**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**  

**Education Week**  
This year marks the 60th anniversary of celebrating public education in NSW. In 1954 the original slogan for Education Week was ‘Lighting the way to a better world.’ 60 years later this slogan still rings true and is being used to help celebrate this week.

We are marking this week with an Open Day held today where parents were invited into classrooms to see for themselves the wonderful things their children are working on.

We then went to the hall for the stage finals of public speaking and the spelling bee. Thank you to Mrs MacNeil who adjudicated the public speaking competition. Well done to the following students who will now go on to compete in the Central Coast Public Speaking Competition to be held at Chertsey PS on the 14th August:

- Early Stage 1 – Burnum, Benjamin
- Stage 1 – Bethany, Emmerson
- Stage 2 – Dane T, Hayley
- Stage 3 – Teela, MacKenzie

The following students have earned a place in the Premier’s Spelling Bee to be held at Wadalba Community School on the 18th September:

- Stage 2 – Reiley, Charlotte
- Stage 3 – Teela, Sophie

We would also like to congratulate Pia and Nicky for winning the parents v students competition (which was not rigged at all, with words like ‘cat’).

Thank you to all parents and family members who came along to support our students’ today.

Our morning tea together was lovely, and a big thank you to Year 6 for putting on another wonderful cake stall!

**Year 6 Fundraiser**
On Wednesday, 13th August Year 6 will be holding a ‘Onesie/Pyjama Day’ to raise funds to go towards their end of year gift. More details to come in next week’s newsletter.

Continuing on with Education Week celebrations will be the Kariong Mountains Learning Community’s ‘Day of Excellence’ to be held at Kariong Mountains High School tomorrow beginning at 10am. Our school band, recorder group and dance group will be performing, along with acts from our local schools. All parents and families are welcome to attend.

The final event for the week will be NAIDOC Week activities at Peats Ridge PS. Could all permission notes be returned as soon as possible.

**Central Coast Public Education Awards of Appreciation**
The Gosford Office of the Department of Education and Communities holds an
annual awards ceremony to help schools recognise the hard work by members of their school community. This year the school has nominated Ms Ingrid Scott and Mrs Jane Azapardi for their hard work and dedication shown towards the religious instruction of our students. These roles are volunteer positions and as such deserve the recognition of all here at Somersby Public School.

The ceremony will take place on the 12th of August at Northlakes High School.

I’m sure you will join with us in saying a big thank you to both ladies.

Welcome

We would like to welcome two new students in Year 1; Angelo who started last Friday and Ali who will join us next Monday.

We know you will enjoy it here at Somersby Public School!

Kirsty Squires

Year 5/6

Thank you to Year 6 parents who provided cakes for our fundraiser last week. Students should have been practising their recorders for Wednesday’s concert.

A class newsletter will be going home with Friday’s homework.

AFL Clinics

The AFL clinics commence this afternoon. Each student received a flyer with registration details after last week’s skills session.

Athletics

I imagine that an enjoyable day was had by all at last week’s athletics carnival. A big thank you to all parents and grandparents who either helped, participated or did both.

The winning house on the day was the Falcons.

Congratulations also, to the following age champions and runners up:-

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<tr>
<th>AGE CHAMPIONS</th>
<th>RUNNERS UP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aron Broadhead</td>
<td>Tate Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Addison Ruane</td>
<td>Benjamin Stevenson</td>
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<td>Nathan Cahill</td>
<td>Adam Hall</td>
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<td>Nathan Taylor</td>
<td>Samuel Wright</td>
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<td>Emmerson Squires</td>
<td>Michael Apap</td>
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<td>Hayley Swinnerton</td>
<td>Breanna Smith</td>
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<td>Henna Brown</td>
<td>Ruby Ruane</td>
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<td>Ella Ruane</td>
<td>Teela Borrowdale</td>
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<td>Sarah Green</td>
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A note accompanies this newsletter for the students who have qualified for the Small Schools’ Carnival to be held on the 8th August 2014. A programme of events will be passed on when it comes to hand.

Neil Mitchell

Public Speaking

A huge congratulations to everyone who participated in the Public Speaking competition. We were all very impressed with the standard of topics, creativity and obvious hard work that went into the speeches. I know Mrs MacNeil had a hard time choosing the winners.

The students who are representing Somersby at the Central Coast Public Speaking Competition are:
Mrs MacNeil gave the older students a few pointers to help improve their speeches for the next round of the competition. If you would like me to help you with some ideas please arrange to see me at lunchtime next week. The Central Coast Public Speaking Competition will be held on Thursday 14th August 2014 at Chertsey Public School. More details will be sent out to participants next week. Congratulations again to everyone involved.

Dance
Tomorrow we are performing at Kariong Mountains High School. I am a little concerned with the amount of costumes that have been returned. Students without costumes tomorrow may not be allowed to perform. If costumes are not returned you may be billed for the cost of replacing these for future dances.

Relay for Life
Next week, Wednesday 6th August 2014 Team Somersby is hosting a movie night at Event Cinemas Tuggerah at 6.30pm. It would be great to see some of our fantastic community there. Tickets are $20 per person. Contact Mrs Knight or Mrs Cranstone to purchase tickets. Please note that we are watching an MA15+ movie. We’d love to see you there.

Laura Knight

P and C News

P&C Spending
Last Thursday a special meeting was held to discuss the P&C’s spending plan for 2014-2015. The outcomes were as follows:

- Purchase of learning & support
- PM readers, levels 3-17 home readers,
- 3 x 16GB iPads
- Installation of wireless internet in the library
- A small bench extension in the canteen
- A colourbond garden shed with concrete floor to house 2 new BBQs which will replace our old outdated ones.
- Providing barbecued food at events has been and will continue to be a major part of our fundraising.
- In total the P&C has just allocated around $10,000 to improve and update resources. All this would not be possible without the help of all families and community members.
- There is still a list of projects, both large and small that the P&C is keeping in mind for the near future.
- Thank you to everyone for your support.

P&C Meeting

Wednesday, August 6
The P&C will hold its usual monthly meeting in the library at 7pm on Wednesday, August 2. Everyone is welcome. Come along – as you can see from the above list, the P&C really does make a difference to the resources provided to our school!

Amelia Sebens
Sophie Walker
School Safety Tips for Parents and Carers Drop-off and Pick-up by car

Make sure your children are in an appropriate child restraint that is fitted and used correctly. Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone as children are about and can be unpredictable. Look out for buses pulling out – watch for wig-wag lights. Always park and turn legally around schools and avoid dangerous manoeuvres like U-turns and three-point turns. Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways. Drop the kids off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school’s designated drop-off and pick-up area. Calling out to them from across the road can be dangerous because they may run to you without checking traffic. It’s safest for the kids to get out of the car on the kerb side of the road to be away from passing traffic.

Walking together to and from school

Plan your trip to school so you are using pedestrian crossing areas where possible. Always hold your child’s hand up until the age of eight. Young children need your help to spot danger like vehicles coming out of driveways, they can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic. Drop off and pick up your child near the school gate and avoid calling them from across the road. Talk to your children about Stop, Look, Listen and Think every time they cross the road (more details can be found on the RTA site)

For more information, go to: http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/

Somersby School Lanyard with 8 gig USB drive

Only $15

Please visit the school office if you or child would like to purchase one

Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair
Saturday 18th October 2014
10.00am to 4pm — See attached schedule

“Rain Hail or Shine”

The exciting annual Mangrove Mountain & Districts Country Fair is the fun ‘Jewel in the Crown’ of the area’s unique community life. It’s a place to catch up with friends and neighbours, experience rural activities first-hand, pet animals, learn about some old-fashioned country customs and discover an exciting array of entertainment, local food and beverages. Experience a great day of country fun - everything from pig races to snake handlers, cows to computers, art to astronomy, with championship wood-chopping, loads of farm & native animals, farm produce displays, handcrafts, music, plants, home-made cakes and jams, and... a few surprises thrown in!

Thank you for all the support and donations to Operation Christmas Child over the last few years. Many children in neighbouring countries have been blessed at Christmas with the presents you have all given. This year we have decided to still help people in need, but are changing the focus to proving clean drinking water to children, families and communities in developing countries. We as a nation are so blessed to have access to clean and plentiful water so our aim is to teach an understanding to our children what other injurer and how we can help. Your child/children will be given a full bottle of water to take home, drink and enjoy. Once the bottle is empty it is asked to be filled with 5 cent pieces and returned to school at the end on Term 3. Don’t feel pressured to completely fill to bottle – every small amount helps when we work together.

Thank you for your help and support and look forward to seeing how much can be raised. If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to call Mel SRE Peats Ridge 0408 701 144 or go to turnonthetap.org.au

RESIDENTS FOR YOUR SAFETY

A small yellow car possibly a Hyundai or Lancer has been seen in the Somersby area possibly connected to a series of break ins. Please be on the look out.