Assembly Roster
This week’s assembly will be hosted by 2R

Annual School Report
The 2014 Annual School Report has now been published and is available on the school website. Paper copies are available from the office on request.

Morning Assembly
Thank you to the parents who are cooperating in morning assembly and allowing students to be independent and line up themselves. We would also again ask parents not to stand in the way of students getting to their classrooms at the end of the assembly.

New Class
Yesterday our new class was formed – 2/3P. Thank you to all the parents who assisted staff to get the new class operational so quickly. The smaller classes in all the year 2 and 3 classes will be beneficial to all students.

Sharing Food
A reminder that students are not permitted to share food or buy or give other children food from the canteen. This is to ensure the safety of all students.

Important Dates
11th, 18th March Engaging Adolescents
12th March Parent Information – Cyber Safety
Book Club due back
13th March Years 3 – 6 Cross Country
18th March P&C Meeting
20th March Years K – 2 Cross Country
23rd March Final payment due Canberra Excursion
26th March Harmony Day
31st March Stage 3 Canberra Excursion

Harmony Day
The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. It is a day to celebrate Australia’s diversity. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home- from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

Harmony Day will be held at Mayfield West Demonstration School on Thursday 26th March.

Students are invited to come along in traditional cultural costume or wear orange, which is the colour associated with Harmony Day. A donation of $1 would be appreciated. This will be donated to an overseas education project.

A special Harmony Day assembly will commence at 2.30pm on this day. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend this special assembly event.

PSSA Knockout Cricket
Last Friday Mr Creasey and the school cricket team travelled across the water to Stockton for our opening match in the PSSA knockout. Ben Plowman, team captain, won the toss and elected to bowl. Stockton managed 118 runs, restricted by some great bowling and fielding. Our batting proved equal to the task with an excellent individual effort by Ben Plowman. Sadly our run chase fell short by just 8 runs. Overall it was a great day out and we are looking forward to next year already. Thank you to Mrs Plowman for providing cold drinks and Mr Gaston for umpiring the match.
Transition Taster Lessons

Our transition from Year 6 to Year 7 began last Friday with a visit to Callaghan College with our partner primary schools. Students had the opportunity to meet the college principal, transition coordinator, year advisor and teachers they will be working with next year. They then took part in a number of “taster lessons” including science, boot camp, music, home economics and woodwork to name a few. Our students really enjoyed this opportunity to have a quick look at what high school will be like for them next year.

Persistence

At school we teach children to persist and not give up as we know this is one of the keys to success. Michael Grose wrote the below article about persistence. Maybe you have a child who whines continually until someone caves in or a child who throws tantrums to get his or her own way.

There is another type of persistence that children need if they are to experience success in any area of their lives. They need to be able to persist when work gets harder or life gets tough. They need the ‘stickability’ to work through difficulties and hang in there when things don’t go their way. Some children are more naturally predisposed to persist than others. They have a determined, even competitive streak in their temperament that doesn’t allow them to give in. These children and young people can drive themselves very hard to succeed (and their parents and teachers to distraction in the process).

Parents and teachers can develop persistence in children. Just as we can promote persistence we can also impede its development. We can make life easy for children so that they are not expected to persist or hang in there when things are tough.

Parents who allow children to stop work when it gets too hard, stay home from school for a minor reason or give up on a sport because they are not succeeding straight away are not doing their children any favours.

Let children know that there is a correlation between effort and success. In fact, they need to learn that by giving effort they will experience more success.

Talk about HARD WORK with your children. They need to understand that to be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not the case.

Help children to remember times when they experienced success by hanging in when they were younger. The ability to persist in the face of difficulties maybe an old-fashioned quality but it is one of best success attributes that your children will ever develop.

3 – 6 Cross Country Carnival – Friday 13th March 2015

Our school Cross Country Carnival for all students in Years 3 -6 will be held this Friday, the 13th March 2015. It will involve students running/jogging/walking a number of laps around our school grounds under the supervision of the class teachers. The carnival will start at 12.10pm with students meeting in their house groups under the new COLA. Students who are 8, 9, 10 or 11 will participate over a 2000m course while 12 and 13 year old students will do the same over 3000m. Students will earn points for their houses with every lap of course they complete.

On Friday, students need to wear their school uniform however if they have a t-shirt in the colour of their house they may wear that in place of our white polo shirt. Students will also need suitable shoes for running, their wide brimmed hat and sunscreen. It may be a good idea to pack an extra bottle of water (frozen is always good) for during the carnival. Lunch and recess times will be as normal so the canteen will be open as always.

Good luck Purdue, Griffith, Webb and Millar. Which house will be our Cross Country champions for 2015?

School Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Webb house who were announced last week at the 3 – 6 school assembly as the 2015 Swimming Champions. Lily Black and Aljuri Alammari were very proud House Captains as the accepted the trophy on behalf of yellow house.

The final point scores for the day were Webb – 439 points, Purdue – 430 points, Millar – 311 points and Griffith – 279 points.

Netball Trials

Hannah Capper and Allana Burt recently participated in the Newcastle Zone PSSA netball trials. These trials are for talented players who are already representing in their sport outside of school.

Congratulations to Hannah who was chosen as one of the 10 girls to join the Newcastle PSSA team to play at the Hunter Regional trials to be held later this term. Hannah is a very talented Goal Attack or Goal Shooter who is making her mark in the game of netball. Well done, Hannah!
Library News
Premier's Reading Challenge 2015
Just a reminder that the PRC is now underway and if you would like to participate follow these steps:
1. Go to the website https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html . Click on Logon and enter your school username (eg. sally.smith) and your school password and click submit. Most students will know this information. If your child is in Kinder or is unsure of their details, please return the form below to the library and I will supply these for you. You should then find your Online Reading Record.
2. You are required to read 30 books (K - 2) or 20 books (3 - 6) by Friday 21st August from the PRC book list. Five books can be of your own choice, however they should be of similar quality to those on the list. Students can borrow PRC books from the school library and public libraries also have a large selection.
3. Fill in the Online Reading Record as you go along.
   If your child is in K - 2, the books can be experienced in three ways: books can be read to the student, books can be read with the student in a shared reading, or books can be read independently by the student. Independent readers in Years K–2 are encouraged to attempt the 3–4 Challenge.
   If your child is in Years 3 - 6, the books must be read independently by the student. There is a wide range of books, from picture books to novels, at each level.
   Please see Mrs Trroup in the library if you need any help accessing or filling in your record.
Happy reading
Louise Trroup
Teacher Librarian

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2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge Logon Details:
Student name:
Class:
Mrs Trroup to fill in & return:
Logon:
Password:
Transition Taster Lesson Photos

PSSA Knockout Cricket Photos