Dear Parents

Many thanks to our wonderful P&C for their generosity in supporting Lorin Nicholson’s performance last Wednesday. He was an amazing man with a disability that never stopped him from achieving his best. Can you imagine being blind and riding your bike as a 16 year old from Tamworth to Port Macquarie? Or riding from Perth to Sydney with his blind brother? He spoke to us all about believing in yourself and making sacrifices to achieve what you want, eg he gave up time playing with his friends because he wanted to play the guitar really well.

Over the past few years the P&C have fundraised for many projects aimed at helping the school life of our students. Last Monday the P&C received some wonderful news, that one of their many applications for a government grant had been successful! Jill Hall contacted the P&C to tell them of their amazing news. More details to follow!

ATTENDANCE

As part of our normal accountability structures within schools, attendance is monitored not only within the school, but also by DoE personnel outside the school. Home School Liaison Officers monitor the students’ attendance with the goal of ensuring that all students are at school every day that instruction is offered. Please note that partial absences (including even arriving 5-10 mins late) are considered an absence and are closely monitored. I appreciate every effort to ensure that students are here at 9:30 each day. If your child is absent from school, a note to explain their absence is required as soon as they return to school. Give your child every chance to succeed, by attending school and being there on time!

Also, thank you to the parents who have applied for leave when taking family holidays. As part of the National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting, holidays taken as part of the school term will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose.

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel in school vacations. If travel outside school vacation periods is necessary, parents will need to complete an Application for Extended Leave-Travel at the office for approval of the Principal. If the application is approved your child’s travel will be recorded as Leave. If you have any questions regarding the new DoE procedures please contact the Principal.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18.3.16</td>
<td>Harmony Day, Bullying No Way day and pre-ordered meal deal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.3.16</td>
<td>Easter Raffle tickets and donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.3.16</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm Parents and Social Media with Constable Nathan Johns in the Library</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Y3-6 “Kids &amp; Coding Roadshow (no cost)</td>
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<tr>
<td>24.3.16</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade – CANTEEN CLOSED for recess</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jacket orders due</td>
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<tr>
<td>25.3.16</td>
<td>Public Holiday – Good Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.3.16</td>
<td>Public Holiday – Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.3.16</td>
<td>Y3-6 T-Ball Gala Day – CANTEEN CLOSED ALL DAY</td>
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.4.16</td>
<td>Coding for kids (parents workshop) cost involved TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.4.16</td>
<td>Last day of school for Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM 2 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>25.4.16</td>
<td>Public Holiday – ANZAC Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.4.16</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.4.16</td>
<td>All students return to school</td>
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HARMONY DAY

Just a reminder about our Harmony Day activities this Friday. This 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. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

The children are encouraged to wear orange on 18 March.

Special thanks to the canteen ladies for their Recess and Lunch Meal deal.

Parents can find out more at the Harmony Day website http://www.harmony.gov.au/

This day, 18 March will also highlight BULLYING “NO WAY” DAY.

It will provide students with information and strategies to deal with the issue of Bullying. This focus supports the on-going programs the children participate in at our school. These programs include the “You Can Do It” program, Kidsmatter, the “Fun Friends” program, special anti-bullying lessons and Child Protection lessons in Term 4.

BULLYING

Most days teachers talk with their students about relationships with their friends and peers. Many times they talk to students about issues involving dynamics of power and control. Frequently they talk about:

- Exclusion
- Pecking order
- Incidents of hurtful and malicious behaviours
- Peer pressure to conform to various activities or behaviours
- Breaches of trust and
- Betrayal of confidence.

While conflict in interpersonal relationships can be approached from a perspective that encourages the child to use skills such as communication and assertion, bullying poses a difficult and more significant problem. The very dynamics of bullying involves a power relationship resulting in the target being especially vulnerable. Whilst it is important that we encourage students to develop resilience and skills to deal with conflict it is unreasonable to expect students to deal with bullying on their own.

At CPS we encourage students to:

- Tell someone and keep telling while the problem persists
- Keep a record of the incidents
- If you can, tell the person who is bullying you to stop
- If you have a friend tell them
- See if you can change your response to the person who is bullying you
- Think of ways to keep away from the person who is bullying you

There is often a fine line between conflict with peers and bullying, and it can often be difficult for counsellors, teachers and parents to discriminate between what is normal conflict and what is bullying.

Have a clear understanding of what bullying is...that it is repeated, with a deliberate intent to hurt, can help both adults and children deal with the situation more effectively.

It is extremely important that if you are being bullied at school you tell a teacher, if we don't know it is happening to you then we are unable to help!

SOCIAL MEDIA-Parent course

Tuesday afternoon 22 March, Constable Nathan Johns, Police Youth Liaison Officer, will be at school from 3:30 -4:30 to discuss the effects of social media and give tips to help your child use media responsibly. The presentation will be in the Library for all to attend. Mrs Gill and I will be available to look after your children in the playground.

Students in Yr 4, 5 & 6 will also attend a similar presentation at 2:30 pm at school.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

ThinkUKnow is a joint initiative between Australian police and private industry designed to educate parents and kids alike about staying safe online.

http://www.thinkuknow.org.au/
It may be a helpful resource for those of you who use the internet or are active across various social media platforms.

**CAR PARK**
The staff car park is always kept open as it is a delivery area for the canteen as well as being a staff car parking area. It is not however a safe place for students/parents to walk through. Often students can’t be seen as staff reverse and it is simply a case of an accident waiting to happen. Please keep our students safe by not walking through the staff car park and by also using the zebra crossing with Phil the lollypop man to help you!

**STARSTRUCK**
Congratulations to our wonderful Star Struck dancers and Mrs Kondov whose audition for Star Struck was successful. They will perform in the ACDC item at Star Struck in June.

**CODING**
Next week students in Years 3-6 will participate in an introduction to coding session. This session will be provided free of charge by an organisation called Game Training. This session is designed to motivate students towards software development by providing an overview of how coding is used in video game development. On the day students will also be provided with details of a hands-on coding course Game Training will be offering later this term at the school. Course information and an overview of the fees involved will be provided in a handout for parents and participation in this second session will be optional.

**EASTER HAT MAKING**
One of the most exciting events to occur this term in KM next Tuesday 22 March at 2pm and also in 1G and 2/3D next Wednesday 23 March at 2pm, is the Easter Hat Making. Please come along armed with Easter craft ideas to help inspire and decorate your child’s Easter hat. We look forward to seeing you there.

We also hope you support the Easter raffle and come up for the Easter Hat Parade at 2:15 on Thursday 24 March.

**EASTER RAFFLE**
Thanks to those who have donated to the Easter Raffle so far. We look forward to more donations coming in over the next week or so, including baskets if you have any. Please return raffle tickets and money to the office.

Have a great week

Jayne Thompson
Principal

**CASH FOR CLASSROOMS**
Lake Macquarie Fair is conducting this campaign **from Monday 4 April until Sunday 8 May** 2016. Customers who shop at Lake Macquarie Fair can allocate every dollar they spend as points towards their nominated school. The local school with the most points wins. The school with second highest points will win second, and so on. The total prize pool for the winning schools is $4,000.

**STUDENT BANKING**
Commonwealth Bank applications for student bank accounts are available from the school office.
“Never give up and always do what you think, not what other people think, because in the end you’ll make it.” Melissa Li

“Today I learnt to pay respect to all people, no matter how different we are.” Isabelle

“Today I learnt that I haven’t got such a hard life and I should be more persistent and try harder.” Will

“You’re in charge of what you do.” Matilda

“Don’t let dreams just be dreams” James

“You should never stop trying, so just keep on trying, the only person who is stopping you is you.” Nofilia

“Today I learnt to respect everyone around me and to be more confident about myself” Chris

“I learnt that no matter how high the mountain is you should always keep persevering and trying” Claudia

“I learnt that we need to respect, to show responsibility and develop relationships with everyone” Dyssius

“Don’t give up, respect others, don’t bully, be nice, be helpful and show self control” Seth
# Canteen News and Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Roster</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>17.3.16</td>
<td>A Lee, J Battle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>18.3.16</td>
<td>No orders—counter service at lunch only T Black, K Style</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>21.3.16</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>22.3.16</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>23.3.16</td>
<td>K McAlister, E TenBohmer</td>
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</tbody>
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## Clothing Pool Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>2:45 pm – 3:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>9:00 am – 9:30 am</td>
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## P&C News

**Easter Celebrations**

Last week we sent home a book of 10 tickets with each student. We would appreciate your support by purchasing the tickets and if you could make any donations for prizes that would be great. Donations and tickets are due back to the school by Monday 21 March with the raffle being drawn at the Easter Hat Parade.

**Entertainment Books**


The books will be available late in April.

**‘You Can’ Mobile Phone recycling**

If you have any old mobile phones, please drop them into the recycling box in the foyer.

**Clothing Pool – Brown Jackets**

We have a small number of the old plain brown jackets for sale. These are brand new but we are no longer stocking them as we have a new jacket that is jersey lined for extra warmth. These plain brown jackets will be sold from the Clothing Pool for $20.

**New Jacket Orders**

As the cooler weather approaches, we start to consider buying a school jacket. These jackets are jersey lined.

Whilst we have a small number of jackets currently available in the Clothing Pool, we want to ensure that we have enough to meet demand. The jackets come in sizes from 6 to 16 at a cost of $40. Please complete order form and return with a $5 deposit to the school Office by Thursday 24 March 2016.

## P & C Events in Term 1

1. Thursday 24 March – Easter Raffle tickets and donations due
2. 6 April – Requests for donations for the Mother’s Day stall Friday 6 May
3. **Canteen**

   **Information Manual**

   An Information Manual has been sent home to all Canteen Volunteers. We ask that you have a read of the manual to ensure you are familiar with the policies and procedures that need to be adhered to when working in the canteen. These are required as the Canteen is inspected by Lake Macquarie Council annually and to ensure we meet our Work Health and Safety requirements for both the Department of Education and our insurance policy.

## Canteen Closures

The Canteen will be closed on

1. Thursday 24 March for RECESS due to the Easter Hat Parade
2. ALL DAY Wednesday 30 March due to the T-Ball Gala Day

## Community News

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Image</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="EasteratCentral.com" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Easter at Central Alive Again</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sunday, 27th of March | 9 & 11am
Come enjoy tonnes of free family fun at Central Park! Giant Easter Egg Hunt | Kids Animal Farm | Jumping Castles | Face Painting

EasteratCentral.com
FREE & fun program for fitter, healthier, happier kids!

Are you worried about your child’s weight?


Go4Fun is a FREE 10 week program which runs over one school term after school hours. During the program children and their families get involved in fun games and activities and learn about delicious nutritious foods they can eat every day.

Children need to be 7-13 years old and a parent or carer also needs to attend. Younger and/or older siblings are encouraged to attend.

Go to [www.go4fun.com.au](http://www.go4fun.com.au) or call 1800 780 900 to see if your child could do Go4Fun.