Term 1, Week 7

Student of the Week – Heidi S2G

Heidi is a hardworking, responsible and caring classroom member who can always be seen displaying our core PBL values Respect, Safety and Learning. She always puts 100% effort into all she does, has exceptional manners and is an excellent role model for other students.

Heidi wears her uniform with pride and can always be seen with a smile on her face. We think Heidi is a very deserving recipient of this week’s Student of the Week!!

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Caitlin & Emily Lightfoot, Jade Taylor, Jasmine McLean, Gracie Kershaw, Anneeka Knight, Abijade Bee, Gabby Fren and Myhra Lencz-Rufo for being chosen as our school representatives for Star Struck 2014. The group has completed their audition tape and we eagerly wait to see if we are successful in making Star Struck 2014.

Diary Dates

- **Friday 14 March**
  - Photograph Envelopes due
  - Book Club Due Back

- **Wednesday 19 March**
  - School Photos

- **Friday 21 March**
  - Yr 6 High School Expression of Interest Forms

- **Tuesday 1 April**
  - CSIRO Force & Movement Show

- **Wednesday 9 April**
  - All Easter Raffle tickets due back.

- **Friday 11 April**
  - Easter Raffle Drawn.
Our 2014 school debating team is Dominic Rusak, Jessie Taylor, Jade Taylor and Tayla Howarth - congratulations.

Great work Jessie Taylor, Myhra Lencz-Rufo, Jade Taylor, Melany Ford and Chloe Taylor who will try out for the Zone Netball team tomorrow – good luck girls!

**Principal’s News**

As we head into the second half of Term 1 we have farewelled Ms Greig as she begins her maternity leave. I would like to pass on my thanks to everyone who generously brought in a gift to add to our hamper – we ended up with a full washing basket, as well as a gift bag full of goodies and an amazing walker to help Tash and Brad with their first child. We wish them all the best for a safe and healthy birth. I will keep you posted on any news!

Mr Kemp will now take over S2G for the remainder of 2014 and Mrs Kavanagh will take over S/3L on a Monday.

In week 5 we held the first of our Emergency Evacuations Drills for 2014. These drills give us the opportunity to practice our emergency evacuation routes and refine any problems or issues to ensure a smooth operation in case of a real evacuation. I am pleased to say we had everyone on site: students, staff and canteen volunteers in the Emergency Evacuation Zone within 4 minutes and 25 seconds! There were a couple of issues that arose and these have now been rectified and are in place. Our next evacuation drill will be in Term 2 and will be a surprise drill, in accordance with NSW DEC policy and procedure.

Last week we also caught up on Clean up Australia Day with each class cleaning an area of the playground or footpath around the school. This is a great event and looking at the bags collected around our town a testament to the fact we must remind ourselves and our children to “Do The Right Thing” with litter to keep our environment clean and unpolluted.

This week the Kindergarten Best Start Assessments will go home – they will be posted to all Kindergarten parents. If you wish to discuss the results please make an appointment with Mr Lofts or myself through the office.

This week we also have our P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) tomorrow night. We had a brilliant turn out last meeting and I am hoping for a similar representation tomorrow night. It is wonderful to see so many parents supporting the students and programs across the school. The meeting will be held in the Library to ensure we have enough seats at 7:00pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

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**Permission Notes & Payments Due**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Mathletics - $14</th>
<th>Voluntary Contribution - $20</th>
<th>MSP Envelope</th>
<th>CSIRO - $6.50</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>Mathletics - $14 per student</td>
<td>Voluntary Contribution - $20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3</td>
<td>Mathletics - $14 per student</td>
<td>Voluntary Contribution - $20</td>
<td>Broken Bay Excursion - $100 Deposit</td>
<td>MSP Envelope</td>
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**Awards**

**ES1L**
Jessica Felstead, Seton Colefax, Jesse Hoffman

**S1/2E**
Lucas Hawkin, Oliver Hoffman, Brodi Longbottom

**S1E**
Madelyn Bagnall, Rufus Ainsworth, Nathaniel Stericker

**S2G**
Emily Layzell, Makiah Archer, Ronin Elloy

**S2/3L**
Catie Faust, Abbie Steel, Matthew Benhard

**S3G**
Emily Kuhne, Sarah Moss, Nicholas Fren
In Week 5 we held our Dungog and District Community of Schools Principal meeting for Term 1. The meeting was a great success with many programs and ideas discussed. The most significant programs are:

- **Transition to High School**: with Dungog HS planning several Sport, Science and Aboriginal days for Stage 3 students to attend. These opportunities to spend time at the High School and participate in lessons with older student mentors are an integral part of the Transition to High School process.
- Our Director of Schools NSW, Andrew Eastcott, also attended and he presented a great model for sharing expertise across our schools where teams are set up within the Community of Schools – and it looks like a very promising way for Professional Development across our schools.
- **Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL)** – as you know we are a PBL school and so are Dungog PS and Dungog HS and we discussed the expansion of this program across our entire Community of Schools to create a common Student Welfare Program.
- Other items on the agenda included planning for our combined Staff Development Day at the beginning of Term 3, 2014 Education Week Award Ceremony, a combined K-6 Commonwealth Sport Day and our LAST Network.

I was out of school for several days last week and travelled to Sydney to undertake Online Tutor training. The NSW DEC has been implementing online training in several areas over the last few years and I am now a qualified tutor; which means I can run these programs across our school. In Term 2 our teachers will undertake training in the area of “Dyslexia and reading Difficulties”. The training involves 9 hours (3 x 3hr sessions) face to face with the tutor and 20 hours online learning in your own time and takes 10 weeks to complete. So each course is very comprehensive and will be a worthwhile experience to do as a whole school to support consistent practice across all of our classrooms.

I am proud to note that in the past two weeks Happy Notes have increased by over 35% (147 in Week 5 and 115 in Week 6)! I have set a challenge for this week to reach 150 Happy Notes – good luck Clarence Town Public School! The other news is good and bad – Week 5 we had a significant drop in sad notes (only 3) after I included in the newsletter a message that notes would be going home –well done! However, they did creep up again last week with just over 20! So once again I would encourage parents to celebrate Happy Notes and discuss negative behaviours and future choices with your child.

We are constantly reminding students of our PBL Values and school motto along with our Tawny 5 Rules...and I would also...
encourage parents to use these words when celebrating positive behaviour and discussing negative choices with your child.

The Tawny 5 Rules:

- I can listen
- I can put up my hand and wait
- I can work quietly
- I can follow instructions
- I can control what I do and Say

The School motto:

Kindness Honesty Effort

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Values:

Learning Safety Respect

Through working together we create the best opportunities and learning experiences for all our students.

Have a great week
Louise Blakemore- Principal

MSP Photograph Envelopes

All students should have received their MSP school photograph envelopes last week. All envelopes and money need to be returned to school by Friday 14 March. School photographs will be taken on Wednesday 19 March.

Voluntary Contributions

Our school voluntary contributions have been set this year at $20 per student or $40 per family. This money is used to purchase resources and equipment for your child’s classroom. All money received would be greatly appreciated. Payments can now be made at the office.

Student Emergency Contact Details

All students received our school emergency contact form last week (pink form). Please check all details and make any changes necessary and return to the school as soon as possible. If all the information is correct please sign the form and return to the office.

Book Club

Book Club was sent home last week. Book Club orders and money are due back Friday 14 March at 9am. If you are paying by cheque please make it payable to Clarence Town Public School. This is important as we do all orders online and must issue only one cheque.

High School Expression of Interest

Today all Year 6 students were given their High School Expression of Interest Forms. These forms are to completed and returned to school no later than Friday 21 March.

Scripture

If you do NOT want your child to attend scripture this year, please send a note in to your child’s class teacher.
Easter Mufti Day
On Wednesday 2 April all students, K-6, can come dressed out of uniform and the ‘fine’ will be an Easter donation for the P&C Easter Raffle.
Donations of Easter Eggs, as well as baskets and decorations are also appreciated.
Please note that if you purchase your donation from our local IGA Kay has organised a 10% discount – just mention the school name.
Thanks Kay for your wonderful generosity again!

DON’T FORGET CRUNCH & SIP
In the school bag every day…….

CRUNCH:
Easy-to-eat seasonal fruit such as a small apple, a container with hulled strawberries, a mandarin or banana OR
Canned fruit in natural juice with a spoon OR
Vegetables such as carrot or celery sticks, cherry tomatoes or snow peas

AND SIP:
A clean, clear water bottle filled with plain water

Crunch&Sip® is a set break for your child to eat fruit or salad vegetables and drink water in the classroom.

www.crunchandsip