Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all parents who have been able to attend the “Meet the Principal' morning tea and the ‘Meet the teacher’ sausage sizzle. Thank you to Mr Troy Farley and Mrs Faye Hunter who cooked the BBQ for our ‘Meet the teacher’ morning. Both were well attended and I would like to encourage parents and carers to continue to come to our school.

Our whole school Assemblies, held every Friday morning at 9am are a great way to keep in touch with what’s happening in our school. Year 3/4 will be presenting some of their class work this week. The school has purchased birthday awards and a small gift which will be presented to all birthday students at assembly.

Our swimming carnival was a fantastic day. Thank you to all involved in the organisation of the Swimming Carnival. Miss Robarts, teachers and parents all put in a big effort. The children had an excellent day and I have had many positive comments from the community on the beautiful behaviour displayed by Karuah students. Well done Karuah.

I would like to welcome our new paediatrician, Dr Rebecca Russell. Dr Russell will be with us once a month, starting this week.

Mrs Henry will be on leave for the next three weeks. We welcome Mr O’Connor who will be taking her class during this time.

Attached to the newsletter are the words for our School Song. If there is anyone that has the music which accompanies the song (tune to Tavern in the Town), could you please bring it to the school office.

Our 2013 School Portraits are being taken on Wednesday 27th March, 2013. An information envelope will be sent home over the upcoming weeks. School photos will be taken by Newcastle School Portraits.

Kind regards
Julie Hubbard

ICAS NEWS

International Competitions and Assessment for Schools

The Australian Schools Competition is about to start for 2013. Your child can take part in the following competitions -

- Computer – Tuesday 21st May
- Science – Wednesday 5th June
- Writing – Monday 17th June
- Spelling – Tuesday 18th June
- English – Wednesday 31st July
- Mathematics – Tuesday 13th August

Please complete a permission note and return it with your money in an envelope with your child’s name to the Admin Office by Friday 12th April 2013.

Notes are available from the school office.
CALENDAR

Weekly Activities

Monday  Brekkie Club
         Scripture 1.45 – 2.30pm

Tuesday Brekkie Club
           Library K/1, 5/6
           CMIT Groups (11:30am-12:15pm)

Wednesday Brekkie Club
             Library 1/2, 3/4

Thursday Brekkie Club
            Interest Groups (12noon – 1pm)
            Sport  K-6  1:45 – 3:00pm

Friday   Assembly

UPCOMING EVENTS/ REMINDERS

TERM 1

- Billy G’s Cookie Dough – due Friday 1st March
  (Payments must be enclosed with order)
- Thursday 21st February – Cake Stall
  (fundraiser for Year 5/6 excursion)
- Thursday 7th March – Hot Dog Day
  (fundraiser for Year 5/6 excursion)
- School Photos – Wednesday 27th March.
- Please return all green notes that are
  sent home with your child/ren.

TERM 2

- Monday 29th April & Tuesday 30th
  April, 2013 Staff Development Days –
  no students
- Wednesday 1st May Students’ first day
  Term 2 2013

MOSQUITOES

There is a problem with mosquitoes in our
playground at present. Your child/children
may need a repellent to avoid multiple
bites. If you wish to send a repellent to
school please make it roll on so those
children with asthma and allergies are not
affected by the spray products.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Merit Awards Term 1 Week 2

K/1   Kailyn Moroney
      Owen Finch

1/2   Matthew Finch
      Tahlia Farnsworth

3/4   Connor Walker
      Tyson Cloughessy
      Kane Bolton

5/6   TJ Saunders
      Rebecca Perry

Merit Awards Term 1 Week 3

K/1   Samantha Driscoll
      Robert Stewart

1/2   Bindi-May Baccus
      Matthew Finch

3/4   Taylarnie Saunders
      Claire Robertson
      Cory Bolton

5/6   Josh Feeney
      Haylee McApline

STUDENT AWARDS

BRONZE  Connor Walker x 4
         Annika Johns x 2
         Lachlan Johnson
         Zoe Egginton
         Katie Gentle x 2
         Tyson Cloughessy x 2
         Kane Bolton
         Cohen Jarmain x 3

SILVER  Connor Walker x 4
         Cohen Jarmain

GOLD   Connor Walker

Well done to the above students 😊
SPORTS NEWS

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Last Wednesday students from Year 2 to Year 6 went to Tea Gardens Pool to enjoy our annual swimming carnival. We were very lucky to have a perfect day with the sun shining. Thank you to Kevin from Busways for getting us there and back safely. Students enjoyed many songs on the bus which only added to the excitement of the day. Many students competed in all events including freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, a medley and house relays. I am happy to report on behalf of all teachers that the behaviour was outstanding, with a great sense of team work and a positive attitude surrounding the day. Students represented Karuah with pride!!! Well done!!

A huge thank you to the parents who helped out on the day and to the parents who came supported the event. We could not have done it without your support! Kelly Pietsch was our lifeguard. Thank you!

The winning team will be announced shortly. Place ribbons will be presented at one of our upcoming assembly’s.

Miss Robarts
Sports Co-ordinator

Jargon Buster
Wondering why your kids talk about playing under the school COLA? Baffled at parent-teacher discussions about KLA’s? This list of common abbreviations or terms will help you to become familiar with the world inside school.
Find out more:

YEAR 5/6 CAMP
I would like to advise the parents and guardians of our Year 5/6 students of our upcoming camp. This year we are hoping to travel to Bathurst for three days and two nights in Term 3. We are linking the excursion with our Unit on Gold as well as our COGS unit Symbol Systems. Fundraising has begun and payments can be made from tomorrow to the office. We encourage parents to pay off the camp cost to make the expense more affordable. Please stay tuned as more details will be coming out over the next few weeks.

Kind regards,
Miss Robarts
Year 4/5/6 Teacher

CANTEEN NEWS
We would like to thank everyone that has donated their time to volunteer in the canteen on a Friday. If you have not put your name down but would like to, please contact Nicole Holden on 0407 592 458 to volunteer.

CANTEEN ROSTER
22nd Feb  Emma & Danielle
1st March  Kylie C & Julie
8th March  Kylie B & Julie
15th March  Nicole & Mary
22nd March  Skye & volunteer needed
29th March  GOOD FRIDAY
5th April  April & Skye
12th April  Danielle & Nicole

Your support is greatly appreciated 😊

Kind Regards
P & C Committee
**YEAR 5/6 NEWS**

Year 5/6 will be holding some fundraising activities during the year to assist with their excursion. Please support these wonderful fundraisers.

**CAKE STALL TOMORROW**

Thursday 21st February

We are asking that families donate a plate of cakes for our cake stall to be held on Thursday 21st February. All cakes will be 50c and donations will go towards helping reduce the cost for parents with regards to school camps as well as buying of resources for 2013. If you think you can help out please send the cakes to school with your children on Thursday 21st February. If you are unable to bake please send 50c with your child on Thursday 21st Feb to support our great school. The stall will be run by Yr 4/5/6 students and cakes will be available at recess and lunch.

**HOT DOG DAY**

Thursday 7th March

Hotdogs are $3.00
Poppers are $1.00.

Order forms will be sent home closer to the Hot Dog Day.

Kind Regards
Miss Robarts
Year 4/5/6 class teacher

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**P & C NEWS**

**Our Christmas hamper raffle last year which was drawn on Presentation Day was a great success seeing a $600 profit. This money will help us fund the new play equipment and cover in the future.**

**Please remember to name all clothing, drink bottles and lunch bags etc. Please regularly look through the lost property box which is in the hallway of the Administration building.**

**We will be holding our annual Easter Raffle again this year to be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade. Ticket books will be sent home to students and donations of Easter eggs, new toys etc will be taken at the office or preferably Friday at the Canteen. If you would like more information or ideas please see one of our friendly P&C members in the canteen on Friday’s.**

**A student Movie Night will be held Wednesday 3rd April 2013. The theme will be a pizza night (no pyjamas!) More information will be in upcoming newsletters.**

**We will be holding a Thompson’s Pie drive in Term 2, more information to come.**

**School Banking will be starting up this Thursday morning. I will be collecting bank books before 9am. Parents, if you would like your child/ren to start banking and you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer, please login www.combank.com.au. If you are not an existing customer please visit your local branch for more information.**

Kind Regards
P & C Committee
CLASSROOM REPORTS

LIBRARY
Over the past weeks all classes have been learning about the ways in which we care for library books.
These rules include:
* Always use a Library bag to keep books safe on the way home.
* Have a special place at home for books so they are safe and ready to return on your Library day.
* Do not eat or drink while reading a Library book.
* Always use a book mark to keep your place.

Borrower's Raffle Winners
Week 2 - Bindi-May Baccus 1/2 and Hayley Eggington 4/5/6
Week 3 - Four winners will be drawn in week 4 due to swimming carnival.

Miss Anne-Maree Chyzy
Librarian

KINDER/YEAR 1
This week we have been practising walking in two quiet lines. We need to remember to keep our lips closed and our hands by our sides.
In class we are learning the sounds of the alphabet and are practising our reading.
Each child has taken home a Home Reader to practise at home too.
In numeracy we have been using many things to count and learn our numbers.
We sing 'numbers help us learn' which is a counting song on our Smartboard. So it's been a very busy two weeks for all our K/1 students.

Mrs Woolley
Class Teacher

No report for Year 1/2

YEAR 3/4
We have been busy! Students are now working in their books for all Key Learning Areas and that are now setting their work out neatly. This Friday 22nd Feb, 3/4 students will be displaying their 'Portraits' at Assembly, this ties in with the COGS unit - 'Understanding Each Other - Who we are? Aspect', that 3/4 are studying this Term. Mr Keiran O'Connor is teaching 3/4 while I'm on leave for the next three weeks. Mr O'Connor has kindly volunteered his time to meet the class and discuss programming aspects with myself.

Mrs Henry
Class Teacher

YEAR 4/5/6
The term is busily buzzing by and I am pleased to report that all students are working well on all units with most behaviour meeting school standards.
Students are enjoying the Reading Eggs program as part of literacy learning and we finally have our SMART board working as an interactive part of our classroom learning. Our school leaders are doing a fabulous job each week at assembly and our sports captains are looking at developing a whole school fitness program each lunch time with the use of our sports equipment and structured sports activities.
Well done to our sports leaders on their co-ordination and attitudes at our Swimming Carnival! Fundraising is coming along nicely for our Year 5/6 end of year camp, thank you for your support. An information meeting will be held soon with the details and payments can be made in your child's name at the office at any time. This Thursday we are holding our cake stall, if possible please send a plate of cakes with your child.
Keep up the great work!

Miss Robarts
Class Teacher
COMMUNITY NEWS

Maitland Saints Australian Football Club
Registration Day
Sunday February 24, 2013 – 10am to 2pm
Max McMahon Oval, Weblands Street, Rutherford
For boys aged 4 to 17, girls aged 4 to 14 – Sunday games
Come and try a great new game in the Maitland area
All welcome
Enquiries to www.maitlandsaints.org.au

FREE KIDS FISHING WORKSHOP – SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2013
Permission notes were sent home on Monday for a Free Kids Fishing Workshop. The workshop is for children aged 8-14 years. FREE BBQ LUNCH will be provided. The workshop will be held at Longworth Park. The original date for the workshop was Saturday 23rd Feb but the date has been changed to Sunday 7th April. Please return permission notes ASAP as there are only 20 places available.

Permission notes are available from the school office.
For more information please contact Rachel, Robyn or Nathan at Port Stephens Family Support on 4987 4674.

You Are Invited To:
Mission Australia’s Close the Gap Day
When: 22nd of March 2013
Location: Blackbutt Reserve
RSVP: craigieo@missionaustralia.com.au
By: 15th of March 2013

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOLING?
Youyoong Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) is the place to make that difference.
AECG is an Aboriginal community organisation that works with schools & community to better the outcomes for Aboriginal Education.
If you would like to have a say in your child’s education come along to our meetings, or if you just want to learn more about what we do please contact Rachel on 0431 580 086.

COMMUNITY NEWS