Term 1, Week 4

Student Achievement
Well done to our students who put in a wonderful effort at our annual swimming carnival and participated in many events.

Congratulations to Sam, Declan, Emma and Max our new Year 6 students who are undertaking their responsibilities as leaders in our school with enthusiasm and skill.

Great work to Mackayla, Paige, Charlotte and Emma who are our 2016 Debating team.
Principal’s News

Welcome to week 4 and we are still basking in the glow of the success of our first event for 2016. Our annual Swimming Carnival was a great success, with wonderful participation from students. Mr Lofts’ organisation is always appreciated at these events as are the efforts of our staff and our parents. This collaborative effort makes us very proud and displays the wonderful partnerships within our school community. I also thank Dave for the wonderful support he gives our school and his effort and enthusiasm are a big contributing factor.

Sporting Schools also started last week with students enjoying Softball on Tuesday and Netball on Thursday. Mr Lofts and Mrs Price work very hard to put together our submissions each semester and meet all the accountability expectations to run this program and offer the opportunity for our students to experience a wide range of sports.

It has certainly been one of the best starts to a school year we have experienced for a long time and I thank our staff and parents for ensuring everything was ready and organised so our students had the best possible chance of a successful start to the 2016 school year.

I would also like to thank parents for ensuring students are in correct school uniform each day, however there is still some confusion regarding our summer uniform. For boys it is the grey...
shorts and green school polo shirt with grey socks and for girls it is our green check dress or short/top set with white socks. NB: Green shorts and white polo shirts are not part of the girl's summer uniform.

Our sports uniform is our unisex sport shirt and either green shorts or skorts. NB: Sport uniform is only for sport days – Wednesday for Stage 3 and Friday for Early Stage 1, Stage 1 and Stage 2.

We are all working together to ensure our students are well represented in our uniform to foster pride and respect in our school.

This week we have our:

- Swimming for Sport continuing for Stage 2 (Friday) and Stage 3 (Wednesday);
- Our debaters are attending their orientation workshop on Tuesday – Ms Greig will accompany the students to Adamstown Public School, and:
- Our first Weekly Assembly will be held on Wednesday and our new Captains and Student Leaders are looking forward to hosting their first assembly and S1C are excited about being the first performance for 2016.

We will be hosting our first 2016 Dungog & District Community of Schools meeting on Friday morning. The Principals from Dungog High School, Dungog, Clarence Town, Vacy, Gresford, Paterson, Martins Creek and Glen William Public Schools; along with our Director Public Schools and other regional office staff to discuss our collaborative projects and programs for this year. I will be continuing to train Vacy, Gresford and Martins Creek Public Schools in Focus on Reading throughout 2016 as a continuation of our 2015 projects. Our Middle Years Maths Project will also continue with Mrs Kelson and I coordinating again in 2016. I will do a full report of all projects in next week’s newsletter. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school for an appointment.

The other joint project updates are:

**Fixed Equipment:** Last Monday the old softfall was removed and over the weekend the old fixed equipment was also removed. We are expecting the installation of the new equipment to start today.
School Bus Service: I am meeting with the bus company today to discuss routes, designated bus stops and will give a full report at the P&C meeting tomorrow night and in next week’s newsletter.

Before and After School Care: This service for our school is still being actively pursued by both the school and the P&C. I will keep you posted on these fronts and advertise start dates as soon as I know anything. I would like to thank the P&C for their hard work in supporting these projects within our school and community.

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

Class Equipment

To support school supplies we would request that the students bring the following equipment to school:

Year 2-6

- A large pencil case with coloured pencils, NB: Textas are optional
- A small pencil case with – lead pencils, eraser, glue stick, sharpener and for Years 4-6 blue, red and black pens.
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School Voluntary Contribution
Our school voluntary contribution has been set this year at $20 per student or $40 per family. This voluntary contribution is used to purchase books and resources for students. It would be appreciated if parents could pay this contribution as soon as possible.

Mathletics
All students are now using Mathletics in class. Mathletics helps students enjoy Maths and achieve great results. Students are able to access Mathletics via the internet at school and at home. Each student is given a unique user name and password to be able to log onto Mathletics.

As we believe this is an excellent aid to your child’s learning, the school will subsidise the cost of this program. Parents are asked to contribute $12 per student for the cost of this program. It would be appreciated if all payments for Mathletics could be made as soon as possible.

Skoolbag App Hints
Did you know that you can send absence notices to the school on our Skoolbag App?
Go to eForms on your menu bar and select Absentee Form and enter your child’s details.
No more having to write a note when your child returns to school!!!
Remember to set up your child’s new class groups by selecting the More button and select Setup Push Notifications. Simply tap on your child’s class until the “on” button is selected.
Student Emergency Contact Details
All students received today an envelope with their child’s emergency contact details (pink note). Can parents please check all details and make any corrections necessary and return to the school as soon as possible. If the details are correct please initial the page and return.

Asthma Care Plan
If your child suffers from Asthma we will require an Asthma Care Plan to be completed ASAP. We have attached the form for your convenience to this newsletter. Once completed please return to the school office.

Scripture
Scripture will begin this week on Thursday 18 February. If you do not want your child to participate please write a note and send it into the office.

Working with Children Declaration
All volunteers in our school eg. Canteen volunteer, classroom helper, driving children to and from sporting activities etc. are required to complete a Working with Children Check Declaration. Please find attached a copy of this form along with a copy of Proof of Identity information. 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. If you completed this form last year you are not required to complete another form as this last for 5 years.

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 attached declaration.

Please see the office if you have any questions.

Year 6 Fundraiser
Year 6 will be selling water ice-blocks on a Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time as part of their fundraising efforts. Ice-blocks are 50c each and a range of flavours are available. This will start Tuesday 16 February 2016.

Library Bags
These Library bags are available from the office at a cost of $2.00 each. They have the school logo on them.
Chances program has been set up at the Dungog Sire Community Centre. This program is to give children and their families the opportunity to be involved in a sport or activity.

A basket has been placed in the foyer to collect donations of equipment: eg. footy boots, uniform, rackets, new or used items will collected by the CHANCES coordinator. The DSCC is a Public Benefit Institution (PBI) and has Tax Deductible Gift Recipient status (DGR), which means every donation over $2 is tax deductible.

School Collection is the 4th Friday of the month.

Bounce higher, greater and better than before
Sam Cawthorn will be in Dungog
Tues 23 Feb, Dungog RSL, 5-6pm
FREE Light refreshments provided

"Sam gave us skills to overcome fears and achieve goals and dreams we thought were unachievable"
A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child’s health

We welcome information from parents about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal or office. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order
Private, In-Home Tutoring

Grades K-6

Reading Skills / Math Skills / Organisational Skills / Help with Projects and Test Preparation

I am a 2015 Higher School Certificate Graduate from All Saints College, Maitland. I charge affordable rates with the first consultation being free. Please contact me and together we can help your child reach their full potential!

Bethany Mate 0403 143211

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"Thank you for giving us the confidence to sing & dance on stage"
Nutrition Snippet
What Does 2 Fruit & 5 Veg Actually Look Like?

A serve of FRUIT is 150 grams or:

Fruit
1 medium piece (e.g. apple) = 2 small pieces (e.g. apricots) = 1 cup chopped or canned fruit

A serve of VEG is 75 grams or:

Vegetable
1/2 cup cooked vegetable or cooked legumes = 1 medium potato = 1 cup salad vegetables

That means that just 2 ½ cups of cooked vegetables every day will give an adult their recommended daily intake! But don’t leave it until dinner - enjoy vegies throughout the day to be sure you reach your target.


Seaham Netball
Seaham Netball Club 2016 second and final Registration Day.
Saturday 13 February, 9am – 10am
Brandon Park Seaham
We have teams from 7yrs through to seniors and promote fun and participation.