Principal’s Message

**Term 3**
It is great to see everyone who safely returned from the holidays at school today. There are times when the two week break seems like a one day siesta, and I am sure for some of you that may well be the case this time around. Having attended my office over several days in the holidays it is also apparent that many families utilise Holiday Care due to work commitments. Whatever your experience, I trust for the majority the two week break was an opportunity to enjoy quality time with family and friends. Welcome back to Unanderra for another term!

**Holiday Work**
A number of trees were removed during the holidays as part of the department’s commitment to providing safe and secure grounds. A tree audit was conducted earlier in the year that showed work was required on a few trees around the grounds. This work has now been completed.

**Staff Development Day**
Yesterday teachers and support staff were at work undertaking various tasks. For teachers, the majority of the day was spent furthering our understanding of the Australian Curriculum and preparing for this term. Support staff participated in an activity with teachers to further understand the new School Planning Model that the department will be releasing to all schools this term. Some great understandings about the reasons we teach were shared that will form the basis for the new planning model here at our school.

**New Teacher**
As mentioned last term Michelle Garnero has been permanently appointed to our school and commenced her appointment yesterday. Michelle has almost ten years’ experience as a classroom teacher and will be a positive addition to our staff. Michelle will undertake RFF (release from face to face) over the next two terms. Please make her feel welcome should you see her around the school grounds.

**Education Week**
Week 3 this term is Education Week, ie. the week commencing 28th July. We will be holding our Open Day activities on **Tuesday 29th July**. Planning for Open Day includes:

- **10:00 – 11:00am** Open Classrooms
- **11:00 – 11:45am** Morning Tea
- **11:45 – 12:00pm** Dance Troupe
- **12:00 – 12:45pm** Assembly

The theme for Education Week in 2014 is Alumni. Unanderra has a proud heritage of students who have progressed successfully in their lives. We will have extended an invitation to a recent alumni student who is an affective ambassador for the exciting talent our school produces. I extend a hearty invitation to all families to attend our Open Day.

**Information Evening**
Last term our school held an information evening after extending an invitation through a letter-box dropped postcard to homes within our enrolment area. The evening was a great success with about forty people in attendance and several families who are now selecting Unanderra over alternate private schools. Our school is a terrific educational setting, and I ask your support in ‘spreading the word’ whenever you have the opportunity.

People make decisions about schools from small pieces of information they collect throughout a normal day. Your positive comment about experiences at Unanderra will go a long way to supporting the great work that our staff, students and community put into making Unanderra a great place to learn.

**Why do we teach?**
As mentioned earlier there were terrific discussions yesterday about the purpose for teaching raised by staff yesterday. For example,
Education equips people to lead meaningful lives.
Inspiring a love of learning is paramount to teachers.
Education exists to provide opportunities to students.
Student development is a key motivator for teachers.

Over the next two weeks the school executive team will collate evidence from yesterday’s discussions and develop mission statements that will be discussed with staff and our community through the P&C. We hope to then turn these statements into the basis for the new planning cycle 2015 – 2017.

School Self-Evaluation
Each year public schools collect data to support ongoing improvement. Currently schools are expected to develop and publish an Annual School Report (ASR) that provides information about successes and areas for improvement. With the advent of LMBR the ASR will likely be in a different format, however, in our current transition phase I prefer to collect data as previously. I also believe feedback is fundamental to ongoing growth so I invite everyone in our community to participate in a soon to be released survey.

The draft survey will be discussed with staff and P&C before being released, hopefully in the week commencing 4th August. As a little incentive, a gift card to the value of $100 will be purchased. Every family who returns a survey will have one entry in a raffle to secure the gift card. More on the survey and the gift card once the draft survey has been discussed by staff and community.

Rock School Breakfast
Recently I contacted Wave FM to enquire about their Rock School Breakfast program. Regardless of which radio station you listen to each morning, The Wave FM Rock School Breakfast is a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in an engaging activity. Thankfully our Rock School Breakfast has been booked for Friday 5th September. I say thankfully, because by early September the morning should be a little warmer than they currently are! Please pencil in the 5th September as students will be able to come to school quite early that morning to engage with the activities.

Change of date
I apologise for this relatively late notification, however, a double-booking has been noticed. Please be aware that Open Day has moved from Wednesday 30th July to Tuesday 29th July. As many of our students, and two teachers, will be attending the district athletics carnival on the Wednesday it was not the best choice for our school’s Open Day.

NAIDOC: NAIDOC week celebrations are held across Australia every July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Unanderra Public School will be celebrating NAIDOC this Friday 18th of July, with a whole school assembly at 9:30am. After recess Community Elder Uncle Richard Archibald, will be visiting the primary students to discuss his experience with travelling to Papua New Guinea.

Students are able to wear mufti on Friday in the colours of the Aboriginal flag (black, yellow red) or the Torres Strait Islander flag (blue, green, white). Students are asked to make a gold coin donation with all proceeds going to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

Anna Lawler, Aboriginal Education Committee

School Website: You can also view the school newsletter on the school website: www.unanderra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au To view previous newsletters go to the ‘Our School’ page and then go to ‘News & Announcements.’ Permission notes for excursions etc. can be found as an attachment on the School Calendar.

Enrol Now for Kindergarten 2015: Enrolments for Kindergarten 2015 are now being accepted. Thank you to the families that have already completed and returned their Enrolment forms.

Kindergarten Orientation Dates are as follows:

Session 2: for Existing Families at Unanderra Public School. Thursday October 23 and Thursday October 30, 2014.

A detailed letter and invitation to families, who have submitted their enrolment forms, will be going home soon regarding orientation details.

Carolina Wilkinson, Administrative Manager

Quote
Quality is not an act, it is a habit.
Aristotle

Craig Redfern
Principal

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Carolina Wilkinson, Administrative Manager
World Cup Soccer – Brazil 2014: UPS joined the festivities of World Cup in a variety of ways at the end of last term. We kicked off with a colourful mufti day with students dressing in their favourite soccer colours, with lots of green and gold supporting our team the ‘Socceroos’. There was also a Socceroos display in the library, a Soccer Quiz and a T-shirt design competition. The grand finale however was the Teacher/Teacher match. The teachers would have felt like real soccer stars as they were led onto the field by House captains carrying their team banners. The extremely loud and enthusiastic cheering of the students produced an electric atmosphere. Mr Redfern conducted the coin toss and the game began. The Red Rockets, captained by Miss Delaney beat the Blueberries 2-1, thanks to the teachers for their enthusiasm, it was a very exciting game to watch and enjoyed by all.

Winners of the Soccer Quiz were:
K - Phoenix, Kirra, Blair, Y1 – Emilia, Mya, Eric, Y2-Mariam, Y4- Andrew, Kiara, Daniel, Y6 – Payton, Saraya, Maria

T-shirt Design competition winners were:

Thanks to all of the students and teachers who volunteered their time to make these events possible.

Mrs Setargew

P & C News

Welcome back to Term 3! We hope everyone enjoyed their school holidays. We have lots of exciting things happening this Term including Spell-a-thon, the Father’s Day stall, a mufti day for the Fete and various activities as our school Fete Fun day draws closer. More details will be provided in the coming weeks.

Bright Star Kids: For all your school labelling needs see Bright Star kids. Just provide the school’s details when you create your account or at checkout when you complete your order and 20% of sales will be paid back to the school. Support Bright Star Kids, who are a generous sponsor of our school fete fun day, at www.brightstarkids.com.au

Next Meeting: Our next P & C meeting is scheduled for Term 3, Monday 11th August at 7:00pm in the staff room. If you have not been to a meeting before now is the time to join. It only costs $1 to be a financial member and anyone is welcome to come along.

From all the P & C, we wish everyone a safe and happy school holidays and we will see you all back in Term 3.

Joanne Crawford, P & C President
Unanderra Public School Fete Fun Day:
This is a special section of the P & C newsletter that will be dedicated to providing details about the upcoming Fete Fun Day. Please refer to this section for requests for volunteers, donations, schedules and planning details.

Date: Friday 24th October 12:00pm to 6:00pm

Our fete meeting for the 24th June had to be postponed due to unpleasant weather conditions. A new date will be advised on the Fete Fun Day face book page later this week. So anyone who would like to help out please come along.

We have had a great response from our UPS families for our market stalls and donations. Only a few spots for market stalls remain so now is your last chance, if anyone owns or operates a business and would like to hold a market stall at the fete, then please contact Karen Soulis on 0401064006 as soon as possible.

We are still after any donation of prizes for our ‘Big Raffle’ or “chocolate wheel” and anyone else who like to volunteer to help out.

A mufti day for Term 3 has been organised to assist in collections for the fete.  

Local Foster Carers needed: We are looking for local people to provide care for children and young people who are unable to live with their own families. Family and Community Services (FACS) is seeking Foster Carers who can provide short term/crisis care and/or respite care (e.g.one weekend a month). Individuals, couples and families from varied backgrounds, cultural groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply. All carers receive training, support and financial assistance. INTERESTED? Call Gabi Taylor or Carolyn Lardner at FACS on 4222-8400 during business hours.

Free TAFE Courses: The Outreach Unite at TAFE NSW Wollongong Campus will be conducting courses for people who want to develop skills for employment or further study. Courses include those specifically for women and cover vocational skills in:
1. Certificate II Skills for Work and Training (introduction to retail)
2. Certificate 1 in Access to Work and Training Introduction to Café and Hospitality Skills

These courses have no TAFE Administration Fee. Courses will commence the week starting July 21, 2014 Information session will be held at 10:00am in L.G. 19 (Building L, Ground Floor, Room 19) Phone 42290149 for further information.

CatholicCare Wollongong Term 3 Courses:
Workshop Bookings Wollongong 4227 1122 Other workshops may be available on request. Limited childcare may be available for some workshops. Concessions may apply dependent on financial circumstances. FOSTER A CHILD TODAY Call us on 4227 1122

LIFT: A group for men and women who may be feeling overwhelmed or experiencing high levels of stress and anxiety. Participants are able to explore feelings in a safe and friendly environment, challenging negative thinking patterns and discover how to build and improve relationships. CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong 5 Friday afternoons 12noon—2:30pm 8, 15, 22, 29 August & 5 September 2014 Workshop Fee: $20 per session

123 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING: CatholicCare Wollongong This time tested workshop provides easy to follow steps for disciplining children aged 2-12 years without yelling, arguing or hitting. CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong 3 Wednesday Mornings 10am—12:30pm 3, 10 & 17 September 2014 Workshop Fee: $10 per session

Disclaimer: Unanderra Public School will, as a service to parents, advertise community news for not for profit organisations and charities, which may be of interest. UPS does not necessarily endorse or sponsor the events and accepts no responsibility to the management or organisation of these events.
KEEPING KIDS IN MIND: (Mornings) A post-separation parenting workshop. Learn how to deal more effectively with the emotional and practical issues of parenting after separation. Explores loss and grief in parents and children, communication with your ex-partner, anger, assertiveness, power grabs & impact on children. CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong 5 Wednesday mornings 10am-12:30pm 23, 30 July, 6, 13 & 20 August 2014 Workshop Fee: $20 per session

KEEPING KIDS IN MIND: (Afternoons) A post-separation parenting workshop. Learn how to deal more effectively with the emotional and practical issues of parenting after separation. Explores loss and grief in parents and children, communication with your ex-partner, anger, assertiveness, power grabs & impact on children. CatholicCare, 25-27 Auburn St, Wollongong 5 Monday Afternoons 12noon-2:30pm 11, 18, 25 August, 1 & 8 September 2014 Workshop Fee: $20 per session

MY KIDS AND ME FOR WOMEN: A workshop for parents who have had children removed from their care. Assists participants to identify parenting skills, strengths and resources and to develop relationships with their children. Illawarra Women’s Health Centre 2—14 Belfast Avenue, Warilla 7 Thursday Mornings 10am - 12:30pm 14, 21, 28 August, 4, 11, 18 & 25 September 2014 Workshop Fee: $10 per session

BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS: Parents will learn “mindfulness” techniques to increase awareness of their thoughts & feelings. Parents will learn to be more aware of their children’s needs & how to better respond to their child’s behaviour to improve children’s self-identity, decrease parental stress & enhance the parent / child relationship. CatholicCare, 25—27 Auburn Street, Wollongong 6 Tuesday Afternoons 12noon-2:30pm 12, 19, 26 August, 2, 9 & 16 September 2014 Workshop Fee: $10 per session

123 MAGIC & EMOTION COACHING: Shellharbour This time tested workshop provides easy to follow steps for disciplining children aged 2-12 years without yelling, arguing or hitting. Community Room, Stockland Shopping Centre Lake Entrance Road, Shellharbour City 3 Thursday Mornings 10am-12:30pm 24, 31 July & 7 August 2014 Workshop Fee: $10 per session

Play Group: Figtree High Schools Exploring Early Childhood classes (Years 11 & 12) have successfully run the “little Figgies” Playgroup for the past 2 years of children aged 6 months to 5 years and their parents/carers. Held every Monday of the school term. Time: 10:45am – 12:15pm at the engineering science room (Industrial Arts Block) Cost: 1 piece of fruit per child. Morning Tea provided for parents/caregivers. Toys, painting, play dough, dress ups, arts and crafts! Come along and join the fun! For more information please contact Mrs. Tracey Leabeater or Mrs. Margaret Parr at Figtree High School on 4271 2787

Free Unanderra Homework Club: For Primary & Secondary School Students at Unanderra Community Centre. Would you like extra help with your homework or research for a school project? Then Homework Club is the place for you! Volunteer tutors can help you with your Homework and school assignments. Homework club is a fun place to get help with your homework and it’s free! Mums & Dads welcome...To book a spot or find out more please ring: Julie on: (02) 42725582 or Suanne on: (02) 42609384 Where? Unanderra Community Centre, Princes Highway, Unanderra When? Every Monday afternoon between 3:30pm – 4:30pm