**Principal’s Message**

We are definitely into the swing of things at the moment and the students are working very hard. The students in both classes are undertaking many and varied learning experiences and are very settled and engaged in their learning. Our staff are undertaking a lot of professional learning themselves at present, particularly in and around the new English Curriculum. We have had time with Cawdor PS and Douglas Park PS to start thinking about the implementation and this process will continue throughout 2014. We will also be looking at the new Maths Curriculum which we will be implementing from 2014.

Congratulations to our zone swimmers and our yr 6 leaders on their recent representation of our school at zone swimming and the Grip Leadership Conference. It is always wonderful to be able to give our students these wonderful opportunities and I would like to thank the parents for their ongoing support with getting the students to where they need to be. I would also like to thank Miss T for attending those two events.

Mrs Powter is still unwell and at this stage may not be returning until Week 8. I have sent well wishes her way from all of us and will be sending flowers from all of us in the next couple of days.

Keep smiling……..Be positive and let’s have an excellent second half of Term 1 😊

Mrs Shepherd
Principal/R

**Dates to remember:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>5.03.14</td>
<td>Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.03.14</td>
<td>HS forms go home</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.03.14</td>
<td>Taste of HS Day Camden HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.03.14</td>
<td>Selective HS Test</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.03.14</td>
<td>Yrs 5 &amp; 6 – Tour Of CHS @7pm</td>
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<td>21.03.14</td>
<td>HS forms due back</td>
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**Working with and respecting others is vital:**

- Act and play safely;
- Be kind and caring to others in what you say and do;
- Encourage and support others;
- Stay calm in conflict or when problems arise and keep things in perspective;
- Be polite and use manners;
- Look after your classrooms and school;
- Show initiative, be a good role model and be a good school representative at all times.

Please go over these expectations with your child/ren and discuss with them what this would look like within the school setting. Westbrook have had similar discussions in class however a discussion with their parent demonstrates ongoing support between home and school.

**Allergies**

Some students can and do suffer from food allergies and at Mount Hunter we do have students with nut allergies and also some fruit allergies. Could I please ask for your understanding with this?

**Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards**

We will be continuing with the bronze, silver and gold awards and teachers are already taking notice of how the students present themselves, how they apply themselves and how they interact with others. Gold and Silver students would be demonstrating the above characteristics all of the time. By discussing these with your child not only will you possibly help them earn awards but this will help them with their learning too!

**School Ambassador**

We have had a busy few weeks since the last newsletter. We have had our ice-cream day. The Yr 6’s raised $50.00 to go towards their gift to the school and their farewell this year. The zone swimmers did an amazing job and I would like to congratulate Jaime Q, Shannon T, Grace T, James A, Ruby M, Bethany M, Ellie M, Chloe A, Bailey M, Saxon J, Monique W & myself for their amazing efforts. The Yr 6’s had an amazing day at the leadership and learning conference learning how to be a strawberry leader and not a watermelon.
leader!!!(if you want to know more come and see me). Also the Kangaroos and the Emus are excited about their Aboriginal Dreamtime story performance that they will be doing on Tuesday morning as part of their English studies. We have been very busy making props and learning our lines. So as you can see we have been really busy and we are all looking forward to the second half of the school term.

Grip Leadership Conference

On Wednesday of last week our Yr 6 students went off to the Grip Leadership Conference at Sydney Olympic Park with Miss T. They had a wonderful day filled with many valuable learning experiences. Thank you to those students for representing our school so well. Well Done!!!!! Chantel W, Jaime Q, Grace T, Joel D and Isaac L. Unfortunately Daniel was unwell and couldn’t attend but I am sure that the other students will fill him in on the day’s events.

P&C Meeting

The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday the 24th March @6.30pm in the school Library. We would love to see as many parents as possible come along.

Taste of High School Day – Yr 6

On Tuesday the 11th March 2014 the Yr 6 students will have the opportunity to attend a “taste of High School” day at Camden High School. This was a very successful day when held in 2013. The students experience some classes with the high school staff and spend time familiarizing themselves with the school. They are also able to go to the canteen. Parents will be asked to drop them there in the morning however there are buses organised to return the students to the school. Further information will be sent home when the High School sends through further information. Students will have to wear full school uniform (sports uniform) and closed in shoes.

Zone Swimming Carnival

Last week we had some of our students attend the Zone Swimming Carnival. Can I commend them on their efforts and their representation of our school. It’s great to see so many students getting in and having a go. Well done!!!!!! Congratulations to James A, Shannon T, Ruby M, Bethany M, Chloe A, Saxon J, Grace T, Chantel W, Monique W, Jaime Q, Ellie M & Bailey M.

Trees ??
Following the very sad incident at Pit Town PS on Friday the 21st February the DEC has directed schools to have full site inspections. We have had an inspection done and they have marked the trees that are deemed to be unsafe. The arborist will be coming back to walk me through all the unsafe trees and explain why they are unsafe. A full report will be written up and forwarded onto the DEC. It will mean that several trees may need to be removed. This process will take a little time but it is in the best interests of the student’s staff and parents and everyone’s safety. All schools will be going through this process in the next two terms. I will keep you informed as I know more.

Don’t forget Student Banking is on Thursday