

# Muswellbrook South Public School

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

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Week Ten Term One

**STOP PRESS:** Easter Hat Parade, 2.10pm This Friday 30th March

*This week's PBL focus: Resilience – Being Strong and Smart!*

*Dear Parents and Carers of Muswellbrook South PS*

Harmony Day at MSPS was certainly a day of celebration, inclusivity and a day of sharing our various cultures that are embedded within our school community. It was wonderful to see Rumbi, Amy, Johky, Mohammad, Dheeman, Jidah, Prince and Mia share and present special information about themselves and their countries. Thank you to our students' parents who assisted their children into their national costumes.



We had a very busy week with Harmony Day and Grandparents afternoon. It was lovely to see our students so excited with their special visitors at our school assembly, classroom 'show and tell time' and picnic lunch / afternoon tea. Thank you Grandparents, staff and our families who made this a highly successful event. It is a wonderful feeling to see such positive support we have here at Muswellbrook South PS.

This Friday, we have another exciting event on the school calendar with our Easter Hat Parade commencing at 2.10pm. Once again we look forward to seeing everyone at this event. Please remember all classes are making hats in their

rooms, however if you would like to make one with your child at home this can also be brought along to wear at the parade. **Please note, there will be no assembly this week.**

**PLEASE** remember the end of this Term will be **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April for students**. This is different to the normal end of Term 1. Teachers around the various 3 Primary and 1 High school will be holding a Staff Development Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April, where a highly regarded educator Dr Christine Richmond will be presenting information and workshops to staff. The bus companies have been informed of the change of arrangements. Please assist by **NOT** sending your child to school on the Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, as there will be **no supervision**. Please be aware that **school returns Term 2, on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, this is a normal school day.**

Parent teacher interviews are an important part of our communication processes within our school. This week we have been holding our interviews since Monday. If you haven't been able to make any of the nominated times to see your child/children's teacher please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will make arrangements for you.

Yours in Education

*Rebecca Langdon*

Please note, there will be **no assembly** this week as we have our Easter Hat Parade happening!

Congratulations to the following students who had 'Cup Cake' time with Mrs Langdon

**ES1** – B. Sales, S. Porthouse

**Stage 1** – A. Taylor, M. Butler, R. Miller

**Stage 2** – A. Van Vliet, J. Phillips

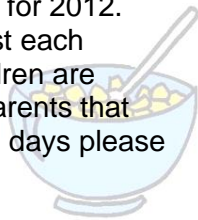
**Stage 3** – A. Perkins, J. Perkins

Please note the last day of Term 1 is **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April** with students returning to school on **Monday 23rd April**.



## BREAKFAST CLUB:

Breakfast club has commenced for 2012. Come along and enjoy breakfast each morning 8:50-9:10am. All children are welcome and if there are any parents that would like to volunteer on these days please call in and ask Mrs Gardiner.



## Financial Support for your Children

Our school contributions have not increased this year, they still remain at **\$20 per child**.

Your child should have bought home an account statement earlier this week outlining how much you will need to pay for your School Contribution.

The school community would like to thank those families who have already paid their contributions!



## Safety of our students

Remember to keep our students safe. Only use the walk-in gates. Please do not walk through ANY car park as this puts our students at risk. Our gates are shut, but not locked.

## Bus passes

If you need to collect your child's bus pass please go and collect the pass from Osborn's, as they have many MSPS student passes to be picked up.

## GOING ON AN EXTENDED HOLIDAY IN SCHOOL TIME?

I would like to remind parents that you can 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.

## Whooping Cough and Scabies (School sores)

If you notice that your child is unwell, has unusual sores, or has a nasty cough, they may have the above illnesses, as they are currently present within our school. Please be aware and seek medical attention if your child presents with any of these illnesses.

Have you thought about becoming a volunteer in your community? Just 2 hours a week helps support a young family in your area.

Our volunteers receive free quality training (with a certificate of accreditation) that is also fun, opportunities to connect with others in the community, ongoing training, and regular volunteer events.

### Next training:

Where: Heritage Hall (Muswellbrook South Public School)

When: 01/05/12 (10am-2pm every Tuesday for 6 weeks)

Enquiries: - Bernadette on 4961 0700 or 0408 733 707



## Play Group

Please note our MSPS / Family insight Playgroup will **commence next Term on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> May**.

## School planning and reporting

Our completed School Plan and Annual School Report will be available on our website from the 1 April 2012.

**Homework Centre!**

Please note that there is **no homework centre next week!** It will recommence in Week 2 next term.

## ANZAC Day Services

ANZAC day will fall after the holidays. **On Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> April** the school will be holding our own service in the school hall at **10:00am**. Then the following day, the town will hold their service around 9.30 am. It is my hope that we will be able to support the local town's service by participating, in uniform (summer), in the march. All children who would like to participate need to be at Muswellbrook Railway Station by 9.30 am. If a student is able to wear their relatives medals they are most welcome to wear them, however they need to be pinned on the right side of the student's chest.

Our students will march with myself and other teachers from our school. This is a wonderful opportunity and your support would be greatly appreciated.

It would be terrific if as many MSPS students could attend this march and service. It is expected that our School Leaders, Vice Captains and Prefects do attend.

**Option, not a change !**

Please note the new Winter tunic is an option for girls to wear. They are very welcome to wear track pants and polo shirt, as the other winter uniform option. However, the summer uniform **is not** a Winter uniform option.

Cost for new winter tunic is \$55 and can only be purchased at our school uniform shop.

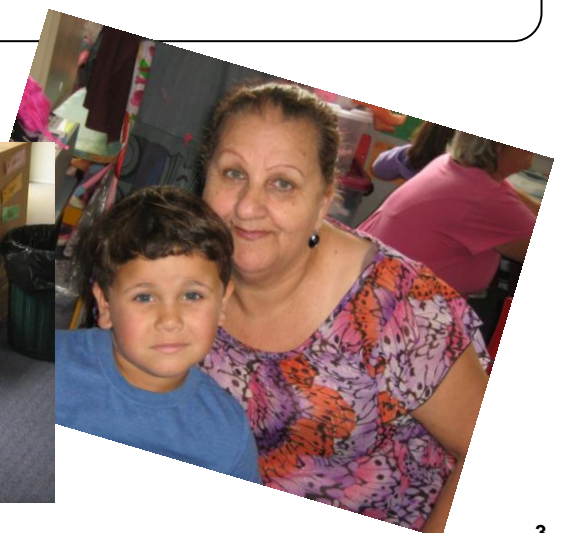
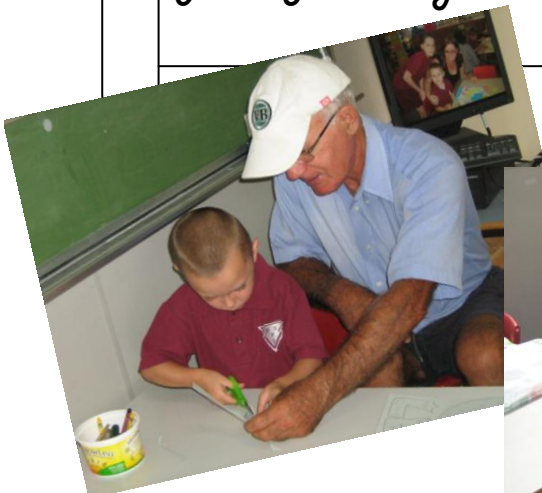
**Recount of last weeks' newsletter information**

'This uniform will be introduced over a three year period. The requirements for the dress code for this tunic will be a white skivvy, or blouse underneath the tunic with maroon tights (no other colour), or maroon or white socks. Please remember it is an option. Girls are welcome to wear the existing track pants and jacket option. **PLEASE summer uniform dress is not a winter option.**'

**Warrae-Wanni Grandparent's Afternoon tea**

To celebrate Grandparent's week our Warrae-Wanni children invited their grandparents or family member to join them for some craft and afternoon tea. The children decorated several biscuits to share with their grandparent. All the visitors joined in a craft activity, cutting and pasting with a few cuddles along the way. Thank you to all the families who joined in our activities. The children really enjoyed it.

*Allison Moore and Jeanine Pascoe*





## Developing Independence

Students develop independence through support, challenge and practice. Independence is something that can be both taught and caught. However, it must actively involve your child. For our Kinder students this may mean packing their bag, getting dressed for themselves, feeding themselves or organising their home reader. Yes, it will take longer and yes parents will require greater patience. If you can invest this time and patience at the busy times what you will eventually develop is a young child who is not reliant on their parents for these basic needs. Why is this important? Because at school they will need to organise and pack their bag, tote tray and belongings. They may be required to take shoes and socks off and put them on.

If this is not a common activity and expectation this can be very this can be very confronting for your child. For our older students the independence may look different but again it is about preparing your child for the challenges that they need to meet. Students in the primary grades should be contributing to family chores or jobs to help. They should be keeping their room clean, organising their time, preparing to meet homework tasks over a period of time and breaking bigger tasks into smaller achievable tasks.

Independence is a journey not a destination. It requires continuous practice and support and should offer a suitable challenge.



## EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE AT HOME HOST FAMILY OPPORTUNITIES IN 2012

In June-July 2012 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd will be receiving exchange students from Europe, Canada, the USA and Latin America. Our new arrivals will live with a host family and attend a local school for 2-10 months.

As we plan for their arrival, we are keen to hear from suitable families located in MUSWELLBROOK who might be interested to host a student. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, backgrounds and ages. Please note that all our host families are interviewed in their homes and carefully checked for suitability.

All students have at least basic levels of English, would attend a school in your local area and live the life of a local. Our group of students cover a wide variety of interests and hobbies.

Hosting an exchange student can be a truly rewarding experience. It allows a family to experience a foreign culture first hand, be exposed to a new language and pass on a bit of our own culture. They might even make a friend for life!

If you have any questions about hosting an exchange student, please call our office on 1300 135 331. No obligation.

[www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au).

## Upper Hunter Junior Rugby Union – 2012 Season Registration and Training 6s, 8s, 10s, 12s, 14s

- 29 March & 3 April, 4—5pm at Muswellbrook & Scone Rugby Clubs.
- U. 6 years \$30 (touch).
- U. 8 years and above \$50 (tackle).
- Training 5pm til 7pm Friday evenings starting April 20 and alternates between Scone and Muswellbrook.

Contact Michelle Edwards – Registrar on  
[medwards@sgs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:medwards@sgs.nsw.edu.au) for further information if required.

Good luck to the MSPS tennis Team who are playing Denman PS at Denman next Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April.  
Stay tuned for the highly anticipated results.

Hunter Region National Parks presents:

'Easter 2012'



**DISCOVERY**  
WALKS, TALKS AND TOURS

### • 'Brekky with the Birds! –

Thursday 19 April at The Washpools campground, Towarri National park from 8am-10am. Grade: Easy  
Cost: \$15 per person includes tour and a light breakfast/brunch.

Booking and pre-payment is essential for all tours as numbers are limited. Book online at <http://www.wildwildworld.com.au> or contact our Regional Office on ph 02 49848200. Payment by credit card (Visa or Mastercard) is required at time of booking.

Bring all the family and meet our Discovery Ranger for an introductory bird-watching tour of Towarri National Park. Enjoy a light breakfast/brunch after the tour.

**Look out for the Discovery Ranger on the day!**

.....discover just how much fun the school holidays can be!

The NPWS is part of the Office of Environment & Heritage.

## Coolah Central School Horse Sports Day/s

Term 3  
Thursday 26/Friday  
27 July, 2012

All enquiries to  
Coolah Central  
Sue McGoldrick  
(02) 63771101



# HEALTHY HABITS

## Active tips for busy families!

- ~ Make time to be active as a whole family.
- ~ Go out and play basketball, tag or soccer, throw a ball or ride a bike with your children.
- ~ Meet friends or family in a park and take balls, hoops, Frisbees, bats or other outdoor games to play.
- ~ Set a limit on television watching, computer time and video games to no more than 2hours per day.

## Why reduce television time?

- ~ Studies have shown we use less energy watching TV than sitting still.
- ~ TV influences the food choices of kids – Australia has a high rate of food advertising during children's viewing hours.
- ~ TV replaces time a child can be active and enjoy physical activity.
- ~ There is an association between TV watching and being overweight.
- ~ 40% of children aged 5-12 years report watching an average of 2hours or more television or videos a day!

# DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2012

<b>Every Wednesday</b>	Playgroup every Wednesday, 0-4 years in Heritage Hall from 9:30 – 11:30. All are welcome and there is no cost!
<b>26-28 March</b>	Parent Interviews
<b>30 March</b>	Easter Hat Parade
<b>2 April</b>	Zone X-Country
<b>4 April</b>	Term One Ends
<b>5 April</b>	Staff Development Day
<b>23 April</b>	Students Return (Term 2)
<b>24 April</b>	School Anzac Day Ceremony
<b>25 April</b>	Public Holiday, Anzac Day March, Main Street Muswellbrook

**Want me to know something? Email me at [muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) or our schools Facebook page.**

**If you would like your newsletter emailed home, please contact the school through our school email address, or ring the school.**  
[Muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Muswellbrs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## **Muswellbrook Eisteddfod**

The closing date for the Speech, Drama and Public Speaking section of the Eisteddfod is Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> April. Students may enter in nursery rhyme in costume, Australian poetry, poetry, poems for 2 people, prepared prose reading, prepared speech, impromptu speech and monologue.

This year the Apex Club will provide \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place and \$10 for third place in Primary and Infants sections of the Public Speaking.

**The cost to enter is \$5 per person.**

If you would like your child to enter in any of the sections listed for the Eisteddfod please complete the form on the back page and return to me at the office **by Tuesday 3rd April.**

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have a problem.

Thank you  
Mrs Rayner

My child..... of class..... would like to enter in the following sections of Speech, Drama and Public Speaking for the Eisteddfod.

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I have paid\_\_\_\_\_ to cover entry costs.

Signed\_\_\_\_\_