Calendar

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<td>Cleanup Australia Day</td>
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<td>Tues 5th March</td>
<td>Starstruck Final Rehearsal 8.00</td>
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<td>Fri 8th March</td>
<td>School Cross Country 2.00</td>
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<td>Tues 12th March</td>
<td>Young Leadership Day – Tenambit P.S.</td>
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<td>Fri 15th March</td>
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<td>Thurs 21st March</td>
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Zone Swimming Carnival

We had 7 students participate at the Zone Swimming Carnival in Maitland. We sincerely thank Mrs Jenni Summerville for acting as manager on the day. Heat results----Amy 4th backstroke; Emma 5th backstroke, 2nd freestyle; Liam 2nd breaststroke, 2nd freestyle; Lachlan 7th freestyle; Kimberley 2nd freestyle; Chelsie 4th freestyle; Tom 3rd Freestyle. Although nobody qualified for regional, Mrs Summerville reported that all the children swam very well and represented our school beautifully.

Cleanup Australia Day - Reminder

We will be participating in the national Schools Cleanup Day tomorrow, Friday 1st March. We will be involved from 10.30 -11.30 that morning. We have the cleanup bags for the day, but all children will need to wear some gardening gloves - so please ensure your child brings a pair to school on the day. Parents are welcome to assist us. The K-2 students will be cleaning up around the school grounds, with the 3-6 children cleaning up along Paterson Road and around Woodville Hall. Please ensure all permission notes for those children cleaning along the road (3/4/5/6) are brought in on time, otherwise they will join in with the younger students.

CMA - 4/5/6

Next Tuesday 5th March, a representative from the Hunter Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority will be presenting a one hour presentation to the 4/5/6 class. This is in preparation for the Paterson-Allyn Environmental Education Competition. This discussion forum will focus on stormwater and water pollution in our local catchment in preparation for the students designing a brochure. This competition positively complements our waterwatch program where children monitor and care for our local waterways.

Year 6 Leaders Day at Tenambit

On Tuesday 12th March, our Year 6 students will be participating in a Student Leadership Day being held at Tenambit P.S. This is our Maitland Learning Community (primary schools that feed into Maitland H.S.) initiative. The day will provide students from a wide range of school leadership experiences, opportunities to meet with leaders from other schools, share experiences, improve their knowledge, skills and confidence and build connections with students from partner schools as they prepare for high school. They are to identify a project that they can take back to school, and as a leadership team, monitor and see it to a conclusion. It is hoped that through this leadership initiative, the students will learn how to apply school knowledge in real life contexts or problems, and be able to share their work with audiences beyond the classroom and school. Year 9 students from Maitland H.S. will support the students throughout the day. Mrs Dianne Murphy will accompany our students and support them as well, ensuring their project is well supported upon their return to school.
Awards

**Merit Awards** were presented in:-

K/1
- Archie for good class participation
- Lily C for being a great reading helper
- Danny for great effort in maths
- Sophie S for contributing well in class discussions
- Isabella for having a go at drawing something different

1/2/3
- Sophie D for her mature attitude to her school work
- Joel for great work in reading
- Oscar D for working well in all class activities
- Hillary for consistent effort in all tasks
- Grace for great work in writing activities
- Oscar D for showing enthusiasm in art lessons

4/5/6
- Jesse for having such a positive attitude to learning
- Bailea for working hard in class
- Tim for working to a higher level in class
- Felicity for showing enthusiasm in art lessons

**Peer Nominated Citizenship Award**
- Clinton for working well inside and outside of class

**Teacher Nominated Citizenship Award**
- Zac & Lachlan for voluntarily cleaning up after Starstruck breakfast

**Library Award**
- Luci C for always borrowing

**Environmental Award**
- Bethany for always helping and volunteering in environmental groups

**Healthy Food Award**
- Felicity for having nice manners

**Birthdays:**
- Sophie D turned 9 on 17th February
- Jesse turned 10 on 20th February
- Shyla turned 10 on 21st February
- Jack turned 6 on 27th February
- Emma turned 11 today!!

**School Cross Country**
Our School Cross Country will again be held “across the road at the Redmans’ property” on Friday 8th March from 2.00 – 3.15. All children will be involved with our younger children (up to 10) walking or running 2km and our 11 and 12 year olds running 3km. All parents are also welcome to attend as it is always a great way to finish the week, seeing so many of our school community involved. Those who qualify (8yrs to 12yrs) will be competing in the Zone Cross Country being held at Tocal on Friday 5th April.

**5 aside Soccer at Gresford**
On Friday 15th March we have nominated a team for the Small Schools 5 a side soccer (football) competition. This day has been organised for Years 3 and 4. So far we have 6 children nominated, we would like at least 8 (the children go on and off throughout the day). Both boys and girls can play so please let us know as soon as possible so we can make the day happen.

**Star Struck Practices**
All Star Struck dancers are reminded that our practices are tomorrow at 2:30pm and Tuesday at 8.00 am.

**Enrolment Policy and Procedures**
At our School Council Meeting yesterday, we had some rigorous discussion about our increasing numbers. Our current enrolment is 73 leaving us only 5 short of 78, the next number required to form another class. Our community is growing, it is a fact of life so we have to plan for the future. Over the last few weeks I have had numerous enquiries for enrolment at our school from “out of zone” families. I have declined their enrolments as we have already reached our “buffer zone” as stated in our enrolment policy. We cannot “fill our numbers for another class” by enrolling students from out of zone. Over the last couple of years we have enrolled families from other areas—each of these enrolments was considered on an individual basis and need. All of these families are now a very important and welcome part of our school community. The preservation of our “small school environment” is paramount but we have to accept that times can change and that we may have to adapt to this change.
2014 and 2015 enrolments
To that end, we would like to know of future enrolments form our “local, in zone families” so we can appropriately plan for the future. If you are planning to enrol your child in 2014 or 2015 at our school, please contact Alison in the office.

PSSA plans
As of last week, I have taken on the role as the Maitland Zone Primary Schools Sports Association (P.S.S.A.) President. In the near future we hope to have developed a Maitland Zone PSSA website which should enable everyone to keep abreast of all school sporting events in our zone.

Class of 2013 - Kindergarten
The Maitland Mercury will be doing a pictorial of the 2013 Kindergarten students on Wednesday 20th March.

Singleton Horse Sports Day will be held on Friday 17th May 2013

Lovedale Long Lunch
Social fundraiser for Iona Public School
On Sunday 19th May
$100.00 per head
Includes a fabulous day of food, wine, entertainment, transport & $20 from each ticket sold going to the school
RSVP by 25th March
For more information contact Kim on 0417 047012

Clean – Up Australia Day
I give permission for my child /ren ........................................to clean up along Paterson Rd and around Woodville Hall on Friday 1st March 2013.

Signed: .......................................................... Date: ..........................................................

Years 3 & 4 Soccer
My Child .......................................................... would like to play in the 5 aside gala day at Gresford on Friday 15th March.

Signed: ..........................................................
If school expenses are weighing you down, there is a way to lighten the load. The Schoolkids Bonus starts in 2013 and replaces the old Education Tax Refund (ETR).

$410 a year for each primary student
(paid in two instalments of $205)

$820 a year for each secondary student
(paid in two instalments of $410)

Are you eligible?

You could receive the Schoolkids Bonus if you have a child in primary or secondary school and receive a family or income support payment (including Family Tax Benefit Part A) or you are a primary or secondary student receiving an income support payment.

See if you're eligible at australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus