Dear Parents and Carers,

With 4 weeks of school left we are busy finalising assessment tasks and writing report cards for the end of the year. There are still plenty of things happening in and around the school.

**Principal Position**
The Principal position was advertised earlier this term, with the process now finalised. I have been offered the position which I have gratefully accepted. As with all Department of Education positions, there is a 10 day appeals period where other applicants for the position can access this process. I will update the staff and school community, if needed. I am looking forward to continue working in the school, with the staff, students and community to maintain the high expectations of Kitchener Public School.

**Year 6 Farewell**
Next week marks the last week for Year 6 students who are attending Cessnock High for Year 7. On Monday (23rd Nov) they will enjoy a ‘Fun Day’ out while Thursday (26th Nov) is their official farewell dinner. All students are invited to attend a disco at the school later that evening to help celebrate our outgoing Year 6 students. I’d like to thank the students for the effort that they have put in to the school over their time here. They have represented the school with pride and set a great example for others to follow in the future. Best of luck in high school!

**Tuesday Assembly**
This coming Tuesday (24th Nov) will be our last assembly for the year as we finalise awards and prepare for our Presentation Evening. The following Tuesday (1st December) will be our School Leaders Speeches. This is an important role for our current Year 5 students to prepare for, with the school students having their opportunity to vote. I wish them all the best of luck.

**Morning Bus Timetable**
Please be aware that Rover Motors have made alterations to their morning bus services, to take affect next week. This may mean slight changes to times or locations—please check the Rovers website. The afternoon services are scheduled to be reviewed early next year.

**Pie Drive Delivery Wednesday 25th November. Please send in shopping bags with names on for packaging.**

**CURRENT (NEW) SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

*Parents can advertise To Sell or, Wanted to Buy*
current (new style) school uniforms (for free) in our school newsletter.

Arrangements will be between selling & buying parents.

**LUNCH RUNS**

THERE ARE 2 LUNCH RUNS LEFT FOR THE REST OF THIS YEAR Wednesday 25th November and, Wednesday 2nd December. There will be NO LUNCH RUNS on Wednesday 9th & 16th December. We would like to thank our Lunch Run volunteers for the great job they are doing.
KITCHENER’S ROCKING READERS

As the end of the school year draws near, please remember to keep filling in your reading logs and returning them to school for ‘Gotcha’ and ‘Golden Ticket’ rewards. Remember that 5 nights reading is equivalent to a Gotcha reward, and the following 5 nights will result in a Golden Ticket. Reading Logs handed in by the end of this week will still qualify for tickets contributing to the school’s PBL badges awarded in next week’s assembly, Tuesday 24th November (the last Tuesday afternoon assembly of the year).

LIBRARY NEWS

During the coming weeks, we will be undertaking a stocktake of the books in our library. To allow for this, we require all borrowed books from the library to be returned to school. All children with overdue loans have been issued with a card stating the name of the books listed under their name as overdue. This includes books from the 2015 school year. Could you please assist by helping your child locate these books and returning them to school as soon as possible. If, for some reason the book cannot be found, or, if your child believes they have already returned the book, could you please make a note of this on the back of the card and return it to school so that we can record this on our computer system.

Due to the stocktake, there will be no more borrowing in the library for the remainder of the year. Children may still, however, visit the library at school to enjoy our wonderful selection of books.

Thankyou

Monique Osland and Gaye Couper
TRANSPORT FOR NSW ~ SCHOOL OPAL CARD

The new School Student Opal Card system for school bus travel will commence from the beginning of next year (2016). All eligible students will be issued with Opal Cards.

Information packages have gone home a few weeks ago with students who will be in ~

Kindergarten, Year 3 and Year 7 next year.

Fact Sheet: Step 1 ~ Parents need to complete the application online ~ the packages contain all information. Step 2 ~ Once application is lodged, parent prints, signs and submits form to our school for endorsement. Step 3 ~ we will then forward the application to the Transport of NSW Department. Once approved, Transport for NSW send the School Opal Card to the home address given on the application.

Students at our school who are currently in Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5 this year (in Year 1, Year 2, Year 4, Year 5 or Year 6 next year), who currently have a school bus pass, will receive a School Opal Card automatically early in the first term, next year (2016). These will be sent directly to our school for distribution to the students.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS ANIMAL & GARDEN CARE

With the school holidays just over 4 weeks away, our thoughts turn to the care of the school chooks. We rely on the generosity of our school families to assist with maintaining and caring for our school. If you are able to help, even for a week of the holidays, please let Ms Finch (Year 3/4) know so that arrangements can be made and details given to families who can assist.

A blank Chook Holiday Roster will be sent home with students that have indicated that they may be able to assist, during the holidays.

Kitchener Public School students (Kinder to Year 6) are invited to attend the 2015 Year 6 Farewell Disco

Where: Kitchener Public School SPR
When: Thursday 26th November, 2015
Time: 7pm - 8:30pm

Teachers will be attending the Disco; parents are most welcome to stay.

Cold drinks will be available (free of charge)

Entry: Gold coin donation (all money raised will be donated to a charity chosen by Year 6 students).
**Merit Awards ~ Tuesday 10th November 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Ethan, Riley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1/2</td>
<td>Charlotte, Ben</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Amelia, Brodie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBL Awards</td>
<td>Maggie, Koby, Frayah, Jennefer, Kaleb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Awards</td>
<td>Abby, Mavrick, Bethany, Sarah, Matt G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal’s Awards</td>
<td>Kodie, Jessica S, Levi, Tiana, Gilby, Jessica G, Cody C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP ~ Thursday 3rd December ~ 9.30am in the Computer Lab**

Presentation Programs eg. Power Point; Prezi

**REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE ~ Wednesday 11th November**

The Drumbeat group have enjoyed participating in the program for the last 9 weeks and will finalise the program by showcasing their drumming skills with a performance at the Term 4, week 8 assembly.

The students would like to invite all parents, carers and family to come and celebrate the student’s achievement of completing this program and watch their performance.

*Please be aware that Photography or video of students is not allowed at this performance.*
Cessnock Carols in the Park

Proudly supported by Newcastle Permanent and Cessnock City Council

Baddeley Park

Friday 4 December 2015

From 6.30pm (fireworks at 8.30pm)

FREE family event!

Cessnock Mayor, Cr Bob Pynsent, invites you to a fun-filled family evening of local entertainment not to be missed.

Brings your picnic blanket and seats, but please leave your alcohol and glass at home.

Help us break the Guinness World Record from 5.30pm

For more information please visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au or call Council on 02 4993 4210.
Garden Update

What bugs are in your garden?

Students have been noticing all sorts of bugs and creepy crawlies in the school garden. Caterpillars, ladybugs, spiders, and even a frog! As gardeners we are excited to see these sorts of things because it means our garden is becoming a healthier ecosystem. Many of these creatures are beneficial to the garden. Bees and butterflies help with the pollination, worms help keep the soil healthy. Spiders and frogs both eat insects, ladybugs eat aphids.

Last week we found half a dozen orb-weaving spiders amongst the taller plants and we were able to watch as one spider caught a smaller insect.

Students also helped pick caterpillars and slugs out of the garden. The chooks enjoyed eating the slugs, but the students were keen to take the caterpillars home and see what they might turn into. The K/1 class looked after a cocoon for a few weeks, and Mrs Firth got a shock one morning to find a Cabbage Moth in the container!

Student Helpers

Every Wednesday during the lunch break students are able to visit the garden and help out. Jobs range from planting seeds to looking after the worms, sometimes even just weeding. Over the last few weeks the garden has enjoyed the help of students involved in the kindy orientation – we look forward to seeing more of them next year!
Creature Quiz

What am I?

Can you unjumble this life cycle?

Coccinellidae (ladybug) Life Cycle

Bring your answers back to the office by next Wednesday for a Gotcha
“Carols by candlelight” being held at Abermain Public School on Monday 14th December
Flyer on office counter

Tuesday 1st December 2015 ~ Year 5 Captain Election
Speeches 2.30pm all welcome (No assembly Tuesday 8th December)

PEDICULOSIS (Head Lice)
We have had a report of a case of Pediculosis (Head Lice) within the school community. We ask that parents check their child’s hair on a regular basis and treat, if necessary, before allowing your child to attend school. Please report all cases of head lice to the school so that we can alert the rest of the families to be very vigilant in beating this problem.

Pool Fun Day
Thursday 10th December at Branxton Pool Leaving school at 9.30am return to school 2.30pm
Students to pay $2.50 at school office
Bus paid for by school funds
Parents and Toddlers welcome (pay entry at the pool and arrange own transport)
Permission note will be in next Newsletter (2nd Dec)