do other activities such as the giant swing, the dual flying fox, rock climbing and high ropes.

#### Liam Davies - Movie Making

While attending the GATS Camp in Morisset I learnt heaps of new stuff including; how to make a movie, how a movie is made and lots of new things on the computer. But, this wasn't all you could do; there was a flying fox, a giant swing, rock climbing and high ropes. The night time activities were a game night, County Fair and a talent quest. To sum up all my time at the camp I would say that it was a very fun educational experience and if I had the chance I would definitely go there again.

#### Jarrod Watts - Numeracy

Last week I was lucky enough to attend the Hunter GATS Camp at Morisset with Nicole and Liam. After a tour of the camp we were shown our rooms and met our roommates for the next four days. Each day we went for our chosen elective lesson in the morning and again in the afternoon. My elective was numeracy and it was great fun, sometimes working on my own and sometimes working with my group solving problems. The instructors joined the kids for a game of volleyball and touch football. We ended the days with a games night, county fair and talent quest. I made some new friends from other schools and had the best learning and playing. What a great week we had.

### \*\*\*\*\* Premier Reading Challenge Alert \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Parents,

The N.S.W. Premier Reading Challenge closes on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August**. Thank you to all those children who have already given me their completed sheets. There are still a lot of children who need to finish. Please come and see me if your child has lost their sheet or if your child needs to borrow more books to complete the Challenge.

Anne Solman- Teacher Librarian

### Woolworths Earn & Learn – Double Points

Muswellbrook South Public School has registered in the Woolworths Earn & Learn promotion whereby \$10 spent at any Woolworths store earns one point towards educational resources from Modern Teaching Aids. Simply bring in your shopping dockets to the office and place them in the collection box on the counter. The promotion runs until 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

**Please note from now until Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2011, Woolworths are giving customers TWO Earn & Learn points for every \$10 they spend at Woolworths.** So start collecting today. Points tally as at 2 August is **181**.

### Coles 2011 Sport for School Program

Coles has launched their 2011 Sports for Schools program and we are excited to announce that Muswellbrook South Public School will be participating and collecting vouchers for much needed sports equipment. Please encourage family and friends to collect vouchers and bring them in to the office.

### New Band Scholarship Program For South

Muswellbrook South Public School is delighted to announce the creation of a new Band Scholarship Program. Recently, we received funds for five Band Scholarships to be made available to students from our school. These scholarships were made possible through the generous support from the Coal and Allied Bengalla Mining Company. Each scholarship will pay for half of the music tuition fees with the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music and as such will make learning an instrument much more affordable for families.

This week at school, Mr Robert Thompson from the Conservatorium of Music will be demonstrating the various Band instruments. We would like to encourage new students to learn to play an instrument and be part of our School Band and we are keen to invite students from Years 2 to 6 to apply for a scholarship.

If your child is keen to learn an instrument and join our School Band please complete the form below to request a Scholarship application form.

Any enquiries can be made by contacting Mrs Avery at school.

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Dear Mrs Avery,

My child is interested in learning to play an instrument and would like to apply for a Band Scholarship.

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### LIBRARY NEWS

Dear Parents,

Book Week this year is in Week Six. It runs from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August. The theme is **One World, Many Stories**. This year we will be having a Book Week Parade and Book Fair on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August**. Each class has chosen a story from a different country around the world and the children will come dressed representing that country. The parade will start at 12.15pm and conclude at 1.30pm. The Book Fair will operate all day, starting at 8.30 am and ending at 4.00pm, only closing while the parade is on.

The following is a list of the classes and what country they have chosen.

KR- Sweden	2D- Papua New Guinea
3K-Kenya- Africa	5M- Germany
K/1M- France	4R- Scotland
SI-North America	KW- U.S.A
1S- China	6C- England
1A- India	2/3G- Greece
4/5/6B- Egypt	4/5S- Mexico
2K- Spain	SJ- India

There will be a separate note going home from each teacher as to what your child needs to wear for the Parade. The order of the classes above will be the order that the children will appear in the Book Parade on the day. If you have any queries please call or come and see me in the library.

Thanking You

Anne Solman Teacher Librarian



## Absence Notes

Each week in our newsletter we will be focusing on an issue related to attendance. This week we would like to remind parents/caregivers of the **legal requirement** to provide a reason **within 7 days** of any student absence. Please ensure that written notes regarding student absences are given to your child's class teacher and that they clearly state the **date** that the child was absent and the **reason**. If your child is sick, or has an appointment, we need further explanation. The law requires that if no reason is provided to the school within 7 days, the reason must then be recorded as unjustified. We appreciate your ongoing assistance in this area.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY - 2011

1-5 August	Education Week
3 August	Education Week Awards at MHS 5pm
4 August	MSPS Education Week School Assembly
5 August	Jeans for Genes Day – Gold coin donation
5 August	Zone Athletics
9 August	Touch Skills Day – Years 3-6
12 August	Netball Gala Day - Singleton
15 August	Kindergarten Information Night 6pm (library)
16 August	ICAS Maths
22 - 26 August	Book Week
26 August	Book Week Parade and Fair
26 August	Zone Cricket Boys
2 September	Blokes BBQ
2 September	Hunter Athletics
6-7 September	Stage 2 Warrumbungles Excursion
6 September	Westpac Helicopter Black Coal Cup Golf Day
15 September	Kindergarten Excursion – Hunter Valley Zoo

## MUSWELLBROOK TOUCH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

### Muswellbrook Junior Touch

The 2011/2012 Muswellbrook Junior Touch competition commences on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Registrations will be held at Olympic Park on the following days:

Wednesdays, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August between 4.00pm – 6pm.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August between 10.00am – 1.00pm.

Age Divisions for both Boys and Girls are: 6 years and under, 7-8 years, 9-10 years, 11-12 years, 13-15 years and Under 18 year Girls and Boys. Age taken as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

Players are permitted to play up an age division. All Registrations must be finalised before taking part in the competition. Players who need to be placed into teams should register on the first day, 17<sup>th</sup> August.

### Junior State Cup

Players who are interested in representing Muswellbrook at the Junior State Cup in Wollongong next February 2012 are reminded they must register their names on the appropriate form available on Registration days or on the first day of competition, 5<sup>th</sup> September. No names will be taken after this date.

### Ladies/Mixed Competition

This also commences on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Nominations close on 27<sup>th</sup> August. New teams and players most welcome.

### Mens Competition

The competition commences on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Nominations close on 27<sup>th</sup> August. Individual nominations also accepted.

Team nomination forms for all divisions/competitions are available from Fine N Dandy and Sportspower.

For further information on all competitions, please ring 65432477 for Juniors, Ladies and Mixed and for Mens please phone 65425071/65432617.