Telarah Public School
Fortnightly Newsletter
Term 1       Week 7

Our mission is to provide children with…
• a love of learning
• a pride in achievement
• a respect for themselves and others
...in a safe and happy environment

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2014 Calendar

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PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Telarah Public School Girls - Maitland Mercury Junior Sports Team of 2013!

Last Friday night Jannali Hunter represented our school at the Maitland Mercury Annual Sports Awards where our girls representative sports sides were nominated in the Junior category. The girls won the award and are proudly recognised as the best junior sports team in the Maitland area for 2013. The girls were regional champions in both AFL and League as well as doing very well in a number of PSSA knockouts. They were very capably coached by Mr Willcocks. Congratulations Mr Willcocks and all the students who were involved with these teams in 2013.

Congratulations also to Izza Coyle who finished 7th in the Regional Swimming Carnival and to Kaia Isaac who has been chosen to play Regional Basketball. Well done boys!

Annual School Report

Today we have begun collecting surveys to inform our self-evaluations to be published in the Annual School Report. Throughout this week if one of the staff sees you they may ask very nicely if you would mind filling in a very open ended survey that covers three key areas of our operation. We are asking about our implementation of PBL, the management of grounds and maintenance and home to school communication. I have also published a link on the school Facebook page so that if you wish, you may complete the survey online. We conducted an evaluation of Personal Development, Health and Physical Education at the end of 2013.

The method we are using this time may take a little more effort but we are hopeful that by making it open ended, we get some more useful information than if we gave you options to tick and flick through. If you would like to participate in the survey and need some support, please feel confident in coming to the office and seeking our discrete help to do so. I am aware that the survey is fairly wordy and may be overwhelming for some.

Later in the year we will run some focus group discussions in similar areas to continue gathering information to inform our future planning.

As discussed on Facebook last week:
Year 6-7 enrolment forms were handed out to all students in Year 6 2014. These forms are to be returned to office as soon as possible. If you need some support or have questions, please give us a call or drop into the office.

School Photo day is Monday, 7 April 2014. Envelopes will be sent home this week. Please see attached instruction sheet from MSP Photography for procedure to be followed.

Tony Gadd
Principal

Ph: 4932 8477     Fax: 4932 4475     Email: telarah-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au     Online: www.telarah-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Class News:
K/1C
Last week in maths we looked at data. We made simple graphs looking at how we got to school, what colour eyes we have, what is our favourite colour and our favourite pet. The children were very clever in working out the most popular and the least popular of each of the items. Great work!

Stage 1
This term in Science, Stage 1 students have been learning about food and nutrition in the unit "What's For Lunch". One of the activities involved students planting and growing bean seeds. Look at the fabulous work they have done. Great job Stage 1!!

5/6T has continued to study NAPLAN passages as part of our AL unit for this term. We have also been learning about the 'weather' in science and technology and 'gold' as a part of HSIE. In maths we have been doing some pretty tricky algorithms and in PD/H/PE we have continued to focus on fundamental movement skills.

5/6P
This week 5/6P have been collecting and analysing data about the weather. This links our 'Weather' topic with Numeracy.

Preschool News:
StEPS Vision Screener will be visiting Preschool on Tuesday 11th March and Thursday 13th March. Consent forms will need to be signed.
There has been great commitment by our families to provide nutritious lunches with minimal packaging.

Harmony Day
Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everyone that calls Australia home from the Traditional owners of this land to all of those around the world. By participating in Harmony Day we can all celebrate being Australian together in peace and harmony. We will be celebrating Harmony Day on Friday 21st March. This date coincides with the Say No to Bullying Day and we have decided to combine these two significant days and celebrate with our PBL theme of being positive and "Getting Along".

Thanks everyone.
There will be an assembly held in the morning with a performance from the choir and students from Stage Three will participate in role playing some scenarios about bullying and cyber bullying. Our focus will be on being positive, being resilient and learning strategies to deal with bullying and getting along with others. All parents and families are welcome to attend this assembly from 9:30am.

Students will then participate in a variety of co-operative games and activities during the day that encourage friendship, tolerance, resilience and how to get along with others. 

As in previous years the teachers will be an organising an International Food Fair at lunch time where children will be able to sample foods from any countries and cultures for a gold coin donation. We would like to invite our multicultural families to join us in providing food from their cultural background or country of origin. Our Harmony Day Food Fair will be held outside the hall at 11:45am. Please contact your class teacher or the administration staff if you would like to participate in the food fair.

We encourage all students to wear orange and or blue on Harmony Day for a gold coin donation. The funds collected will go towards supporting World Vision as in previous years.

Put this in the diary! Further information will be sent home next week.

**LiveLifeWell@School - PE and Nude Food Day:**
On Wednesday, March 19th we have our LiveLifeWell@School launch. Parents are invited to come to school to see your children participating in a class PE lesson based on the Fundamental Movement Skills and enjoy Crunch and Sip with us. The PE lessons will begin for all classes at 9.30am and the session will finish at around 10am with a healthy snack of fruit or vegetables and water. The LiveLifeWell@School Program aims to increase quality physical activity at school and encourage healthy eating.

It will also be a Nude Food day for lunch so we are asking for no pre-packaged food and a minimum of wrap on that day. Families will also be given a healthy food magnet to take home.

**Quicksmart** is in full swing and all students are working hard on their focus fact of the day and homework.

Lessons consist of timed flash cards, speed sheets, computer work and numeracy games all in 30 minutes, 3 times a week combined with tutor led discussions.

These are a few comments from students who have been working on the program when asked about Quicksmart.

"The flash cards are the best; I try to beat my record every time" - Kaia

"I wish I could come to Quicksmart everyday" - Cooper

"I enjoy using the ipad for numeracy games" - Charlie

"I like all the things we do; the time goes so quick" - Jessalyn

"Answers just pop into my head now" - Kaj

"I have enjoyed the work on the computer because I can try hard and beat my fastest times and I can also see how far I have come since I started" - Sam

"It is helping me in maths by finding easier ways to figure out the numbers and answers instead of spending ages on one." - Taj

Quicksmart is a National Program and it is about to be implemented in its 1000th school. We are grateful to have it at Telarah.
Woolworths Earn and Learn: We have received our Woolies order from last year’s Earn and Learn and altogether we earnt approximately $2,081.00 worth of products for our school, which is very good for just collecting Woolies vouchers. Thank you to everyone who collected the vouchers for us.

Media/Website Participation & Religious Instruction Participation
Please complete and return forms to the school office as soon as possible in order that we can update our records.

Great Aussie Bush Camp – Reminder
$50.00 Deposit due Thursday, 13 March 2014
Forms have been sent home from the Great Aussie Bush Camp Management to Year 5 students, which are required to be completed and returned to the school by Friday, 28th March. The camp is being held from Tuesday, 24th June to Friday, 27th June 2014. The cost of the camp is $310.00. If you wish your child to attend this camp, a deposit of $50.00 is required by 13th March and the balance is due by 13th June 2014. Payment can be made by instalments if preferred.

Stage 2 Wetlands Excursion – Reminder
Cost $20.00 due Friday, 14 March 2014
Permission notes and money to be paid to class teacher.

P&C News:
The P&C Association are holding their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 11th March 2014. All welcome.

Easter Hat Parade
This year our school will hold the Easter Hat Parade on Wednesday, 9th April 2014. ‘Read with Me’ is part of this activity and parents are invited to come and read a story with their child in the classroom at 10am.
Following this at 10:30am, students will participate in the Easter Hat Parade which will take place in the hall. Following the Parade, the P&C will draw the Easter raffle. Any donations of Easter Eggs for the raffle would be most appreciated and they can be left at the school office. Raffle tickets have been sent home. Please return money and tickets to school office. There are also more tickets available from the office if required.

Head Lice
Head lice are very common so there is no need to be alarmed, however they should be treated quickly to prevent them from spreading.
We are asking that all parents / carers examine their child’s hair and look for the following signs:
- Persistent scratching, particularly behind the ears and the nape of the neck accompanied by a red rash
- Tiny silver white eggs at the base of the hair shaft
- Small pale brown lice. You may wish to use a magnifying glass and a fine tooth comb under strong light to help identify lice.

Head lice can be treated quickly and effectively by simply following these steps:
1. Purchase a specialist head lice treatment and apply it according to the directions on the pack
2. Examine all family members’ hair, and treat everyone found to have had head lice at the same time
3. Wash out the treatment and use a fine tooth comb to remove the dead lice and eggs
4. Repeat the treatment in 7-10 days if lice are still present or eggs are found within 1 cm of the scalp

As a precaution, any items which may harbour lice such as bed linen, towels and combs should be washed in hot soapy water. To prevent head lice in the future, all family members should avoid sharing items such as clothing, brushes or hats from each other or from friends.

Boys Hip Hop Class
Planet Dance Now offers classes just for Boys.
Build up muscle tone, strength and confidence.
A fun & disciplined class
For Enrolments please Contact Prue Duma 0417676586

Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6?
Have you missed out on thousands of dollars?
In 2001, the Government introduced the ‘First Child Tax Offset’ and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have NOT claimed any benefits.
If you have ANY child that was born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004 you may be eligible to receive up to $12,500 of entitlements.
The government has a 30 June 2014 deadline on this entitlement so please email childdofs@twelve.com.au today to receive more information.

Twelve Chartered Accountants
www.twelve.com.au
Principal Derek Nolan CA

Your Family Tax Specialist
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“Increase your child’s communication skills, self-confidence and creative talents.”

(Improvisation, Movement, Scriptwork and Productions.)

DRAMA CLASSES:
Maitland Polish Hall
(Established for 23 years in Maitland)

PRIMARY : 7 – 11 YEARS
YOUTH : 12 – 16 YEARS
ALSO: STUDIOS ACROSS THE NEWCASTLE REGION:
Enrolments now being taken for 2014
(CLASSES CONDUCTED IN THE HUNTER FOR THE PAST 20 YEARS)
say cheese

School Photo Day is
7 April 2014

Have your child’s school memories captured forever

Please take time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Don’t seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request
- Please enclose correct money as no change is given. Cash and money orders only (sorry no credit card accepted)

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact us

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