PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for your support of the Parliament’s drought relief fundraiser. A final amount raised will be printed in next week’s newsletter as the Jelly Bean Competition is still running during this week.

Parent/teacher interviews will be offered in the last two weeks of this term from the 31st March – 10th April for most classes. Further details are included later in this newsletter.

We had a huge roll up of proud parents and grandparents at last week’s Assembly of Excellence. Our band and choir performed admirably, the award winners and sport champions stood tall and the audience was exceptional. Congratulations to all award winners and thank you to all our children for all your efforts always.

Every child’s safety is everyone’s concern.

Denise Rispen – Principal

GATE CLOSURE TIMES
Mornings 8.45 – 9.30
Afternoons 2.30 – 3.15

ASSEMBLY
Assemblies this year will be Fridays 12.40pm

COMING EVENTS
17/3  P & C Meeting 7pm tonight
18/3  Responsible pet talks for K-2
19/3  National Ride 2 School Day Years 3-6
21/3  Anti-Bullying and Harmony Day
27/3  Cross Country
28/3  CSIRO Science Show
9/4   Easter Hat Parade
10/4  Family Fun Night at Bunnings Belmont

AWARDS
Assembly of Excellence Awards Term 1
KR: Akesh T - Achievement in Reading.
KB: Heidi H - Excellent attitude and application in all Key Learning Areas.
KG: Lacey B - Excellent application and attitude in all Key Learning Areas.
1E: Kaleah K - Excellence in Literacy.
1G: Kalan G - Excellence in Mathematics.
1/2S: Amy W - Excellence in Literacy.
2C: Amara D - Achievement in Mathematics.
2L: Max W - Working Mathematically.
2/3P: Zeke R - Excellent application in all Key Learning Areas.
3S: Clair G - Excellent attitude and application in all Key Learning Areas.

3/4C: Kaelia D - Excellence in Literacy.
4P: Lily W - Working Mathematically
4/5W: Brooklyn W - Achievement in Literacy.
5L: Chloe S - Excellence in Mathematics.
6S: Jessica G - Achievement in Mathematics.
6M: Rachel B - Excellence in Number.
Junior Ebony K - Consistent Effort and Improvement in band.
Senior Molly F - Consistent Effort and Improvement in band.

Gold Award: Stephen C – 2C.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Our online booking option for booking an interview with your child’s teacher is now open. Please go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and type the letters RKMVP into the school event code box and hit go. Follow the instructions and your time is booked. You will only see the times that are available. Once a parent books a time it is not offered as an option to anyone else. If you are unable to access the internet at home there is a computer in the office that you can use to book your time. Otherwise please contact the office.

UNIVERSITY OF NSW – EXTERNAL TESTS
The opportunity to participate in these tests is offered to students in Years 3-6. Participation is voluntary and each test has an entry fee. If you would like your child to participate, please complete the tear off form below and return to school with correct money for entry fees. Entries close this Friday 28th March. This is the closing date for these tests and cannot be extended.

University of NSW – External Tests – ENTRY FORM

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Mathematics</td>
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NATIONAL RIDE 2 SCHOOL DAY
This Wednesday Years 3-6 are encouraged to participate in the National Ride 2 School initiative. K-2 can join in by walking to school or riding with their parents/carers.

Australian Safety Standard helmets should be worn and a pre-ride check on brakes, gears, chains and tyres be carried out at home. As part of our school uniform is yellow, the ‘bright for easy sight’ our school already ticks one of the safety recommendation.

Fifteen hundred schools nationally participate in this initiative which supports an active, healthier and safer 2014 for our children.
**SCHOOL LEVY**
These payments are now **overdue**. If you are experiencing difficulty please contact us. There is approximately $3200 in payments still outstanding.

**MOBILE PHONES**
Australian mobile Recycling is conducting another drive to collect any old mobile phones, iPad and/or tablets. If you have any of these lying around at home please send them in by the 4th April and we will organise their disposal. The money raised will be put towards our technology purchases.

**BOOK CLUB**
Book club orders have been extended to this Tuesday 18th March. Please make sure orders are in by this date.

**SPORT**
The school cross country event that was set down for 8/4 has had to be rescheduled for the 27th March.

Congratulations to the following children in gaining representation into Zone Teams following last week’s trials.

**Soccer:** Ethan H and Chloe S.
**Rugby League:** Harry Mc, Cruz K, Kye B, and Zane B.

This week the following children will trial for Zone selection.

**Netball:** Abbie L, Elise K, Olivia C and Amber C.
**A.F.L:** Zach M, Jack Mc and Hugo H.

All the best to these children.

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!!**
If your child is absent, please remember that Departmental regulations state parents must provide a reason. Regular absences, late arrivals or early departures impact on your child’s learning. Excellent attendance promotes:

- Improved learning outcomes
- Results in school based testing and external assessments reflecting the student’s potential
- Opportunities in sport, music and other activities
- Positive teacher / student relationships
- Improved peer interactions and social skills
- Student safety and wellbeing
- A school report reflecting positive attendance and punctuality
- Enhanced future prospects in education and employment

**KINDY NOTICEBOARD**
Our sound this week is ‘e’ and revision of previous sounds (s,a,t,i,p,n,c,k).

Congratulations to the children who have already received their ‘20 nights’ reading award!

Mrs Thurston, Mrs Johns Mrs McDonald and Mrs Scott

**BAND NEWS**
Congratulations to the band and choir for providing such great entertainment at last Friday’s Assembly of Excellence. Our school is very proud to offer every child an opportunity to take part in such quality programs and then the opportunity to showcase their talents at school events.

Also, congratulations to our award recipients, Molly F and Ebony K for their consistent effort and improvement in band - well done girls!

**Upcoming events:**
**Hot Cross Bun fundraiser**
Thursday 10th April - Easter Family Fun Night at Bunnings Belmont
23rd and 24th July - BandLink at Newcastle Town Hall

Have a great week!

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**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**
The Easter Family Fun Night at Bunnings is scheduled for Thursday 10th April (2nd last night of term) and the whole school is welcome to come along. Last year was a great success as many families supported the night.

Many thanks again to Alanna Loretan for securing this event for us this year. I will provide more details in next week’s newsletter.

**RUGBY UNION**
The ARU will be running a one day camp (CAMP WALLABY) in April for U6 to U9 and a 3 day camp (CAMP WALLABY), also in April for U10 to U14.

Details of the camp, the cost and how to register are listed below.

Please also note that the camp is a non-residential camp.


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**Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?**
Join Saver Plus and match your savings dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- School uniforms and text books
- Computers, laptops and tablets
- Excursions and camps
- Sports equipment, uniforms and lessons.
- Music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school and study yourself.

**CONTACT:** Cynthia Culhane, your local Savers Plus worker –
02 4927 8385 / 0418 699 646
or
cynthia.culhane@thesmithfamily.com.au