Dear Parents and Carers,

THANKYOU
This newsletter will be our last for Term 1 2013 and there are many Karuah school members that deserve a ‘thank you’. Firstly, I would like to thank all the students, who have followed our Positive Behaviour for Learning strategies, by showing kindness to others, speaking politely and walking around the school sensibly. Secondly I would like to thank the staff for their determined efforts in providing the best education possible to the students of Karuah. And finally, to the parents, volunteers (Brekkie club, Kinder groups, classroom helpers, reading sessions) and community for their continued support in helping our students. With staff, students, parents and the community working together, we have made this term a happy and enjoyable start to the year.

EASTER HAT PARADE
The Easter Hat parade was a very enjoyable day. We would like to thank the P&C for their organisation of the Easter egg raffles and Mrs Hope Simpson for her donation of Easter eggs to the students.

BEHAVIOUR NOTIFICATIONS
Teachers are now using a program called Sentral to record all student data. If you child attends Planning Room, a letter will be generated from this data and sent home. Parents are asked to read the letter and send the signed acknowledgement back to school.

BEST START ASSESSMENTS
Kindergarten parents received their child’s Best Start assessment results this week. Assessments were completed during the first 2 weeks of Term 1. These assessments are used to identify student's literacy and numeracy skills at the beginning of kindergarten. Should you require any further information please make an appointment to see Mrs Woolley.

ANZAC DAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
Our school will be holding an Anzac Day Service on the 1st Friday of Term 2, 3rd April at 10am. We will be welcoming special guests to come along. Please keep this date and time free as everyone is invited to attend our assembly as we remember our Fallen Soldiers.

ANZAC DAY CEREMONY
On Monday 25th April students are invited to walk together with their fellow students and attend the Karuah Anzac Ceremony held at Memorial Park. The students need to be dressed in full school uniform and will assemble in front of the IGA at 5:45am and march to Memorial Park for the ceremony.
PERSONALISED LEARNING PLANS (PLP)
On Thursday this week we are holding PLP meetings. The PLP meeting invites class teachers, students, parents and any other key people in the students’ life to sit down together to discuss a “Stronger Smarter Plan”. Areas we will identify are
- Talents/Strengths/Achievements
- Interests/Hobbies
- Aspirations
- Support people
- Goals for Home and School
Invitations were sent out to families last week.

PARENT SURVEYS
In order to improve student learning outcomes we are reviewing the current student break times. I have attached a parent/carer survey form for you to comment and return to school this week.

Have a safe and happy holiday break.
School breaks up on the 12 April. Teachers return to school on April 29th and have 2 days of staff development, 29th and 30th April. Staff will be learning about the new Literacy curriculum on these days. Students return to school on Wednesday 1st May.

Kind regards
Julie Hubbard

ABC READING EGGS
Karuah RSL has kindly donated the reading eggs program to the entire school. ABC Reading Eggs is a unique online world where children learn to read. It supports each child’s learning by offering individual, one-on-one lessons that allow children to progress at their own rate. Learning to read is an important skill for all children and we wanted to make it an enjoyable experience for children as well. Children love working and playing on the computer and the ABC Reading Eggs program is all about bringing out the best in each child. The program has been developed by a highly experienced team of educational teachers, writers and developers. The ABC Reading Eggs program focuses on a core reading curriculum of phonics and sight words using skills and strategies essential for sustained reading success. It completely supports what children learn at school and will help to improve your child’s results at school.

Notes went home in Week 8 with details. Students have received their own login and password. They can use their login both at school and at home. Parents are invited to an information session early in Term 2. Please explore the program with your children and come with any questions or comments.

Thank you to the Karuah RSL Club for this wonderful donation. Your continuous support is greatly appreciated.
CALENDAR

Weekly Activities

Monday  
Brekkie Club  
Scripture 1:45 – 2.30pm

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

Wednesday  
Brekkie Club  
Library 1/2, 3/4

Thursday  
Brekkie Club  
Sport K- 6 1:45 – 3:00pm

Friday  
Assembly  
CANTEEN

UPCOMING EVENTS/ REMINDERS

TERM 1
- School Contribution $20.00
- P & C Movie Night – Wednesday 10th April ~5pm – 7pm~
- Zone Cross Country Carnival – Friday 5th April, 2013
- 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.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Merit Awards Term 1 Week 8
K/1  Levi Hurstfield
1/2  Shanae Barry
3/4
5/6  Hayley Egginton  
T J Saunders

Merit Awards Term 1 Week 9
No assembly this week!

STUDENT AWARDS

BRONZE  
Sarah Emanuel  
Jett Dennis  
Hayley Egginton  
Owen Finch  
Kane Considine

Well done to the above students 😊

CRUNCH & SIP

Don't forget to send Crunch & Sip to school with your child/ren as this program is an important strategy to encourage them to eat more fruit & vegetables. Together with “Good for Life” we have implemented a policy which will be displayed in each classroom. For more information please feel free to browse the policy or log onto www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au

Contact number 1300 657 197

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

5th April  April & Skye
12th April  Danielle & Nicole

Your support is greatly appreciated 😊
SPORTS NEWS

The Zone Cross Country will be held at Raymond Terrace on Friday 5th April 2013. Karuah Public School has been invited to send our top 6 runners in both our junior and senior events. Juveniles will not attend the event this year. I apologise for any confusion as a result of last week’s Newsletter. Students will need to find their own way to and from the event. If parents or friends can assist with transporting on the day please contact the office on 49 975341 or please don’t hesitate to see me. We would appreciate any considerations.

Congratulations to the following students qualifying for the Zone Cross Country 2013:

Shaqueil Saunders, Cory Bolton, Josh Feeney, Matthew Finch, Daly Considine, Khyallie Saunders, Bella McQualter, Heidi Farley, Ben Purdon, TJ Saunders, Thomas Tukana, Ema Lamb, Becca Perry, Tarah Myers and Hayley Egginton.

On Thursday 21st of March some students from Yrs. 2-6 went along with Mrs. Henry to King Park in Raymond Terrace to take part in a local schools gala day. Students enjoyed playing soccer against Salt Ash Public School and learnt many new skills. The highlight of the day was meeting the Jets players and getting some free sports equipment. Also, thanks to Mrs. Bills, Lena Dellaquila and Troy Farley for helping out on the day.

Congratulations to Ema Lamb and Hayley Robertson for competing in the Port Stephens Zone Soccer Trails at Tomaree on the 22nd of March. The girls competed with the best in the area and both preformed to an excellent standard but unfortunately didn’t make the team this year. We are very proud of your efforts!!!

Next Term we hope to run a weekly Gymnastics program to be incorporated within the current school sports program. More information to come.

Don’t forget our Annual Athletics Carnival will be held early in Term Two. Notes will be sent home next Term. I encourage students to start practising for the events.

Kind regards,
Miss Robarts,
Sport Co-Ordinator.
CLASSROOM REPORTS

KINDER/YEAR 1

I hope you all enjoyed your Easter break, I most certainly did. (I wonder why we can't make 4 day weekends the norm? I certainly felt refreshed after the extra time off.)

The children enjoyed the many Easter activities we were working on before the break. We are especially proud of our ‘eggs’ that we covered with a variety of scrapbook papers. We might just hold onto them to show at assembly in week 11. A big thank you to Kristy Farley for donating her scrapbook supplies to our school.

This week I will be assessing the children’s ability to recall words in their reading and writing. I will also be assessing their ability to hear sounds in words. Some of the children already know how to spell some simple words. Well done!

Yesterday we had a surprise visit from one of our classmates, Levi. Levi has had surgery on both his knees and so is recovering at home for awhile. It was wonderful to see him pop in for a quick visit and to know all went well with his operation. K/1 wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to his return to our class sometime next term.

Kind Regards
Mrs Woolley

YEAR 1/2

Mr Pye is currently having some well deserved time off and while he is away I will have the pleasure of teaching class 1/2 up until the holidays. We have already completed some fun lessons including cutting a watermelon into halves and quarters within our numeracy explorations. This week we will be focusing on time and clock reading. I have been extremely impressed with all students’ creativity and manners within our classroom and would like to congratulate them all. I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter break and best of luck to those students competing in the zone cross country this Friday.

Kind Regards
Mr O'Connor

YEAR 3/4

Over the next two weeks, 3/4 students will be in maths lessons, focusing on division, area and some mini-assessments.

The text being studied in Literacy lessons is ‘Exposition’, where students are learning the persuasive techniques and structure and using these in their writing.

Last week, a meeting was held for the Year 3/4 excursion to Wangat Lodge in Term 4. The dates for the camp have been booked for Wednesday 20th November until Friday 22nd November, 2013.

Thank you to the parents and care-givers who attended the meeting. A number of fundraising ventures have been discussed to help reduce the cost of the excursion.

More information regarding the Year 3/4 camp will be sent home in Term 2.

Kind Regards
Mrs Henry
YEAR 5/6

We have concluded the Term with a focus on NAPLAN practise. I encourage students to submit their Gold assignment due in Week 11. We have our ANZAC Excursion coming up on the 11th April, for Year 5/6 students. Deposits can be made towards the cost of the Year 5/6 Camp at the office at any time. An information pack will be sent our early in Term 2. Term 1 has been an exciting and brilliant time for both myself and students. I have enjoyed every minute working with Yr. 4/5/6. Thank you students for your excellent behaviour and enthusiasm. Parents, your continuing support is appreciated and I would like to remind you I am available to speak about your child's education at any time. I wish you and your family a happy and safe break!

Kind regards,
Miss Robarts

LIBRARY NEWS

Over the past week we have been celebrating Easter in the Library with various stories and craft activities. An Easter egg guessing competition was held and Levi Hurstfield was the winner with his guess of 21. Due to only one person guessing correctly there were 6 special Easter prizes still to be won so these were drawn as the Library Borrowers Raffle prize.

Library Borrowers Raffle
Week 9-

Connor Walker (3/4)
Ben Purdon (4/5/6)
Tyson Cloughessy (3/4)
Angel Holston (4/5/6)
Sarah Emanuel (1/2)
Jack Lilley (1/2)

I hope that you have a lovely and restful holiday that takes you on many reading adventures.

Anne-Maree Chyzy

P & C NEWS

Our P&C recently held their Annual General Meeting and we had a great turn out. Our committee was voted in at this meeting by those present, no paper nominations were received. We would like to introduce our new committee:

President - Emma Jarmain
Vice President - Janelle Egginton
Treasurer - Nicole Holden
Secretary - Kylie Bolton
Uniform Co-Ordinator - Skye McAlpine.
General Committee - April Lilley, Danielle Driscoll, Mark Egginton & Jade Watt.

There are still positions available, so please consider attending our next meeting on Thursday 2nd May at 3:15pm in the school library.

Thank you for all your support at last week’s Easter Raffle. This was a great success. These funds will go towards purchasing a new oven for the school canteen.

We look forward to a great 2013!

Reminders for upcoming events . . .

* Movie Night – Wednesday 10th April
$5.00 entry (includes popcorn & drinks). Please pay your entry on the movie night 5pm – 7pm. Please return all orders to the school office by this Friday 5th April, 2013.

* A Thompson Pie drive early in Term 2 will help fill your freezer with yummy dinner options, more info in upcoming newsletters.

* KELLOGS CEREAL SALE - $2.00 per bag. Cereal is available from brekkie club volunteers each morning until sold out!

Kind Regards

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P & C Committee

COMPETITION NEWS

Australian Schools Competition
Years 3-6

Permission notes were sent home earlier this Term with your child, if you didn't receive a note but would like one they are available from the school office. Notes are due ASAP and must be handed into the office along with your payment. This is your last chance to be able to participate in the Australian Schools Competition.

WOOLWORTHS....
EARN & LEARN

Karuah Public School is participating in the Woolworths “EARN & LEARN” program for 2013.

In 2012 we received 24,050 points for our school. The school received some wonderful resources for our classrooms. The program will start on Monday 8th April, 2013 and finish on Sunday 9th June, 2013.

For every $10.00 you spend you will receive a sticker. All you have to do is collect your stickers and bring them into the school office. Sticker sheets will be available next term and will be sent home with the school newsletter. The more points that we receive will help us reach our goal in collecting classroom resources.

Collection boxes are situated outside the school office and in the Karuah RSL Club entrance.

For more information log onto www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn
Please support this worthwhile program ☺

COMMUNITY NEWS

KARUAH RSL RIVER FUN RUN

Sunday 5th May, 2013

8km and 4km run starts at 10:00am at the Karuah Community Hall
Engel Avenue, Karuah
Registrations from 9:00am

Entry fee: $10.00 per adult, $8.00 per child/student 18 years and under, discounts for families (parents and dependent children only).

Presentation of awards approx 30mins after completion of 8km run.

For more details please contact....
Kath on 4997 5204.

Post entries to PO Box 32, Karuah NSW 2324 (cheque/money order made payable to Karuah Chamber of Commerce).

Proudly supported by the Karuah RSL Club.

HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL FOR 2013

If your child in Year 6 is interested in applying for Year 7 2014 at Hunter Sports High School, Gateshead, the school has finalised its Targeted Sports Program for 2014 and have formulated their enrolment procedures.

Please contact the school if you and your child would like the information, or it can be access on the school’s website – www.huntersports.com.au