

# Muswellbrook South Public School

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

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Week 7 Term Three

Dear Parents and Carers of Muswellbrook South Public School,

**STOP PRESS: Blokes BBQ – 7.30 am this Thursday 1 September 2011**

**New school shirts are ready for purchasing from the school uniform shop \$25**

Our new garden in the Infants quad looks great. Many thanks to those members of our school community, who gave up their Sunday to clear, dig up, knock down, and lay brick paths. It was a huge team effort. Thank you to: Sabrina Dick, Adam and Shellie Stewart, Matt and Rachelle Simpson, Paul and Dianne Watts, Sandra and Grahme Watts, Charlie Rowlands, Darlene Scriven, Amy and Cal from Bengalla Coal, Ron Cooper and ALLDAY Concrete. The end result of a fresh green veggie patch will be rewarding for all our students and the school canteen.

This Thursday will be our school's first Blokes BBQ celebrating male role models in our children's lives. The morning will begin at 7.30am. Staff will cook a yummy breakfast. Tea and coffee will also be served. Children and their 'Blokes' will participate in paper plane making and flying competition, and various games. We look forward to a great morning!!

Don't forget to come to the office to pick up your 'Muswellbrook South PS Rocks', car bumper/back window sticker. Please send your child into the front office for a bumper sticker. Please note one per family. This is all part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) focus. This week is Literacy and Numeracy week. At Muswellbrook South PS we will be participating in community reading activities at the town library, hospital, Mt Providence and other venues.

WOW what a great day our book week parade was. Thank you to all the students who made the effort with the dressing up with their class members. It was great to see so many parents and family members supporting our school in another great school event.



This Friday we are very fortunate to have Kurt Barnes visit the school for our assembly and discuss with our students his achievements in international golf and his recent win in the Asian Cup.

**Attendance exemption:** Each week in our newsletter we will be focusing on an issue related to attendance. This week we would like to make parents aware of the need to apply for an **exemption from school** if you know in advance that your child is going to be absent from school for any longer than 5 days. This could be, for example, for a planned family holiday that cannot be scheduled during school holidays or going interstate/overseas. If you know that your child is going to miss more than 5 school days, you need to come into the office and ask for **the paperwork to apply for a school exemption to ensure that these absences do not get counted on your child's yearly record.** We appreciate your ongoing assistance in the area of attendance.

**Enrolling now for Kinder in 2012:** If you have a child who is ready to start school in 2012, please collect an information package from the school office. Muswellbrook South Public School can provide an exciting and wonderful K-6 journey for your child.

**Learning happens everywhere** and all the time for your baby, toddler and preschooler. These early experiences lay the foundation for your child's learning in later years. Learning starts long before school. It starts at birth and keeps happening every day. In fact, **your child will learn more in their first 12 months** than at any other time of their life. Not because of flashcards or any formal learning, but simply by growing, developing and watching other people and the world around them. These early childhood years lay the foundations for what your child learns once they start school. **You have a vital role to play** in helping your child learn through these early years. You might think you don't know much about learning and teaching, and you might have had bad experiences at school yourself. But you are your child's first teacher, and your child will keep learning from you as they get older.

### School Excursion and Representative Sport

As part of our behaviour code and our schools PBL focus, the school, and the P & C have endorsed a behaviour code for excursions and school excursions. On this sheet that you will receive at home are the expectations of the activities. Each child is required to read, sign and discuss with their parents the expectations of their behaviour when they are away. It also states who can participate in these activities, where a child falls on our card system, warning of suspension and suspension. Also, there is flexibility of this process where as Principal I have the final say about a child's current or past behaviour and whether they attend or not. My final decision will be made after a variety of consultative processes. This process is made up of data, conversations with parents, carers, teachers and our School Education Director. The students who will be attending the Warrumbungles excursion will be receiving this sheet in a few days for signage. Please be aware that if a child misbehaves and breaks this code the parent /carer will be called to pick up their child from the school excursion or school sporting activity.

This format is implemented across the region in many schools.

### Hunter Athletics

Good luck to the following students who will be representing the Hunter in Athletics at Glendale Athletic Complex on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September:

Bella McK	-	Junior Shot Put	Sarah T	-	11 yrs Long Jump
Georgia D	-	9 yrs 100m	Ty B	-	13 yrs 100m
Taylah A	-	9 Years 100m			

**Get your Newsletter Electronically**

Our school newsletter is available on our school's website or alternatively if you would like our newsletter sent home electronically please fill out the form below with your name and email address and return to the school office.

**I would like the school newsletter to be emailed home:**

**My email address is:**.....

**Name:**.....

**School Website**

If you would prefer to read the newsletter on our website, it is available each week at [www.muswellbrs-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.muswellbrs-p.schools.nsw.edu.au).

Yours in Education  
Rebecca Langdon  
Principal

**Assembly**

This week's assembly is on Friday at 1pm. An assembly item will be performed by 3K. All parents and friends are welcome to attend.

**Hall & Foyer Display**

The hall display for Week 7 is 4/5S. The foyer display for Week 7 is 4R.

**BOOKWEEK - 2011**

What a great day we all had on Friday. All the children looked great in their costumes. The teachers all got involved and looked fantastic too. The theme this year for 2011 was One World, Many Stories. All the classes chose a country to dress up as and a story relating to that country was read to the class. The Book Fair was a great success and around \$3, 500 was taken on the day. From that our School receives a 20% commission which means \$700 worth of books can be purchased for the Library. I would like to thank the teachers for the incredible effort they made in making their classes look so amazing in the parade and for dressing up and making the day such a success. I would like to thank Miss Goodman who did an outstanding job of organizing all the music on the day and Mr Cox who set up the sound equipment and also to Mr Cooper who set up all the chairs on the day. A very big thank you to the ladies and helpers in the canteen who worked tirelessly to give everyone a special lunch for our Book Week celebrations – that was a huge job and I am very grateful. I would also like to acknowledge Irene Doran who helped me with many of the displays in the Library and who worked alongside me all day with the Book Fair. All your hard work is very much appreciated. Last of all it was wonderful to see the children's smiling faces as they walked around in the parade and who will forget that wedding! Miss Cook you are a marvel.

Thanking You

Anne Solman (Teacher Librarian)



**This week is Literacy and Numeracy Week and we have provided some tips for reading.**

### **What parents can do at home to help their kids with reading**

- Be confident that your child will learn to read. Give positive messages and involve them in everyday conversations and opportunities to read.
- Read aloud to your child. It helps them to learn about the language of books and will encourage them to enjoy books and reading.
- Read to your child in your home language if your first language is not English.
- Make reading enjoyable and talk about books, magazines and computer stories that you have read together.
- Try not to let television intrude on reading time. Make a special time for reading with your child, away from interruptions.
- Listen to your child read as often as you can, every day if possible, even if only for a short time.
- Give books in print or electronic form as treats and presents.

### **Hints for listening to your child read**

- When reading together at home try to make the time relaxed, enjoyable and positive. Vary it. Read together, read to your child and take turns or have them read to you.
- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title and the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.
- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point and predict what might happen next.
- After you've finished reading with your child, talk and ask questions about the story and the pictures.

### **Things to remember about reading**

- The goal of reading is always to make sense of what is read.
- Try to be interested, supportive and enjoy the time together.
- Read with your child anywhere and at any time; don't forget that many everyday experiences provide opportunities to put reading and writing into action.
- Visit and use a library near you. Borrow books for yourself as well as for your child.
- Talk to your child's classroom teacher or the principal for further help and advice.

### **Next week: Some tips for maths**

Mrs Rayner

### **Infants Fun Day 2011**

The Kindergarten and Stage 1 Fun Day for children in Years K to 2 will be held in Week 8 on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September on the school oval from 9.45 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. The children will be involved in a march past, running and novelty races as well as participating in fun activities. The children will be placed in Sports Houses and encouraged to come dressed in the appropriate colours for their house on the day. Parents are invited to attend and join their child for lunch then afternoon tea after the activities.

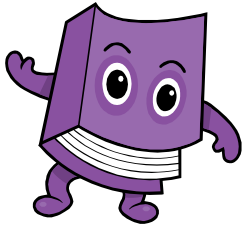
C. Avery

### **Father's Day Stall Reminder**

The P&C will be holding their Father's Day stall tomorrow, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Gifts are priced at \$2 to \$6 and there is something for everyone.

## John Heffernan Visit

Last Thursday Stage Two and Stage Three were very fortunate to have the author John Heffernan visit our school. Muswellbrook South was a host school and the following schools came to visit us in our hall throughout the day- St James Catholic School, Aberdeen Public School, Martindale Public School, Cassilis Public School and Blandford Public School.



John Heffernan has written over 80 books and many of these books were on display for the children to look through. He gave a very informative power point display which focused on some of his more popular books. He engaged and entertained the children with readings from his books and also answered

questions about many of these books. He also involved the children with snippets about his own life on the farm and his adventures growing up on the land.

As a result of this great day with John Heffernan many of the children have come to me and asked where they can purchase his books. Enclosed in this week's Newsletter is an order form and price list. If you wish to place an order simply return the order form with the correct money or cheque enclosed in an envelope with your Child's Name and Class on the front.

Thanking You

Anne Solman (Teacher Librarian)

## 2K News

2K have been learning about information reports. We wrote this one about kangaroos as a whole class. 2K have included lots of descriptive and technical language. We hope you enjoy reading it.

## Kangaroos

Kangaroos are a marsupial from the mammal family. You can find kangaroos in Australia.

A kangaroo hops using its powerful legs and strong tail. It has large ears, large eyes and a long nose. It has short arms with sharp claws, large powerful legs with long feet and a long and heavy tail.

Kangaroos are herbivores which means they are vegetarians.

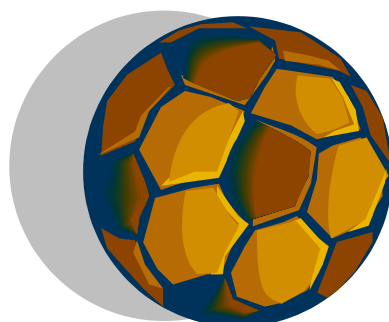
When kangaroos are born they are 2cm long and they spend the first six months in their mothers' pouch.

## Woolworths Earn & Learn

Keep bringing in your Woolworths dockets and place them in the collection box on the counter. The promotion allows us to purchase educational resources and runs until 18<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Points tally as at 30 August is 2103.

## Coles 2011 Sport for School Program

Coles has launched their 2011 Sports for Schools program and we now have the collection box in the office for you to put all your vouchers in. The more vouchers we collect the more sports equipment we will receive. Voucher Tally as at 30 August is 14040.





**Healthy Dad’s Healthy Kids – Comes to Muswellbrook**

**Could Dad lose a few kilos?** The Healthy Dad’s Healthy Kids program is an award winning weight loss program for dads/stepdads which is funded by Coal and Allied and is coming to Muswellbrook. The program covers the nine best weight loss tips for men, so dad can shed some unwanted kilos (without having to eat like a rabbit). In 2009, dads in Newcastle lost almost 9kg on average by joining the program.

Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids will give dad new ideas for spending active, quality time with the kids and advice on how to get kids eating well without creating a battleground at the dinner table. Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids involves 4 dads-only sessions and 3 dads and kids sessions across twelve weeks. All sessions are in the early evening and will only cost you some time (and potentially a few kilos!).

Many dads who have been through the program recommended it, with one dad commenting “I cannot recommend this program enough. It has probably added years to my life expectancy, but probably more importantly it has added immeasurably to my quality of life and my family’s. Healthy Dad’s, Healthy Kids works.”

This program starts on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September (shift worker friendly) at 5.45pm at Muswellbrook South School.

RSVP before 2<sup>nd</sup> September as there are limited places.

More information, please contact Drew Miller on 49216721 or email Andrew.miller@newcastle.edu.au

Yes I would like to attend the Healthy Dad’s Healthy Kids program

Name.....Student.....  
✂-----

**A Night Before Christmas Market**

The Muswellbrook Pre-School is planning a Christmas market shopping night on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 7pm -10pm. There is a \$15 entry, with the first 200 ticket holders given a free gift bag filled with products. Wine, Cheese, Tea, Coffee and Cake will be available. There will also be lucky door prizes and a multi draw raffle. Some wonderful ideas for those hard to find Christmas presents.

Tickets are available at the Muswellbrook Pre-School.

**Interested In Tennis Lessons?**

Professional Coach moves to Muswellbrook with five years coaching experience and five years playing on the International circuit. Providing coaching lessons for adults, children and also running group sessions and holiday camps in Muswellbrook. All ages are welcome.

Contact Veronika on 0401300240

**Power of Music**

The Power of Music 2011 festival will be at Scone High School on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm. Benny The Beagle – a funny and enchanting musical tale plus Singleton Intermediate Band, U H Concert Band, U H Jazz Band and much more.

Come along and be part of the fun. Free entry.

**Muswellbrook Little Athletics**

A registration night will be held at McDonalds Muswellbrook on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September from 5pm to 7pm. The 2011/2012 competition commences at Victoria Park on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September from 6pm. However, you can still register after this date.

Competition is open for children aged 3-17 years. Please note change of venue from Weeraman Field to Victoria Park.

For more information phone Matthew on 65413784.

**Muswellbrook Touch**

Muswellbrook Touch are in need of more 11 and 12 year old boys and girls, also 9 and 10 year old boys to play in their Monday afternoon touch competition.

If you are interested please contact Betty Nicol on 65432477 for more information.

**Hunter Climate Challenge**

Take the Hunter Valley Climate Challenge for your chance to win a **\$2000 solar hot water system\*** from Do My Solar!

This is your opportunity to save your wallet, help the environment and win some great prizes along the way.

The challenge is FREE and provides you with the tools to make improving your household's energy efficiency easy. Join over 300 households across the Hunter already taking the Challenge!

For more information or to register visit [www.companion.com.au/environment](http://www.companion.com.au/environment)

Or phone **(02) 9516 1488** or email [landrew@nccnsw.org.au](mailto:landrew@nccnsw.org.au)

\*excludes insulation

**DATES FOR THE DIARY - 2011**

29 Aug – 2 Sept	Literacy and Numeracy Week
31 August	Literacy/Numeracy activities at school
1 September	Ride for Sick Kids Visit
1 September	Blokes BBQ <b>Please note not 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b>
2 September	Hunter Athletics
6-7 September	Stage 2 Warrumbungles Excursion
6 September	Westpac Helicopter Black Coal Cup Golf Day
9 September	K-2 Funday
15 September	Kindergarten Excursion – Hunter Valley Zoo
23 September	Dress Down Drug Free Day
23 September	Last Day Term 3
10 October	First Day Term 4

**Muswellbrook Out Of School Hours**

Quality accredited care is great fun for kids!! There will be great programs over the September holidays.

Come along and check out the fun, there will be lots for everyone.

Bookings are open now on 65413205 or [moosh@uhcs.org.au](mailto:moosh@uhcs.org.au)



Book Week Parade  
2011

