FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 4 – Week 7

Our key priority this year will be an unrelenting focus on improving reading, writing and numeracy in all students through a whole school pedagogical approach which includes explicit instruction. This means that all students will improve in reading, writing and numeracy because we will be focussing on the best possible ways to teach.

Awards
Student of the week
This week’s grade 3-7 student of the week awards went to Hugh Truelson for showing maturity and dance etiquette during Dance Fever week. The P-2 student of the week award went to Bonnie Truelson for putting in 110% effort during Dance Fever week. It turns out the Truelsons’ are great dancers!

Best Bookwork
This week in 3-7 Sally Noakes received the award for the best English book presentation. Keep up the good work Sally! Last week the award went to Tayla Chapman.

AFL
This week there were 2 prizes given out for student participation in AFL. The grade 3-7 prize went to Tayla Chapman for always listening during the sessions. The P-2 prize went to Wade Armstrong for showing great kicking skills.

Christmas Reading Challenge
To help encourage students to keep up their reading over the holidays we are having a Christmas Reading Challenge. Students will record all the books they read over the holidays and a P-2 and 3-7 winner will be announced in early Term 1! The Christmas Reading Challenge record form will be sent home at the end of this term.

What’s happening in the classroom?
Assessment tasks are being finalised for this term to be added to observations, investigations, tests and previous assessment pieces for the semester in preparation for report cards. At the same time diagnostic testing has begun so that we can hit the ground running next year.
**Farewell/bridal shower**
This Thursday afternoon at 3.15 the staff will be hosting a farewell and bridal shower Tupperware party for Miss Stevens. It is her last day at the school as she heads back to Brisbane to prepare for her marriage to Mr Powys. Please feel free to join us - the more the merrier!

**Child restraint laws**
Next Wednesday at 3.15 in the P-2 room Neil Lloyd Jones will present a quick session on child restraint laws. He is aiming to clear up any misunderstandings you may have regarding the current legislation and is happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Working Bee**
A big thanks goes out to the following families that spent some time at the school on Sunday to help prepare the gardens for the upcoming holiday. Everything looks fantastic!

*Thank you:*
Justin, Graham and Tracy Sharps  
Tony Truelson  
Henry, Sue and Peter Gray  
Jake, Clayton, Wade and Tina Armstrong  
Sophie, Rachel and Joe Olive  
Cooper, Lily, Brodie, Danii and Daryl McKenzie

**Repeat notices**

**Student Resource Scheme**
Throughout term 3 notifications in the school newsletter and at P and C meetings (July 30 and August 21) advised parents of the schools intention to move to a resource scheme in 2014. We have sent home Year Level Requirement Lists and a participation form. The Year Level Requirement List is our official list of school requisites that your child/ren will require for 2014.

Please complete the participation agreement form and return it to Marlborough State School by **Friday 22 November 2013** so that bulk orders can be made. No money is required until next year when invoices will be issued to parents who have returned their signed agreement form by November 22 this year. Do not hesitate to contact the school on 07 4935 6166 if you have any questions.

**Movember**
November has arrived and with it scary facial hair. Movember’s tagline, changing the face of men’s health, aptly describes the challenge of those participating in Movember – changing their appearance by growing a moustache for 30 days, and the outcome – changing the understanding and attitudes men have towards their health.

Neil Lloyd Jones has joined the cause and is madly growing facial hair to raise awareness. To support Neil and help raise funds for a good cause go to [http://au.movember.com/mospace/7481601](http://au.movember.com/mospace/7481601) to donate.

Regards,

Meg Saunderson
2013

November
Monday, 25 November - *2014 School captain nomination speeches*
Friday, 29 November - *School swimming carnival - Marlborough*

December
Friday, 6 December - *District swimming carnival - Clarke Creek*
Wednesday, 11 December - *Presentation night*
Thursday, 12 December - *Celebration day*
Friday, 13 December – *Last Day of Term*
Social media and the school community

This guide offers some information to parents and caregivers about how to use social media in relation to comments or posts about their school community.

The internet, mobile phones and social media provide wonderful opportunities for you to network and socialise online. While these technologies provide positive platforms for sharing ideas, they also have the potential to cause pain and suffering to individuals, groups or even whole communities.

Reputations of teachers, schools, principals and even parents can be permanently damaged — and in some cases, serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour are dealt with by police and the court system.

Just as you would discourage your child from behaving inappropriately online, it’s important to remember that sometimes negative comments that parents and caregivers post about their school community have a greater impact than expected.

Being aware of a few simple strategies can help keep the use of social media positive and constructive:

- Before you post something online, ask yourself if the community or individual really need to know. Is it relevant, positive and helpful?
- Remember that what you post online is a direct reflection of who you are. People will potentially form lasting opinions of you based on what you post online.
- Be a good role model. If things get heated online consider logging out and taking a few moments to relax and think. Hasty, emotive responses could inflame situations unnecessarily.
- Be mindful when commenting, try to keep general and avoid posting anything that could identify individuals.
- A few years ago parents may have discussed concerns or issues with their friends at the school gate. Today with the use of social media, online discussions between you and your close friends can very quickly be shared with a much wider audience, potentially far larger than intended.
- Taking a few moments to think about the content you are about to post could save upset, embarrassment, and possible legal action.
- As a parent you have a role in supervising and regulating your child’s online activities at home and its impact on the reputation and privacy of others. Parents are their child’s first teachers — so they will learn online behaviours from you.
What's Happening……..

Pub Raffles

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<tr>
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<td>Chapman</td>
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Pub Raffles: Don’t forget to get your tickets in the meat trays at the Pub. Gotta be in it to win it!! Pub Raffles is our most consistent fundraisers for P&C, and drawn each Friday night. Volunteers, we appreciate your help, but please be aware the Pub has the raffle as a favour to our school community. If you are unable to meet your rostered date please change with someone or let Sharyn or myself know so we can arrange someone to fill in.

Working Bee: A working bee was held on Sunday the 17th of November at school to help tidy up around the place before the holidays. A big thankyou to everyone that helped.

Inter House Swimming: 29th Nov please remember to bring an item for a shared morning tea and a sausage sizzle will follow.

Meeting Agenda:
- WH&S (work place health and safety)
- Grants for funding of Blinds
- Presentation Night/Celebration Day

From little things big things grow….

Sue Gray
Secretary

Next Meeting
Wed. 27th November 2013
Marlborough State School
3:15pm

Please come and share your thoughts and ideas at our next meeting....