Principal’s Report
Go Blaxland!
Go Wentworth!
Go Lawson!

By the time you read this newsletter the school’s annual swimming carnival has been swum and won by -----? Thank you to our community volunteers for your terrific help and support and thank you to Ms Jen Riley for organising a great carnival.

Students who have performed well, within qualifying times will have the opportunity to swim against other schools in the Ryde Zone Swim Meet at Ryde Aquatic Centre on 7th and 8th March.

Our new house banners look fantastic. These banners are a gift to the school from the 2012 Year 6 cohort. It has been a tradition that the departing senior class present the school with a gift. I am sure the banners will last many many years Thank you 2012 Year 6.

Safety message
Unfortunately a parent of this school had an unpleasant experience with a man near the school yesterday afternoon. His language, manner and demeanour were inappropriate toward this parent. This incident was reported to the local police and reported to the Safety and Security section of the Department. This is the first time an incident of this nature has occurred near the school. We have been advised by Security to ask all parents to discuss Safe People, Safe Places with their child.

Staff take opportunities through the Personal Development Health and Physical Education curriculum to teach safety to the class whenever the need arises.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?
Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Clare Kristensen
Principal
Coming Events

<table>
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<th>Term 1, Week 5</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 25/2</td>
<td>P&amp;C AGM – Block C</td>
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| Tuesday, 26/2  | No Gymnastics (tomorrow)  
|                | School Swimming Carnival  
|                | Years 3-6 (+ Yr 2 8Yr olds) – 11.45am – 2.30pm |
| Wednesday, 27/2| Gymnastics – sports uniform  
|                | Chess Club |
| Thursday, 28/2 | Assembly – 2.05pm |
| Friday, 1/3    | Sausage Sizzle – Class 4/5  
|                | parents required to assist  
|                | PSSA – Round 3 v Ryde East  
|                | – Gannan Park |

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<tr>
<th>Term 1, Week 6</th>
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| Tuesday, 5/3   | Gymnastics (sports uniform)  
|                | Anti-Bullying Show |
| Thursday, 7/3  | Zone Swimming Carnival  
|                | Tuckertime – Class 3L to host |
| Friday, 8/3    | Zone Swimming Carnival  
|                | No PSSA |

Principal’s Award for Book Work
The following children will be receiving a Principal Award at this week’s assembly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Melanie</td>
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<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Tiffanie</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Kamryn</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Calum</td>
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<td>4/5</td>
<td>Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
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Games - an exciting event for all schools and students around the world, involving 5.5million students from over 200 countries and territories. Students are matched in real time with up to 3 other students of similar age and ability in exciting live challenges.

Only the scores from a student’s first 50 challenges are counted towards their competition points tally. Each game lasts for 1 minute, so full participation takes only 1hr (approx. 2hrs for World Science Day). This can be done in several sittings over the 48hrs of the event. Some classes will participate at school, depending on Tech Room availability.

Compete at school or at home!
Students can participate in all 3 events from school and/or home with access via their Mathletics login and password. All students have been given this information. Please encourage your student to logon at home now to start warming up for the games next week.

Games begin next Tuesday and they have 48 hours to complete up to 50 challenges in each subject area:

- 5 March and 6 March - World Spelling Day
- 6 March and 7 March - World Maths Day
- 7 March and 8 March - World Science Day

Pam Grover  
Computing Teacher

P&C Report
I would like to take this opportunity to say I have really enjoyed being your P&C president for the last 4 years.

Thank you to all the parents, friends and members of the wider community for all their help throughout this time as there would have been no way I could have done it without you all.

I wish the new committee the best of luck, although I am sure they do not need it as I think we have chosen very well!

Sausage Sizzle
The next sausage sizzle for this term is on this FRIDAY 1st March 2013 and class 4/5 will be host. Please ensure ALL orders are in by WEDNESDAY.
If you are able to help on this day, please see Nina Mather.

World Education Games

http://www.worldeducationgames.com/

Next week all students in Years 1 to 6 have the opportunity to participate in the World Education Games.
AGM Results
As you are all aware the AGM was held last night and all the positions were up for grabs.
Your P&C Committee for 2013 is:

President - Deb Riley
Vice President - Lindsay Donald
Secretary - Lesley Slender
Treasurer - Marion Daly
Sausage Sizzle Coordinator - Nina Mather
Sausage Sizzle Helper - Mike West
Book Club Coordinator - Chantelle Donald
Uniform Shop coordinator - Danielle Davis
Market Day Coordinators - Sheridan Collins, Roger Bryne, Nina Mather
Banking Coordinator - Cathy Lincoln, Marion Daly
OOSH Representatives - Kerrie O'Brien, Shani Gale

We do still need another helper in the uniform shop, so if you are interested please speak to Danielle, Allison or any of the current committee members.

P&C meeting
The next P&C meeting for 2013 will be on Monday 25th March 2013 at 7.30pm

Bowling Night – Saturday Night
Thank you to everyone that came and supported our school. I think everyone had fun. We raised $592. Well Done!!

Aussie Farmers Direct
If any of our school community already receives products from this company, you can register your details online at www.aussiefarmers.com.au/fundraising and the school will receive 2% of your annual spend.

Companies for Donations
If any of our school community has any ideas of which companies we can approach in regards to asking for donations please email us on melroseparkpc@hotmail.com.
We use these donations during the year for events such as mother’s day, father’s day, bingo night etc

Nicole Belling (Young)
Past President

SAUSAGE SIZZLE DAY – ORDER FORM for FRIDAY, 1st March, 2013

Form must be returned with the money by WEDNESDAY, 27th February, 2013. Please put order form and money in a sealed envelope.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Full Roll</th>
<th>Beef $3.00</th>
<th>Chicken $3.00</th>
<th>Ice Block 50c</th>
<th>Lemonade Ice Block 50c</th>
<th>Amount $</th>
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Total Amount Enclosed: $ _____________
Safe People, Safe Places Message

- Avoid walking on your own and instead walk with other family members, friends or an adult you know;

- Walk near busier roads and streets, or use paths where there are lots of other people;

- Make sure your parents or another adult you know knows where you are at all times;

- Always walk straight home or to the place you are walking to;

- Know where safe places are – a shop, service station, police station, library or school. If you are ever frightened, you should go to one of these places and ask them to call the police;

- Learn about safe adults you can look for and talk to if you need help – police officers, teachers at school, adults you know and trust;

- Don’t talk to people you don’t know and never get into a car with someone you don’t know. If a car stops on the side of the road and you don’t know the person inside, do not stop; and

- If you are scared, call Triple Zero (000) and tell them you are scared.

- If someone tries to touch you or grab you, yell loudly, “Go away, I don’t know you” as this will let other people know you are in trouble.