A great start to School
I am delighted to say that classes have been working extremely well. We are indeed fortunate to be able to maintain the current class structure when numbers are submitted this week. The standard of school uniform is high although some families have not yet acquired black shoes and it would be great if all students could have these in order to be in full school uniform. They are still plentiful in shops but will be wound down soon. We do have a small number of pairs of black shoes that have been donated if families are experiencing hardship. Please see Mrs Moore if you require a pair.

Anaphylaxis
As we have a number of children in the school with anaphylaxis and Epipens at school we do ask that parents consider not sending peanut butter sandwiches to school and speak to their children about not sharing food at recess or lunch time. If your child has anaphylaxis please make sure we have their current Anaphylaxis Care plan. All staff have just completed intensive anaphylaxis training. If your child has any allergy, medical condition or special needs please let us know as soon as possible.

Term Costs
By next week all parents should have received a Term Cost sheet detailing the costs for excursions and visiting shows. This sheet will have both the date of the excursion or show as well as the final date for payment. Parents need to organise their payments in full or part preferably before the final date so that children do not miss out. We cannot accept payments after the final date as we have administrative responsibilities to give final numbers to the provider, draw cheques etc. Your child being sick on the final date for payment is not an excuse for a payment extension as the costs are provided usually months in advance of excursions. Please make sure your payment is received on time so your child does not miss out on an activity.

School Policy on Refunds
Each year teachers plan a number of excursions, guest speakers and various activities which enhance the educational programs being offered in classrooms. These activities usually have a cost associated with them. Occasionally children are disappointed when they are unable to participate in the activity because they are sick on the day etc. in such cases parents often request a refund of the fees that have been paid. In making a decision regarding a refund one issue has to be considered. Has the school already spent money for the student to participate in the activity?
If the school has already had to pay for the activity then a refund cannot be given. For example in the case of a live show, the seats had to be booked and pre-paid. In this case this money could not be refunded. When buses are used to transport children the total cost of the bus is divided by the total number of children expected to attend. It is therefore not possible to give refunds on bus travel. However some visiting performances charge on the basis of the children present on the day. Therefore, the school did not have to outlay any money and a refund would be possible.

The school appreciates that sometimes a student will need to withdraw from an excursion at short notice, for a legitimate reason such as sickness. In these circumstances a full or partial refund may be given, provided the giving of the refund does not leave the school short to cover the total excursion costs. A student changing their mind at the last minute is not considered an acceptable reason for withdrawing or requesting a refund. A request for refund must be made in writing, stating the reason for the student withdrawing from the excursion. Please appreciate that with some excursions a refund may not always be possible. If a full or partial refund is to be given then this refund must be in the form of a cheque drawn to the parent/s listed on the student’s enrolment form. This is Departmental Policy and cannot be varied.

Prohibited Employment Declaration for volunteers
The NSW DEC requires Volunteers to sign this form so anyone who work in the school in any voluntary capacity needs to sign this at the office as soon as you can.

Teacher Request
A number of staff have requested that parents waiting outside the classrooms in the afternoon please remember that lessons are still being taught. If chatting please do so in a quiet voice away from open windows so lessons are not disrupted. We would also appreciate parents closely controlling their pre-schoolers. The fixed equipment can only be used if supervised by a staff member. Students and pre-schoolers are legally not permitted on the equipment before or after school for safety reasons. Top Quad is out of bounds for students and parents in the morning. Bags should be placed in the class line and then students and parents move to the pergola area. We would appreciate your cooperation with these matters.

Life Education and Healthy Harold
Oops we apologise for our typo about the payment date in last week’s newsletter. Life Education is coming on 12 March and payment of $4 is due on 6th March not 6th February.

P & C Meeting
Tomorrow morning 11th February is the first meeting of the P & C for 2014. It will be held in the Community Education Room and is a great opportunity to meet new people and find out what is going on in the school. To be eligible to vote in next month’s AGM you must be a member so this is the last meeting to join. Next week we will have the roles of the P & C executive so please consider taking on a role.

House captains
Congratulations to the House Captains elected at house meetings on Friday. Doyle: Captains Lachlan W and Annika and Vice Captains Ronin and Tiana A Timms: Captains Flynn and Ella H and Vice Captains Brayden and Dakota (as there was only 1 Year 6 girl in Timms), Hargraves: Captains Eden and Eliza and Vice Captains Blake O and Kasey W and Slade: Captains Jordan and Indirayne and Vice Captains Cooper K and Chelsea N. The student leaders have an important leadership role and we look forward to working with them. The Sport House captains will get their badges in the 3-6 assembly today.

You are welcome at school
Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school
when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued. Ways you might get involved: helping in the classroom, listening to children read, help children on computers, preparing food and serve children at the canteen, coaching a sporting team.

Talk to your child’s class teacher if you would like to help.

Coming events for Term 1 (updated as events arise)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10th</td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting 9.15am CEC NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11th</td>
<td>Little Oxen Kids Club begins in library 3-5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 20th</td>
<td>Swimming carnival Yr 3-6 + Y2 swimmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25th</td>
<td>Unit 3 &amp; 4 Surf Fun Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>Schools Clean Up day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 2nd March</td>
<td>Assemblies this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doyalson RSL 100yr commemorative ANZAC day medal presentation NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4th</td>
<td>Wallarah Zone swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 9th</td>
<td>Life Education final date for payment NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6th</td>
<td>Final date for payment Stage 1 Safari Day NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10th</td>
<td>P &amp; C AGM 7pm in library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11th</td>
<td>Stage 1 Safari Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 17th</td>
<td>Sydney North Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12th – 26th</td>
<td>Life education program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23rd</td>
<td>Assemblies this week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27th</td>
<td>Science Fun day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 2nd April</td>
<td>K-2 Easter hat parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assemblies

Assemblies will again be held in Weeks 3, 6 and 9 of each term. This year both assemblies will be held on Monday afternoon Years 3-6 1.35 – 2.10 and Years 1 and 2 2.15 – 2.50pm. Kindergarten will join Year 1 and 2 for assemblies in Term 2

Facebook page

Don’t forget to like our Facebook page for regular updates.

Congratulations to our Privilege Badge winners

KC Mason, KD Cooper, KE Mitchel S, KL Emily, 1K Aurielle, 1M Jimmy, 1MC Max S, 1O Emma, 2J Loki, 2M Matilda, 2WB Ruby, 2SA Tayla, 2SB Brodie, 2SC Mackenzie, 2SEV Shavana, 2SJ Mya, 2SL Shanay, 3SB April, 3SC Tom, S3GP Harley, S3L Noah B, S3SW Braxton, Unit 1 Aaron, Unit 2 Tiarna, Unit 3 Mikayla and Unit 4 Shaeley

Best Attendance

Congratulations to KC, KE and 2M who had no absences last week. Well done!

Mrs Kerry Moore (Principal)

School News

Stage 1 Safari day

On Wednesday 11th March (Week 7) The Reptile Park will be bringing a selection of animals to Budgewoi Public School as part of our Stage 1 Safari Day. Students will have the opportunity to get up close to a range of animals learning how they move, feed and protect themselves in a range of habitats. Teachers will be organising a variety of activities for students to complement the Biological Science unit “Schoolyard Safari” being taught this term. The cost for the day is $8 per student with final payment due Monday 9th March.

School Environmental Group

The school Environmental Group is a group of people with an interest in environmental issues within the school. The group currently includes parents and teachers from across the school. Every year the group oversees a number of programs which not only try to include students of all ages but also interested parents and community members.

This year the group will be meeting fortnightly, on a Wednesday morning at 8.15am. The meetings will be held in Miss Jurd’s room, which is a demountable classroom located near the shipping container. The first meeting of the year will be this Wednesday 11th February and all interested people are encouraged to attend. All are welcome, so why not come along and share your ideas with the group.

Christine Copper KC

New Action Plans

A letter has been sent home to students who have allergies and asthma to request a new action plan. We require a new action plan each new school year or if anything changes during the year. These new plans must be completed by your doctor.

School Banking

Commonwealth School Banking begins this week. Tuesday’s for Infants and Wednesday’s for Primary. Keep an eye out this week for flyers and banking packs to come home. They will tell you about an exciting new competition and show you what great prizes are on offer this year.

Canteen News

Our uniform shop is open on Tuesdays from 9am till 10am. Draw string hats are now available in sizes S/M and L/XL for a cost of $12.00 each. The uniform pool stock is low so the canteen would appreciate any donation of uniforms. If you are waiting on any uniform items please check with the Canteen as some items have arrived. Please remember to put your child’s new class on lunch bags when placing their orders.

Roster for week beginning 10th February:

Tues 10/2/15 - Denise Wilson, Michelle Burgess
Thurs 12/2/15 – Denise Cuff, Annie Vandertowou, Denise Wilson, Kellie Falconer
Fri 13/2/15 - Madeline & Dale Clinten, Megan Lewis
Mon 16/2/15 – Alison Sutton, Alana Paku

Book Club

Book Club will close on Monday 16th February. All cheques should be made out to Budgewoi P&C. No late orders accepted.

Community News

Parent Course

WYCONNECT are running a workshop for parents called making Parenting More Rewarding and Less of a headache. The course is run over 5 Wednesdays from 10am until 12.30pm. It will be held at 33a Alison Rd Wyong and is free. Topics include: Messages from the past – beliefs & values about parenting, Brain development & Its’ relationship to behaviour, Giving and receiving messages, the Message of Behaviours and Messages about me & Passing on messages. For more information phone 133 654269 or email wyconnectintake@interrelate.org.au

Budgewoi Netball Club

We would like to invite you to join us on Monday 9th Feb from 4 pm to 5 pm, for a fun afternoon to learn about Netball. Venue: Budgewoi Netball Courts. (Scenic Drive). All you need is comfortable clothes, joggers and a drink. Open to all school age children and anyone interested in coaching or umpiring. For more information contact: Vanessa 43592665