Dear Parents and Caregivers,

A very warm welcome back to Term Two at Narrabeen Lakes Public School. I trust that you and your children had an enjoyable break and that they are now refreshed and ready for nine weeks of exciting learning with their peers and teachers.

Reports and Interviews

This term, on Monday 23 June, families will receive a written report on their child’s progress and will be invited to attend an interview with their classroom teacher in the same week. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss academic progress this semester. Further details will be announced in later editions of the newsletter.

Term Accounts

Term accounts are being sent home this week. Please return your payments in a clearly labelled envelope to the red box in the school foyer by Friday 23 May. If your child has an excursion prior to this date, please pay BEFORE the excursion. Your prompt payment of these accounts is greatly appreciated. If you are experiencing difficulty in meeting these payments, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Permission notes

Students in Years 2-6 will be receiving a blue permission note form that covers all excursions for Term Two. Parents and caregivers are requested to sign their name for all activities their child will participate in. There is one form for each child. Please return the form to the class teacher by next Tuesday 6 May.

School Uniform Seasonal Change

We are currently blessed with unseasonably warm weather but a change to cooler temperatures is inevitable in the coming weeks. Children may wear either winter or summer uniform at the moment but it is expected that all students will be in winter uniform by Week Four (the week beginning Monday 19 May). Please feel free to pop into the office or call if you need uniform advice.

125th Birthday Celebrations

On Monday 5 May, Narrabeen Lakes will celebrate its 125th birthday – what a fantastic achievement for this great school. A special photograph of all students forming the number ‘125’ in the playground will commemorate the day. Students should wear full school uniform.

Dates for Your Diary

- 2 May 2014 School ANZAC Service
- 5 May 2014 School Photo 124 years
- 7 May 2014 Mother’s Day Stall
- 7 May 2014 Yrs 5 & 6 Excursion FOM
- 8 May 2014 Yrs 5 & 6 Excursion FOM
- 8 May 2014 School Tour 9.30 am
- 9 May 2014 Yrs K-2 Gymnastics commences
- 9 May 2014 Cross Country
- 14 May 2014 Yr 2 Powerhouse Museum Excursion
- 19 May 2014 Winter Uniform starts
- 20 May 2014 ICT Computer Skills Test
- 22 May 2014 Yr 1 Walking Excursion Narrabeen
- 23 May 2014 Walk Safely to School Day
- 27 May 2014 Yrs 3 & 4 Excursion “The Rocks”

Respect Responsibility Have a Go!
Formal celebrations will be held in Term Three – more details will be released soon.

125th Birthday Celebration Commemorative Mug

A Limited Edition 125th Anniversary mug is now on sale at the office for $12.00. Only 125 are available—once they’re gone, they’re gone!! A perfect gift idea for Mother’s Day.

Staffing

We welcome Miss Janna Weber to our school as the new permanent teacher of 3D. Mrs Donohoe will be teaching science this term while Mrs Clarke takes leave.

Public Speaking

This term the school is adopting a special curriculum focus on the development of public speaking skills. Public speaking is an essential skill in the modern world and will help children develop self-confidence and build up their self-esteem.

In Term Three, we will hold our first K-6 Narrabeen Lakes Public Speaking Competition. Our public speaking program and the competition will also assist us in identifying gifted and talented speakers who may wish to participate in the state wide Multicultural Perspectives Speaking Competition, or become part of the first Narrabeen Lakes debating teams to be formed later this year.


Student Leaders

Our student leaders attended the Peninsula Community of School Leadership Presentation Ceremony at the end of last term. Thomas, Lilly, Mia and Josh looked proud and very smart in their uniforms at this prestigious event held in The Warringah Council Chambers. They spoke beautifully and presented a video created by the entire leadership team. We look forward to showing this video to all students and staff at a forthcoming assembly. Congratulations to our fine leaders on their achievements.

Tree safety

As you will be aware, a number of trees on the school grounds have been identified for pruning or removal and have been fenced off as a safety precaution. Removal and pruning of these trees is scheduled to take place this Saturday. I am hopeful that we should then be able to restore full access to the Adventure Playground and regain use of the Goodwin St entrance/exit for students and their families. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Opportunity Class Placement 2015

Parents of current Year 4 students wishing to apply for Year 5 opportunity class (OC) placement in 2015 on behalf of their children will be able to access the online application site from Monday 28 April 2014 at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement.

The Opportunity Class Placement Test takes place on Wednesday 23 July at a test centre to be advised by the High Performing Students Unit.

Opportunity classes cater for highly achieving, academically gifted students who may otherwise be isolated from a suitable peer group. These classes can provide intellectual stimulation by grouping gifted and talented students together, concentrating school resources and using specialised teaching methods. Students are offered places in opportunity classes by a selection committee which considers all available information.

The form ‘Intention to Apply: Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2015’ will be sent home with each Year 4 student this week. Please complete this form and return to the red box in the school foyer. This form will let us know how many applications will be made from our school. Ideally, applications will be submitted online. However, paper applications will be available at the school office from Wednesday 30 April for those families without an internet connection. Under no circumstances should parents use both online and printed options.

Applications, whether completed online or on paper will close on Friday 16 May 2014. If you have any questions about the application process, or if you wish to discuss whether your child should sit for the OC placement test, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teacher or me.

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 May, students will take the 2014 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child’s results to discuss progress with teachers.

Wishing you all a great term.

Andy Rankin
Principal
LIBRARY NEWS

Once again this year many students have indicated that they wish to participate in the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Very briefly, the rules are as follows:

- **Kindergarten - Year 2 students** read 30 books (25 from set list + 5 free choice)
- **Years 3 - 4** read 20 books (15 from set list + 5 free choice)
- **Years 5 - 6** read 20 books (15 from set list + 5 free choice)
- All student reading records are submitted online

Reading must be completed by the end of August.

If you wish your child to participate in this challenge, please fill in the tear-off portion at the end of this newsletter and send back to the Mrs Machar, in the Library. Upon receipt of the tear-off portion below, further details will then be sent home.

(Mrs) Vicky Machar
Teacher/Librarian

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

I wish my child ................................................................. in class .................
to participate in the ‘Premier’s Reading Challenge’ in 2014.

I understand that I will need to keep a record of the books read to, and by, my child and to submit his/her Reading Log online.

Signed: .............................................................. (parent/caregiver)
Wednesday 7 MAY (week 2 of Term 2)

The Mother’s Day Stall provides an opportunity for children to buy a gift for Mum and/or carers, grandparents, etc. This is a valuable fundraising activity for our school. Most gifts will be on sale for between $5 and $10 with a small number priced up to $15. We are asking parents to please send in a small appropriate gift to be delivered to the office foyer. You may choose to send in more than one gift (some children buy a gift for more than one carer).

GIFT GUIDE:

Gifts should ideally be wrapped in clear cellophane so the gift can be seen (if it is a boxed item, maybe take the lid off so it can be seen when wrapped up). Here are some ideas..........

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aprons / oven mits</th>
<th>Desk pad</th>
<th>Makeup set (brushes)</th>
<th>Recipe binder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bed socks</td>
<td>Door hangers</td>
<td>Makeup remover</td>
<td>Sauces and spices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belts</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>Magazines</td>
<td>Scarf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body wash for women</td>
<td>Earrings, bracelets, necklace</td>
<td>Magnets</td>
<td>Slippers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and joke books</td>
<td>Egg cups</td>
<td>Massager</td>
<td>Soap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookmark</td>
<td>First aid kit</td>
<td>Measuring cups</td>
<td>Stress ball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bubble bath / bombs</td>
<td>Food keepers (ie avocado)</td>
<td>Money box</td>
<td>Sunscreen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calculator</td>
<td>Garden gloves</td>
<td>Mouse pad</td>
<td>Sweat towel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candies (scented)</td>
<td>Garden gnomes</td>
<td>Mugs</td>
<td>Tea for one (pot and cup in one)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car bumper stickers</td>
<td>Hand creams</td>
<td>Nail polish</td>
<td>Tea towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cards / games</td>
<td>Hand mirror</td>
<td>Nail scissors / manicure set</td>
<td>Thongs / flip flops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chef hats</td>
<td>Hankies</td>
<td>Neck beanies / cushions</td>
<td>Trays (cakes, muffins)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chocolates</td>
<td>Hats, caps</td>
<td>Note pads / shopping list</td>
<td>Toiletry bag</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clocks</td>
<td>Ice tray plain or shaped</td>
<td>Oil and vinegar set</td>
<td>Torch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coasters with mug</td>
<td>Incense / oil</td>
<td>Organisers</td>
<td>Tote bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee / tea</td>
<td>iPhone app fridge magnets</td>
<td>Pedometer</td>
<td>Travel mugs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee plunger</td>
<td>iPod / iPhone speakers</td>
<td>Pens / pen holders</td>
<td>Travel clocks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comb / hair brush</td>
<td>iPhone / iPod sucker stand</td>
<td>Photo album</td>
<td>T-shirts</td>
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<td>Condiment tray</td>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>Photo frame</td>
<td>USB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooking spices</td>
<td>Key rings</td>
<td>Pots / plants / seeds</td>
<td>Vase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie cutters</td>
<td>Ladies shampoo / conditioner</td>
<td>Purse</td>
<td>Water bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie Jar</td>
<td>Lollies / bag</td>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>Wine stopper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmetic case</td>
<td>Lip-gloss, eye shadow</td>
<td>Rain gauge</td>
<td>Woman’s Wallet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your participation in this event!

Any questions, feel free to contact Alison Crawford at acraw@iinet.net.au or your class parent.
Intention to apply: Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is opportunity class placement which provides intellectual stimulation and an educationally enriched environment for gifted and talented students.

Offers for opportunity class placement will be made on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 23 July 2014.

If you would like to apply for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2015 on behalf of your child, you need to do so soon.

Most applicants are expected to apply on the internet and submit their application online. They will need to have an email address (not the student’s email address), access to the internet and a printer.

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from Monday 28 April 2014 at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. Online applications close on Friday 16 May 2014.

If parents do not have internet access, commercially printed application forms will be available on request from the school on Monday 28 April 2014. They must be completed and returned to the school by Friday 16 May 2014.

The applications will be processed by the school in exactly the same way whether you apply online or submit a commercially printed form. Parents are to submit only ONE application for each student.

Yours sincerely

Principal

Please return the completed tear-off slip below to the red box in the school foyer by Friday 9 May.

Intention to apply: Year 5 entry to an opportunity class in 2015

Note: This is an expression of interest only, NOT an application. You will need to submit either an online or a paper application for your child to be considered for placement.

Student’s name: _____________________________ Class: __________

I am interested in applying for opportunity class placement in 2015  Yes [ ]  No [ ]

if Yes:
I have internet access and will be applying online  Yes [ ]  No [ ]

OR

I do not have internet access and would like to receive a printed application form

Signature of parent/carer: _____________________________ Date: __________