PRINCIPAL’S NEWS—Kirsty Squires

Grandparents’ Day
What a fantastic Grandparents’ Day we had last Friday. It is certainly proving to be one of our most popular school events!
A huge thank you to all of our wonderful grandparents and family members who came along to support the day.
Congratulations to Year 6 for running a very popular and successful cake and milkshake stall.

Assessments/Reports
Over the next few weeks students will be taking part in a variety of assessment tasks in preparation for Semester 2 reports. Reports are due to be sent home on Friday, 12 December.

Targeting Early Numeracy (TEN) Training
Mrs Cranstone is continuing with TEN training with Ms Pugh, the facilitator, coming to school to work with the K/1/2 class.

Kindergarten Orientation
Our 2015 Kindergarten Orientation begins next week on Tuesday. We are looking forward to meeting our new students.

Year 7 Selective Class Applications for 2016
There has been a change to the application process for entry to selective classes. There will be no paper applications as all applications need to be submitted online.
Applications for Year 7 selective classes for 2016 are now open and can be submitted up until Monday, 17 November 2014. No applications will be accepted after this date.
Please contact the school if you need any further information.

Year 5/6 News
Well done to Year 6 students and parents last Friday. Delicious cakes and milkshakes were provided efficiently with the bonus of $343.50 being raised to go towards the Year 6 gift to the school. The search for a suitable gift is being narrowed down thanks to the efforts of Mrs Broome and Kirrily Green. The last two fundraisers are the BBQ at the Memorial Club and the Year 6 car wash (Friday, 28 November).

Gala Day K-6
On Friday, 5 November the whole school will be attending a Small Schools’ Gala Day at Adcock Park. Transport will be by bus. A permission note is accompanying this newsletter. Please return promptly. All Somersby teaching staff will be in attendance at this event.
**Basketball**

We had a positive response to the offer to represent our school in basketball with enough students to fill two teams. It was great to see those who have never played before. A big thank you to Cory Gerard for giving up his time to coach the boys. There will be no training this Friday.

*Neil Mitchell*

**Christmas Choir**

Over the next few weeks a group of K-6 students will be rehearsing a range of Christmas carols to perform at a couple of events. On Wednesday, 3 December, the K-5 members of the choir (Year 6 will be attending a high school orientation day) have been invited to perform at Erina Fair and then all choir students will have the opportunity to perform at the Somersby School Carols Night. Rehearsals will be starting this week. If your child has chosen to participate, you will receive a note today outlining all of the information.

*Jade Cranstone*

**P&C News**

**Fundraiser**

Last week children received a Crazy Camel order form for decorative notebooks, diaries, calendars, cards, notebooks & iphone cases. Using either your child’s artwork or a photo, these make beautiful Christmas gifts. The order form and payment needs to be returned to the office by Thursday, 6 November. If you wish to use photos, these will need to be uploaded directly to the Crazy Camel website at www.submitphoto.com.au.

**Next meeting - Wednesday, 12 November**

The next P&C meeting will be held in the school library at 7pm on 12 November. This is a week later than usual because the earlier date would have clashed with the Year 7 parents’ information night at Kariong Mountains High School.

**P&C social night - Thursday, 4 December**

The P&C will wrap up its year with a ‘barefoot bowls’ night at Ourimbah RSL on Thursday, 4 December. Even if you don’t come along to P&C meetings, consider coming along and joining in the fun on this occasion. The more the merrier! For information, phone Nicki Ward on 0417 721 435.

**Are you Bushfire Ready?**

The last week has seen temperatures reaching all time highs bringing a timely reminder of the perils of summer with bushfires at both Mangrove Mountain and Kulnura.

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that Somersby school is in a high risk area meaning we must have an ‘Bushfire Plan and Policy’.

As part of our planning several trees were identified as being dangerous and were either removed or trimmed, and our grounds are cleared of combustible matter such as leaves and fallen branches on a regular basis.

The school also holds regular evacuation drills to ensure all students know what to do in the case of an emergency evacuation.

Should a bushfire threaten our school all teachers, staff and students will remain together and follow the directions of the emergency services.
In the Spotlight

In honour of Grandparents’ Day 5/6M were given the task of writing a limerick about their grandparents. A limerick is a nonsense verse that has five lines. They have a fixed rhyming and syllable structure with lines 1, 2 and 5 rhyming and 3 and 4 forming a different rhyme. We hope you enjoy this selection of limericks!

There once was a man called Pop,
He loved to work non stop.
He worked and worked,
To develop a crop.
To feed a hungry lot.  

*Michael*

There once was a man named Pop,
He loved to go to the shop.
He bought a chicken,
And started licken’,
His favourite lollypop.  

*Nathan T*

My Nan and Pop are Greek,
They love to play hide and seek.
We love to run,
And have lots of fun.
And they love to eat raw leek!  

*Peter*

There was an old man named Pop,
Who owned a tractor shop.
He worked all day,
Without delay.
And never wanted to stop.  

*Ella*

My Noona is the best,
She puts me through my test.
What you should know,
I love her so.
My Noona is the best!  

*Sierrah*

My Grandads a bit of a goon,
Because he always carries a spoon.
He’s a mysterious guy,
So I don’t know why.
But I think it’s for dishing out prunes!  

*Louis*

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**TERM DATES 2015**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>School Swimming</td>
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<td>February 24</td>
<td>Small Schools’ Swim Carnival</td>
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<td>May 18</td>
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<td>Jenolan Caves</td>
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The community acknowledges traditional custodians of the land on which the school is located.
News from The Department of Education and Communities Website

What is a homonym?
Let's face it, English can be a crazy language. Take homonyms, for example. These are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings. This homonym list will provide some clarity.


Sun safety
This spring has seen temperatures soar. A new information pack with the latest advice on sun safety is available for schools and parents.


Digital citizenship
We're the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills – how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online.

Here are some tips to get you started:

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OURIMBAH SURGERY IS OPEN TO NEW PATIENTS!

Dr. Heather Reid and Ourimbah Surgery would like to announce they are now taking new patients. We bulk bill all Health Care Card Holders, Pensioners and children aged 16 years and under. For enquiries and appointments please call (02) 4362 3162.

Our friendly staff look forward to welcoming you and your families to our practice!

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PBL Wall of Fame

Congratulations to last week’s

Happy and Friendly

Breannah (Week 3)