From the Principal’s desk...

Principal Award recipients for Week 4: Congratulations to the first award recipients for 2013! Well done, Ava Parker 1/2M; James Van Dyk 1/2M; Bree Walmley 1/2M; Patrick Hamilton 2H; Madison Rogers 2H; Troy Withnell 2H; Kaloe Humphrey 3M; Vincent Monteleone 3M; Julius Krabbe 3M; Aajuah Burton 3/4G; Angus Cipri 4F; Ava Johnston 4F; Liam Grogan 4P; Tia Robertson 5M; Sarah Roger 5/6B; Ella Williamson 5/6B; Luke Patterson 5/6B; Zilla Gilmour 6D and Jayme Feehely 6D.

The Principal Awards are generally presented as follows:
The Y3-Y6 awards are presented at the whole school assembly on Tuesday afternoon from approximately 1.50pm – weather permitting.

The K-Y2 awards are presented at the K-Y2 assembly on a Wednesday afternoon at approximately 2.00pm – weather permitting.

In the event of wet weather, the awards are generally presented at the next whole school assembly. These assemblies are held after lunch at 1.50pm Mondays to Thursdays.

The BIG school sign: A message from Mrs Conaglen (1AJ)
At NNPS one way we like to keep our parents, friends and the community informed of our wonderful programs and initiatives is through the big school sign on Jacksons Road. The message is generally changed weekly.

The actual message is comprised by Mr Blanchfield, with the help of a student team on a Thursday. We do require a group of parent helpers to take down the old message and install the new one. It is not a difficult task and can be completed in about 15-20 minutes. This can take place from Thursdays after lunch and/or on Fridays.

If you would be able to help change the school sign by being included on a roster a couple of times a term, please leave your name with the office. Your help will be much appreciated. Thank you.

PCS Y7 extension class
Applications went home with our Y6 students this week for placement in an extension class for Y7 at one of our Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS) high schools for 2014. The applications are due at CROMER PUBLIC SCHOOL by Friday, 1 March along with the test fee. The date for the placement test is Tuesday, 12 March. Please contact me at school for further information if necessary.

The Australian Curriculum
As you would be aware Australia is moving towards the introduction of a national curriculum for all states and territories in the country. The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), in collaboration with states and territories has developed an agreed Australian curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History. Each of these learning areas included content statements that represent essential learning for Australian students.

In NSW, the Board of Studies is the responsible authority for the implementation of the new curriculum. The timeline for change for K-Y6 is as follows:

2013 All schools in NSW will continue to teach the current syllabuses. NSW teachers will familiarise themselves with the new English syllabus.

2014 All NSW schools will teach the new English syllabus. The teaching of the new Mathematics and Science syllabuses is optional.

2015 All NSW schools will teach the new Mathematics and Science syllabuses. The teaching of the new History syllabus is optional.

2016 All NSW schools will teach the new History syllabus.
In the new English syllabus, students will:
- Develop their language skills through activities involving speaking and listening, reading and writing and viewing and representing;
- Learn about language and literature through working with a wide range of print, spoken, visual, media, multimedia and digital texts;
- Interpret and express their views on what they hear, see and read;
- Create written and digital texts and deliver formal and informal presentations.

For the first time there will be a requirement that students experience a range of texts including Australian works, multiculturalism, Aboriginality and Australian identity and Asian perspectives. There is an increased emphasis on grammar and the teaching of quality literature.

To help teachers learn about the new English syllabus, the government has added one extra school development day at the start of Term 2 to the usual one. Therefore, students return to school for Term 2 on Wednesday, 24 April.

In next week’s newsletter we will hear more about the Maths and Science syllabuses.

Term accounts

Term 1 accounts are due for payment by Friday, 22 February. Thank you so much to those families who so quickly settled their accounts this week. We do appreciate your support. As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the school is not able to provide a 100% subsidy to any one student but we are happy to work out a negotiated payment plan to assist. Especially in the case of a service being provided by an ‘outside provider’ such as Pittwater Gym, students will not be able to attend the event or activity unless payment is received. Thank you for your understanding.

The school is very dependent on the payment of term accounts so that we can run the enriching and rewarding programs that we do. Overall, total funding from the government to operate the school is not a huge amount and we do rely heavily on extra funds from our parents and the community. This is a similar pattern in nearly all schools. From the state government, our school receives a total of just $62.90 per year per student. Over a 40 week school year, this comes out at $1.57 per week per student to buy all necessary classroom items, paints, pens, pencils, books, sports equipment, copy paper, certain technology and lots of other items. As the school grows, for every extra classroom (demountable) we need to find approximately $8000 for a new interactive whiteboard that has become the standard nowadays. We do receive other government funds for items such as urgent maintenance, gas and electricity and rates and sewerage but we often need to spend more than we are given. We are also allocated a total sum of $581 as part of the Student Assistance Scheme to provide financial support to families when required. As you can imagine, $581 does not go far in supporting over 530 students and their families.

We have been lucky at NNPS over the years that our hard working and wonderful P&C have supplemented our funding via generous donations. These funds have been used for particular projects that the school would never to able to afford by itself, such as buying sets of computers, a set of iPads, and several playground enhancements and improvements. That is why it is so important to us that the community fully supports all P&C fund raising activities!

If you have any questions about school finances, please contact me at school.

Meet the Teacher night

The annual Meet the Teacher night is on Wednesday, 27 February. The times for the sessions are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>5.45pm – 6.15pm</td>
<td>Year 3 to Year 6 classes in your child’s classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>6.15pm – 6.45pm</td>
<td>Whole school information session in the JHA (weather permitting) Special visitor: Mr Lance Berry, Principal of NSHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>6.45pm – 7.15pm</td>
<td>Kindergarten to Year 2 classes in your child’s classroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 4</td>
<td>From 7.30pm</td>
<td>AGM of the NNPS P&amp;C in The Domes</td>
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This is an opportunity to visit your child’s classroom and hear a short presentation from your child’s teacher outlining plans and learning expectations for the class for 2013.

Clean Up Australia Day

Friday, 1 March

All children will be involved.

Could you send in a pair of gardening gloves. We will be tidying all of our school areas.

Yours in sustainability,

Jules McKenzie
Words from Miss Russell...

It has been an exciting time experiencing my new role. I am really fortunate now that in my timetable I can teach small groups, visit classrooms and work within them as well. I have been into classrooms from K-6 over the past few weeks and have enjoyed seeing a lot of familiar faces.

Kindergarten

ES1 had their planning day last week. In this time we could set our sport times, construction play, kinder singing and many more activities. This year Kinder sport will be on Thursdays from 9.15am to 10.30am. If you are able to help with this please let your classroom teacher know. This day is also the day that your child wears their Sports (yellow) uniform.

I have been working in all our kinder rooms and our students are really trying hard to learn all the new things that school has to offer. I love it when students read their first sentence on their own, they are really proud of themselves and so they should be. Throughout the year I will be in the kindergarten classroom joining in with literacy and maths groups which I am very excited about.

Home reading has started and our students were very excited about taking home their first official “homework”. It is very important that your child reads their sights words and their home reader every night to consolidate the skills that they are learning in class.

As many of you will be already aware hats, lunch boxes and jumpers get left behind some days. Please ensure that your child’s name is clearly marked on all their items coming to school.

Our first meet the teacher night is Wednesday, 27 March at 6.45 to 7.15pm. On this night you will meet your child’s teacher and they will explain their class routines and important information that you will need to know. It would be great to see the majority of our parents attend this session. Best Start Assessment results will be given out at our Parent Teacher Interviews towards the end of this term.

Working in 1R

This week I was teaching the HSIE unit Transport in 1R. As part of this unit we look at how we get to school. Could all the students in 1R please bring in a photo of themselves in their mode of transport so that we can use them as part of the unit. Thank you.

Teaching our NARRA Values

Last week, in the many classes I taught, we spoke about what our school values look like and how they can be applied in the playground. It was great to see our students at Narrabeen North have a deep understanding of our values and especially what they mean. This month we are looking at achievement which many of our students are already showing in their new classes.

Easter Hat Parade

Just to give everyone early notice the Easter Hat Parade will be on Thursday, 28 March in our JH Amphitheatre. This year it will start at 2pm. For our new families, this involves your child designing and making an Easter hat to wear in the parade. This process is all completed at home and they bring their hat to school on that day ready for the parade. More information will be available closer to the event.

Until next time,

Tanya Russell
Non Teaching Assistant Principal
Literacy, LST, Welfare, ES1 Leader

From the P & C President...

As mentioned in last week’s Grapevine our Term 1 fundraiser is a raffle to win a car. Tickets will be sent home Monday or Tuesday of next week so please keep an eye out for them. Please keep the note attached to the tickets when you return your money and any unsold tickets to the P&C box in the office. Remember to write your name and class on the note so you can be eligible for prizes.

A few people have contacted me expressing interest in being a class parent, some for the same class. The best way to decide who is to be class parent is to go to the class information sessions next Wednesday evening and nominate yourself then. If there is more than one person you can work together. Once you have decided who is class parent please come to the AGM immediately afterwards so that we can confirm who is class parent and get their contact details.

A final reminder that we will need a new executive committee at the AGM, if we want our canteen, ASC and band to continue to operate. I am happy to answer questions if you have any. I look forward to seeing you there.

Gay Raubal.
Crunch and Sip is Coming to NNPS

Fruit and vegetables as healthy snacks

Fruit and vegetables are very healthy snacks for children, because:

- the fibre found in these foods can aid digestion
- they are rich in vitamins, such as vitamin C which can build up your child’s immune system during the cold weather
- they add variety to a healthy and balanced diet.

Try including some crunchy fruit or vegetables in your child’s lunchbox. Eating these after lunch can help stop tooth decay.

The school will have no computers for internet access on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 February due to an upgrade. Emails will only be checked periodically on these days. If you need to contact the school please phone or fax.

Payment of the school invoice and signed consent notes are due tomorrow.

Friday, 22 February.
NSW Junior Athlete of the Year!

Last Saturday night Ethan Carlile of 5S attended the NSW gymnastics awards night at Homebush Stadium. It was an awards night that recognised the achievements of individual gymnasts throughout 2012. Ethan was nominated and WON “NSW Junior Athlete of the Year” for NSW!

Congratulations Ethan! We are all very proud of your achievement and commitment to your chosen sport.

Ms Stewart (Teacher 5S)

UNSW International Competitions and Assessment 2013

Students in Years 3-6 are invited to enter the 2013 International Competitions in Science, Spelling, Writing, Mathematics, English and Computer Skills. These examinations incur an entry fee and are not run by the Department of Education but by EAA - Education Assessment Australia, an independent organisation owned by the University of NSW. Your child will compete against students in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, South Africa and the Pacific Region. The exams provide an opportunity for students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly, their total score, as well as their average, compared with the rest of the students in the state.

Certificates are awarded as follows:
- High Distinction top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 20% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating students

All students who achieve the highest score in each state receive a University NSW medal.

Dates and cost are as follows:

- Computer Skills Tues 21 May $8.80
- Science Wed 5 June $8.80
- Writing Mon 17 June $18.70
- Spelling Tues 18 June $12.10
- English Wed 31 July $8.80
- Mathematics Tues 13 August $8.80

Please collect the entry form from the school office, the 5S classroom or download a form from the school website. Return your form with the correct payment to the school (drop in gold box in office) no later than Monday 8 April 2013. Entries after this date cannot be accepted.

Students performed very well in 2012 and we can’t wait to see the great NNPS results for 2013! I look forward to receiving your entry forms!

Kind regards,

Tamar Stewart (ICAS Competitions Coordinator)

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2013

Dear Parents,

The annual AMT Mathematics Competition will take place on Thursday, 1 August for students in year 3-6 and students are invited to participate. The fee for the competition is $5.50.

The aim is to give students an opportunity to discover talent in mathematics. Students are asked to solve thirty problems in 60 minutes. The earliest problems are very easy, all students should be able to attempt them. The problems get progressively more difficult until the end, when they are challenging to the most gifted student.

If you would like to register your child, please collect a form from the 5S classroom, or the office, or print out the form from the school website and return to school office gold box with your $5.50 enclosed before the end of Term One.

Kind Regards,

Tamar Stewart
Competition Coordinator
POTTER LEAGUE READY TO RESTART IN MARCH

The popular beginner competitions are in school years divisions are Mixed (boys & girls) year one/two, on Tuesdays @ NBISC;
mixed year three/four, on Tuesdays @ NBISC; mixed year five/six on Thursdays @ Narrabeen Sports High gym & Saturday afternoon girl’s league @ Narrabeen Sports High gym. You can enter a team (between 7-10 players) now at the MWBA office or enter as an individual by completing the attached form and handing it in, Email/Faxing to MWBA.

To register we suggest you come to Saturday afternoon basketball during February to train up your skills and hand in your form.

Extra trainings:

SATURDAY AFTERNOON BASKETBALL

Trainings from 2.30 - 3.30pm for 7s and under with Jerome.
Pinkball has replaced the girls only session (see the information page on the website www.manlybasketball.com.au) & 3.30-4.30pm is the mixed (boys & girls) skills every Saturday during school term.

Please note: the fee has increased to $9 per session.

EARLY EAGLES

Monday and Wednesday morning trainings before school 6.30-7.45am conducted by rep coaches at NBISC (see the information page on the website www.manlybasketball.com.au)