

SAFE RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

18th February

Aboriginal Community
Meeting—6pm

25th February

Zone Swimming Carnival

26th February

“Stories” commences

29th February

School Assembly
Kindergarten commence
full day

2nd March

Deadly Cooking Program

9th March

Deadly Cooking Program

14th March

School Assembly
P&C Meeting—5pm

16th March

Deadly Cooking Program

23rd March

Deadly Cooking Program

24th March

Easter Hat Parade

25th March-28th March

Easter Break

30th March

Deadly Cooking Program

Congratulations to our 2016 SWIMMING AGE CHAMPIONS

This issue:

Swimming Carnival

Zone Swimming

The Music Bus

PAWS Contract

PSSA Football

Deadly Cooking Program

“Stories”

Clever Kids

Reading Eggs

Star Struck

Birthday BookClub





PRINCIPALS REPORT

Congratulations to all our swimmers who received their ribbons/medals at the assembly on Monday. I look forward to hearing how our zone swimmers go next week. A special mention for the age champions that appear on the front page of our newsletter this week, well done! Thank you Mrs Hill for all your organisation for this event.

The World of Maths Roadshow was a great hit with all the students that attended. Mr Ed had 17 maths activates set up to intrigue and challenge all students and a few parents. It really is wonderful for children to have these exciting programs visit our school. The Music Bus caused a lot of excitement with the children as they had the opportunity to play some musical instruments and show off their talents. I hope we are able to get sufficient students interested in the Music Bus to have it at our school on a regular bases.

Thank you to the parents that attended the information sessions provided by the teachers last week. Early Stage 1 had 37 parents attend, Stage 1 had 24 parents, Stage 2 had 20 parents and Stage 3 had 28 parents. I highly recommend parents coming in and being around the school. The best way to educate our children is for us all to work together and for parents to know what is happening in the classrooms and school. If you missed the opportunity then I encourage you to contact your child's class teacher and arrange an appointment to catch up. Please add to the calendar Term 2-Week 3, Wednesday 11 May as the next parent/teacher catch up.

Next week I would like to try something new! On Wednesday 24 February at 2:30pm I would like to provide an opportunity for parents to come and talk to the Principal and /or executive about our school. To help out I have invited the coffee truck "Bean on the road" to serve **FREE** coffee to the parents who come and have a 'Coffee and Chat' about the following topics:

- What does our school do well?
- What do you think would improve our school? And any other general information

Grab a coffee, tea or hot chocolate and come and have a chat just outside the Stage 3 rooms.

As we are still getting everything settled back into rhythm at school it is time for a few general reminders:

- Parents are asked to wait under the COLA until 3:15pm (second bell) before leaving the school, via the appropriate paths and gates. (NB please don't wait in the corridors or walk ways)
- Following our school audit we are required to notify parents and determine a reason for partial day attendance. Therefore, if arriving late or leaving early parents need to have a valid reason or a reminder letter will be sent home for parents to explain the absence. (not all reasons are justified, see note attached)
- Please return yellow notes back to school as soon as possible to allow staff time to plan correctly
- If you have any changes to school contacts please contact the school with the updated information.

Hopefully the Working Bee date is on the calendar, Saturday 12 March, 2016 8am-12pm. This was a wonderful success last year and I look forward to getting our school looking fabulous again. So come along and be a proud member of the school community. Clean up Australia Day for schools is on Friday 4 March, 2016. Children will be out and about in our school collecting litter, sticks and rubbish to make our school grounds a place that they can be proud to display. Parents are welcome to join us from 2:30pm.

In Week 6—Term 1, I will accompany our school leaders to Sydney to attend the Young Leaders Conference. This is a great opportunity for our school leaders to meet other leaders and learn new skills to develop their leadership for the future.

A reminder that the next AECG meeting will take place at Kearsley Public School on Monday 22 February, 2016 at 4pm. All parents are welcome to attend.

As you can see there is a tremendous amount of things happening in our school. Please share the fun and enjoyment by being an active part of our school. See you at "Coffee and Chat", if not before.

Ian Lamph
Principal



KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students have settled in well and are getting used to class and school routines. They have started Guided Reading and are learning to match with 1-1 correspondence. The children really enjoy our activities groups on Wednesdays and Thursdays and activities so far have included making Humpty biscuits and designing a hat for their mum. Parents are welcome to come along to help with groups.

Please remember Kindergarten children will finish school at 3.15 in line with the rest of the school from Monday 29th February. A bell will go at 3.10pm for the children to go to their appropriate departure line. It may be best for all kindergarten students (except children catching the bus) to wait at the parent pick up line for the first week or two. Children will be dismissed at 3.15pm from the DOTS area.

MUSIC BUS

On Thursday 11th February, our school was lucky enough to have The Music Bus visit. All students were able to visit Ben in the bus and have a turn of all the instruments. Students enjoyed the experience and hopefully we can secure The Music Bus on a permanent basis for music lessons.

Please make sure you return your expression of interest this week to secure your child's spot.





“STORIES”

Please join us next Friday afternoon (26th February) between 2:30pm and 3pm for “STORIES”. This is a program designed for families of children 0-5 where stories and nursery rhymes are the focus for early learning and lots of fun! The program is highly interactive with puppets and activities to support children’s early literacy and numeracy. It is also a great opportunity for parents and children to make new friends and become more familiar with our school. We do encourage parents and carers to join in as this promotes a life-long love of learning—something we all want for our children. For further details or to register your interest, please contact the school office or Melinda Stokes (Instructional Leader) on 4930 4210.

“CLEVER KIDS”

“Clever Kids”, our transition to school program, will commence midway through Term 2 and run through until the end of Term 3. If you have a child, or someone you know, who will be enrolling at Abermain Public School in 2017, please contact the school office on 4930 4210 for further details and to register your interest.

READING EGGS FOR PRE-SCHOOLERS

Our school is offering limited placements for siblings of enrolled students and for children intending to enrol for 2017/18 to have access to Reading Eggs. This is a highly interactive and successful app which supports the progression of early literacy skills as well as a love of reading. If you are interested in registering or finding out more about this valuable program, please contact the school office or Melinda Stokes (Instructional Leader) on 4930 4210.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY K-2

We have had an amazing start back to the year across Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) - Stage 1 (Years 1 -2) with students already involved in a number of targeted literacy and numeracy programs and teaching. All students in Stage 1 have now had a “literacy and numeracy check-in” - a quick snapshot assessment to determine how students have progressed post-holidays. This information is being sent home to parents/carers in an effort to strengthen our partnership in promoting literacy and numeracy skills. We have been very pleased and excited to hear many students already coming back to school having worked on the skill areas as suggested in the information sent home and we thank parents for their support. Teachers are also using this information to refine teaching to meet the needs of each individual student. We encourage parents/carers to discuss your child’s progress with their teacher or Melinda Stokes.



DEADLY COOKING FOR KIDS

Deadly Cooking for Kids is coming to Abermain Public School!

Deadly Cooking for Kids is a free, healthy cooking and eating program for selected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 5-6. The program uses The Walkabout Kitchen, a mobile outdoor cooking trailer. The kids get hands on experience learning about healthy eating and cooking that covers a variety of Key Learning Areas including literacy, numeracy, science and PDHPE. Best of all they get to share in eating the food they have prepared! The program is run by a qualified Dietician with the assistance of the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer. The program is run once a week over 5 weeks. Each session covers some important healthy eating messages, followed by the kids helping to cook 3 delicious healthy dishes. As there are limited spaces, the program will only be available for students who have returned their permission note.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEETING

The Aboriginal Community meeting is being held on Thursday 18th February around the fire pit near the bush tucker garden at 6.00pm. We will be discussing ways in which we can provide authentic cultural activities for our students with Joey Griffiths attending to support us.

GENERAL PERMISSION/STUDENT DETAILS

Recently a general permission note and a student information sheet were sent home with all students. If you have not already done so, could you please return both forms to the school office as soon as possible so we can ensure all student details and permissions are up to date.

PAWS CONTRACT

Students have taken home their PAWS Contracts last week to share with parents/carers. Please sign and ensure they have been returned to your child's class teacher so that your child can begin their 2016 PAWS badge journey.

STAR STRUCK

It has been a massive couple of weeks for the girls who nominated to be part of Star Struck 2016. Numbers were huge this year with 24 students regularly coming along to practice. Unfortunately we are only able to have 16 members in our group, which means some of the amazing girls will miss out. We would like to thank each of the girls who tried out for their commitment and effort to learn the dance.

We will be videoing our audition dance next Tuesday and girls have been informed to bring in their sports uniform to perform in. I wish our dance group all the best and fingers crossed we get in



SPORT

Swimming Carnival

On Monday 8th February, 2016 we held our annual swimming carnival at Cessnock Pool. The winning House for 2016 was Hunter. We would also like to congratulate our 2016 Swimming Age Champions:

Junior Girls: Megan C. (3-4H) **Junior Boys:** Rory T. (3-4E) & Harrison F. (3-4H)
Senior Girls: Amity R. (Stage 3) **Senior Boys:** Nicholas T. (Stage 3)

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified for the following events at the Zone Swimming carnival being held on Thursday 25th February, 2016:

9yrs Freestyle	- Harrison F. (3-4H)	Jnr Backstroke	- Megan C. (3-4H), Lara R. (3-4H)
10yrs Freestyle	- Megan C. (3-4H))	Jnr Breastroke	- Olivia R. (Stage 3), Jazlyn L. (3-4E)
12yrs Freestyle	- Caleb W. (Stage 3)	Senor Backstroke	- Nicholas T. (Stage 3)
11yrs Freestyle	- Olivia R. (Stage 3), Ethan H. (Stage 3), Travis H. (Stage 3)		

PSSA Football

The school will be holding trials for our girls and boys football teams in the week following the Zone Swimming Carnival. From these trials at school, a school team will be selected to participate in the PSSA Knockout during Term 2. As well, a selection of students who display a high standard of skill will be invited to attend the Cessnock Zone Trials to be held in Week 8 (date to be confirmed). From the Zone trials a boys team and up to six girls will be selected to represent the Cessnock Zone at the Regional Trials to be held on Friday 8th April (last day of Term 1).

ABERMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C

CANTEEN—"SPECIAL LUNCH"

WEDNESDAY, 9th MARCH, 2016

**\$5
LUNCH ORDER**

Student Name: _____ Class: _____

Please tick (one choice only)

- ☐ Beef Lasagne
☐ Twista Pasta Bolognaise
☐ Spaghetti & Meatballs
☐ Macaroni & Cheese Pasta

* All orders include garlic bread and a popper, plus choice of either a squeezie yoghurt or tub of custard.

Orders and payment must be returned to the canteen no later than 29th February, 2016. No orders will be taken on the day.



LIBRARY

Welcome back to the library for 2016. All classes have now had lessons in the library and are able to borrow from our great collection. Students must have a library bag to borrow books and I encourage students and parents to keep the books in their bags and not mix them with their own books, so they are not disappointed by not being able to borrow. Students can keep books for up to two weeks, but for older students they are able to renew books if needed.

This term students in Stage 1 and Stage 2 will be learning computer skills to enhance their information literacy and research skills, and I will be encouraging them to log onto the portal both at school and home. It would be great if you could ask your child about what they are learning and encourage them to show you their new skills.

Abermain Birthday Book Club is back again this year, and all note-takers received notes outlining information about this great initiative. If you have any questions regarding this please don't hesitate to ask me.

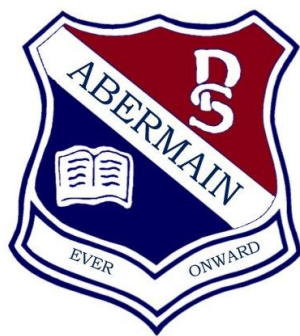
Happy Reading

WORLD OF MATHS ROADSHOW

Last Thursday and Friday, our school was fortunate to have a visit from the "World of Maths Roadshow". Students were able to experience a guided discovery lesson working their way through colourful hands-on maths displays to solve problems relating to everyday life situations. Both students and staff enjoyed themselves and we look forward to having World of Maths back at our school again in the future.

Thank you to the parents that came along and helped out with our sessions—because of you, our students were able to make the most of their learning experience.





SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

SCHOOL APP

The school app is available to the whole community

To download the school app visit the Apple App store or Google Play store and search for Abermain Public School.

Log in using - Username: community Password: abermainps



**CORRECT FOOTWEAR
TO BE WORN AT
ABERMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL**