PRINCIPAL NEWS  Kirsty Squires

Swimming Carnival
Well done to all competitors at last week’s swimming carnival. A great deal of enthusiasm and determination was shown by some of our students and it was pleasing to see so many ‘have a go’.
A big thank you to Mr Mitchell for organising a very smoothly run carnival and to the many parent helpers we had on the day, without your help these days could not happen.
Mr Mitchell’s report will announce the age champions and runners-up for the day, along with the winning house group.

Selective Schools Test/School Photos
Yes, it has happened again! There has been another clash of dates with our school photographs. Thursday, 14 March is also the date for the Year 7 Selective Schools Test, therefore school photos have been moved to Thursday, 11 April (Week 11). Photo envelopes can be returned to school filled out and we will store them for that date if you wish.

School Security
Last night the school canteen was broken into. We would encourage anyone who sees something suspicious in and around our school to contact either the police or phone the School Security number 1300 880 021.

STOP PRESS - CANTEEN NEWS
Due to the break in last night canteen will be on tomorrow (Wednesday) and not Friday this week. Available tomorrow only are pies, sausage rolls, lasagne and nuggets. Drinks and snacks also available.

Every Student, Every School
Tomorrow Miss Suazo and I will be attending the second training day for the Every Student, Every School initiative. Miss Ebert will replace Miss Suazo, and Mr Hayden will be teaching Year 4/5.

Splash-a-thon
Last week information regarding the P&C fundraising event this term, the Splash-a-thon, was sent home along with donation cards. This will be a fun way to raise funds for the P&C who are looking into extending the COLA. Donation cards and money are to be returned on the day, Friday 8 March.
As this is also an assembly day, the school assembly will be moved to earlier in the day.

Year 6 National Young Leaders Day
Year 6 have the opportunity to attend the Halogen National Young Leaders Day again this year. It is on Monday, 25 March and Mr Mitchell will be the accompanying teacher. Students will be travelling to Sydney on a bus with other Year 6 students for the mountains schools and at this stage the cost for the excursion is approximately $38. Further information and permission notes will be sent home closer to the date.

Kirsty Squires
Swimming Carnival
The Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival will be on next Tuesday (26 February) at Gosford Pool. An information/permission note has gone home today with the students involved. Congratulations to our Age Champions and Runners Up:

Senior Champions- Hannah and Elia
Runners Up Jasmine and Jack
11 Year Age Champions- Sarah and Nathan T
Runners Up - Mackenzie S and Mackenzie R
Junior Champions - Reiley and Charlotte (equal 1st) and Nathan C
Runner Up - Dilan
Winning House - Swans

Transport will be by private vehicle. To successfully run the event we will require parent help. If you are able to assist on the day could you please indicate on the permission note.

Neil Mitchell

Clean Up Australia Day
The countdown to Clean Up Australia Day is on. We have registered our school as a clean up site for Friday, 1 March 2013. Students are asked to bring in some gloves on that day to protect their hands as we search our school grounds and collect rubbish. Not only will we make our school grounds a better place, we will be helping the environment too!

Choral Festival
It’s here again! The Central Coast Choral Festival will be held in September this year. All of the choir teachers got together last night to run through the song Repertoire. It is packed with a huge range of songs - lots of fun ones and some more challenging. I have asked for students in Years 4, 5 and 6 who are interested in participating to see me asap. There is a $20 fee that covers administration costs and a t-shirt for each choralist. More information will come home to participating students. I will be meeting with interested students this week to discuss more details.

Positive Behaviour for Learning
We enjoyed another fun PBL lesson yesterday focusing on working together. It is great to see that our students are starting to use the PBL language.

Our weekly focus value is RESPECT and the expectation is working together.

K/1C News
Homework
Homework was sent home to all K/1 students last Friday. The homework in the scrap books is due to be returned Thursday. Please ensure homework is completed neatly in lead pencil. Kindergarten may use coloured pencils - no pens or textas please.

Reminder
Just a quick reminder about my long service leave during weeks 5 and 6. Miss Ebert and I have been working together discussing our plans for these two weeks. Miss Ebert will continue teaching the classroom program that has been set in place.

Jade Cranstone

"Worthy Daily Living"
Debating
On Thursday, 7 March eight students have been invited to the Debating Training Day at Erina Heights Public School. A note will be coming home this week. We will be asking for transport help for this excursion. Students who have been invited are: Hannah, Paige, Aaliyah, Mackenzie S, Alara, Sophie, Maddison and Sarah.

Laura Knight

Library News

Library Requests
Yesterday, some students received a notice of overdue library books. A list was attached with the overdue titles. Could all books please be returned as soon as possible.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
A note will be sent home this week with each child to participate in this year’s Premier’s Reading Challenge. Could all notes please come back even if you would prefer your child not to participate. Registration begins in March.

Happy Reading!

Daniela Suazo

Pre-loved Chook House for Somersby School

Parklands Pre-school has offered us their timber chook house (approx. 2m³). We need at least four strong volunteers to help move it from the pre-school to the school - perhaps on Friday 22 February after school? Or during the day?

If you can help with muscle or vehicle please contact Lisa after 7pm on Tuesday on 4340 5425 or 0429 431 889.

P&C News

Il Cadore BBQ - Sunday, 24 February
The P&C has been invited to provide a barbecue lunch for the Somersby Equestrian Club’s event at Il Cadore this Sunday. All funds raised will be used to provide resources for the school. If you would like to volunteer an hour or two of your time to help, please let Nicki Ward know by calling 0417 721 435.

The P&C will also sell slices and cakes at the event. If you are able to cook a sweet snack to sell, please leave your donations at the school office by 3pm this Friday.

Unwanted Uniforms
An opportunity has arisen for unwanted second-hand uniforms to be given to children in need in western NSW. If you have old uniforms that are no longer used and would like to donate them, you can leave them at the school office by the end of this week.

Excess second-hand stock from the uniform shop will also be donated to this cause.

$2 Uniform Pool
The uniform shop maintains a small second-hand uniform pool of good quality uniform items. All items can be purchased for $2.

“Worthy Daily Living”
Splashathon - Friday, 8 March
The Splashathon is back after a one-year break! This popular event is much-loved by children and parents alike. Plan to be there if you can, just to enjoy the fun. Parents will also be needed to help at each water station. A big thankyou to Leanne Jones for organising the event, and to the Somersby Rural Fire Service for providing a tanker of water.

Easter raffle
The P&C will hold its annual Easter raffle and is seeking donations of items for the prizes. If you would like to donate an item, please leave it at the school office.

2012 presentation DVD
DVD copies of the school presentation day are available for $5 per copy. If you would like a copy please send money in an envelope with your child’s name on it to the office.

P&C minutes
If you would like to receive an emailed copy of the P&C minutes, please email somersbypandc@gmail.com, with ‘Minutes Request’ in the subject line. Minutes can also be read on the school website.

Next meeting - Wednesday, 6 March
The Annual General Meeting of the P&C will be held in the library at 7pm on Wednesday, 6 March. New officers will be elected for the 2013 year. It will immediately be followed by the monthly general meeting.

STUDENT BANKING IS HERE!

The School Banking program includes an exciting Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular saving. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a silver coloured Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once your child has individually saved 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool rewards items.

School Banking is also a great fundraiser for our school. The school receives $5 when children make their first deposit at school and a commission on every deposit made through the School Banking program.

Kariong Community Fun Festival 2013
Sunday 17 March
Kariong Mountains High
9.30am – 3.00pm

50 interesting stalls - Art Exhibition & Craft Demonstrations, Kids & Youth Activities, Carnival Rides, Pony Rides, Drumming Workshops, Environmental Talks, Family History Workshops, Alternative Therapies, Food Stalls and Centre Stage Entertainment all day.

We are celebrating St Patrick’s Day and Senior Week with discounts. Bring a picnic rug or be seated in the shade while being entertained. A great, fun and family friendly day out!