9th December 2014

Hall for rehearsals
EVERYDAY

Wed 10th
Messy Christmas
12 noon

Helpers Afternoon
Tea 2pm

Thurs 11th
Year 6 Farewell 6pm

OUTSTANDING NOTES
Last day of school – swimming note
Year 6 Farewell

Transition days

High School transition
The students had a very successful first dress rehearsal at the hall today. Congratulations to the students for all their efforts and commitment at the practice sessions. We look forward to seeing everyone at Presentation Night next Monday 15th December seated ready to begin at 7pm.

Everyone enjoyed their transition days last week, with every student in the school trying on their “new hat” for next year. It was lovely to see what a lovely student body we will have again next year, with our Year 5 students ready to step up into leadership roles.

Thank you to our parents who come along to assist at the school in many different ways. Please come along tomorrow for afternoon tea at 2pm so we can say thank you and celebrate our successes together before the year ends.

Anne-Maree Moore, Principal

STAGE ONE NEWS

Thank you to all our willing helpers who assisted in shifting Stage One to the Library it was very much appreciated. You worked very hard to achieve a great result in such a short time. Thank you.

STAGE 2/3 NEWS

Congratulations to all students on their fantastic dress rehearsal today; the final performance is going to be awesome!

Our end of year learning has been focussed on the reflection of our achievements and memories at Matong Public School throughout 2014. Students have been making powerpoints which we will post on Edmodo once completed so that families can share our successes and thoughts.

Year 6 students attending Narrandera High School next year will be completing literacy tests today. From all accounts, Year 6 students enjoyed their two day transition at high school last week and our future Year 3 students had two exciting days in Stage 2/3. Students and staff are all looking forward to the Year 6 Farewell and end of school activities.
CONCERT AND PRESENTATION NIGHT

Students may wear casual clothes on Monday to ensure their school uniform is clean for presentation night. All students are expected to wear full blue school uniform on the night. Students should arrive at 6.50pm and make their way to the supper room.

HALL CONCERT REHEARSALS
Rehearsal dates are as follows:

Week 10
Everyday
Monday 8th - Friday 12th

On these days the school buses will drop students at the hall at the usual drop off time. Children who walk, ride or come to school by car are to be dropped straight to the hall as close to 9.15 am as possible. School staff will be on duty at the hall to supervise. Students will walk back to school at 11 am in time for lunch. Please do not drop any students at school during rehearsal times as supervision cannot be guaranteed. It can get quite hot during the last two weeks so please remember to send water bottles.

Helpers please

Costume ironing – a volunteer is required to iron costumes prior to our dress rehearsal. Please contact the school if you are able to assist.

Videographer – anyone who would like to be responsible for taking the video of the 2014 presentation night and concert, please contact the school.

WATER FUN WASH UP
On Tuesday 16th December 2014, students will participate in a session of water fun activities from 12 noon to 2 pm. During this time, we will be washing our desks and chairs in preparation for the New Year and having a load of fun along the way.

Students need to bring: a change of clothes suitable for the water fun activity (swimmers can be worn underneath), suitable footwear e.g. crocs or thongs, scrubbing brushes, sponges. PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR CHILD’S OR FAMILY NAME.

What do you think you should do more of at school?
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CHANGES FOR 2015

As part of the implementation of changes to the National Standards recently approved by the Minister for Education, holidays taken outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A certificate of exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose.

Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacancies. If travel outside of school vacation periods is necessary, families should apply to the Principal prior to the leave to apply for a Certificate of Extended Leave - Holiday. This will only be granted at the discretion of the principal if it is believed to be in the best interests of the student.

AWARDS

Principal's Award

Chontal Costello - Respectful attitude to others
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS

On Wednesday 17th December 2014, as a positive behaviour reward, students will be treated to a fun-filled day of activities. The day will begin with a visit to Ganmain Pool from approximately 9.30 am until 12.30 pm (travel inclusive) Transport will be by bus. SANTA will be making a guest appearance, which we are all very excited about. Students will have their lunch (brought from home) at the pool before returning to school. Following this we will have a movie afternoon.

~ December 2014 ~

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<td>WEEK 11</td>
<td>Working Bee 9am to clean &amp; set up hall Concert &amp; Presentation Night</td>
<td>Water Fun Wash Up</td>
<td>Mobile Library Pool Party &amp; Movie</td>
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As this edition is the last that you will receive this year I have summarised it succinctly for you so that you can get stuck into reading it. I found some of the suggestions helpful for my own personal life and the stories encapsulated Christmas well.

The first page is about being prepared and all that that means – quite insightful if you have the eyes to see and understand what it is talking about. I like how it talked about being an example for those around you (particularly your kids.) The second page is about boundaries and treating people at the stage of life that they are at. The third page is an advent activity (quite creative I thought) and an alternative way of telling the story of John the Baptist. The last page is about preparing for a new child and what Mary and Joseph must have been going through, relatable for some and maybe not for others.

Thanks for taking in what I have had to say this year and I hope you have a very blessed Christmas with family and friends.

Jeremy Polkinghorne
(Matong Public School Chaplain)

Best Start Testing
Wednesday 28th January
9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Laura Hatty
10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Josef Meier
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. Jack Malone

Kindergarten classes commence Thursday 29th January, 2015
Optional Wednesdays weeks 2 to 6 inclusive
We look forward to seeing you at big school!
P&C NEWS

There will be a working bee 9am Monday 15th December to clean and set up the hall for presentation night. Many helpers make light work, if you are able to lend a hand that would be appreciated.

Supper is planned to occur at the conclusion of the concert and presentation night – all families are asked to supply two plates of supper to share please. Thank you.

A huge thank you to all parents and community members who have assisted in any way to support our activities throughout the year; from assisting at working bees, attending meetings, helping at catering events or purchasing tickets in our raffles. When you support the P&C you are supporting the students learning at Matong Public. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

We look forward to your continued support in 2015. The next AGM will be held early in Term One next year.
CHRISTMAS CLEANING

Need help getting your house clean ready for Christmas Celebrations?

Call Rosie
$25 per hour
Ph 0431544314

Experienced cleaner, references can be provided.

COOLAMON LIBRARY NEWS

Our final storytime for the year will be held this Friday 12th December. A small Christmas party will follow and a very special guest will be appearing. Hope everyone can join us for this special occasion.

The school holiday program is available with plenty of activities planned. Some activities include - Gingerbread House workshop, Fuzzy Aliens workshop, inflatable pool parties, bucket drumming and Lego Fun days.

Our “Food for Fines” campaign has started again at the Coolamon Library. This is a great opportunity to clear all outstanding fines by donating non-perishable food in lieu of money. All collected food will be donated to St Vincent de Paul in Coolamon. They will then distribute the food to our local families within our shire. The Coolamon Library is on Facebook! News, pictures, events and opportunities are regularly uploaded - join us now!

Join the library today - Free membership.
1. Which state introduced a controversial shark catch and kill policy?
   a. Western Australia
   b. South Australia
   c. Queensland

2. How many medals did Australia win in the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics?
   a. 3
   b. 5
   c. 7

3. Which country announced in August that it has banned food imports from Australia, the United States, the European Union, Canada and Norway?
   a. China
   b. Russia
   c. Japan

4. What caused the residents of Morwell to have concerns about their health earlier this year?
   a. high levels of lead was found in their water supply
   b. smoke from a coal mine fire was covering the town
   c. toxic chemicals from an old army base were buried under part of the town had been leaking through the soil

5. In which African country were 278 girls abducted from a boarding school causing international outrage?
   a. Kenya
   b. Nigeria
   c. Zimbabwe

6. What type of Coke will Coca Cola be launching in a green can next year?
   a. chocolate flavoured coke
   b. lime flavoured coke
   c. a naturally sweetened coke without sugar

7. Which country won football’s 2014 World Cup?

8. What is the “debt levy” that received a huge amount of media attention when the federal budget was announced?
   a. a short term payment that has been introduced to help pay Australia’s debts
   b. a controversial hydro dam project
   c. it is what the opposition called Tony Abbott

9. In which country did emergency services have to respond after Mt Ontake erupted on September 27th?

10. Australian jets have participated in international air strikes against IS militants in northern Iraq. What does IS stand for?
    a. Iraqi Separatist
    b. International Soldiers
    c. Islamic State

11. Which film won the 2014 Oscar for best picture?
    a. American Hustle
    b. Gravity
    c. 12 Years a Slave

12. True or false, the mining tax was scrapped this year?

13. Tony Abbott introduced new rules for people who choose to wear a specific item of clothing in parliament. What was the item?
    a. open toed shoes such as thongs and sandals
    b. t-shirts
    c. the burqa

14. Which world leader did Tony Abbott say he would “shirtfront” at the upcoming G20 summit in Brisbane?
    a. John Key, New Zealand
    b. Vladimir Putin, Russia
    c. Barack Obama, United States

15. Which of the following horses won the Melbourne Cup?
    a. Protectionist
    b. Precedence
    c. Admire Rakti
2014 Review - Visuals

1. In which American state are locals facing this problem?

2. In what country was this photo taken last term?

3. In which city this photo taken earlier in the year?

4. Which Australian state has this flag?

5. Name this Australian politician.
1. Which state introduced a controversial shark catch and kill policy?
   a. Western Australia - Anger against the creation of a 1km kill zone full of baited hooks off the coast became so heated that personal threats were made towards the firms who tendered for the right to patrol as government “shark sheriffs”. Fisheries officers were asked to carry out the controversial catch and kill policy instead.

2. How many medals did Australia win in the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics?
   a. 3 - silver and bronze in Freestyle Skiing and a silver in Snowboard Halfpipe.

3. Which country announced in August that it has banned food imports from Australia, the United States, the European Union, Canada and Norway?
   b. Russia - The decision follows a decree signed by President Vladimir Putin ordering the government to ban or limit food imports from countries that imposed sanctions on Moscow for its support of rebels in eastern Ukraine and the annexation of Crimea.

4. What caused the residents of Morwell to have concerns about their health earlier this year?
   b. smoke from a coal mine fire was covering the town - Residents were concerned and angry about the thick smoke and air pollution that had blanketed the town for weeks. The black smoke and ash had been affecting Morwell since a fire spread into the Hazelwood open cut coalmine in February.

5. In which African country were 278 girls abducted from a boarding school causing international outrage?
   b. Nigeria - their government faced international anger from the public over its poor response. The girls have not been released although some did escape.

6. What type of Coke will Coca Cola be launching in a green can next year?
   c. a naturally sweetened coke without sugar - The soft drink giant is targeting increasingly sugar-phobic consumers with Coca Cola Life which is partly sweetened with stevia, a plant native to South America which is lower in calories than sugar. Coca Cola Life contains 35 per cent less sugar and kilojoules than the regular version of Coke.

7. Which country won football’s 2014 World Cup?
   Germany - This is now the fourth time a German team has won the title.

8. What is the “debt levy” that received a huge amount of media attention when the federal budget was announced?
   a. a short term payment that has been introduced to help pay Australia’s debts - The Temporary Budget Repair Levy increases the income tax paid on any income over $180,000 by 2% taking it to 47%.

9. In which country did emergency services have to respond after Mt Ontake erupted on September 27th?
   Japan - the eruption came without warning and claimed the lives of over 57 people that were hiking on the mountain at the time.

10. Australian jets have participated in international air strikes against IS militants in northern Iraq. What does IS stand for?
   c. Islamic State - Australian troops are also engaged in an “advise and assist” capacity to support the Iraqi army in their battle against the militant group.

11. Which film won the 2014 Oscar for best picture?
   c. 12 Years a Slave - The director of the movie that also won Best Picture, dedicated his award to all the people who have endured slavery.

12. True or false, the mining tax was scrapped this year?
   True - The mining tax or the Minerals Resource Rent Tax (MRRT) is a tax on profits generated from the exploitation of non-renewable resources in Australia. The tax, levied on 30% of the profits from the mining of iron ore and coal in Australia once a company’s annual profits reach $75 million. The new coalition government announced it would scrap the tax saying it had led to negative impacts on investment in mining projects, and resulted in significant compliance costs.

13. Tony Abbott introduced new rules for people who choose to wear a specific item of clothing in parliament. What was the item?
   c. the burqa - Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott had said that he wished the burqa "was not worn" in the Australia. He later introduced restrictions that allow the burka to be worn as long as it is removed temporarily so security staff can identify the wearer.

14. Which world leader did Tony Abbott say he would "shirtfront" at the upcoming G20 summit in Brisbane?
   b. Vladimir Putin - Shirt-fronting is an illegal AFL act similar to a shoulder charge, where one player runs at the other head on. The PM wanted to confront Putin over Australians killed in July’s MH17 plane crash. It’s believed Russian backed militants fired a missile at the plane.

15. Which of the following horses won the Melbourne Cup?
   a. Protectorist - The Cup was won brilliantly by the second favourite with the fastest Melbourne Cup since Kingston Rule won in 1990. However, the race was marred by the deaths of two horses after the race.

**VISUAL ANSWERS**

1. Hawaii - the slow moving lava from Mt Kilauea is traveling at around 80 metres a day towards the town of Pahoa
2. Scotland - more people voted against independence so Scotland will remain part of the United Kingdom
3. Glasgow - The 2014 Commonwealth Games were one of the least successful for Australia
4. Tasmania
5. Katy Gallagher - has just stepped down as the ACT Chief Minister and announced she will run for Senate.

Feedback: staff@classroomsolutions.com.au