**Mr Osland’s Oracle**

Welcome everyone to yet another busy and productive fortnight at Kitchener Public School.

I would like to thank and congratulate all those who have represented our school in the broader community. The positive comments I hear about our school are always pleasing.

**Positive Behavior Learning (PBL)**

I would like to highlight to our community that our school is a PBL school. This means we have 3 school-based universals that we follow, these being: **Respect, Responsibility and Safety.**

These universals are the basis of our school/student welfare policy which highlights the necessary values that allow students to learn, develop and grow academically and socially.

I would like to ask our parents and students to discuss our universals of **Safety, Respect and Responsibility** as a means to further embed these values within the school. We are focusing on targeted skills that allow our students to develop the knowledge that will support them into the future.

Simple questions that may help our students might be:

**How do you show that you are being Safe at home and at school?**

**How do you show Respect at school and at home?**

**What are your Responsibilities at school and at home?**

This is not saying our students are not following our school universals but all the research suggest positive conversations between parents and children, around learning, greatly influences outcomes for kids.

**P&C Association**

Special thank you Erin Jackson, Tamara Phillips and Robynne Wilson who all held positions in our P&C last year. I would like to recognise their time, and the positive contributions they have made to our school.

Many thanks to Jodie Barnes, Debra Burgess, Liz Irwin, Tracey Poulton who have all taken on positions within our P&C.

I ask **any parents** that can assist our school by assisting with our community BBQ; donating slices or cakes or help sell and hand out things for our Easter parade. Any support would be greatly appreciated. Please let the school know if you can help out.

**Volunteers in the school**

I would like offer any parents/grandparents that are interested in assisting in the classrooms to please come in and chat with the school. Parents can greatly assist with reading groups, creative arts, PE, sport mathematics and technology. Any time is greatly appreciated.

**Easter Parade**

Our school **Easter Creation parade** is fast approaching (Next Thursday 28th). There is a timeline of events on the next page. We would love as many parents as possible to join us on the day. We ask students and parents to **design/create a hat, poster, basket or costume for the day** so that they participate and enjoy the activities planned. School leaders will lead students in the planned events.

---

**Quote of the Fortnight**

‘We can’t solve today’s problems with the same thinking that created them’ - Albert Einstein
SCRIPTURE BOOKS
Cessnock Ministers Assoc. has provided each of the students with a Scripture Book for their weekly lessons at school. The cost of the book for Kinder students is $5, with books for Years 1—6 being $3. This can be paid at the school office.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES
Just a reminder to parents that our whole school assemblies are held from 2.35pm each second Tuesday, the Tuesday of even numbered weeks each term.

An assembly was held yesterday, with the next one due on Tuesday 2nd April. The dates can be found on page 3 of our term calendar in each fortnight’s newsletter.

Easter Creation Celebration Schedule ~ Thursday 28th March

Our Easter Creation Parade and Celebrations will be held on Thursday 28th March, with all parents, grandparents, friends and relatives invited to attend. This is a whole community event, with everyone welcome.

The P&C will be having a BBQ Sausage Sizzle lunch. Orders and money need to be in Monday (25th March), using a paper bag with sausages @ $2.50 each. Hot and cold drinks, slices and cakes will also be available.

11am—11.30am Scripture Service in SPR
11.30am—12pm Classroom displays and visits
12pm—12.50pm BBQ Sausage Sizzle & Picnic Lunch ~ SPR and grounds
12.50pm-1pm Students return to classrooms and parents return to SPR
1pm Students dress in Easter Creation (Classrooms)
1.15pm Easter Creation Parade ~ SPR
2pm Easter Egg Hunt (Students and Pre-Schoolers)
2.30pm P&C Easter Raffle Draw

An Easter Egg raffle will be drawn at the end of the day’s celebration. Raffle ticket books have been sent home for each family with today’s newsletter. Tickets and money needs to be returned by next Wednesday (27th March).

Donations of Easter eggs and other Easter related items for the raffle will be greatly appreciated. These can be left at the school office.

Year 6 Expression of Interest Forms for High School ~ 2014

Parents are reminded that the Year 6 Expression of Interest forms for High School are to be returned to our school office by tomorrow (Thursday 21st March).

SCHOOL HATS, UNIFORMS AND SPORTS SHIRT ON DISPLAY ~ FOR CONSIDERATION

A selection of sports shirts, school hat and girls’ dress uniform will be on display in the SPR during our Easter Celebration next Thursday (28th March) and will also be considered at our next P&C Meeting (6pm Wednesday 3rd April). At this stage, uniform changes are being considered, ONLY.
### Week 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country ~ Bellbird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade &amp; Community BBQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 29th March</td>
<td>Good Friday ~ Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 1st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday ~ Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2nd April</td>
<td>Fortnightly Assembly SPR ~ 2.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3rd April</td>
<td>Fortnightly Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting ~ 6pm SPR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Week 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 7th April</td>
<td>Daylight Saving ends @ 3am ~ turn clocks back to 2am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12th April</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### School Holidays—Important

- Thursday 25th April: Cessnock ANZAC Service & March – information in the next newsletter

### Calendar ~ Dates to Remember Term 2

#### Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29th &amp; Tuesday 30th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Days #1 &amp; #2 ~ Pupil Free Days (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st May</td>
<td>Students Return Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Communications

Daylight Saving ends at 3am Sunday 7th April. Put your clocks back 1 hour.

2013 Easter Good Friday falls on Friday 29th March; Easter Monday falls on Monday 1st April. Both these days are public holidays.

Term 1 School Holidays ~ Our last day for this term is Friday 12th April. Students return for Term 2 on Wed 1st May. Staff has 2 Staff Development Days (Pupil Free Days) the first 2 days of term (Mon 29th & Tues 30th April).

Wollombi Markets ~ Easter Monday (1st April) 8am—2pm.

Hunter Sports High School Application for 2014 (Yr 6 this year, Yr 7 in 2014) Please see Principal, for forms.

The Hunter Academy of Sport will be hosting a school holiday development program for junior netballers during the April school holidays. Phone 4926 4892 for registration and further information.

As a way to raise much-needed funds, the RSL National Office has issued Australia’s first Coloured Commemorative Coin, a limited edition. The $2 Poppy Coin with a Certificate of Donation is available for a $10 donation, plus $5 postage charge, per coin. Orders can be made by phoning the National office on 6248 7199 (Canberra).

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Sold all your chocolates? Sent in the money? Have some chocolates left to sell?

Please return money, or, money and balance of unsold chocolates to the school office by this Friday (22nd March) so remaining chocolates can be sold and our fundraiser can be finalised.

LUNCH RUN ROSTER

Wed 27th March    Jodie Barnes
Wed 3rd April      Danielle Ellis
Wed 10th April     Sonya O’Neil

If anyone can volunteer an hour of their time at least once a term, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you (Jodie Barnes)

Nulkaba Public School Annual Country Fair

This Saturday 23rd March 2013 10am to 3pm
★ Sizzler ★ Jumping Castles ★ Giant Fibreglass Slide ★
★ Chair-o-plane ★ Laughing Clowns ★ Pirate Ship ★ Dunking Machine
...and don’t forget to visit these great stalls
★ Chocolate Wheel ★ Face-painting ★ Freshly Made Fairy Floss on a stick ★ Lollies ★ ★ Popcorn ★ Icee’s ★ Donuts ★ Espresso Coffee ★ Novelties ★ Tattoo’s ★ Golf Putting ★
★ Hairspray ★ Family Portraits ★ 2nd Hand Books ★ Chocolate Shot ★ Plant & Produce ★ Cakes & Craft ★
★ Our famous Bottle Stall
BBQ and Drinks ★
Lots of learning and leadership skills!

This week in Year 5/6...

We have been participating in digital literacy sessions. Our students have been discovering the world of on-line texts. We have been learning that texts we read do not always come in a book form, we can gain deep understanding from visual and audio forms of texts as well.

One of our favourite learning sessions is visiting ‘Dustechoes.com’ to participate in comprehension activities based on Aboriginal Dreamtime stories.

During Peer Support, 5/6 asked:
“What is respect?”
- Using kind words and actions
- Being polite and using good manners
- Doing what you are asked to do
- Going out of your way to be extra nice
- Accepting others’ differences
- Listening well
- Being fair during play time and sport

Peer Support
Our students have been doing a fantastic job of developing leadership skills and being positive school role models during Peer Support sessions.

Using our headphones to listen to Indigenous stories on Dust Echoes

...Facilitating

~ Our Universals are important to us ~
Safety
Respect
Responsibility
**Merit Awards ~ Tuesday 19th March, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K/1</th>
<th>Evie, Gilby</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1/2</td>
<td>Bella, Stevie-Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td>Ocean, Kaleb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Paige W, Hayden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal’s Awards</td>
<td>Taylor, Jace, Shakiya, Stevie-Rose, Ocean, Tess, Jesse, Jai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Awards</td>
<td>Taylor, Shakiya, Jennefer, Jai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBL Excellence Awards</td>
<td>Jessica S, Callan, Kahlan, Jake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday Awards</td>
<td>Natalya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCGPS (Cessnock Community of Greater Public Schools) Choir</td>
<td>Jesse, Jacob T, Jasmine, Jacob E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star of the Week</td>
<td>Jace, Tess</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Little Bits**

**SCHOOL EVACUATION PRACTICE**

At different times throughout the year, the school is required to practice an evacuation. We wish to advise those in the near vicinity of our local community not to be alarmed, as the school bell is rung for an extended period in these incidences to prompt the evacuation practice.

**SCHOOL PHONE NUMBER**

Our school has one incoming phone line (4990 2974) and, a fax line (4991 1875). Our system has been set up to be able to ring out on both lines, automatically defaulting outgoing calls from the fax line, if available, so as to ensure our incoming line is kept as free as possible for incoming calls from parents and other calls.

Please note, if you miss a call from the school and it comes up 4991 1875, please do not return the call using that number. You may like to enter that number in your mobile as ‘School Fax’ as a reminder, and put 4990 2974 in as ‘School’.

**COMPUTER THUMB DRIVES/STORAGE DEVICES**

We wish to reinforce the correct practice/protocol of the use of computer thumb drives/memory sticks (storage devices) at school. Due to the need to protect our school department computers and programs, it is vital that students do not bring any of these devices from home to use at school as they may transfer unwanted data or viruses. Please see Mr Osland if there are any occasions where access of home storage devices is required at school.

**COMPUTER AND VIDEO GAMES ~ Extract from online WebMD**

We live in an electronic age.... some games and toys promote violence or negative social, racial, or gender stereotypes. These toys are not recommended for children. For young kids, especially, it’s crucial to set limits. Research has suggested that electronic toys pose several possible dangers for children’s health and development, including hearing loss (from loud toys), weight gain (from being inactive while playing), and language and developmental delays.

Electronics can also affect a child’s attention span, ..... “Toys that have flashing lights and constant changes and movement don’t require a child to pay attention to any one thing for very long. Kids who use these toys frequently can find it difficult to focus on something like a book, non-moving toy or task.”
Our students have participated in many and varied sports this term.....

February

On Friday 22nd February, Jayden G, Matthew G, Jessica G, Mathew S, Willis, Liam, Allahna, Tess and Trinity participated in the Cessnock Zone Swimming Carnival.

The Cessnock Rugby League Trials on Tuesday 26th February were attended by Jai, Ethan, Jacob E, Zachary and Willis.

March

Liam’s trip to Broadmeadow for the Hunter Region Tennis Trials was postponed until Wednesday 6th March, due to the terrible weather (rain) the week before.


The cricket match against Nulkaba last Thursday (14th March) was excitedly attended by Orlando, Liam, Willis, Jesse, Hayden, Jayden G, Oliver, Jacob E, Ethan, Zachary, Jai and Brynn.

And, last Friday (15th March), Taylor (Kinder) travelled all the way up to Moonbi (near Tamworth) to compete at the Moonbi PS Horse Sports Day leaving home in the wee small hours with his mum, and, his horse (of course!)
MOONBI HORSE SPORTS DAY REPORT

Taylor (Kindergarten) competed in the Moonbi Horse Sports Day on Friday (15th March, 2013), a competition for primary and high school students. There were over 100 riders on the day. Taylor competed in the 7 years and under age group, with 11 other riders. Moonbi is located approx 20mins the other side of Tamworth.

Taylor competed in 11 events, placing in 9 ~ 5th in pony class, 4th in rider class, 4th in pair of riders, 5th in bareback class, 5th in the sack race, 5th in bending, 4th in the barrels, 3rd in the keyhole and 2nd in the running t. Taylor also participated in the Nursery Rhyme themed fancy dress with Taylor dressing as Jack, and his horse, Ellie dressed as Jill. Report by Taylor’s mum

HINTS FOR HEALTHY LUNCH BOXES

Our fruit breaks at the beginning of Active After School Activities on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons have been a great hit, with the students looking forward to lining up and selecting pieces of fruit to enjoy before they start their activities. Fruit is cut into bite-sized pieces and beautifully displayed on platters, and is very appetising and enticing.

We have had apples, oranges, peaches, watermelon, grapes and bananas

Parents are encouraged to promote this healthy fruit and food theme when packing their child’s lunch and recess each day. Older children can certainly be involved in this process, selecting and packing healthy fruit and food items for their own lunch boxes.

Sandwiches, fruit and a drink (water available in bubblers at school) and other healthy choices will ensure students have the energy for a happy, busy day.