**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

**Class Coordinator’s Initiative**

This is a new Parents and Citizens Association (P & C) initiative that is being trialled by Kindergarten, Yr 1 and Yr 2 classes.

The Class Coordinator is one, or perhaps two volunteers from each class who are nominated at the start of the school year to assist the class teacher with coordinating classroom helpers and distributing information to parents.

The Class Coordinator provides valuable assistance to the teacher and the children by liaising with parents, contributing to the coordination of activities for that class and other programs within the school.

One of the greatest strengths of Ourimbah Public School is its friendliness, community spirit, nurturing environment and parent involvement, all of which enhance the educational opportunities of our children.

The Class Coordinator of each class at Ourimbah Public School has an important role in the overall organisation of the school. Class Coordinators will make a significant contribution to the effective management of each class by establishing productive networks within the parent community. The Class Coordinators role might include: coordinating parent helpers for class programs, being a point of contact with other parents, helping new parents with information about the school, coordinating a group of parents to cover reading groups and being an advocate for P & C initiatives, whilst creating and maintaining a climate of cooperation that currently exists between the teachers and the parent community. The Class Coordinators role may vary from class to class and will depend on each class’s particular needs.

Some Class Coordinators may even consider arranging social events to meet other class parents. This is not an expectation in our trial, but Class Coordinators are welcome to do this if they feel there is a need and they are comfortable in this role.

In order to fulfill this role, the Class Coordinator will need to compile a Parent Contact List. All contact details will be treated with confidentiality and will not be shared with other parents. Only the Class Coordinator, the class teacher and the Principal will have access to this information. Parents of Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students should receive additional information this week, either at the Parent/Teacher Evening or via your child.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

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The professional ethics of the school will continue to be maintained and we will comply with privacy legislation. The privacy of all families will continue to be respected. Please note, home addresses, phone numbers or email addresses will NOT be provided to another person unless parents voluntarily provide this information on a signed permission note.

The Class Coordinator is not a spokesperson for the class or parent group, they are the coordinator and disseminator of information as requested primarily by the class teacher, but may also include requests from the Principal and P & C.

Mrs Felicity van't Wel, our Class Coordinator's Coordinator, works in a school that has Class Coordinators. Felicity is happy to meet with Class Coordinators and talk them through the process. Thank you, Felicity, for volunteering to assist with this initiative. Thank you also goes to Sue Davidson who worked with us in compiling the guide for Class Coordinators.

We are looking forward to trialing the P & C’s new initiative, it is one that has worked effectively in other school communities. Thank you to staff who have invested much extra time planning for and learning about this initiative.

**Afternoon Tea for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Parents**
I am looking forward to meeting all of our Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander parents at our special afternoon tea on Monday, 4th at 2.55 pm. The afternoon tea is an important part in the development of our PLP’s (Personalised Learning Plans) for all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students.

**Textbooks**
If you missed text book sale day, which was today, your child’s textbook is being kept at the front office for you. Please send payment in and we will give your child the textbook. It would be appreciated if you could do this as soon as possible, as classes have already started using these valuable resources.

**School Photographs**
School photographs are next Wednesday, 6th March. Please make sure all students are in full summer uniform.

**Swimming Carnival**
Some parents have contacted the school expressing their concerns in regard to our Swimming Carnival being cancelled last Friday. Our sincere apologies to you if you were in any way inconvenienced. We were keen for the carnival to go ahead, however torrential rain put a stop to that at 8.30 am when staff who were already at the pool phoned to say that the weather was foul, seating was wet and early arrivals were already drenched. We tried to leave our options open, in case the weather improved, but the bus company was inflexible. We tried to contact 2GO but couldn’t get through as all their lines were continually engaged. Once again, our sincere apologies to you if you were in any way inconvenienced and I realise that some of you were. We are very fortunate to have caring, supportive parents who come along to these special days with us.

At this stage we have not been able to book another pool and refunds will be forthcoming. We are looking into the possibility of organising another Swimming Carnival sometime throughout the year.

Thank you to Mr Miller for his planning and organisation of the carnival. Thank you also to Mr Edwards, Mr Annabel and Mr Formby for their support and the office staff who endeavoured to answer all of your enquiries.

**Parent/Teacher Meetings**
It was wonderful to see so many parents attend our Parent/Teacher Meetings on Monday evening. I am looking forward to meeting more parents at tonight’s meetings. Some classes have chosen to do this in one long session, whilst others have chosen to meet with parents individually for 10 minutes. Either way, meeting with your child’s teacher is an important part of the education process, clearly demonstrating to your child that you are interested in their education. A BIG THANK YOU to staff and all of the parents who came along to these meetings.

**Advanced Notice**
At the beginning of next term, there will be two Staff Development Days. This is a one off initiative by the department. The first one will be on Monday, 29th April and the second one will be on Tuesday, 30th April. The second day has been granted so that staff can focus on the new Australian Curriculums that are being implemented as of 2014. Students will start back at school on Wednesday, 1st May.

**Useful Websites**
I have included some useful websites in this newsletter. They are well worth taking a look at.

Until next time,
Mrs Linda Trigg,
Principal
Primary school
Helping your Kindergarten child succeed at school
A great way to kick off your child's formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom.
Find out more:

Speech problems
All kids learn how to talk and listen at different rates but did you know there's a general pattern to your child's language development?
Find out more:

Primary and High school
Friendships to boost your child's learning
If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. So teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs.
Find out more:

Assignment starters for the arts
Videos are great resources for getting kids enthused about their assignments. These pages on cubism, percussion and critical studies provide key points to help them get started and links to useful sites to assist with further research.
Find out more:

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR & EFFORT POINTSCORE
Week 3: Winning House – Emus
Week 4: Winning House - Kangaroos

CLASSROOM AWARDS K-2


CLASSROOM AWARDS 3-6


SCHOOL OFFICIALS
Congratulations to the following students who are our school officials for 2013:
Captains – Madeline C and Jack B
Vice Captains – Maya P and Ethan K
Prefects – Ella S and Juan Pablo A

SPORTS NEWS
BASKETBALL
Congratulations to Karina T who attended the Brisbane Water basketball trials at the Central Coast Youth Club at Niagara Park on Wednesday, 20th February. She was successful in being chosen for the team and will now represent Brisbane Water at the Sydney North Primary

STAFF CAR PARK
No private vehicles are permitted in the staff car park between the hours of 8am and 4pm.
The RSL Club car park is available for parking and drop off.
All parents and carers have the responsibility to ensure our students are safe.
Basketball trials at Thornleigh Basketball Stadium on Tuesday, 5th March.
We wish Karina all the best as she tries for a position in the Sydney North team.
Susan English

SYDNEY SWANS VISIT
Last Tuesday, 19th March two players from the Sydney Swans came to speak to our children at a K - 6 assembly. Jake Lloyd and Jed Lamb spoke to the children about a healthy lifestyle, healthy diet and their life as a professional footballer. The children had an opportunity to ask questions and the players were fantastic in their responses. All children took home information about playing AFL. If you would like further information please contact Mr Formby through the School Office.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Unfortunately the school Swimming Carnival had to be cancelled last Friday due to the wild weather conditions. Time trials have been held throughout the week, allowing us to select a Zone representative team. The team will be announced this week, with more information to follow.
Chris Miller

LOST PROPERTY – VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Our lost property cupboard is always overflowing with an abundance of lost items. We are in need of a volunteer or two who would be happy to come in occasionally and sort through the cupboard, so that we can return named items to their owners. This would take approximately one hour and would need to be done two or three times a term. If you would be able to spare some time to help, please see the ladies in the office.

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS
This year our K-2 children will celebrate the role grandparents play in their lives with a special day. Please keep Tuesday, 12th March free to come and visit Ourimbah Public School, meet with other grandparents and share a picnic with your grandchild(ren).

The day will start at 11.15am with morning tea. At 11.30am, following the school’s recess break, you will be entertained with a musical performance outside the Hall.

During this time the Library will also be open for grandparents to view a display of books which are available to purchase and donate to the school. The books will cost $5 or $10 and donated books will have a name plate placed inside them to acknowledge your donation.

Our P&C is again holding their famous Easter Raffle with many amazing prizes! This will be your chance to support the raffle which will be drawn later in the month.

At 12 noon the K-2 children will entertain you in the hall with a special assembly, after which you may share a picnic lunch with your grandchildren under the trees on A oval.

Because of limited hall space, we ask that parents save their visit for the class assembly held later in the year. We are looking forward to seeing all grandparents and grandfriends on the day.
Thank you, K-2 teachers

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos for this year will take place on Wednesday, 6th March. Full SUMMER uniform is to be worn for the photos. Envelopes and information have been sent out. Envelopes are to be filled in and returned on the day of the photos. If paying with cash please have correct money in the envelope as the office and canteen will not have change, and therefore no change can be given. If you require a family photo please return the slip or note to the office and your child will be given a separate yellow family envelope. Envelopes and money will need to be returned on photo day. There is also an album on display at the office for anyone wishing to see it. School Officials and Sporting Officials photos will also be taken on the day and will be displayed in the foyer for orders to be placed at a later date.

Attention Stage 1 parents – Year 1 and Year 2 students are to wear summer uniform on photo day, NOT their sports uniform.

ENROLMENT FORMS YR 6-7 2014
Last week your child should have brought home an Expression of Interest form for them to attend High School next year. Forms need to be completed and returned as soon as possible even if your child is not attending a public high school.

RAINFOREST ACCESS PROJECT (RAP)
We have decided to trial new working bee times this year. We will be at school from 8.30 until 10.15 each Monday morning, pottering about in the Frog Ponds and Rainforest Trail. Please come and join us and have a look around at the beauty that lies hidden within our school. Just ask our lovely office ladies where we are working on any given day and they will direct you to us. We would love to see you! Wear sturdy boots or gumboots, garden gloves and a hat, and bring a drink, and a bucket, if you have one. If
you have any questions, please feel free to call Sue Davidson on 0409 244 534 or have a chat with Liz Moore onsite.

CRAFT FOR THE FAIR
Thank you to the people who donated wool or thread for our friendship bangles.
The next workshop is for making pet rocks. I need donations of clean rounded beach pebbles about the size of a 50 cent piece. Please hand them in at the office.
Mrs Rogers

EASTER RAFFLE
Thank you to all those families who have brought in donations for the Easter Raffle. We still need more donations in order to reach our goal of 100 prizes. Chocolate bunnies, eggs, bunyips would be great, as well as any novelty items to go with them, such as chicks, fluffy bunnies, baskets etc.
Please leave all donations at the office.
The following are our major prizes for the raffle:
1st Prize: a Pendo Pad
2nd Prize: a Video music player
3rd Prize: $50 Westfield Voucher
4th Prize: $20 itunes voucher
5th Prize: Diamante mouse and stylus
6th Prize: a Nerf Gun
Prizes will also have lots of chocolate
Be in it, to win it!!

Thank you to all the families who have already returned their sold raffle tickets. More raffle tickets are available at the office if required.
Thank you, P&C Fundraising

IMPETIGO (School Sores)
There have been several cases of Impetigo reported at the school. Please take the time to examine your child and if necessary take the following precautions:

Here are some facts from the NSW Health Department:
Time from exposure to illness: 1 to 3 days.

Symptoms: Small red spots change into blisters that fill with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp.

Do you need to keep your child home? Yes, until treatment starts. Sores should be covered with a watertight dressing.

How can you help prevent spreading? Thorough hand washing.

Should you require additional information, consult with your Chemist, Doctor or the Central Coast Health Service.

UNIFORM SHOP
Operating Hours
Normal opening hours for the uniform shop are as follows:

Mondays 8.30-9.30 am
Tuesdays 2.30-3.00 pm

Order forms are available from the office with an option to make arrangements for collecting/paying at the canteen or from the uniform shop.

P&C CANTEEN ROSTER
February
Thursday, 28 – Judy Worth
Friday, 1 - Lisa Flood, Kelly Peihopa
Monday, 4 – Julie Hibbens
Tuesday, 5 – Jasmine Olzomer
Thursday, 7 – Jane Brooker
Friday, 8 – Julie Hibbens, Angela Shergold
Monday 11 – Cathy Boylan
Tuesday, 12 – Narelle Smyth, Angela McLachlan

P&C Canteen News
Just a quick note to all our wonderful volunteers, if you can't make it on your rostered day, PLEASE let the canteen know as soon as possible, so a replacement can be arranged. Thank you.

Remember: Treats ONLY on “Treats Tuesday.” Regular recess items are NOT available.
CANTEEN ALERT
Due to WH&S guidelines food brought from home cannot be reheated by canteen staff. If your child has special dietary needs and their food needs to be heated, please send into the canteen first thing in the morning, labelled with their name and class. We will refrigerate it, then reheat and put in lunch tray with other orders. Sorry for any inconvenience.

COMMUNITY NEWS
LISAROW NETBALL CLUB
Lisarow Netball Club is looking for players for their Under 10 netball team for the 2013 netball season. New or experienced players welcome. Season starts Saturday, 6th April 2013. For more information please contact Belinda Bone on 0400 340088 or email lisarownetballclub@yahoo.com.au

LAMBECK BUILDING SERVICES
We are a family business with over 55 years combined experience in the building/carpentry trade in both residential and commercial construction. Check us out on www.lambeckbuilding.com or call Marty Lambeck on 0417-403-683 to arrange a free quote.

TOPDOG TRAINING SCHOOL
Looking for a dog training school in the Ourimbah area? Phone Keith on 0448 087592 or visit www.topdogtraining.com.au