Welcome back! After a very wet and unusual beginning, Term 2 is now off to a flying start.

Last week was incredibly difficult for many in our community and beyond. While I know making our school non-operational was difficult for some families, the decision each day was always made with all the children’s safety at the forefront of my mind. Thank you to everyone for your understanding.

Our school app came in very handy last week, making it very easy to get the news out to most families. Apparently there has been a sharp spike in the number of families who have now downloaded the app.

Last term ended on such a high with the huge turnout for our Easter Hat Parade, thank you to all those family members who were able to come along. A huge thank you also for the generous donations of Easter eggs for the raffle.

Another huge thank you goes to Bo Kraitzer and Jim Ellison for their construction of our garden bed under the COLA area. A new look for our playground is under way!

At the end of last term, interviews were held for our Assistant Principal’s (AP) position (left vacant after Mrs Gibson’s appointment - the teaching role is currently held by Mr Zaia and the relieving AP role by Mrs Johns) with Ms Thea Sullivan (from Wallsend South PS) being appointed to that position. However through negotiation with her current school, she will not take up the role until Term 3. Therefore Mr Zaia and Mrs Johns will continue in the roles until then.

And yet again, another huge thank you to all families who were able to come along to the Anzac Day activities on Saturday - our school made an impressive addition to all the groups who were able to march on Saturday morning. Because of the events of last week, unfortunately our school service had to be cancelled.

Everyone’s safety is everyone’s concern.

Denise Rispen Principal
YEARS OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT TESTS

Applications for Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2016 opens on Monday 27 April 2015 and closes on Friday 15 May 2015. Late applications will not be accepted. For parents of 2015 Year 4 students all applications this year are online only, there are no paper applications.

All students seeking Year 5 an opportunity class placement in 2016 will be required to take the Opportunity Class Placement Test on Wednesday 22 July 2015.

Parents without internet access can use a public library to complete their online application or come into school where we can provide internet access. Parents with a disability that prevents them from using a computer should contact the Unit for assistance. Application procedures are published on the internet at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement.

ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS - PEANUTS/NUTS

Caves Beach PS has an Anaphylaxis Policy to support school practices for students with severe allergies. The policy aligns with DEC requirements and ensures that students, staff and caregivers are aware of anaphylaxis conditions, what foods need to be avoided and the procedures if a student or adult have an anaphylaxis reaction. As part of our commitment parents are asked not to send raw nuts and peanut butter or nut product sandwiches to school in their children’s lunch. These procedures are put into place to ensure a safe learning environment for all children and your support in ensuring safe practices is followed is greatly appreciated.

SCHOOL LEVY

A huge thank you to those parents who have been able to finalise this payment, we are now down to approximately $3500 in payments still outstanding. In case some parents have forgotten, reminder notes were sent home last term. If you are experiencing difficulty please contact us.

ACTIVE TRANSPORT PROGRAM

Starting Monday 27th April Caves Beach Public School and Lake Macquarie City Council will be working together in Term 2 to assist students, where possible, to use active modes of transport like walking and cycling in their commute to school. Walking and riding to school can be a fun, social and healthy activity for students (and parents) and can also help reduce vehicle traffic and improve safety around the school. At the end of the three week program you will receive a survey. All Year 5 students will participate in three free cycling workshops at the school.

INFORMATION CURRENTLY OVERDUE AT SCHOOL:
1. BOOK LEVY ($60 K-5 and $140 Year 6)
2. ANAPHYLAXIS AND ASTHMA ACTION PLANS
   (from your doctor)
3. UPDATED STUDENT INFORMATION SHEETS
   (mauve sheet)

WHAT’S NEW IN THE CLASSROOMS

Early Stage 1 – KM

Wow! What a start to Term 2! Welcome back to our Kindergarten children and parents. This is officially Week 2 so we will be starting our homework and Literacy groups this week. The sounds that we are looking at are ‘i’ and ‘h’ and new sight word booklets have been put into their homework folders. Please remind your child to change home readers on a regular basis. Kindergarten will be starting a new unit of work learning all about our Australian animals. At the end of the term we hope to be going to the Australian Reptile Park for our excursion to see some of these animals. Have a great term.

Stage 1 - 1/2M

This term we are all excited to be learning about animals and natural and built environments. The children have been sharing stories and writing about their favorite native animals. We are delighted that we will be going to the Reptile Park later in the term. It is going to be a fantastic term.

Stage 2 – 3/4M

What an interesting start to Term 2! With an extra week’s holiday for all the students, I am sure they are all rested up and ready to get straight into hard work.

This term our English and History units will be closely linked. We will be studying Early Exploration week before the First Fleet arrived in Australia, with a particular focus on Captain Cook. Maths concepts and spelling rules/words studied throughout the term are all listed on our Stage 2 Weebly, which is found at www.cbpssstage2.weebly.com

We have our Stage 2 excursion currently being organised for Week 6. Please pay your $50 deposit as soon as possible so we can let the bus company know final numbers. A parent meeting to discuss the excursion is planned for this Wednesday in the 3/4P classroom after school. A separate note will accompany this Newsletter.

It seems so long ago but here are a couple of photos from the Stage 2 Science excursion last term. Even though it was a place most had been to many times before, with their new found knowledge on weathering, erosion, rock formations and fossils, the children loved exploring their caves from a whole new perspective.

Stage 3 – 6W

Power Sentences

In the sunny hot afternoon, the brown headed, handsome boy rode his skateboard speedily to the most popular shop in town with all his friends.

It was a cold, winters afternoon; the frostbitten, annoying boy crept slowly but carefully to the shop, as if he was walking on thin ice.

At dawn the peaceful, tranquil penguin gracefully swam away like an eagle gliding through the snowy peaks.

It was a hot spring afternoon; the tough muscly boy angrily rode to the shop like a bull on a small bike.

In 1984, on a windy afternoon, a young, hairy, weird boy bolted to the most popular shop in town like a robber was chasing him.

By Tallara, Jess, Haydn, Chloe, Jayde and Aurora.

SPORT

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

Zone Cross Country has been rescheduled for Thursday 30th April, 2015.

BAND NEWS

I am looking forward to band returning this term. Last term, the Senior children were learning a beautiful Anzac Day song that will now be saved for next year. Over the holidays the band room has had a bit of a revamp, with brand new carpet being laid. Thank you to Mrs Scott and her helpers for removing and then returning the band equipment during this time.

The band committee meeting is this Thursday morning in my classroom. Please come along even if you would just like to listen to any information about the band. Any new faces and ideas are always welcomed.

A reminder that band fees are $50 (junior) and $60 (senior) per term. It is preferable if you can pay via direct debit or send a clearly marked envelope to the office.
BandLink at the Newcastle Jockey club is coming up early in Term 3. As there is a payment involved, I will be sure to give plenty of notice. More details to follow soon. Wishing everyone a wonderful term ahead.

Please remember to add a reference when direct debiting. Direct deposit details: Account Name: Caves Beach PS Concert Band BSB 062820 account no. 00903319.

Have a great week! Michelle Thurston

LIBRARY
Premiers Reading Challenge is now online.
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/premiersreadingchallenge/

CANTEEN
There will be a new menu going home with this week’s newsletter. Please note that there has been some price increases. If for some reason your child does not bring one home there will be copies available at the school office.

Please note that the canteen will closed Monday and Tuesday this week. We will re-open on Thursday, sorry for the inconvenience.

Roster
Monday 27 April – CLOSED
Tuesday 28 April – CLOSED
Thursday 30 April – Rebecca Paterson and Nicole Emanuel
Friday 1 May – Michelle Coutts, Nicole Owens, Denise McKenzie, Kristy Kaslik and Kerri-Lyn Janiszewski

Monday 4 May – Ala Burrows and Belinda Puttergill
Tuesday 5 May –
Thursday 7 May – Mel Mcspadden and Jo Corbett
Friday 8 May – Jo Mazzitello, Alicia Drain, Denise McKenzie Sonia Fred and Kiani Kingston

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers

ANZAC March

ANZAC March

Easter Hat Parade

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER!
Let’s get organised early!

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2015 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Call your local coordinator today on: 0429406126 to request some student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Disclaimer: The advertisements included in the schools newsletter should in no way be considered as recommendations by this school. Any advertising fees paid, help to offset printing costs.
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