Term 1, Week 7 Tuesday 12th March 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kiddies Playtime Connect 9:30-11am</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th March</td>
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<td>Year 6 Expo Day – Cardiff High School 9-12:30pm</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th March</td>
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<td>School Cross Country (2-6) 12pm</td>
<td>Thursday 14th March</td>
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<td>Assembly 9am - Student Leaders Presenting</td>
<td>Friday 15th March</td>
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<td>Harmony Day Performance (K-6) 9:30am</td>
<td>Friday 22nd March</td>
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<td>Book Club Due</td>
<td>Friday 22nd March</td>
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<td>Combined Scripture Presentation 10:45am</td>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
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<td>Hot Cross Bun Day</td>
<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Friday 29th March</td>
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<td>Easter Monday</td>
<td>Monday 1st April</td>
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Principal’s Message
What a great opportunity it was to see our students (and teachers) looking their best for our school photos today. The smiles were wide, the shoes were shiny and the collars were straightened. Thanks to Cassandra and Nick Vizintin from ‘A-One Fotomakers’ for their flexibility in organising today and for their general helpfulness. They really do take great photos. Despite their expertise, I did note that they were unable to make a certain school principal look like Brad Pitt.

Yesterday marked a small but important milestone for our new Kindergarten students. The first 6 weeks of Term 1 have flown by and they are now attending school for full days. Congratulations to their teachers Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Wynter, Mrs Leggett and Mrs Ison for helping them all adjust to the routine of school so quickly. We are sure there are lots more exciting milestones to come.

Have a great week.

David Holland
(Principal)

Congratulations – Students of the Week!

Junior Student Award
Benjamin Cornish
2M

Senior Student Award
Joshua Thomas
4/5BF
**Best Start Assessments**
Today the students in Kindergarten have been issued with an envelope containing the results of their Best Start Assessment conducted at the start of the year. It is very important to emphasise that the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment is not a test. Its purpose is to help the teachers gather information to guide the teaching of your child. The teachers use this information to plan learning activities and better meet the needs of the students in their classes. If there is something that is unclear or you require clarification, please chat to your child’s class teacher.

**School Cross Country**
The school will be holding our Cross Country Carnival this Thursday 14th March. The carnival is for students aged 8 years and up and will be held within the school grounds. Lunch will be a little earlier than normal so that we can commence straight after lunch at 12:00pm. Where possible, only one age division will run at a time and the remainder of the students will spectate. The age division that the students compete in is determined by the age they turn this year. For example, a child who turns 9 in December competes with the 9 year olds; a child who has already turned 9 in January also competes with the 9 year olds. Students in the 8, 9 or 10 years divisions will run approximately 2km. Students who are in the 11, 12 and 13 years division will run 3km. On the day of the carnival, the students will need to ensure they have a hat, water bottle, house shirt and suitable footwear for running on uneven ground (joggers are fine). If the weather is questionable, send children prepared to run and we will make a call during the day.

If any parents would like to come and watch, you would be welcome to do so at 12pm. A designated viewing area will be allocated on the basketball court, please bring a chair if you prefer to sit. Approximate starting times are as follows:
- 8/9 year olds - 12:10pm
- 10 year olds - 12:30pm
- 11 year olds - 12:55pm
- 12/13 year olds - 1:20pm

Please note: at the zone level the 8 & 9 year olds are combined in one division as are the 12/13 year olds. The fastest four runners in each age division will have the opportunity of representing the school at the Zone Cross Country carnival on Friday 5th April.

**Pick Up and Drop Off**
Now that Kindergarten has transitioned to full days, we just want to say thank you to those families that have made a conscious effort not to arrive before 2:50pm to collect their children at the end of the day. This helps to ensure the safety of our students and it makes monitoring the people that are on the school grounds during the day a much easier task.

**Year 6 High School Transition**
Last Monday, all of the students in Year 6 were issued with a ‘Moving into Year 7 in a NSW Government School in 2014’ information package. This booklet contains information about making the transition to high school and also contains the very important Expression of Interest form. All families of Year 6 students will need to read the guide, complete the expression of interest form and return it to the school as soon as possible. The deadline for returning these forms is **Friday 22nd March**. If you require assistance in completing the form or have a question about the transition process please contact Mrs Agius at school.
Year 6 Expo Day – Cardiff High

Year 6 students have been invited to attend an Expo Day at Cardiff High School tomorrow, Wednesday 13th March. Students are to arrive at the Cardiff High School hall by 9am where they will have their name marked off by Mr McCready. The day will commence with an assembly followed by group activities focusing on two electives of their choice. The day will conclude with lunch supplied by Cardiff High. The students will walk back to school together with Mr McCready.

There will be an information session for the parents in the evening, commencing at 7pm. The evening presentation will include footage of the day’s activities and will also specifically address a number of important parental considerations including:

- opportunities at Cardiff High
- transition to high school
- welfare
- quality learning
- the significant advantages of selecting a relatively small school for your child's secondary education

Light refreshments will also be provided.

Congratulations Grandma Agius

We just wanted to offer our congratulations to Mrs Agius who became a grandma for the very first time on Friday night. Her daughter Jess and son-in-law Adam, welcomed baby Rylan on Friday 8th March at 10.19pm. He was 7lbs 14oz, 52 cms long and had lots of black hair. Grandma Agius reports that baby Rylan is healthy and of course……gorgeous!

Earth Hour 2013

The countdown to Earth Hour is on!

With just 11 days to go, it's time to plan how your family will celebrate the hour that unites hundreds of millions around the world.

There are many ways to get involved at 8.30pm on Saturday, 23 March.

By 'switching off' for one hour you are making a difference. Perhaps a family picnic or dinner by candlelight, playing a board game instead of watching the television, getting together with neighbours or pitch a tent in the backyard.

How will you celebrate Earth Hour?

Assembly

3/4E did a fantastic job running the Assembly last Friday. They also presented some items that they had been working on in class. Two well know Australian poems were recited beautifully at the Assembly. ‘Nine Miles From Gundagai’ and ‘My Country’.

Well done 3/4E!
Amazing Writing Skills
4/5BF has been writing persuasive pieces about objects found in their classroom. We have been presenting persuasive speeches on our very own ‘soapbox’. We have also written persuasive pieces on the following topics:
‘Recycling- it’s easy (or not easy) being green!’ and ‘Being a mum is the hardest job in the world.’

WE LOVE WRITING…
Here are just a few excerpts:

**Whiteboard duster**

Hannah C

This whiteboard duster is the BEST idea ever, with its perfect shape and amazing materials. I can hold the felt part in my hand and not a single mark of ink is left on my hand.
Without this duster, teachers and students would use an excessive amount of tissues and paper towelling; we would all have multi-coloured fingers when we leave school!
What do you think life would be like without such a fantastic idea? A whiteboard isn’t complete without a duster like this. 99% of teachers in Australia have a whiteboard duster and you should own one too.
Whoever created this device was extremely smart. This is a fantastic object and everyone should own one!

**Recycling- it’s easy (or not easy) being green!’**

Ryan H

It is a fact that recycling is easy. We have ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ on the 4th of March every year. I think we should not even have ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ because no one should litter. That is why we made bins. Our school and I could hardly find any rubbish. It’s easy being green!
Many animals in the ocean die because of people littering, and I have been wondering, why do you litter? If you litter- you must be lazy. When I went to Sydney, I saw a man right next to a bin and he had a can of coke and he threw it in the ocean! It is a fact that recycling is easy…

**‘Being a mum is the hardest job in the world.’**

Amy H

I know that being a mum is the hardest job ever. Mums do everything for you. First of all, Mums clean, tidy up all the time and look after everyone. They feed you, they love you and don’t you realize we must let them have some time to themselves?
Also mums receive no pay and no holidays. They do lots of housework like washing but no sick days.
As well as a being a hard working mother they organize things, unlike dads- who say “I don’t know!” Mums look after the pets and us. All mums are taxi drivers and they are the family nurses as well!
If we didn’t have mums, what would we do?

Callaghan College- Wallsend Campus

Callaghan College, Wallsend Campus offers the opportunity for incoming Year 7 students to apply for our specialised CAPA and GATS classes. For more information please visit

[www.wallsend-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wallsend-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au)
Earn ‘n’ Learn and Sports for Schools
Our Woolworths Earn ‘n’ Learn Resources and Coles Sports for Schools equipment have arrived!

Thank you to all parents and friends who supported our school by collecting Woolworths and Coles Vouchers. In 2012 we had a huge increase, particularly in the Woolworths points gained and have received a great variety of resources.

Some of the Earn and Learn resources include:
* individual magnetic whiteboards
* reading resources for the Smartboard
* measuring tapes
* scales and pan balances
* multicultural music set
* set of 15 picture books
* four CD players with headphones
* guided reading CD Collection with accompanying readers
* percussion instruments—bells, sand blocks, drums, rainsticks, tone blocks

Coles Sports for Schools resources will add to and replace worn out items. Resources include:
* footballs
* spiky balls
* softballs
* basketballs
* foam balls
* dome markers
* hoops
* storage bags
* Frisbees

As you can see it is an impressive list of resources which have been made possible through parent support of the Coles and Woolworths Programs.

Uniform Shop
Please be reminded that the uniform shop will not be open this Thursday, 14th March. Orders may still be left at the office, however they will not be processed until the following week.

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SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 February 2013

 Means that in the direction of the arrow, you must **NOT STOP your vehicle** at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

**MAXIMUM PENALTY**

$298

+ 2 POINTS

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Means that you have no more than **2 minutes** for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within **3 metres of your vehicle**.

**MAXIMUM PENALTY**

$165

+ 2 POINTS

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Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are **not allowed to stop your vehicle** unless you are driving a bus.

**MAXIMUM PENALTY**

$298

+ 2 POINTS

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**DOUBLE PARKING**

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

**MAXIMUM PENALTY**

$298

+ 2 POINTS

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- **STOP in a NO STOPPING zone**: $298 + 2 points, or **STOP on or near a Children’s or Pedestrian Crossing**: $397 + 2 points
- **STOP on path/strip in built up area**: $165 + 2 points
- **STOP or Park in a Disabled Marked Area without a permit**: $496