IMPORTANT DATES

Week 9:
- 25/3 to 12/4 Parent/Teacher Interviews.
- 29/3 – Good Friday Holiday.

Week 10:
- 1/4- Easter Monday Holiday.
- 3/4 – T-Ball Gala Day.
- 5/4 – Cross Country Medal Presentation.

Week 11:
- 9-10/4 - Book Fair.
- 9/4 – Boys PSSA Softball.
- 9/4 – Year 6 Excursion.
- 10/4 – Stage 1 Excursion.
- 10/4 – Gold Day.
- 11/4 – Art Gallery.
- 12/4 – Hunter Soccer, Netball, Hockey Trials.

REMINDER OF MONEY DUE
- Lexile Reading $6.00 – Due now. Year 2 and new students Years 3 – 6.
- Kinder Cooking - $8.00.
- Band Fees.
- Aerobics Training - $20.00.
- Term 2 Netball - $49.00.
- Year 6 Art Gallery Excursion - $5.50
- Year 1 & 2 Glimpse of Our Past Excursion $8.50.
- ICAS Exams.
- Easter Raffle Tickets due back Thursday 28th March 9am.

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE WEEK 9
Dear Parents,

Raffle Tickets
Our Easter raffle will be drawn tomorrow, so if anyone still has raffle tickets and money at home please return them to school tomorrow morning (by 9:00am) at the latest to ensure your tickets are included in the draw.
Thank You

Our Easter raffle has a great many prizes thanks to the generosity of our families who donated items from last week’s crazy hair day. Thank you to everyone who donated and a huge thank you to the parents who came along this week to help organise and wrap all the prizes. It was a huge effort as demonstrated by the mountain of chocolate in the staff room ready for the draw tomorrow.

Parent Teacher Interviews
The teachers have enjoyed meeting with many parents this week as part of the parent-teacher interview process. The online booking system is still open, but closes tomorrow evening so if you have not yet done so, please log on to select a suitable timeslot to meet with your child’s teacher. We encourage all families to take the opportunity to discuss their child’s progress during this time. As a reminder visit www.schoolinterviews.com.au and enter the event code: 42G76 on the website.

Student Safety
Pedestrian and vehicular traffic around our school is very congested at certain times of the day. Please be conscious of the safety of our students by ensuring you obey traffic and parking rules and be patient when you are waiting to drop off or pick up your child. With almost 600 students exiting the school at 3pm there are many potential hold ups, however the system works remarkably well thanks to the cooperation of all our parents and staff.

When walking with you child, remember that they learn from you. Please cross the road at the lights, stick to the designated paths and do not walk your child/ren through the car parks.

As we approach Easter this week and school holiday time in two weeks, it is timely to remind students about keeping safe. Students should be alert (not alarmed) about “stranger danger” and should know never to accept a lift from someone they do not know.

P&C and OOSH Move
Recently our OOSH providers indicated that they were running out of space and would soon be unable to accommodate our students in before and after school care. Thanks to the cooperation of the school and P&C we have arranged a swap of premises. The P&C Uniform Shop and Fundraising Committee are now located in the previous OOSH building (near the bottom staff car park) and OOSH now operates from the old uniform shop/fundraising room and RFF/music rooms near the COLA. The RFF and School banking programs will still operate from the RFF room. An enormous thank you must go to Mrs Sue King and the parents who gave up...
last Friday to assist with the move and those who have been so generous with their time to help the P&C organise and settle in to their new premises.

Dogs at School
Recently I have had an enquiry from a community member about dogs at school. This was, I believe due to an incident where a child was frightened by a dog brought to school when a parent collected their child one afternoon. Obviously the parent concerned did not set out to scare anyone and the dog in question was on a lead. However, the Companion Animals Act 1998 – Section 14 clearly prohibits dogs from some public places including specifically, schools. “Dogs are prohibited ... (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled).”

Of course there are exceptions to this for guide dogs, companion dogs and those with the express permission of the principal.

I would ask that parents be mindful of this and leave the dog at home when they come to the school.

Thank you.
D. Robson
Principal

Thought for the Week
Nobody gets to live life backward. Look ahead: that is where your future lies.
“Esther Lederer

VIRTUES EDUCATION
This week’s virtue is ORDERLINESS.
Orderliness is being neat and living with a sense of harmony. You are organised, and you know where things are when you need them. Solve problems step by step instead of going in circles. Order around you creates order inside you. It gives you peace of mind.

BANKING CHAMPIONS – 5F
MATHLETICS CHAMPIONS – 2C
ASSEMBLY CLASS OF THE WEEK – 1NB

SPECIAL INFANTS EASTER ASSEMBLY
Tomorrow the Infants students will be enjoying a special day of Easter activities. All parents are welcome to join us in the afternoon to watch them sing and parade around the COLA with their creations. Please assemble along the canteen and new OOSH verandahs at 2.10pm.

LIBRARY NEWS
Lexile Legend
Congratulations to Maleik Steadman who is this week’s Lexile Legend.

Lexile
Congratulations to 3/40, 4/5W and 5/6M for receiving the Class Lexile Award at last week’s assembly.

Congratulations also to Sienna Elms and Maleik Steadman for receiving a Blue Star Award (25 points); Luke Longworth who received a Red Star Award (50 points); Damien Matthews and Emy Liao who received Bronze Star Awards (100 points); and Emily Magri who received a Silver Star Award (250 points).

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Congratulations to Ashby Allen who has completed the 2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge. We now have 8 people who have completed this year’s challenge.

Book Fair
Our first book fair for the year will be held in the last week of term; Tuesday 9th April and Wednesday 10th April.

SPORTS NEWS
Seeking Sponsorship for Sports Uniforms
We have 4 school soccer teams and 4 school netball teams that play every Friday in Terms 2 and 3 and we would like to order new uniforms. In the past, family businesses have sponsored our team uniforms which gave them an advertisement on the uniform. Once again, to subsidise the cost for our school, we are seeking business sponsorship. If you are interested, or you know someone who may be, please contact our school office to express your interest. Your consideration is truly appreciated and more details will be available next term once we have evaluated quotes from a range of uniform providers.

Cross Country Report
Congratulations to all students who participated in our Cross Country Carnival last Wednesday. It is always great to see students having a go and challenging themselves. A sincere thank you to the parent helpers who braved the heat and supervised different points along the course to ensure students were safe and following the set course. Your time and effort was really appreciated.

The top 4 place-getters in each age division are selected to compete at the Zone Carnival on Thursday 2nd May (Week 1 of next term). Ribbons were presented at the Primary Assembly last Friday and the age champions will be presented with a medal at our next Primary Assembly on Friday 5th April from 12:20pm. These names are also on display on the Sports Notice Board. Zone permission notes will be distributed this week. Age Champions: 8-9yr Boy: Wil Botham; 8-9yr Girl: Grace Lyons; 10yr Boy: Ben Hitchcock; 10yr Girl: Ella Agland; 11yr Boy: Maleik Steadman; 11yr Girl: Zoey Geeves; 12-13yr Boy: Connor Lentfer; 12-13yr Girl: Kayla Steadman.

James makes an impression at Hunter Trials
After making it into the Eastlakes Zone Rugby League team, last Friday James Johnson attended the Hunter Rugby League trials. We are very pleased to report that James has made it onto the list of ‘possibles and probables’ which means he progresses through to the next round of trials today. Good luck James! PSSA Girls Softball Team
Congratulations to our girls’ softball team for defeating Jewells 14-10 in a great game! Carly Erich Sports Coordinator.
P & C
ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
Entertainment books will once again be available for purchase through our school. The books are still $60.00 each and $12.00 from each book sold is donated to the school. In the past this money has contributed to the purchase of smart boards & air conditioning in each classroom. Order forms will be sent home today. Payment can be made at the Office. Please place your order form and money in an envelope, or if you prefer you can order online. Books will be available prior to the holidays. If you order and pay prior to the holidays you will receive bonus vouchers. If you have any enquiries please contact Vicki McCudden 0407-457785.