End of year activities

With only four weeks of school remaining for 2015 there are still many activities planned that will keep the pace for students and teachers quite high. Captain's Speeches, Jamberoo Excursion, Parent Helpers Morning Tea, Swimming Scheme, Yr 6 Graduation and Presentation Days to name a few. I know that teachers are also writing reports within this hectic pace in an effort to share with you the progress of students. A busy time for everyone!

Educational reforms

The Department is currently embedding many educational reforms into the ‘business as usual model’ for public education. While many of the reforms are not directly noticeable to our community, they are affecting the success of schools. Local school autonomy, professional teaching standards, rural educational program and leadership initiatives are combining to ensure NSW Public Schools continue to provide a world class education to our students. More information on the reforms can be found at:


Presentation day

You may recall that last year we returned to the presentation of excellence awards on presentation day. There are now a number of awards presented to students achieving excellence. Each class has three mandatory awards, English, Mathematics and Citizenship. The teacher is also able to provide other excellence awards at their discretion up to a ratio of 1:5, ie. in a class of thirty 6 awards would be given. In addition to these class awards there are several perpetual awards that are provided to selected students, five from Year 6 and one from Year 2. I trust you will join our school once again on Monday 14 December for our Presentation Day.

How hot?

Weather reports are suggesting that this Friday will likely be the hottest day of 2015. This Friday is also the last day for the Sport & Recreation program our school runs each year. Please ensure you provide adequate fluids, preferably water, for your child who is likely to be engaged in movement activities if participating in Sport & Recreation program. Please also ensure a school hat is included in your child’s bag, not only this Friday but every day.

Quote:

Don’t find fault, find a remedy

Henry Ford

Annual Helper’s Morning Tea: We have begun to distribute Invitations to our Annual Helper’s Thank You Morning Tea.

This year the morning tea will be held on Tuesday, November 24, at 10:30am. If you have helped at our school but not received an invitation, please contact me. Thank you.

Robyn Mats, Helper’s Morning Tea Organiser

Captain-elect Speeches: Due to the HS Orientation on Thursday 3rd December, I have moved the captain-elect speeches to 9:15am on Wednesday December 2. This will be held in the hall.

Kylie Morgan, Assistant Principal
School Bus Pass: Opal cards will replace school travel passes from 2016.

Students with a paper school pass this year will be issued with an Opal card at school from the start of term in 2016.

Students starting kindergarten, moving from Year 2 to 3, starting high school, changing school or changing their address next year will need to apply online for their School Opal card.

To order a new School Opal card, go direct to www.transportnsw.info/school-students or call 131 500.

3D Printer for UPS:
With your help the students of Unanderra Public School could be getting a 3D printer! We have joined the Seed3D program, hosted by Australian 3D printer manufacturer Me3D.

The program allows families, individuals, businesses and organisations in our community to help us get a 3D printer for the school.

If anyone purchases a 3D printer online from Me3D, they just need to provide OUR SCHOOL’S UNIQUE COUPON CODE at checkout: UPS2526

That’s it! Then we will be 10% of the way to a free 3D printer.

So if you or anyone you know are considering a 3D printer for the home, office or garage check out this great printer at www.me3d.com.au and don’t forget to checkout using our COUPON CODE.

Kylie Liles, Assistant Principal

Annual Giving Tree: Our Christmas Tree has been decorated and placed in the foyer ready for donations from our school community. All donations of dried and tinned food as well as toys can be made up to 11:00 am Friday December 11. All items will then be given to the Salvation Army for distribution to Illawarra families in need. Thank you for your support of this extremely worthwhile project.

Carolina Wilkinson, Administrative Manager

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Unanderra Public School will, as a service to parents, advertise community news for no 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.
P&C News

P&C Meeting: Our next scheduled P&C meeting will be held next Monday December 7, at 7:00pm in the school staffroom. Everyone is welcome so please come along and join us for a fun and informative night. This will be our last meeting for the year. Drinks and nibbles will be available.

Santa Photos: Book your Santa photos now with Mrs Rodden & her business - Santa at the Beach for our final fundraiser of the year. The special package available to UPS families is comparable to that offered in the shopping centers and the photos are stunning!

The Cost- $35 per family (for 1 high res image for you to print or upload however you'd like) with $10 per session going to the P&C.

If we book 20 families we will raise $200. We require a minimum of 20 families commitment to cover the costs. You can choose either the Santa at The Beach or Santa in The Village location. The Village location is in Mount Kembla Village so nice and close.

The parents would get a high res image sent to an email account or the preferable option is for you to bring a USB on the day and that will be handed back to parents by Mrs Rodden a few days later.

Dates: Santa At The Beach - Saturday November 28, 8am - 11am Santa In The Village - Saturday December 5, 8am - 11am Please note that the $35 special will ONLY BE ON THESE DATES as These are the reserved dates especially for UPS parents. Each session will take approx. 5mins

If you are interested in one these or their other packages (there are other options for dates) please visit the Santa At the Beach facebook page and book your appointment with Roberta.

P&C Crazy Hair Day: Wednesday November 18, gold coin donation. The P&C Association are looking forward to seeing your Wacky, Wild and Colourful hairdo's. Let your imagination go wild with colour and style. Simply bring a gold coin that will be collected in the morning by our P&C members. Make sure you still wear your school uniform, but go all out and show your creative side with your hair!
Joanne Crawford, P&C President

School Banking: Another outstanding effort from 3L this week they are the weekly class winners with 11 bankers in their class. We had an awesome effort with 90 UPS bankers this week, keep up the great effort!

Please note the following prizes are available for order: Galaxy Glider (Frisbee), Outer Space Moneybox, Invisible ink pens, Intergalactic Rocket, ET DVD and Scented pencils.

Please note there are only 4 more school banking weeks, so please ensure to get your prize selection in if you have reached 10 tokens.

Thank you for everyone’s continued support, and we hope to see the same number of bankers in the following weeks.
Elizabeth Ilievski, Jenny Evans & Nicole Martin, School Banking Volunteers and Coordinators

Community News

Cyber Safety Talk: We would like to take this opportunity to invite the parents and teachers from your school to attend an information session in relation to cyber bullying and social media. As police we have seen an increase in issues relating to cyber bullying, sending “nudes” and other concerns in relation to social media. This session is not for students, it is for parents and teachers to provide them with information and strategies.

The information session will include a presentation from the Australian Federal Police, which was well received at our last principal’s forum. We strongly encourage your P&C Families and any other families who are interested to attend this valuable information session.

Where: Oak Flats High School (Auditorium) (Entrance via 42 to 44 The Esplanade, Oak Flats) When: 6.00pm for a 6:30pm Finish 7.30pm Thursday November 26, 2015.

Should you have any questions in relation to this forum, please contact Youth Liaison Officer, Scott Burgess on 42325329.

Manna House Food from Heaven: Providing food, friendship and hope. No cost meal, Thursdays at 5:00pm. Bus picks up each week at Unanderra Station at 5:00pm. Or simply turn up at Figtree Anglican Church and join us. We meet to enjoy a meal together, chat and share life. There is time included for those who wish to join with others to look at what the Bible says about God and Jesus. We can’t wait to meet you.

Emergency Food Relief now at Unanderra: ADRA Community Pantry is being conducted weekly here at the Unanderra Community Centre on Thursdays from July 9. Between 1:00pm and 2:30pm for a donation cost of $7 for a food parcel to help those who are struggling to make ends meet.