Assembly Roster
There will be no assembly this week.

Class numbers
Our numbers have grown this year and some classes are one or two children over the recommended number. We will be allocated another teacher in the next couple of weeks as a result. Staff will meet to determine the best way of making up an additional class and the matter will also be discussed at the P & C meeting tomorrow night. Any class changes will be discussed with parents prior to a new class being formed.

Swimming Carnival
Our swimming carnival is for year 3 – 6 students and will be held this Thursday. Children received detailed information last week. Good luck to all our competitors.

School Council and P & C Meeting
Tomorrow there will be a School Council meeting at 5.00pm and a P & C meeting at 7.00pm.

K – 2 Parent Information Sessions
A reminder that these information sessions are being held this afternoon in classrooms.

Smoking
As of January 2013 changes were made to the Smoke Free Environment Act 2000 which prohibits smoking within 4 metres of a school entrance. On the spot fines of $300 may apply to those who do not comply. Children, parents and staff should be able to enter and exit the school in a smoke free environment. For more information see the fact sheet http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/tobacco/Documents/public-buildings-factsheet.pdf

Important Dates
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17th February</td>
<td>Kinder and Stage 1 Information Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th February</td>
<td>School Council – 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting – 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th February</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival Years 3 – 6</td>
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</tbody>
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Scripture 2015 Week 4
Scripture begins this week. Scripture lessons will be for half an hour in all K – 6 classes. Each class has a designated scripture teacher for half an hour on Thursday afternoon and Friday. Please contact Mrs Kelly or your child’s class teacher if you have any questions.

Cyber Safety Talk
Last Thursday Senior Constable Darren Flemming Police Youth Liaison Officer, visited students from Years 4 - 6 to give a discussion clarifying age’s students can legally access particular apps. Darren, was very informative and gave valuable information to our students. Please see attached flyer.

Year 6 Transition
Last Tuesday students participated in a transition video conference with Waratah Technology Campus and students from other feeder schools. It was a great opportunity for our students to meet staff and peers they will be working with next year. This was the first in a series of transition opportunities for our students.

Impetigo (school sores)
There has been a reported case of Impetigo at the school. Below is some information identifying symptoms and treating infection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impetigo (school sores)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time from exposure to illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do I need to keep my child home?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can I help prevent spread?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library News

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015
The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge is about to begin and I am hoping that many MWDS students will once again participate. The PRC “aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely”.

The Challenge is divided into three categories: Kinder - Year 2 (30 books), Years 3 - 4 (20 books) and Years 5 - 6 (20 books). Students have until 21st August to complete their reading.

Information about the PRC can be found on the website: https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

The website will not be ‘live’ and available for students to login until Monday, 2nd March and more details about this process will be provided in the next newsletter.

Happy Reading
Louise Troup
Teacher Librarian

Canteen News

Wednesday 18th February  
Kristy, Jess

Thursday 19th February  
Help Needed Nat (lunchtime)

Friday 20th February  
Mandie, Sarah (recess)

Monday 23rd February  
Gayle, Nat B

Tuesday 24th February  
Jane

Sausage Sizzle

Don’t forget to check in your child’s school bag today for an order form for them to purchase a sausage sizzle combo. All information can be found on the Skoolbag app.

Deleted Line

Sadly we are now limited on Potato Bake. Our distributors are no longer able to supply it.
SEMINAR

The Challenge of Disciplining Your Children

Are you finding disciplining your children a challenge? Interrelate invites you to an interactive seminar focusing on constructive techniques when disciplining children.

You will learn to:

- practice positive discipline
- set clear boundaries that children respect and learn to appreciate
- use conflict as a tool to improve relationships
- use different discipline techniques

Friday, 27 February 2015
10:00am – 1:00pm

Cost: $25 (Concession $15)

Venue: Interrelate Newcastle
495 Hunter Street, Newcastle NSW 2300

Bookings essential - Phone 4016 0566
Social media tips for parents

**Social media issues are not a school problem, it is a parental problem.**

**Parents have the power to allow, disallow, monitor their child’s social media use, not teachers.**

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**Age restrictions for social media platforms**

- 13 years old
  - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Tumblr
- 14 years old
  - LinkedIn
- 16 years old
  - WhatsApp
- 18 years old (with parents permission)
  - YouTube, Kik

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- Help them set up a social network profile (when age appropriate and if not age appropriate do not allow/encourage just because ‘everyone else’s child has it’)
- Stay involved and research your child’s regularly used sites/apps.
- Have computers in a common area of the house
- Remind children to think before they post
- Learn how to navigate through your child’s phone
- Consider using filters to help manage online access
- Talk to your children about the dangers of the internet, and that online is a public space too
- Turn off (take) mobile phones during the night
- Ensure your child that you will help them if something offensive comes up online
- Talk to your child about what personal information is suitable to post online (nothing)

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Senior Constable Darren Fleming – Youth Liaison Officer Newcastle City Local Area Command

Ph: 49266525