Welcome Mrs Elston
In this very busy end of year period I wish to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Morgan and her selection panel who have appointed Mrs. Lauren Elston to the remaining permanent teaching position within our school. Mrs. Elston will commence with us in 2016, pending the expiration of a ten days appeals period. I look forward to meeting Mrs. Elston and believe she will be a valuable addition to our team.

End Of Year Show
Traditionally our school provides students with the opportunity to perform at an end of year show on the last day of school. The show has taken various formats over the years and this year there will be a further ‘tweak’ in an effort to maximise opportunities for the performers and the audience. It is anticipated the show will fill the mid-session of Tuesday 15 December, ie 11:30am – 1:00pm. While the agenda has been shortened from previous years to fit the one and a half hour time slot, there always remains the possibility the show may continue after lunch due to extenuating circumstances. Mr. Bennett, who does an outstanding job of organising this activity, will provide a schedule of performances this Friday. Today there are rehearsals that will highlight necessary last minute adaptions before a schedule can be finalised.

Presentation Day
This coming Monday will be our presentation day. As with last year there will be two presentations, one for K-2 between 9:30am – 11:00am and one for 3-6 between 11:30am – 1:00pm. Please join us in celebrating many of the year’s achievements.

Photos Please
During all school activities it is important to remember that the privacy of individuals should be protected.

December 8, 2015

Photos and videos ‘snapped’ at school and uploaded onto social media can breach privacy concerns if they contain images of children you have not received permission to photograph. When taking photos or videos of your child(ren) please ensure you do so with regard to the privacy of others.

Handover
Mr. Hoy and I have held several discussions regarding the role he will undertake in 2016. We plan to meet during January to ensure there will be a smooth transition leading into 2016. I am very confident that Mr. Hoy will lead our school into new horizons while maintaining the many positives we are renowned for.

Jamberoo Fun
Our Stage 3 teachers had many positives to share regarding yesterday’s end of year activity at Jamberoo Recreation Park. The overcast weather did not stop the fun of our students who continued on, even through periods of minimal rain. It is terrific that the day was a success for students and teachers.

Reports
Teachers, executive and I have been reading and re-reading reports over the past weeks. We are on track to provide reports to families on Monday 14 December.

Quote:
A lie can travel half-way around the world, while the truth is putting on its shoes.

Charles Spurgeon

Craig Redfern
Principal
Library Update: I can’t believe how the time has flown but we are almost at year end. It has been a busy and successful year in the UPS library and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as the UPS Teacher Librarian.

Successful happenings in 2015 included a talk by Susie Hamers, the co-author of the picture book, ‘Lone Pine’ for the 100th anniversary of ANZAC Day, a Book Week Poster Competition and Book Week Parade, Premiers Reading Challenge, a visit from our local Big Fat Smile preschool students and two very successful book fairs.


Teaching and Learning in the library Semester 2 focused on rich literature across all stages in Term 3, celebrating the short listed Book Week books, examining visual literacy. In Term 4, Early Stage 1 learned about the parts of a computer and how to log on to the NSW DoE school portal using their personal username and password. Stage 1 learned how to create a PowerPoint presentation, inserting text boxes and images and saving to the server. Stage 2 used the iPads to create book trailers, with some of these featuring on the UPS school website next year. While Stage 3 studied the unit of work ‘Can We Fix It’, learning about sustainability and the impact we all have on our world, building their research skills using the Internet.

I would also like to thank all the library monitors and tech crew who helped me this year. Your assistance was invaluable in the smooth running of the library and making the library a fun place during lunch times.

With that, I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and keep up reading over the school break! See you next year.

Miss Prior, Teacher Librarian

Skoolbag - Parent Communication App:
Have you installed our Skoolbag App? Install it now so you are ready for 2016. Paper copies of the school newsletter are not distributed to the students. There will be copies available in the front office for parents who do not have access to Skoolbag or the School Website.

Skoolbag iPhone and Android App will enable us to communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. 584 parents have installed the Skoolbag App so far. To install it, just search for our school name "Unanderra Public School" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store.

Carolina Wilkinson, School Administrative Manager

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: Thank you to everyone who has donated items for our Salvation Army Giving Tree, your generosity is greatly appreciated. There is still time to bring in any donations of dried and tinned food as well as toys, these can be made up to 11:00 am this Friday. 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

P&C News

P&C Meeting: Last night we held our final P&C meeting for 2015 along with an end of year celebration. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped celebrate our success for this year. A number of our wonderful teaching staff at UPS also came along and we wish to acknowledge their support of the P&C throughout the year as well. At our meeting the P&C, on top of our annual funding contribution to the school of $10,000 for 2015, we were also able to pledge $13,200 to support the school’s L3 literacy program by purchasing much needed reading resources to be utilised from next year. We were able to make this contribution as a result of all the hard work from our P&C members and volunteers in our fund raising endeavors throughout the year. So thank you.

Our first scheduled P&C meeting for 2016 will be held on Monday February 8, at 7:00pm in the school staffroom. Our AGM for 2016 will be held on Monday March 7, at 7:00pm in the staffroom followed by our normal P&C meeting. Executive positions in the P&C will be open for 2016 so if you are interested in being involved please join us for our first meeting in February 2016 to find out more details.

Santa Photos Fundraiser: Thank you to everyone who participated in our Santa Photo fundraiser. Not only will you receive absolutely beautiful photos from our very talented Mrs Rodden, you have helped contribute to the $400 that we raised as part of this fundraiser. Thank you to Mrs Rodden and Santa at the Beach for supporting UPS.

Move to Stage Based Classed for 2016: At our P&C meeting last night we also held a healthy discussion around the school’s move to stage based classes in 2016. Early next year the school will release to all parents information in relation to this move answering all questions you may have. If you do have any questions, please direct them all through Phil Evans via the UPS Parents Facebook page or the UPS P&C members’ page. All these questions will be collated and forwarded to the school and included in the information released.

Joanne Crawford, P&C President

School Banking: As the year draws to a close, banking numbers are dwindling – only 61 bankers, today. Once again 3L were the weekly class winners. Its official – 3L are the most frequent class winners for the year, and are therefore the winners of the pizza party. Congratulations to 3L!

Keep those deposits coming, as you can still collect tokens to go towards a reward. The school earns rewards based on your deposits, and most importantly you’re saving for something exciting to buy in the future. There are very few rewards available for the end of the year, as stocks are running out. Now available are the Galaxy Glider (Frisbee), Outer Space Moneybox, Invisible ink Martian pens, ET DVD and Scented pencils.

Next Tuesday, December 15, is the last banking day for the year. Thank you for your continued support.

Elizabeth Iliieski, Jenny Evans & Nicole Martin, School Banking Volunteers and Coordinators

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.
Community News

Fun Club @ Unanderra School Holiday
Program: Located at Unanderra Public School. This service is provided by Big Fat Smile and is for children aged 5-12 from 8:00am-6:00pm every week day. For more information or to enrol phone 4272 5355 or visit www.bigfatsmile.com.au/5-12-centres Child Care Benefit is also available.

Art Space School Holiday Workshops:
Workshops are available for 3-5 year olds, 5-9 year olds, 8-13 year olds and 7-13 year olds. For more information and booking online visit: bigfatsmile.com.au/artspace

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.

Wests Netball Club Registrations: Netball Registrations for 2016 will be going online from 1st January 2016. All current players will receive an email in the few weeks advising them of the new procedures to follow. Any new players interested in playing in 2016 will also need to register online. Please contact the club via email for further information.

Registration Enquiries can be sent to westsnetball@hotmail.com or information can be found on our website www.westsnc.nsw.netball.com.au

Go4Fun® is a healthy lifestyle program to improve health, fitness, self-esteem and confidence in children. The program is for 7-13 year olds who are above their ideal weight. Sessions run for two hours after school or on a Saturday and include games, activities, tips on healthy food, label reading and portion sizes plus much more! A program will be running on Wednesdays from 4 – 6pm at Beaton Park Leisure Centre during Term 1. To book in to a program call 1800 780 900 or visit www.go4fun.com.au

Kiss Arts Festival General Circus Workshops: One day general circus, from 4 years and up. 10am-3pm Cost $50. Dates 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13th Jan 2016. Possible to attend one or multiple days. Where: “La Petite Grande” mini, big top, Hindmarsh Park, Kiama, NSW 2533. Details: children need to bring their own lunch and water and wear comfy clothes and bring some sneakers. Booking: http://www.trybooking.com/JPZZ OR for questions contact Tamara on 0403 817 549. BOOKINGS FOR ALL WORKSHOPS ARE ESSENTIAL

Australia Day Aquathon and Walk: As we lead in to the 17th edition, come Tuesday January 26, Aquathon is even more for ‘all ages and about connecting with the wider community’. Last year near 2000 either has a swim and run, or walked and support our charity partners as Anglicare, KidzWish, local surf clubs in raising funds for local families.

With the 6yrs and over in the Kids Aquafun, World champions in the Long Aqua and even a 96 year old and parents with prams in the Walk, all had a fantastic Australia Day experience. With an impeccable record for safety, fun, atmosphere, giving back and creating a unique Australia Day experience. 2016 is set for a fantastic year...sign up, support charity and you could even win a free Tandem Skydive and so much more. All enquires Rob Battocchio, Director Activate Events 0413 862676 Aquathon.com.au

Wollongong Botanic Garden Holiday Activities: The Rotary Clubs of Wollongong are proud to present the City of Wollongong’s Christmas Carols this year at Wollongong Botanic Garden on Saturday 19 December from 5pm - 9pm. This free community event will feature four hours of carols performed by some amazing local talent, with a special guest appearance by Santa. Full program at wollongong.nsw.gov.au/botanicgarden

We will be hosting the popular summer school holiday activities from 18-22 January 10am to 12.30pm daily. This season’s program is themed Bluey’s Humongous Bush Adventure and consists of a treasure hunt, crafts and an outdoor theatre show. More information about any upcoming activities at the Botanic Garden can also be found on our website’s event calendar. We also post event reminders on our Facebook (Wollongong Botanic Garden) and Twitter (@WgongBG)

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