**Term 1**

**Coming Events - Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 10 March</td>
<td>Years 3-6 Assembly – Primary COLA</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 11 March</td>
<td>Student Banking</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 1:50pm</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 12 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</td>
<td>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</td>
<td>P&amp;C Fundraising meeting 6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Enviro meeting - 7:00pm in the staffroom</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder Vision Notes due back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 13 March</td>
<td>Selective HS Test Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 14 March</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 17 March</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
<td>Easter Raffle Tickets sent home</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 18 March</td>
<td>Student Banking</td>
<td>Vision Testing K-2</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 19 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</td>
<td>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 20 March</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 21 March</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 24 March</td>
<td>Yrs K-2 Fun Run TBA</td>
<td>1:40pm Years 3-6 Assembly – Primary COLA</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 25 March</td>
<td>Student Banking</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 1:50pm</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 26 March</td>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am</td>
<td>Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am</td>
<td>Author Visit Workshop K-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 27 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 28 March</td>
<td>Years 3-6 Cross Country TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 30 March</td>
<td>Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 31 March</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
<td>1:40pm Years 3-6 Assembly – Primary COLA</td>
<td>New Date: Premier’s Sporting Challenge- 5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1 April</td>
<td>Student Banking</td>
<td>NO CANTEEN</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 1:50pm</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(2 consecutive weeks is correct )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wednesday, 2 April** | Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am | Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am |

**Thursday, 3 April** | | |

**Friday, 4 April** | Easter Raffle tickets due back today |

**Week 11**

| Monday, 7 April | NO CANTEEN | Primary Enrichment Groups TBA |
| Tuesday, 8 April | Student Banking | NO CANTEEN |
| | No Assembly | Infants Enrichment Groups TBA |
| Wednesday, 9 April | Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am | Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am |
| | Easter Egg Mufti Day TBA | Fundraising Meeting 6:30pm |
| | P&C Meeting 7:00pm in the staffroom | |
| Thursday, 10 April | Easter Raffle Draw | Kinder – Year 2 Easter Hat Parade |
| Friday, 11 April | Last Day of Term 1 |

**TERM 2**

| **Week 1** |            |                                                                 |                                                                 |
| Monday, 28 April | Staff Development Day | Pupil Free day |                                                                 |
| Tuesday, 29 April | All students return | Student Banking | NO ASSEMBLY |
| | | NO CANTEEN | |
| Wednesday, 30 April | Uniform Shop Open 8:30 – 9:30am | Enviro Working Bee 9:00am-11:00am |                  |
| Thursday, 1 May | | | |
| Friday, 2 May | | | |

**PRINCIPAL’S WELCOME:**

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

Tonight between 5.30pm – 7.30pm, the P&C have organised a fabulous Family Fun Night full of fun for the kids and providing the opportunity for parents to meet up with each other.

Enjoy a sausage sizzle or steak sandwich and a drink while the children are entertained with a variety of entertainment.

I look forward to seeing you there tonight.
VISION SCREEN TESTING FOR KINDERGARTEN
NSW Health will be conducting their annual Kindergarten Vision Testing on Tuesday 18th March 2014.

Kindergarten parents need to return completed consent forms by Wednesday 12 March, 2014.

This is a free service and is funded by the S.E. Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY AND NUMERACY, 2014 FOR YEAR 3 AND YEAR 5 STUDENTS
A letter to parents is included in this newsletter outlining the details of this program. Please read it carefully and note the dates on your calendar.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PLACEMENT IN YEAR 7 FOR 2015
All High School Application Forms must be returned to school by Friday, 21 March, 2014. It is very important that these are received on time. Thank you for your co-operation.

ASSEMBLY REMINDERS
We have a formal, full school assembly in the hall every 2 weeks. Our next assembly in the hall will be Tuesday 11th March 2014.

1. At the Tuesday assembly (every 2 weeks):
   • All classes K-6 Achievement Awards will be presented;
   • Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards will be presented; and
   • All Reading and Maths Medallions will be presented.

2. At the Monday afternoon informal assembly (every 2 weeks in the COLA area):
   • Years 3-6 Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards will be presented.
   • In this short assembly, we usually review our PBS values lessons, as a whole school and then the Primary children break into their CAPA (Creative and Practical Arts) groups.
   • Newsletters will indicate when the children will be receiving their awards and parents are most welcome to come along at this time to see their child receive their award.

One change in the scheduling of assemblies this term, will occur in Week 10, when we will hold an assembly on the Monday and Tuesday to accommodate other timetabling changes. There will be no assemblies in Week 11.

PURCHASING SCHOOL HATS
The front Administration Office has a supply of school hats to sell on days that the Uniform Shop is shut. School hats cost $17.00.

MOBILE PHONES
A reminder that students are not to bring mobile phones to school, as the safety and security of such items cannot be guaranteed.

Mobile phones fall into the same category as iPods and DS games which are not to be brought to school, as they are too expensive to replace if damaged or misplaced. In general there should be no circumstances where a child needs access to a mobile phone during school time.

If, however, a child does require a mobile phone for use after school, the phone is to be taken to the office on arrival. The mobile phone will be kept at the office for safekeeping and can be collected by the student when leaving at 3.00pm. Your assistance in ensuring your child does not bring such items to school is appreciated.

INFANTS EASTER HAT PARADE
An Easter Hat Parade will be coming up on Thursday, 10 April, so start getting creative and making those hats!!

PICKING UP CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL
Parents are requested to ensure that their children are collected from school ASAP after 3.00pm. Most teachers have other duties, meetings or appointments to attend to and may need to also leave at 3.00pm.

Please note:
Parents are reminded that children are not to be taken home by another adult unless a written permission note has been forwarded to the class teacher and the administration office. (It is imperative that all your family and emergency contact details are up to date).

SCHOOL CAR PARK
For safety reasons, access to the St John’s Avenue carpark is for staff and delivery trucks ONLY.

Students are never to be picked up or dropped off on school grounds (irrespective of the weather conditions).

MORNING PUNCTUALITY
Please note that school begins at 8.55am, so please ensure your children are at school on time, as lateness creates disruption to your child’s learning and classroom programs.

If your child is late for class, you must get a Late Note from the office before you take your child to class.
CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FROM ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

As part of the NSW Department of Education and Communities’ School Attendance Policy, any student who will be absent from school for a period of greater than 15 school days must apply for a Certificate of Exemption from attendance at school.

This could include reasons such as family emergency, student’s health or family holidays.

Forms can be requested from the front office. In cases that involve applications for exemption due to health reasons, a medical certificate must be issued for the dates of the exemption.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact myself or the ladies in the front office

Have a great week.

Regards,

Christine Schnebli
PRINCIPAL

LIBRARY NEWS

We are very excited to announce that we have secured an Author Visit from Nette Hilton, on Wednesday 26 March, 2014.

Nette Hilton has a background in teaching and has published a number of books, two of which have been winners of Book of the Year by The Children’s Book Council of Australia. Nette Hilton will use her books, experience and knowledge of writing to run age appropriate workshops which will enhance students’ appreciation and understanding of narrative and imaginative texts.

All classes K-6 will be involved in these sessions at no cost to parents.

SOUTHERN STARS

This year, and future years, Southern Stars is aiming at becoming a fully self-funded operation with no sponsorship deals helping out. As such, the organisers are asking for a $20 participation fee to be paid. This is on top of money for t-shirts, costumes, props and transport. Costs could amount to $100 in total.

Auditions for dance troupe will take place early in Term 2. The children do not need to be part of choir to audition. However, to be selected in the Southern Stars choir the children must be part of the Southern Illawarra Music Festival Choir.

Children should not be auditioning for the dance or wanting to be part of the choir if this total amount is too prohibitive. Please discuss this with your child before they audition for the dance troupe or names are taken for the choir.

Please be aware if your child is chosen for the dance troupe or is part of the Southern Stars Choir this $20 fee would need to be paid soon after the dance troupe has been selected.

More information will be sent home with the children once dance auditions have been held (Term 2).

Mrs Johnson and Mrs Jones
(Choir Teacher) (Dance Teacher)

SPORTS NEWS:

AWARDS

Swimming trophies and ribbons will be presented at the next Whole School Assembly on the 11th March.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cross Country for Years 3-6 will be held on Friday, 28th March.

CENTRAL WOLLONONG PSSA CONTACT DETAILS

For information and cancellation updates on PSSA events, parents & caregivers are advised to check the Central Wollongong PSSA website at http://centralwollongong.wordpress.com

Peter Davies – Sports Coordinator

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY
ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS:

PLANTS AND VEGIES FOR SALE
Lovely fresh plants and vegies from our school garden are available to buy from the office. All proceeds will be used to support our gardening initiatives.

Currently we have:

* Mixed plants – $2.00 each

* Strawberry & Rosemary plants – only $1.00 each

* Frangipanni plants – only $2.00, $3.00, & $4.00 each

Can You Help?
We are looking for gardening pots, particularly the very small pots for herbs and seedlings and the 30cm plus pots for children to grow plants and vegies in. Any donations of pots or spare garden accessories, such as bird baths etc will be very gratefully received.

Thank you,
Rosemarie Bowden

Weekly Gardening Group
We are continuing our weekly Wednesday Gardening Group to maintain and improve our grounds. Everyone is welcome to come along and join us, especially our new Kindy families.

WHEN: Every Wednesday 9:00am – 11:00am.

WHO: Parents, grandparents, friends, relatives, neighbours, etc. Anyone with a spare hour or two! Come and help make our school even more beautiful for our students and the community, join a friendly group and meet great people! There will be regular reports and updates in the school newsletter.

Last year’s wonderful group put in a massive 729 volunteer hours in our school environment. A fantastic achievement. Come and join us, you will be most welcome.

Please fill in the interest form below and return to the office. For more information ring me on 42297010.

See you there!
Rosemarie Bowden – Garden Coordinator

Dear Mrs Bowden

-----------------------------------------------------------------------
I am interested in helping with the Wednesday environmental group at school.

NAME:____________________________________

CONTACT No.:________________________

CHILD:____________________________________

CLASS:_________________

CONTACT No.:________________________

IMPORTANT

Managing ANAPHYLAXIS in our School
We currently have 7 students in our school with severe food allergies (anaphylaxis) to combinations of all types of nuts, eggs, dairy and seafood.

In order to minimise the risk in our school, we request that parents not send peanut butter on sandwiches or any nut products to school in your child’s lunch box, especially, if a class member is Anaphylactic, in early primary years.

Please check below to see if there is an anaphylactic child in your child’s class.

Bringing Food to School:
Also check with your child’s teacher if you are bringing in a Birthday Cake or other food, as steps must be taken to ensure that the anaphylactic child is not exposed to an allergen via this food source.

Kembla 1 Year 5 Nuts*, salmon, tuna and shellfish
Nebo 2 Year 4 All nuts* including Sesame Seeds
Keira 2 Year 2 Eggs
Ousley 1 Year 1 Tree nuts
Ousley 1 Year 1 Tree nuts
Ousley 2 Year 1 All nuts*
Ousley 1 Year 1 Dairy, Eggs

*All Nuts Include
• Cashews
• Walnuts
• Pecans
• Almonds
• Hazelnuts,
• Brazil
• Peanuts
• Macadamia
• Pistachio
• Pinenuts
• Sesame Seeds.

Many thanks for your support to ensure the safety of our students.

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY
From the President

Thank you to all the families that returned their pre-order note and/or volunteered for the Family Fun Night BBQ. We have had a wonderful response to our call for help and it is most appreciated!

Please note the date and time above for our March Fundraising and P&C meeting. If you have ever wondered what happens at a P&C or Fundraising meeting or if you would like to be more involved in the P&C please come along. There are many exciting fundraising projects in the works at the moment that we need help with.

There is also a note about raising an agenda item at a P&C meeting. If you need more information about raising an agenda item please contact me at mstpca@gmail.com.

See you all tonight at the Family Fun Night!

Shellie

MINUTES MEETING OF MOUNT ST THOMAS P&C ASSOCIATION
WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2014

Present: Kelly, Michelle, Michael, Shellie, Amanda, Danyelle, Nina, Elizabeth, Keith, Sharyn, Rosemarie, Hilary, Jo-Anne, Cindy, Jo, Tracey, Nicole, Nicole, Christine, Diane, Kobe, Deanne

Apologies: Jenni

Meeting Opened: 7.30pm

Minutes of Previous AGM Read:
Moved: Deanne Seconded: Michelle

President Elected:
Shellie
Moved: Deanne Seconded: Nicole

Vice President Elected:
Danielle
Moved: Michelle Seconded: Nicole

P&C President’s report Refer P&C folder for details.
Moved: Nicole Seconded: Cindy

Fundraising Committee Elected.
Kobe, Deanne, Diane, Jeff, Amanda, Cindy, Michelle

P&C NEWS:

The school uniform shop is open every:
WEDNESDAY: 8:30am – 9:15am

Wednesday 12th March 2014

FUNDRAISING MEETING 6.30PM

P&C MEETING 7.30PM

AGENDA ITEM:
Mount St Thomas P&C Association to purchase a notebook or similar computer for the exclusive use of the P&C to assist in carrying out its activities.

All welcome to attend one or both meetings.

Involve your kids!
Research has found that kids prefer small, cold, crisp, juicy and sweet fruits and colourful, crisp vegetables. Try the following to encourage your kids to enjoy more fruit and vegetables.

- Buy a variety so your child doesn’t become bored.
- Involve your child in choosing fruit and vegetables.
- Give small, hand-sized pieces.
- Cut large fruit and vegetables into manageable pieces.
- Freeze small pieces of fruit as an icy snack.

Live Life Well @ School Team

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY

Live Life Well @ School Team
Business arising from Previous Minutes: Nil

Correspondence In/Out:  
Parent and Citizen Magazine  
Australian Charities and Not For Profit Commission

Principal’s Report: Minutes from last meeting  
Moved: Michelle  Seconded: Deanne

Refer to separate sheet in newsletter

Treasurer’s Report: Nicole provided Treasurer’s report from December 2013.

Signatories: New signatories need to be added to accounts:
Shellie President  
Danyelle Vice President

Uniform Shop Nicole Cindy and Shellie  
Fundraising Kobe, Deanne and Nicole? (wait until further notice)

Nicole met with Gregg for handover 2014.  
$11 785.62 Balance as at 12 02 2014.  
Moved: Amanda Seconded: Cindy

Fundraising Treasurers Report:  
See P&C folder for further details.  
Moved: Nicole Seconded: Deanne

Current bank balance is $8 400.00. Additional general sales will further increase this balance  
Moved Deanne Seconded: Kobe

Agenda Items:
Family Fun Night 07 03 2014 with potential approx $300 loss.  
- Family Fun Night Organisation: Shellie, Cindy, Danyelle, Michelle, Deanne, Kobe  
- Bunnings BBQ 30 01 2014

Moved: Sharyn Seconded: Kobe

General Business:  
Next meeting Agenda Items:  
Suggestion of Principal’s Report added to Newsletter prior to meeting.  
Local real estate agent offer of Biggest Morning Tea sponsorship.

Next meeting: The next P & C meeting will be  
Wednesday, 12 March 2014 7.00 pm

Meeting Closed: 9.00pm

HOW TO RAISE AN AGENDA ITEM AT A P&C MEETING

If you have an item that you would like to raise with the P&C at a meeting then use the following procedure:
1. Put the item or concern in writing along with your name and contact details.
2. Leave at the front office with Denise. Similarly, you can email the written agenda item to metpca@gmail.com. The written agenda item must be in 1 week prior to the next P&C meeting.

Please note: Contact the P&C committee on the email above or the office if you would like to discuss the agenda item.

P & C SUBSCRIPTIONS

To update your financial membership with the P&C, a subscription of $1.00 per parent is now being taken at the office.

............................................................................................................................
[name - please print]
I have enclosed $1.00 for P&C membership.
Signed:...........................................................................................................
Date:...............................................................................................................

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SAFETY

Page 6
COMMUNITY NEWS:

CUBS/SCOUTS

1st Mt St Thomas Scouts are currently welcoming boys and girls as Cub and Scout members to the Group

**CUB SCOUTS** - ages 7 ½ to 11 years

**SCOUTS** – ages 11 to 15 years

Cubs and Scouts have a lot of fun doing a lot of exciting things! There are games to play, codes and skills to learn, places to see and new friends to meet. Cubs and Scouts all help each other and try to help other people too.

WHERE: 120 Ocean Street, Mount St Thomas

WHEN: Cubs - Each Mon during Term, 6 – 7.30pm

Scouts – Each Tuesday during Term. 7:00 – 9:00pm

For more information see https://mtstthomasscouts.wordpress.com/ or call James Dellow on 0414 233711.

EDMUND RICE COLLEGE – ENROLMENTS

**YEAR 7, 2015**

Applications for enrolment in Year 7, 2015 are now open. The College will hold its Open Day on Wednesday, 12 March from 4.00pm – 6.00pm with an Information Evening for parents at 6.30pm in the Br Pelin Hall.

Enrolment packages are available from the College Office. Applications close Friday, 11 April, 2014.

For more information contact the College on 4228 4344.

WANTED!

Under 11 and Under 12 Girls

FAIRY MEADOW NETBALL CLUB NEEDS YOU!

Come & have some fun with your friends & have the opportunity to meet new friends too.

If you are interested, please call Club President, Margaret Stanley on 4283-5985  ASAP

Figtree Heights OOSH

After School Care

3pm – 6pm

Vacation Care 8am – 6pm

Figtree Heights Public School Hall

St George Avenue, FIGTREE NSW 2525

Phone: (02) 4227 2515
Fax: (02) 4226 5061
Email: centre@fhoosh.net
ABN: 55 782 160 086

Do you need someone qualified and caring to care for your children in the local community?

Then come on in and visit our wonderful out of school hours care service!

We offer care for children 5-12yrs of age and comply with Education and Care National Services Regulations

We are a not for profit community owned business run and operated by Figtree Heights Public School P & C!