Principal’s Message

As you can see from the photo, General Assistant Troy Nipperess has been busy putting the finishing touches on a new project for the infant’s area of the playground.

Some time ago, money raised by Student Representative Council was specifically put aside for a special area where children can use their imagination. When he was told what was wanted, Troy put his own imagination to work and carefully drew up plans for this new project.

Troy’s come up with an aeroplane cockpit featuring steering wheels, seats and a special gear shift between the two seats for when the children “take off.” Just down from the cockpit area, he is going to transform an old pushbike into an exercise bike. We also have plans for a special skateboard section too.

On the wall beside the bike, there’s going to be a painted blackboard so that kids can draw and write to their heart’s content. There’s also a plan to fence and put stepping stones around part of the area.

“After a slight hold-up we’re now well on our way towards completion, all going to plan. The hard thing is getting the right bits and pieces,” said Troy.

The next part of the project might be construction of a spot where toy cars can be driven into ramps and maybe even underground tunnels for cars using pipe.

“I’ll just have to work out how to do it,” joked Troy.

Troy will shortly be talking with Mrs McLeish and the SRC and listen to their ideas on what they’d like to see done next.

Star of the Week

Lachlan Eather

Eight-year-old Lachlan Eather was a very popular choice as Star of the Week. When I told him the exciting news, all his friends jumped and cheered!

Lachlan is in Mrs Shann’s Year 2 class. “My teacher is very nice,” he said. “My favourite subject is art and I love spelling groups too.” I have no doubt that Lachlan loves spelling – he quietly reminded me that Mrs Shann’s surname has two “n”s in it!

Lachlan excels in the creative arts. He loves dancing and is learning hip hop jazz from his teacher Jane at the school hall. He is also a keen member of the NPS Drama Club. Lachlan performed in our eisteddfod play, “What’s For Dinner?” He played the role of Master Bread.

Lachlan also enjoys sport and plays soccer on the weekend for the mighty “Sharks.” He told me that he’s almost scored two goals this season. “It’s just really good fun!”

Lachlan has many friends at school and some of them are Brigette Rose, Harley Petrovic and Maeve Harris. Needless to say, Lachlan helped me spell some of their names too. Well done, Lachlan. You are a star!
The Week Ahead

Week 6
Monday 18th August
Assembly under Primary COLA @ 3.00

Tuesday 19th August
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30 – 3.45pm
Administration Building Meeting @ 11.30

Wednesday 20th August
Day Branch P&C Meeting 9.30 in library
Stage 1 Cake Day
3C Assembly
Night Branch P&C Meeting 7.00 at Bowlo

Thursday 21st August
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Friday 22nd August
Mrs Allison LSL until 8th Sept – Mrs Jollow
“People for the Plains” BBQ and Film with speaker
Michael Caton from 5.30 in school hall

Week 7
Monday 25th August
Assembly under Primary COLA @ 3.00

Tuesday 26th August
Executive Director of Schools Mr Frank Potter
visiting NPS from 12.00 until 2.00
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Wednesday 27th August
Cambodia Mufti Day
Newcastle Permanent Maths
2M Assembly

Thursday 28th August
MAX FM
PSSA Cricket v Tamworth PS
PISCE Awards
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.3 –3.45pm

Friday 29th August
Regional Athletics Carnival @ Tamworth

NAIDOC Sponsorship
On Monday 11th August Narrabri Public enjoyed a visit from representatives from Whitehaven Coal, the sponsors of our NAIDOC celebration. Aboriginal Community Relations Officer, Mr Bob Sutherland and General Manager, Mr Steve Bow came along to help present some student awards. Having missed our NAIDOC day, they were especially keen to hear our school’s Gamilaraay Choir perform their hit song “Didgeridoo.”

“People told us that this year’s NAIDOC event was a wonderful day,” said Mr Bow. These events can be expensive and require careful planning, so financial support is always welcome. It can sometimes be a struggle providing morning tea, student prizes, a slice of NAIDOC cake and a barbeque lunch for five hundred people.

Accordingly, when Whitehaven Coal generously offered to subsidise this event for us we grabbed the opportunity with both hands. Thanks Bob and Steve from Whitehaven Coal. We hope you enjoyed our assembly.

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
Magpie Season

Alison Stewart from National Parks and Wildlife visited our school today and spoke at the afternoon assembly about magpies.

The start of magpie swooping season can see people on high alert around our parks and tree-lined footpaths. "It's actually only a very small proportion of magpies that have it in for us," she said.

She told the children that there are a variety of reasons why magpies can start swooping, ranging from getting a fright from a dog as a young bird, through to having some kids throw rocks at their nest.

"The vast majority of magpies live with us very happily indeed. In fact, many people have magpies nesting in their backyards or in their streets and would walk past them with no trouble- but then you get this one rogue."

It's most commonly the protective male birds that swoop during this nesting period, which lasts from about mid-August through to November.

For unlucky people chosen as swooping targets, it's the bird's beak that can be the problem. "They can do damage, we've had reports of people losing eyes and things, so once a magpie does go for you it's quite a worry."

"Some will just clack their beak immediately above your head but others do want to draw blood, so you do need to be careful."

Alison suggested that people can protect themselves from the marginal collective of swooping magpies by knowing where they are and giving them a wide berth.

Bike Wanted

Troy Nipperess is still requiring a few “bits and pieces” for his project. If anybody has a small unwanted children’s bike with a seat in good condition that they are willing to donate, please ring the school office or contact Troy directly on 0458101098. He is also still on the lookout for a good gearshift or any mechanical items that might make the cockpit of his aircraft even more interesting. Please help us if you can.

Rail Safety Week

Last week Kindergarten students were lucky enough to have some special guests speak with them about Rail Safety Week.

Tim, Cindy and Campbell Bulmer explained the duties of train drivers, what it looks like inside the driver's engine and the importance of being careful near railway tracks.

Mr Bulmer was kind enough to present Kindergarten students with special railway packs and gifts for our dress-up boxes and some first-aid kits for the classrooms.

Thank you to the Bulmer family for sharing their time with all Kindergarten classes. All students thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. Your kindness and generosity were greatly appreciated.

Peta Irvine

FATHERS DAY STALL

On Friday, 5th September the P&C will be having their famous Father’s Day Stall once again. They are asking for donations of wrapped lollies or anything other items that Dads can enjoy.

More details regarding the Father’s Day Stall will be in the coming weeks newsletters.

Thank you
Teacher Leave and Staff Changes
Mrs Alison is going on long-service leave from 22nd August until Monday 8th September. We are pleased to inform you that Mrs Jill Jollow will be taking 3/4A during this time. It’s great to know they’ll be in safe and experienced hands with Jill.

Meanwhile, our Learning and Support Teacher, Ms Emily Meldrum, has been offered a relieving position working across many different schools in the region (Barwon Network) to assist them in meeting student’s behaviour and learning support needs. This opportunity is well-deserved and acknowledges the tremendous work that Emily has been doing at NPS in her various support roles at our school. Congratulations, Emily.

In her absence, Mrs Jackman has been offered the Learning and Support position at our school. She will be assisted by Mrs Sarah Soper who has been offered a two-day-a-week position on learning support until the end of this year.

STAGE THREE COMBINED NARRABRI SCHOOL SPORT
This Friday sees the next instalment of our transition to high school programme. This Stage Three initiative has been widely received by all schools and students and the level of excitement in the lead up to these meetings, is evidence of its popularity.

All feeder schools will combine again on Friday afternoon (normal sport time) at Collins Park to engage in sporting activities and general social time together.

It is great to see all the schools working together on this and helping to create an atmosphere of familiarity when Year 7 rolls around.

Bronzy Party
Thursday’s Bronzy Party might have been slightly smaller in numbers last week, but everybody had a grand time. In fact, these happy students insisted on raising their glasses to a great party!

WHITE CARDS
1st
Rique-Lee Hacket

BRONZE AWARDS
Thomas Hand, Bianca Wilson, Oliver Stait, Isaac Hynch, Ethan Foster, Campbell Bulmer, Caitlyn Taylor, Kiana Mason, Annabell McLean, Mathew McGrath, Malik Dennis, Sean McLean, Boston Kirkby, EmmJay Baker, Declan Rooney

INFANTS ASSEMBLY AWARDS
ENGLISH:
Lillie Harvey, Savanna Orman, Matilda Trindall, Kevin Condran, Callum Lawler, Lyneah Mason, Kaden Harvey, Banjoe Haverhoek

MATHS:
Aiden Gillen, Chloe Winsley, Caitlin Evans, Chloe Large, Ceanna Toomey, Gypsy Williams, Bella Nixon, Briana Coleman

SPORTS:
Mylee Yu, Jack McCahon, Lawrence Milsom, Seb Myers, Clint Baker, Tynan Williams, Olivia Parker, Ashlee Anderson

CITIZENSHIP:
Kate Partridge, Ethan Foster, Ethan Condran, Johnathon Charles, Veronica Weekes, Isabella Hartog, Stephanie Rose, Maeve Harris

ACHIEVEMENT:
Lachlan Watson, Charlie Dams, Wilby Bussell, Mac Goulden, Justin Harriman, Jayde Arnold, Noah Pearce, Elisha Soper

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
Stage Three finds Fabulous things to do in Canberra

Ninety three students and seven adults enjoyed a spectacular but slightly chilly five days in our national capital, Canberra.

The bus trip to and from Canberra was without any dramatic incidents and all agreed that it was much shorter than expected. This may have something to do with the good driving, great movies, separate buses and relatively calm stomachs.

Our accommodation was in the heart of the CBD and was warm and comfortable. The food was delicious and always on time for the hungry students. The children were extremely well-behaved and their manners received many compliments from the public.

One of the major highlights of our excursion was visiting the War Memorial and participating in a very sombre wreath laying ceremony. We were very proud of our leaders and our students, who realised the significance of where we were and the protocols that had to be followed. We were indeed fortunate to have a Special Forces Leader talk to our students about his role in Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Questacon and the AIS were fun places to visit. Very hands on and some people even said “hello” to Alisha Coutes, as she was training for the Pan Pacific Games. The Freefall, the Caged Lightening Show and the Earthquake House were high on our list of awesome things at Questacon.

Visiting Yarralumla, the Governor–General’s House, was a wonderful experience for both children and adults. As we were walking into the magnificent gardens, the Federal Policeman on duty at the gate told us that Sir Peter Cosgrove and his convoy was just leaving. We were able to wave to him as he left but thankfully when he returned, he hopped out of his car and came over and talked to us for about fifteen minutes. He is a very friendly and interesting man who displayed his obvious pleasure in speaking to the students.

The teachers and parents were very impressed with the level of maturity and respect shown by all NPS students and thoroughly enjoyed their time with this great bunch of Australian youth. Congratulations to those who attended!
Book Fair 2014
Thank you to the many Parents, Grandparents, Carers and Students for contributing to a very successful Education Week and Book Fair for 2014. Over the four days the Book Fair ran for, my helpers and I sold $6,000 in books and stationery items. Thanks to your generosity the school’s Library will receive books to the value of $2,000.00 for all students K-6 to enjoy and learn from.
I would like to thank Mrs Liz Jackman and Mrs Lorraine Scott for giving of their time to assist with the running of the Book Fair. I would also like to thank Mrs Deb Michell-Smith for her assistance.
Deb Maher Teacher/Librarian.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Dear Parents and Carers,

The Premier’s Reading Challenge concludes at the end of August. Your child needs to finalise his/her reading record and hand it to me by Friday, 22nd August, so I can enter it on line and validate the reading record before the 1st September. Students will receive their Premier’s Reading Challenge certificate in Term Four of the 2014 school year. Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Deb Maher Teacher/Librarian

Community Notice
Louisa Laing from The Alison Lawson Centre QLD, who treats Visual Dyslexia, is available for Initial Assessments from: 22/09/14 - 03/10/14 at the Bellata Public School. Visual dyslexia is a result of faults in important normal vision including: eye focusing, eye coordination, eye movement, binocular vision (eye teaming) and visual perception skills (which are not assessed in normal eye examinations).
Symptoms can include:
• Swapping letters when reading, saying: “was” instead of “saw”.
• Letter/number reversal: b/d, p/q, n/u, m/w. • Sloppy handwriting.
• Difficulty with copying things off the board at school.
• Mixing up left and right. • Difficulty writing down what they think.
• Letters appear to move around on the page.
• Skipping, guessing at or adding in words when reading.
• Difficulty reading out loud or in their heads.
• Frequent loss of place when reading. • Poor reading comprehension.
• Difficulty remembering anything in sequential order, e.g. days of week, the alphabet and times tables.
• Easily distracted; may become class clown, disruptive or withdrawn.

Louisa Laing from The Alison Lawson Centre QLD, who treats Visual Dyslexia, is available for Initial Assessments from: 22/09/14 - 03/10/14 at the Bellata Public School. Please phone: 0407 074 432, or email: louisa@alcq.com.au or visit www.alcq.com.au to book an appointment, or for more information & online symptoms test.
Canteen News
After our quiet week, last week, with 94 year 5 & 6 students away Nikki and I are looking forward to a busy week this week.
We have a volunteer for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday but would love to see someone tomorrow and Monday next week.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 19th August</td>
<td>HELP !!!!!!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 20th August</td>
<td>Nicci Milsom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 21st August</td>
<td>Cassie Webster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 22nd August</td>
<td>Nicci Milsom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 25th August</td>
<td>HELP !!!!!!!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you
Kim Owens
Supervisor

Results from the Zone Athletics Carnival

100ms Boys 9yrs – 1st Cooper Hall, 2nd Rhys Bower
100ms Boys 10yrs – 1st Joc Ford, 2nd Angus Gourley
100ms Boys 11yrs – 2nd Kyle Suckling
100ms Boys 12yrs – 1st Felix Johnson, 2nd Tom Woodham
100ms Girls 8yrs – 2nd Annalise Woodham
100ms Girls 9yrs – 2nd Claudia Penberthy
100ms Girls 10yrs – 2nd Rachel Charles
100ms Girls 11yrs – 2nd Cassidy Staines
100ms Girls 12yrs – 1st Stephanie Stuart, 2nd Makayla Beddow
Junior Boys 200ms – 1st Alistair Gourley, 2nd Angus Gourley

11yrs Boys 200ms – 2nd Sam Soper
Senior Boys 200ms – 1st Tom Woodham, 2nd Felix Johnson
Junior Boys 800ms – 1st Angus Gourley, 2nd Miles Campbell
11yrs Boys 800ms – 1st Sam Soper
Senior Boys 800ms – 2nd Felix Johnson
11yrs Girls 200ms – 2nd Cassidy Staines
Senior Girls 200ms – 1st Stephanie Stuart, 2nd Makayla Beddow
Junior Girls 200ms – 1st Amelie Johnson
11yrs Girls 800ms – 2nd Shona McFarland
Senior Girls 800ms – 1st Stephanie Stuart
Junior Boys Long jump – 1st Joc Ford
11yrs Boys Long jump – 2nd Cooper Lawrence
Senior Boys Long jump – 1st Felix Johnson, 2nd Connor Finn

Royal Far West Art Competition
As you might know, Narrabri Public School is a partner school of Royal Far West. This week’s newsletter has a special competition entry form attached for your child’s participation in a great art competition.

Your child’s task is to design and draw a Christmas card that can be sold this Christmas by Royal Far West this year. The theme is to reflect Christmas. Completed entries will be displayed on-line on their website.

If you require more copies of this entry template, please contact the school office.
Entries close Friday 17th October.

Please post your child’s completed entry to:
Juana Amaya
Community Manager
19-21 South Steyne
Manly NSW 2095
Junior Girls Long jump – 1st Rachel Charles
11yrs Girls Long jump – 1st Zoe Campbell, 2nd Cassidy Staines
Senior Girls Long jump – 1st Stephanie Stuart, 2nd Makayla Beddow
Senior Girls High jump – 1st Makayla Beddow, 2nd Stephanie Stuart

Senior Boys Discus – 1st Angus Browning
Junior Boys Shotput – 2nd Joc Ford
Senior Boys Shotput – 1st Angus Browning
11yr Girls Discus – 2nd Jorja Bakhuis
Senior Girls Discus – 1st Stephanie Stuart
11yrs Girls Shotput – 2nd Jorja Bakhuis
Senior Girls Junior Girls Relay 1st
Senior Girls Relay 1st
Junior Boys Relay 1st
Senior Boys Relay 1st
Shotput – 1st Stephanie Stuart

Junior Girls Relay 1st
Senior Girls Relay 1st
Junior Boys Relay 1st
Senior Boys Relay 1st

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation