



NEWSLETTER



Established 1962

20 October 2014

Principal's Message

Welcome to Term 4. We are looking forward to a great term, filled with lots of learning and exciting events to enjoy including Grandparents Day, our Stage One excursion, continuation of the Smart Start program, our Kindergarten Orientation Days and Parent Information Night as well as our special Problem Solving day and all our special end of year events. Students have been very focused on learning and have displayed beautiful, settled and very respectful behaviour this term. Well done, everyone!

Footy Fever Day

Footy Fever Day was held on Friday 19th September and was great fun. Thank you Ms Hemphill, Mrs Gaynor, Ms Colusso, Miss Holden, Mr Nash, Ms Bender and all our stage 3 students for your hard work organising, assisting and running a very successful day. All money raised will go towards our year 6 farewell.

Literacy Walkathon

Our Literacy Walkathon was also a great success. We raised over \$4000! Thank you to Miss Levis and the School Literacy Committee for your organisation of this event. The children really enjoyed participating in the walkathon. All money raised will be used to purchase literacy resources for our students.

Public Speakers

Congratulations to Christina Tabone, Rylea Conlon, Zoe Pedrosa and Lily Whitelaw. These students did an outstanding job and represented our school beautifully at the Mt Druitt District Public Speaking Competition on Wednesday 15th October. The combined scores for all of our students resulted in our school winning the Stage 2 competition and we were the overall school winner for the entire competition. Rylea Conlon and Lily Whitelaw won the year 5 and Year 3 competitions respectively.

This competition is one of a very high standard and these girls' achievements are magnificent. Well done, we are all very proud of you.

Supervision of Students in the Playground Before School

We have a teacher on playground duty every morning from 8:30am under the COLA area and the area surrounding the sandpit. We would very much appreciate all students and parents staying in this area in the mornings before school starts to ensure that close supervision of all students is able to be managed effectively. Unfortunately games with large balls (soccer balls, basketballs and footballs) cannot be used in this area. This is for safety reasons. Games using large balls can be played at recess and lunch when the netball court and field areas are open and fully supervised by staff. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding with this matter.

Blacktown Music Festival

I was very happy to be able to attend the Blacktown Music Festival Concert last term on Wednesday evening, 10th September at Bowman Hall. Our Senior Choir and Junior Dance Groups were fantastic and performed beautifully. I felt so proud of them all. Well done to all the students who performed on

Website: www.marayongs-p.school.nsw.edu.au

the night and thank you Miss Davey, Mrs Mitchell and Miss Fowler for helping our students achieve such a high level of skill in music and dance.

*Warm regards,
Mrs Mandy Hollis
Principal
20th October 2014*

ENROL NOW FOR KINDERGARTEN 2015

If you know of
any friends or
neighbours
that have a
child turning 5



before the 31 July 2015 please
ask at the administration office
for an enrolment form.

Important information:

Kindergarten Interviews will be conducted during this term. Special appointments will be made for those parents who cannot attend at the appointed time. Letters will be sent late in Term 3. Interviews are very informal and a great opportunity for us to meet both the parent and child.

Kindergarten Orientation:

Thursday 6 November
Thursday 13 November
Thursday 20 November

Parent Information Night:

Monday 17th October

Library update:

Last term was a busy and exciting term for all of us in the library!

The Book Fair has finished and orders have been delivered and given out to the students. If there are any orders that have not been

received please let me know as soon as possible.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is finalised, but please, keep reading for fun! Blacktown City Library runs an excellent 'Summer Read' program each year. Registrations open Monday 24th November and the program finishes Friday 30th January 2015. All you have to do is fill in a form at the library to register your child. Then when your child has read 10 books (these books do not have to be from Blacktown Library they can be from school or home) go back to the library and give them the form. Your child then gets their name displayed on the wall. At the end of the program all children that read 10 books get to attend a special presentation where they receive a certificate. This challenge is open for all children aged 0 – 11 years. There is also raffle tickets (for every two books your child reads they receive a ticket) which is drawn at the presentation evening. The presentation evening is Thursday 12th March. If you do not attend you still receive your certificate and prizes. If your child participates in this program please keep a copy of the books read as these can then be entered in for the PRC for 2015.

Borrowing in our school library will **cease in week 5**. All returns will need to be made in week 6. This allows us time to stocktake the books at the end of the year. If you have any overdue loans please return them as soon as possible.

Thank you
Joanne Whitford, Joanne Garay and Julie Jacobs

Year 7 entry to selective high schools in 2016

Offers for selective high school placement will be determined mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 12 March 2015.

If you would like your child to apply for selective high school placement in Year 7 in 2016, you need to do so soon. Letters were given to Year 5 students last Thursday. Interested applicants can obtain an information booklet from the Administration office.

Applications are on ONLINE ONLY. This is the first time no paper application forms are being used.

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 14 October at

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/sh_placement. Online applications close on 17 November 2014. No late applications will be accepted.

Peer Support Update

Peer Support has continued this term exploring the concept of friendship, building relationships and developing skills in empathy and critical thinking.

Week 2 - Types of friends is the focus in Peer Support this week. Children explore what encourages them to form friendships with different people and will discuss the fact that friendships can change over time for various reasons.

Week 3 - This week in Peer Support children will focus on the importance of support networks and the role that friends play in each other's lives. Encourage your child to identify friends they have who can provide support to them if the need arises.

Week 4 - During Peer Support this week the children will be looking at how to play in a friendly way in order to maintain friends and build positive relationships. This week help your child practise these skills by encouraging them to play games with siblings, family or friends.

Week 5 - In this week's session children will explore how to join groups and how to accept others into their friendship group. Children will have a chance to practise saying no respectfully, coping with being told no and inviting others to join them. Discuss with your child various options they have at school if they should find themselves

BE SAFE

without anyone to play with during break time.

Week 6 - In Peer Support this week children will be focusing on the skills of winning in a friendly way and coping with losing. During the week encourage your child to practise these skills in all aspects of life - whether it is sport or choosing what to watch.

.Mrs Parsons
Assistant Principal

GAMES DAY

Thursday 20 November



Year 6 fundraiser

Come join our party!

**12.30pm to 2.30pm
&
MUFTI DAY**

Mufti - Gold coin donation or 2 tokens

Lots of activities full of fun, plus games and prizes. Some of the activities (face painting, Arcade Alley, loom bands and more TBA)

TOKENS 50c each or 12 for \$5

Tokens on sale Week 6

More information will be sent home soon.

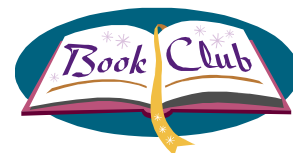
STEWART HOUSE

CLOTHING BAG

COLLECTION

We are collecting used clothing for Stewart House. They will be picked up on Tuesday 11 November. Bags will be given out Week 5. Please bring bags to the office and leave them under the trophy cabinet in the hallway before 9am 11 Nov.

BE RESPECTFUL



Orders by 27 October

What's Coming Up...

October

- Mon 20 Newsletter home
Canteen closed Mondays
 - Tues 21 Scripture
Wed 22 Grandparents/
Grandpersons Day 11am
 - K-6 Assembly 11.30am
 - Thurs 23 Smart Start
Year1/2 Excursion
 - Fri 24 PSSA
 - Mon 27 Canteen closed
Mondays
 - Tues 28 Scripture
 - Wed 29 K-2 Assembly
11.30am host KF Yrs3-6
Assembly at 12.15pm host
3/4M
 - Thurs 30 Smart Start
Kinder 2015 interviews Day 1
 - Fri 31 PSSA
What's On home Weeks 5/6
- ### November
- Mon 3 Canteen closed
Mondays
 - Tues 4 Scripture
Kinder 2015 interviews Day 2
 - Wed 5 K-2 Assembly 11.30am
host KJ Yrs3-6 Assembly at
12.15pm host 3/4C
 - Thurs 6 Kindergarten
Orientation no. 1
 - Mon 10 Canteen closed
Mondays
 - Tues 11 Scripture
Stewart House Bags collection
 - Wed 12 K-2 Assembly
11.30am host KC Yrs3-6
Assembly at 12.15pm host
3/4S
 - Thurs 13 Kindergarten
Orientation no. 2
Problem Solving Day

BE A LEARNER