Term 4, Week 9

Student of the week: Ewan ES1L

Ewan is a wonderful class member, always displaying excellent manners. He is an active participant in all class activities. Ewan enjoys being with his friends, playing games and making things. Ewan will be a fine Student of the week.

Student Achievement
Congratulations to Matthew Benhard, Seth Winchester, Liam Garvey-Rae, Jaxson Stericker, Tahlia Thew, Jayden Hawkin, Hayden Prentice, Keeghan Stericker, Jack Boyton, Taiij Burgess, Cale Conserdyne, Zac Braun-Socha, our 2015 cricket team who made it all the way to the Reg Kelly Shield grand Final.

Good Luck to Tayla Howarth, Anneeka Knight, Gaby Fren and Gracie Kershaw who are our 2015 Public Speaking Grand Finalists.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 2 December
Public Speaking FINAL

Thursday 3 December
Yr 6 Dungog High School Transition Visit

Wednesday 9 December
Presentation Day

Thursday 10 December
Year 6 Farewell

Tuesday 15 December
Party Day

Wednesday 16 December
Last Day for the 2015 School Year
Well done, once again, to all students who did a brilliant job keeping themselves safe in last Thursday’s extreme heat conditions.

**Principal’s News**
Welcome to Week 9 and the final countdown has officially started! We have 2½ weeks to go before the end of the 2015 school year – the last day for students is Wednesday 16 December. Normally the teachers would then have two Staff Development Days but this year the teaching staff have completed some out of school hours training in lieu of these two days so teachers will also finish on Wednesday 16 December. However, Mrs Price and I will be in the office until Friday 18 December.

Once again we changed our daily routines due to last Thursday’s extreme heat and will continue to do this each time this occurs. Everyone is inside at play time for recess and lunch. We also moved S1E to the Library, S2/3L to the Computer Lab and HB#8 and ES1L to HB#1 – this ensured the students had the benefit of cool air conditioned classrooms and learning areas throughout the day. Thank you to my wonderful staff for coordinating and implementing these measures to keep our students safe.

Thankfully by Friday the heat had passed as our 2015 Cricket Team won the Reg Kelly Shield semi-final last Monday and played in the Grand final on Friday. The team had the opportunity to play on one of the premier fields in Maitland on Robins Oval, which is usually reserved for the A Grade teams. We played Telarah Public School and on the day they were too strong for our team and beat us convincingly. The Reg Kelly Shield is in its 25th year and Telarah PS have won it 12 times so they have a long tradition playing in the competition. This was our first time back in the competition after 10 years absence (we have not had sufficient players to field a team in these years) so to make it to the Grand final was a wonderful achievement. Well done to the team and a very special mention to Mr Kemp for his dedication, skill and enthusiasm as the coach.

At school we had a great Mo-vember mufti day and raised $96.00. An email from Colleen Duffy this morning confirmed they had a wonderful afternoon on Saturday and Clarence Town and surrounding areas have raised approximately $2400!
We also celebrated our last Scripture session for 2015 last Thursday with Mrs Hallet bringing along the Good News Clown – he was a big hit with the students and a wonderful way to conclude our 2015 Scripture classes. As several Year 6 students were participating in the Sports Gala Day at Hunter Sports High School the presentation of bibles to Year 6 will occur in our weekly assembly this week.

Our busy term continues this week with:
- Voting for our 2016 Student Leaders – nominees will present their speeches on Wednesday 2nd December. Voting will be on Friday 4th December and the leaders will be announced on Presentation Day.
- Cup Cake Sale tomorrow to support local charities.
- Year 6 Dungog High School Orientation Day on Thursday 3 December
- Final Stage 2 and 3 Swimming for Sport – Stage 3 on Wednesday and Stage 2 on Friday. This is the final week for 2015.

Upcoming events for your calendar include:
- Wednesday 9 December 2015 Presentation Day
- Thursday 10 December Year 6 Farewell Dinner
- Tuesday 15 December 2015 Party Day
- Wednesday 16 December Last day for the 2015 School Year

Last Friday I attended further Principals Meetings regarding the DoE reforms and changes. There have been many training and information sessions this year regarding the new procedures, policies and accountability structures for Principals with more to come in the last few days of term. Over the past 3 years the role of Principal has changed dramatically with a continual increase in workload for Principals and from 2016 the workload for Principals will escalate again even further. For Teaching Principals, such as me this makes time management and delegation a high priority to ensure all aspects of the school are functioning well and we are meeting all accountability frameworks. The training alone has been intensive and I have been out of school more frequently throughout 2015 to stay abreast of all the changes that have been implemented already and all the ones to come. Fortunately I have a great team at the school who step up and take over the day to day running of the school when I am elsewhere. While these absences are frustrating for everyone I am well aware that for our school to achieve its best we must keep abreast of all new systems – since my first Principal appointment in 2003 the number of days a Principal is required to attend training and information sessions in school time and out of school time has increased and with the DoE 13 new reform areas and the Australian Curriculum implementation since 2012 this has increased

Permission Notes & Payments Due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 1</th>
<th>Stage 2</th>
<th>Stage 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>Year 6 Orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Awards

Wednesday 25 November
ES1L
Jada Garvey-Rae, Logan Burgess, Riley Flannery

S1E
Lane Broadbent, Charlie Jones,

S1/2 K
Deynah Bruce, Jemma Kershaw, Max Preece

S2/3L
Courtney Aubin, Lainee Colefax, Mackayla Jones

S3G
Gracie Kershaw, Tenieka Neilson, Jayden Hawkin
dramatically. I am hoping that once the 2016 school year starts the training and information days this will settle down!

Don’t forget there is also a P&C Uniform Survey that was attached to last week’s newsletter, this can also be accessed on our Skoolbag APP. Please complete the survey and return to school as soon as possible. Thanks to Melissa Morris for organising and coordinating the survey. The P&C Canteen committee are also still looking for Canteen volunteers for Monday’s so we can reopen our school canteen 3 days per week. If you can help out please contact the school on 49964156 or Tammy Bagnall on 0427 964 078. Sourcing volunteers for our Canteen has been problematic in the past so even if you can only help out once in the year or may have some half days available please contact the school or Tammy so we can offer this service to our students and families more regularly.

This week we will focus on our Safety indicators in PBL:

- Right Place Right Time Right Equipment
- Move Sensibly
- Hands and Feet to Self

I would encourage parents and carers to talk about these indicators at home, what it looks like and how we can improve in these areas. Our particular focus during this time is developing resilience, being organised, being persistent and developing confidence.

The Student Welfare Program is progressing well with our 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

Have a great week.
Louise Blakemore
Principal

Dungog High School Year 7 2016 Orientation Day
Our Year 6 students who will be attending Dungog High School in 2016 have been invited to attend an Orientation Day on Thursday 3 December. All students who will be attending Dungog High School in 2016 are encouraged to attend. Students are able to catch the bus to and from the High School on the day if needed. We believe there will also be a parent information session in the MPC at 9.00am for any parents who would like to attend as well as the uniform shop being open to place school uniform orders. Please complete permission and return to school.

Year 6 Farewell
All Year 6 students received last week their invitation to attend the Year 6 Farewell Dinner. This will be held on Thursday 10 December in our school hall. The RSVP was due last Friday 27 November so catering can be finalised. If you haven’t returned your RSVP or paid your money please do so ASAP.
**Skoolbag App**
The Clarence Town Public School **Skoolbag App** is now available to parents. The App is a school to parent communication tool. This School Mobile App provides an easy way to tell parents and carers everything they need to know about school news, newsletters, events, calendar dates, cancellations, school notices, school information, absent notes and more. This information via alerts will now be communicated directly to parents and carers via iPhone, iPad, Android and Windows phone devices. Simply go to your app store and download Skoolbag Clarence Town Public School. Please see the office for an information sheet on how to download the app if needed.

---

**2016 Student Leaders**

Congratulations to Makiah Archer, Abbie Steel, Makayla, Samara Archer, Ronin Elloy, Jack Boyton, Taiij Burgess, Daniel Edwards and Keeghan Stericker who have been nominated for 2016 Student Leaders.

We have an extremely small Year 6 for 2016 and after discussions with staff and the Year 5 students we will only have 4 Student Leaders in 2016 – 2 x Captain and 2 x Student Leader.

The students will present their speeches to our morning assembly on Wednesday 2nd December and we hold our voting ballet on Friday 4th December – Good Luck!

NB: The students will be notified on Friday if they have been successful in gaining a position and the which position will be announced at our 2015 Presentation Day Assembly on 9th December.
**Working with Children Declaration**
All volunteers in our school are required to complete a Working with Children Check Declaration. All declarations must have 100 points of identity attached to the declaration. Please note the office is able to photocopy the identity check when Working with Children Check declaration is returned.

Any parents, who have completed the online Working With Children Check and has received a Working with Children Clearance letter, please supply the office with a copy of the letter. These parents are not required to complete the declaration. Please see the office if you have any questions.

**Public Speaking**
The Finals for Public Speaking will be held on **Wednesday 2 December 2015**, this will take place during our weekly school assembly. Parents are welcome to attend the Public Speaking. Our speakers will be Anneeka Knight, Gracie Kershaw, Gabby Fren and Tayla Howarth. Good luck!!

**Head Lice Alert**
It is the time of the year for head lice. There have been a few cases reported in the School. We encourage all parents to make Sunday night “Nit Night” by checking your child’s hair.

**Year 6 Fundraiser**
Year 6 are selling water ice-blocks on a Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time as part of their fundraising efforts for their gift to the school. Ice-blocks are 50c each and a range of flavours are available.

**IGA Token Program**
Thank you to our local IGA store, last week they presented a cheque to our school for their Token Program. The IGA are active in supporting our school and we greatly appreciate their continued support.

---

**Cup Cake Stall**

Tuesday 1st December at recess time

Abbie Steel, Caitlin Lightfoot and Emily Lightfoot are running a cup cake stall to raise funds for our local Rural Fire Brigade.

Guessing Competition – the weight of a cupcake – Guesses are 30c and prize is notebook pack. Cup cakes will be on sale for 50c and $1.00

If you would like to donate cupcakes or slices to sell please bring them to the school office in the morning.
Reg Kelly Shield Cricket: Semi Final

Last Monday our cricket team took on Metford Public School in the semi-final of the Reg Kelly Shield at King Park 3. Our side was unable to win the toss and we were sent into bat first. Our batsman made a slow and steady start to the innings before the loss of our first wicket. Seth Winchester and Jackson Stericker then combined for a small, but very solid partnership. After the drinks break some impressive hitting from Taiij Burgess and Liam Garvey-Rae helped our side reach the competitive total of 83 from our 24 overs. Our bowling innings started well with some wonderfully tight bowling leading to an early break through. After our early break through Metford were able to establish a nice partnership before Taiij Burgess and Cale Conserdyne were able to take a further wicket each. The scores were very tight leading into the final few overs of the game, but fortunately Clarence Town were able to restrict Metford to a score of 71 and post another great victory. This fantastic victory for Clarence Town has helped our school reach the grand final of the Reg Kelly Shield Competition. Reaching the grand final of this competition has been an incredible achievement for a group of players with only very limited cricketing experience. A final huge thank you must go once again to Brad Winchester, who once again did a superb job of scoring the entire match and running the team through some fielding drills.

Reg Kelly Shield Cricket: Grand Final

Last Friday our cricket team took on Telarah Public School in the grand final of the Reg Kelly Shield at Robbins Oval in Maitland. Telarah Public School has a superb record in the history of the Reg Kelly Shield having been champions on 10 previous occasions. Our side fielded first with the boys taking a few overs to come to terms with the enormous ground they were playing on. All of our bowlers tried very hard to restrict Telarah from scoring, but the runs continued to tick over on a regular basis. The highlight for our bowling and fielding effort was a magnificent catch from Cale Conserdyne leading to our only wicket in the innings. Telarah Public School finished their batting innings with an imposing total of 107 for our side to chase down. Unfortunately our batting innings never really got going with Telarah able to consistently pick up wickets through some fantastic bowling and fielding. Eventually our entire side was dismissed cheaply and Telarah has scored an impressive victory in the final. Despite the result Clarence Town should be extremely proud of the effort and level of sportsmanship demonstrated by this team throughout the competition. The grand final was a great experience for all the players as it provided them the opportunity to play on the most prestigious cricket ground in Maitland. This competition has helped to support the development of cricket in the Clarence Town community and given all members of the team a wonderful sporting experience. I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and family members for providing transport to all players throughout the competition. It is impossible to compete in these types of competitions without the support of the families of all players involved. Well Done Clarence Town!!

Mr Kemp
Mo-vement photos