**Principal's Report**

It is nearly a year since the skate park opened and work continues to be done to the area. Recently, we have seen a new fence erected, and now earthworks are being done in preparation for the laying of turf.

As time has passed, there has been a decrease in the number of parents and other responsible adults supervising children. While we did see an increase in the number of young people using protective gear, this has dropped in recent months.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children and young people using the skate park, a reminder is provided about the rules for use of the skate park:

*To use the skate park you must adhere to the following rules:*

*Warning: Use of this facility may be hazardous. Use of this facility is at all times the risk of the individual. Please take care.*

**Conditions of use**

1. Protective clothing must be worn at all times including solid footwear, helmet, knee pads, elbow and wrist guards.
2. This facility is to be used in daylight hours only. Wear sun protection
3. Users under 14 years of age must have adult supervision.

- This is a no-fee, multi-use recreational facility
- Using this facility is considered to be a dangerous recreational activity.
- Wet weather will create unsafe surfaces.
- This facility is not supervised by Lachlan Shire Council.
- Please phone 68951900 if any maintenance is required for this facility.

A reminder of those riding bikes, scooters and skateboards that we still need to remember that we also need to be adhering to all Road Rules that are enforceable by law including the correct use of helmets, and the road rules when riding, scooting and skate boarding.
Sports Update

Six of our boys participated in the Lachlan Zone cricket trials last Friday. Our congratulations go to Toby and Riley who were selected to participate in the Western Area cricket trials.

Mrs King will be accompanying students from our school and across the Lachlan Zone as they participate in the Western Area swimming trials this Friday. Students who participate in these trials may be selected to swim at the State Swimming Carnival in Sydney on 25 – 26 March.

Students will commence training for cross country this week. Students will need to be wearing well-fitting sports shoes to reduce the possibility of injury. The school cross country event will be held on Friday, 27 March.

Getting On Track In Time Parent Surveys

Getting On Track In Time (GOT IT!) is an early intervention program that will be implemented within our K-2 group of students this year.

Our thanks go to the many parents and carers that have returned their surveys already. We need to have all remaining surveys returned for each K-2 student by this Friday, 6 March. These surveys are passed onto the organisers of the GOT IT! program to help identify students that may benefit from more individualised support. Students will receive a ticket in the draw for an iPod Shuffle when they return their survey. The winning ticket will be drawn this Friday at the assembly.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Teachers will be meeting with parents and carers of students again this Wednesday afternoon. This brief meeting will allow teachers to learn more about their students and what parents and carers would like for their children in 2015. Students are encouraged to participate in this meeting.

If you have not made an appointment as yet, please contact your child’s teacher to organise a time.

Notification of Absences

If you are aware that your child is going to be away from school or there is a need to extend an absence, we ask that you contact the school on 6895 2134 to let us know. Teachers will make contact with families where children have been away from school for two days or more.

P&C AGM

All parents and carers are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the P&C on Thursday, 12th March in the school library. The meeting will be held from 7.00 pm.

Assembly

Parents and carers are invited to attend our formal assembly this Friday in the hall starting at 1.00 pm. The students in 2S will be leading this assembly.

K - 6 Disco

We would like to thank the following people for supporting our K - 6 Disco on Friday 27th February:

- Mr Darren Moore (DRM Music, Mobile DJ/Disco Ph 0412 839647) who organised the DJ Music. The students had so much fun!
- SRC and Year 6 students for running the canteen and disco games.
- All K-6 students for being Strong, Smart and Proud at all times.
- Teachers for supervising this fun event.
- Mrs J Venables and Mrs Doyle for helping in the canteen.
- Money raised will be donated to Stewart House.
- Year 6 students will also raise funds to buy a gift to the school at the end of the year.

Deborah Nay
Principal
Please note that there is a new menu and price list for this year. PIES AND SAUSAGE ROLLS are only available Wednesday to Friday.

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**PBL NEWS**

Focus this week: Proud

Strong

Smart

Proud

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**Awards to be handed out at this week’s assembly at 1.00 pm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MERIT CERTIFICATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
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<tr>
<td>5S</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT OF THE MONTH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
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<tr>
<td>1P</td>
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<td>3B</td>
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PSSA BOY’S CRICKET TEAM
Our cricket team that defeated Forbes PS

PSSA Lachlan District Cricket Trials

Toby Harding, Ryan Goodsell, Riley Keen, Harry May, Nic Manwaring and Zac Manwaring were selected for PSSA Lachlan District Cricket Trials at Parkes on Friday 27th February. We would like to thank the boys for displaying excellent cricket skills and sportsmanship. A massive thank you to all parents for supporting and encouraging our students at these trials. You are all amazing!!

Representative cricket at all age levels is extremely important for the development of talented cricketers. It provides the opportunity for students to be challenged and have their skills extended to a greater extent. A huge congratulations to Toby Harding and Riley Keen who have been selected to represent Lachlan District PSSA at the Western PSSA Cricket Selection Trials for 2015 at Riverside Park Cricket Nets and Oval, Dubbo on Friday, 20 March 2015. If they are successful at these trials they will have made the Western PSSA Cricket Team and will participate in the NSW PSSA Cricket Carnival at Barooga (Riverina) from 26-29 October 2015.

We are proud of you both and wish you the very best in Dubbo. Good luck boys!

Miss Richards.
2015 UNIVERSITY OF NSW COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS
FOR SCHOOLS

Following are the subjects, due dates for entries and fees and cost of entering the International Competitions for schools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies (Computers)</td>
<td>23rd March, 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>23rd March, 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>4th May, 2015</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>4th May, 2015</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>16th June, 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>16th June, 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like your child (children) to sit for any, some or all of the above competition exams, please return the following form and entry fee by the due date. **Please return a separate entry form for each student with entry fees.**

Student’s Name: __________________________

Amount enclosed: $______________

Competition Exams Entered: __________________________

Signed: ___________________________  Date: ________________  (Parent/Carer)
# National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

## LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 12 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 14 MAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may apply for exemption from the tests if they:
- are newly arrived in Australia (< one year before the test) and have a language background other than English,
- have significant intellectual disability or other significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the students normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is at the discretion of the parent in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.naplan.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Consent_support/index.html](http://www.naplan.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Consent_support/index.html).
2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate

Apply before Midnight 16 June 2015

$150* TOWARDS ENERGY BILLS

2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?
The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- Up to $150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer.
- Up to $115 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?
Before you apply, here's a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-2014 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return.
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014.

HOW TO APPLY
- ONLINE – It takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- PAPER – Download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?
To be eligible you MUST:

- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTE payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88
EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au