**Small Schools Soccer Team - Reminder**

We have again entered the State Knockout Soccer (football) P.S.S.A. competition as a combined Paterson River Small Schools team. Tomorrow, Friday 15th March (just after our cross country) we will be having a selection trial afternoon from 3.30 – 4.30 in our school grounds. Children from Hinton and Mount Kanwary (boys and girls) will be coming along as well. Any children from Years 4-6 who wish to come to our trials, please let me know. Mrs Tracy Merchant will be our coach once again this year.

**School Cross Country - Tomorrow**

We will be holding our School Cross Country tomorrow on the Redman’s property across the road tomorrow. We will be leaving school at 2.00 with all children expected to participate. The younger children will have a shortened course. All parents are invited to join in as well. **School Sports Uniform is to be worn.**

**Harmony Day**

Harmony Day is on 21st March. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

We will be celebrating Harmony Day on Thursday 21st, commencing at 9:15 am with a short performance by the choir. The students will then break into four groups and rotate through four activities. Mrs Chang (Fang-Chi and Fang-Chiao’s mum) will be teaching everyone a simple rhyme in Mandarin, Mr Hughes (Isabella’s dad) will be talking about life in England compared to Australia and Mr Szabo (Sophie’s dad) will be enlightening us about life in Hungary. The final activity is a craft activity making a Chinese lantern. **We would like all children to wear something orange (ribbon, t-shirt, socks, shorts etc.—making this an out of uniform day)** and if parents wish they can join us for this morning session. I’m sure all of us would be interested in learning about other cultures!

**Harmony Day Cookies**

4/5/6 class is planning to make Mezeskalacs – Hungarian honey cakes. We will sell these during lunchtime on Harmony Day. Each biscuit will cost 20c (we may have more than 1 per student - so bring some extra coins). Money raised will go towards African Aid Foundation.

Cookie ingredients:-
- Flour, sugar, honey, butter, cinnamon, cloves, baking soda, lemon and egg.
Poetry
Yrs 4/5/6 enjoyed their second Video Conference yesterday, learning the art of poetry with the well-known Australian Poet, Libby Hawthorn. I have included an example of a short piece of writing from Charlotte, which demonstrates metaphorical language. Her metaphorical walk is:

*The path is like a vein*

*As it flows to the heart of the forest*

*The creek is the soul of the forest*

*The waterfall is a fountain of tears.*

Written by Charlotte

Young Leaders Day in Sydney
On Monday 25th March the Year 6 students will be going to Sydney, with me, to participate in the Young leader’s day at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. We will be leaving school PROMPTLY at 6.00 am. The guest speakers for the day include:

Creel Price – Entrepreneur / Founder of Club Kidpreneur
Brett Lee – Internet Safety and Cyber Bullying Expert
Nathan Hindmarsh – Former Captain of the Parramatta Eels
Jessica Fox - Olympian/Silver Medallist London 2012

It should be a very interesting and memorable experience.

Zone Winter Sports Trials
The Maitland Zone Winter Sports Trials will be held next Friday 22nd March. Those children in Years 5 & 6 interested in participating in these selection trials for netball, hockey and soccer need to see me for further information. Only those who currently play these sports will be considered. Each child also has to be available to attend the Regional Sports Trials on Friday 12th April *if selected for the zone team.* I will be taking care of the Girls Soccer at Maitland Park (with Mrs Tracey Merchant).

*We should have our new Maitland Zone PSSA website up and running next week which will have most of the local information that you need for our PSSA.

Guitar
Due to our Harmony Day activities, guitar lessons with Eric will be on Monday 18th March instead on Thursday 21st March.

Small Schools Athletics Carnival
We are once again joining other small schools at the athletics carnival at Woodberry oval on Wednesday 27th March. This is the oval directly behind Frances Greenway High School. We would like all students to meet us at Woodberry Oval by 8.30 am so the children can be put into their groups. **Families are asked to organise their own transport for the day. (all students from K-6 are expected to participate on the day)**

The activities will start at 8.45 with all children rotating around the many different activities. The 5, 6 & 7 year olds will have their activities separate to the 8,9,10,11 & 12 year old students. All children will wear a name tag, the colour of their group, with their age printed on it. Canteen facilities will be available on the day. Please ensure the children take the following: Sunscreen, (wear) school sports uniform, something warm in case it gets cool, rain coats (be prepared as our weather has been rather changeable of late), recess, lunch and water.

Computer Course for Parents and Grandparents
Are you feeling that technology is leaving you behind? Do your children know much more about computers than you do? Would you be interested in doing a course in the evenings, using the school computers, to learn about the Internet, Microsoft Office Software, social media such as Facebook and Twitter, etc? We have a local ex-parent who is prepared to run courses for parents at a low cost per session, if we have enough people interested in attending. The course would run in Term 2, on either Wednesday or Thursday evenings for a number of weeks (to be determined by demand). If you think you may be interested, could you please complete the expression of interest at the bottom of the newsletter so that we can work out if there is sufficient community demand to run the course?

Bookclub
Bookclub clearance catalogue order and money due Tuesday 26th March.
Easter Hats - Reminder
Students in Mr Sheppard’s class will be making Easter hats on Thursday 21st March. We will provide cardboard for hats and some decorations, however if students want particular decorations they will need to bring this in themselves. Students are also welcome to bring in their own hat ‘base’ if they wish.

Year 6 Transition
Our Year 6 students enjoyed the Maitland Learning Communities Leader’s Day at Tenambit on Tuesday. They have some great ideas about really promoting our African Aide Foundation and some fundraising to assist this project. They also visited Maitland High School on Wednesday, participating in Gymnastic Lessons as a part of their Transition program. They will be enjoying the same next week. Mr Tim Weston, the Principal of Maitland High School, spent some time in the 4/5/6 classroom this morning outlining what happens at Maitland H.S.—it was an excellent presentation with 3 students (2 Year 12 leaders and a Year 7 student) assisting Mr Weston with his presentation.

Easter Hat Parade
The Easter Hat Parade will begin at 2.00 followed by the Easter Egg Hunt and the P&Cs huge Easter Egg raffle will be drawn. This is the day before the Easter break —depending on how long everything takes we may finish earlier than expected—just be prepared! It is an out of uniform day with a gold coin donation to Stewart House.

3 Way Conferences
Our 3 Way Conferences are not far away. The K/1 (Miss Bath’s class) and 1/2/3 (Ms Hamer’s class) will be holding their conferences in Weeks 10 and 11 of this term. We will outline their timetable for conferences in next week’s newsletter. My class, 4/5/6 will be having their conferences in Week 2 of next term.

Awards
Merit Awards were presented in:-
K/1
- Danny for trying very hard during ‘listening activities’
- Tilly for excellent feedback in news
- Riley for stretching words out
- Cianna for being a quiet worker in class
- Nash for great reading
1/2/3
- Lachlan for enthusiasm in all school activities
- Zac for 100% effort in all class activities
- Kyan for great work in writing activities
- Katelin for working well in reading
- Raini for working well in reading
- Phoebe for great work in writing
4/5/6
- Georgia for great effort in maths tasks
- Luci B for an excellent ‘sketch to stretch’ report
- Charlotte for a well written ‘sketch to stretch’ report
- Thomas I for continued diligence and conscientiousness
- Bethany for an interesting and detailed recount about camp

Peer Nominated Citizenship Award
Victoria for helping the kindergartens

Teacher Nominated Citizenship Award
Emma for having beautiful manners

Library Award
Luci B for staying back and helping

Environmental Award
Katelin for enthusiastically helping

Healthy Food Award
Whyatt for having good manners and healthy food
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
Learning to be a leader

By MICHELLE MEEHAN  March 13, 2013, 4 a.m.

More than 100 year 6 students were schooled in the art of leadership yesterday under a plan to forge links between a high school and its feeder primary schools.

It was the first time students from Maitland High School and the public schools it draws its enrolments from – Tenambit, Morpeth, Metford, Mount Kanwary, Largs, Iona, Bolwarra and Hinton – had come together under the auspices of the Maitland Learning Community.

Project officer and retired principal Cheree O’Neill said the day, held at Tenambit Public School, was designed to establish connections between the schools and some of the students who would make the transition into year 7 next year.

“Over the past five years there’s been a move within the Department [of Education] to get schools to work more as communities,” she said.

“There’s that concept that we work together as a community, so a student would say for example I’m not just at Hinton [Public School], at Hinton I’m part of the Maitland Learning Community.”

A talk about health and fitness from a personal trainer and some tips on inspirational leadership from the mayor of Maitland, Cr Peter Blackmore, formed part of the program yesterday, while year 9 students from Maitland High acted as facilitators.

Students were encouraged to mingle with their counterparts from the other primary schools earlier in the day, before the afternoon session saw them regroup with their classmates to develop a project they, as leaders, can implement within their schools.

“If you’re a leader you need to act, you need to be able to make a difference,” Ms O’Neill said.
Young Leaders Day – Year 6 Only

I would like my child ________________________________ to attend the Young Leaders Workshop at the Sydney Entertainment Centre on 25th March. I understand that there will be a $44 cost involved. I also understand transport will be by private vehicle with all children travelling with Daryl Sheppard.

Signed: ______________________________________ Date: ___________________________

---

Computer Course for Parents and Grandparents

.............................................. is interested in taking part in the Computer Course for Parents which will be run at school one evening each week for a number of weeks in Term 2.

Signed: ..........................................................

---

P&C News

Easter Raffle

This year’s raffle will be drawn on March 28th. Tickets have been sent home and we are asking for donations of Easter eggs etc. These can be left at the school office.

Zone Cross Country – Canteen

Zone cross country will be held at Tocal College on Thursday 4th April. We have an opportunity to run the canteen for a couple of hours as a fundraiser for the school. If you are free and can help see either Melissa Smith or myself.

Next Meeting: - Wednesday April 3rd at 2:00pm

Thanks again for your support.

Pat Lannen