Principal’s Message

Washed out
Unfortunately the grass within our school grounds continue to be far too water-logged for student use. Teachers and students are managing this situation as effectively as possible by utilising the reduced space across our hard surfaces. There seems to be little respite as the grounds likely require a week of clear weather to dry effectively for student use. As soon as is practicable we will return to students running across the grass during recess and lunch.

Along the Derribong
Concern over impatient drivers undertaking dangerous actions on Derribong Drive continues. The safety of all students relies upon the sensible actions of adults collecting children from school. Please make sure you are following road rules, using the designated pedestrian crossing and are not calling your child across the road to you. A few extra moments to do the right thing assists us all stay safe when entering or exiting the school.

Get a GRIP
Next Friday 15 May our Year 6 SRC leaders will join the school captains and me at the GRIP Leadership conference being held at the University of Wollongong. This activity is funded by our school and provides an opportunity for our leaders to interact with leaders from other schools.

Ongoing Kriss
Great news was provided yesterday from Human Resources that Mrs. Renee Kriss has officially been provided the opportunity as our permanent School Administration Officer. Mrs. Kriss has been an outstanding member of staff for many years. Permanency assures both Mrs. Kriss and our school of her continued service.

Go for Gold
Our school’s second Gold Assembly for 2015 will be held on Wednesday 3 June. To enable parent notification the last processing of PBs for presentation at this term’s assembly will be Monday 18 May. All PBs provided to the office after 18 May will be processed for the Term 3 Gold Assembly.

NAPLAN
A reminder for all families with children in Year 3 and Year 5 that next week our students will be undertaking the 2015 NAPLAN. The assessments will be provided on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please ensure your child’s attendance.

Opportunity Class Year 5 2016
It is now time to apply for your Year 4 child to sit the Yr 5 2016 Opportunity Class Placement Assessment Test. This will be held on Wednesday 22 July.

Applications are available online between 27 April 2015 and 15 May 2015. Please understand that Late applications will not be accepted. The process is online and you are requested to access the following link:

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Quote:
We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated.

Maya Angelou

Craig Redfern
Principal
School Disco: The SRC disco will be held on Thursday May 21, in the school hall.

Infants disco will start at 4:00 pm and finish at 5:30 pm
Primary disco will start at 6:00 pm and finish at 7:30 pm

The cost of the disco is only $2. Tickets will go on sale Monday May 18. More information about when and where to purchase tickets will be given to students next week.

To make the disco more fun, the members of the SRC decided that they would like to invite all students attending the disco to come in fancy dress. The theme of this year is to dress as your favourite movie character. It is not compulsory to come in fancy dress, however, there will be prizes awarded to some of the best dressed students in each grade.

We ask that students bring a small plate of party food to share on the night. One small plate per family is sufficient, as there is always plenty of food for everyone to have a snack. Drinks will be provided by the SRC.

Andrew Bennett, SRC Patron

Library Update:

Book Fair: Book Fair! Book Fair! Book Fair! We have gotten off to a great start with lots of parents and students coming to the library to browse the great selection of books available at the UPS Book Fair. Come and take a look for yourself. Just follow the dragon footprints through the library and you will find us. Book Fair opening hours are before school 8:30am – 8:55am, at lunch time 1:15pm – 1:45pm and after school from 3:00pm – 3:45pm Monday to Friday this week. As the quote says... 'There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all.'.

Book Covering: We had great success at our book covering working bee last Tuesday and I'd like to thank all those who attended. If you are interested, there will be another session next Tuesday 12 May from 2:00pm – 3:00pm in the library. Tea and biscuits will be on offer.

Rachel Prior, Teacher Librarian

Stewart House Envelope Drive: The prize for this year's Donation Drive is a $4,000.00 family holiday to the destination of your choice. If you would like to enter, simply fill in all contact details, enclose a $2 coin donation, seal the envelope and keep the tear-off receipt. Return the envelope to the collection box located in the Office foyer before Stewart House Day, Friday 8th May, 2015. Participation is voluntary.

Robyn Matts, Stewart House Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Dates for the calendar</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday May 5</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday May 6</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thursday May 7</strong></td>
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| **Friday May 8** | **Library Book Fair Concludes**  
| | **Stewart House Envelope Drive -last day** |
| **Monday May 11** | **District Cross Country** |
| **Tuesday May 12** | **NAPLAN For Students in Years 3 & 5 Language Conventions & Writing** |
| **Wednesday May 13** | **NAPLAN for Students in Years 3 & 5 Reading** |
| **Thursday May 14** | **NAPLAN for Students in Years 3 & 5 Numeracy** |
| **Friday May 15** | **GRIP Leadership Conference** |
| **Thursday May 21** | **School Disco**  
| | **Infants 4:00pm – 5:30pm**  
| | **Primary 6:00pm – 7:30pm** |
| **Wednesday May 27** | **P & C Interrelate Session**  
| | **Kindergarten Eye Sight Screening** |
| **Thursday May 28** | **Kindergarten Eye Sight Screening** |
| **Friday May 29** | **Regional Cross Country**  
| | **Kindergarten Grandparents Day 11:30am** |
| **Wednesday June 3** | **Gold Awards Assembly 2:00pm** |
| **Monday June 8** | **Public Holiday** |
| **Tuesday June 9** | **Dance Festival, concludes Saturday 13** |
| **Friday June 12** | **Gala Day** |
| **Thursday June 18** | **School Athletics Carnival** |
| **Friday June 26** | **Last Day Term 2** |
| **Monday July 13** | **Staff Development Day** |
| **Tuesday July 14** | **Students Return, Term 3** |
| **Wednesday July 22** | **Stage 3 Canberra Excursion. Bus leaves at 6:30am sharp**  
| | **Year 5 2016 Opportunity Class Placement Test** |
| **Friday July 24** | **Stage 3 Canberra Excursion. Bus returns at approx.. 3:00pm** |
Statewide Eyesight Screening for Kindergarten Students: In Week 6 of this term, on Wednesday 27th May and Thursday 28th May, our kindergarten students have the opportunity to participate in a free eyesight screening program as an initiative of the NSW Ministry of Health.

It is a catch up opportunity made available to any Kindergarten student that may have missed out on the program last year, or who had a borderline result.

A note will go home this week explaining what the eye examination involves.

If you wish your child to participate, notes must be filled out and returned to the office by Wednesday 20th May.

Carolyn White, Assistant Principal

P & C News

P & C Meeting: Last night we held our monthly P & C meeting. Thank you to all those members of the P & C who come along and to Amanda Hampton who did a fantastic job of chairing the meeting in my absence. The meeting was very productive as usual and main discussions were held concerning profits raised from our funding raising activities, planning for future events and items of importance concerning the school like the school plan, road safety, etc. Our next scheduled P & C meeting will be held Monday 1 June, at 7:00pm in the school staffroom. I would encourage everyone who would like to hear more about what's happening in the school, like to present ideas, share opinions or vote on items raised, to come along and join us at our next meeting.

Easter Parade Raffle: I am happy to share that our Easter Parade raffle held at the end of last term successfully raised $454 in profit – over a 100% increase in profit from the previous year. Thank you to our school community for supporting this event by purchasing raffle tickets on the day and we hope the winners thoroughly enjoyed their chocolate treats.

School Banking: If you have not signed your child up for school banking and wish to do so, then this can be easily undertaken any Tuesday morning by bringing a copy of your child’s birth certificate and meeting with one of our school banking team at the school office. Whilst accounts can be signed up at the Commonwealth Bank, we do encourage you to open it through the school so the school is rewarded with $5 for each new account opened.

Mother’s Day: Our Mother’s Day stall is on this Thursday 7 May. We have a lovely range of gifts available this year all for $5. Grandmother gifts are also available plus opportunities to purchase additional gifts. We still require additional volunteers to help out on the stall so if you are able to assist from 9:00am to 11:30am please contact myself on 0439190462, leave your details at the office or simply turn up on the morning. It’s a fun morning helping the children select their gifts.

Interrelate 2015: Interrelate is a community based, not-for-profit organisation that, as part of its services, provides Sexuality Education Programs for primary aged children. The two sessions, to be held on Wednesday 27 May, “Where did I come from?” and “Preparing for Puberty” are open to Y3 – Y6 students and their families only. The cost is $25 per family for one session or $30 per family for both sessions. For full details please see the information sheet sent home last week to all year 3 – 6 students. If you did not receive an information sheet, please collect one from the office. Please complete the section at the bottom and return it together with payment in an envelope marked ‘Interrelate’ to the school office by Friday 22 May. Please make cheques payable to Unanderra Public School P&C.

Road Safety Awareness: As a continued concern about road safety around the school area, please note that the drop off / pick up zones outside of school are areas which between 8am and 9:30am and again between 2:30pm and 4pm you are permitted to stop only while you are dropping off or picking up passengers. You must not stop for more than two minutes and you must stay within three meters of your vehicle. Monetary penalty do apply as well as loss of demerit points. Please also be aware of your speed as between 8am and 9:30am and again between 2:30pm and 4pm the speed is just 40km and move outside the school area if you wish to turn around. These rules do not change for wet weather. Everyone’s concern should be about the safety of all the students as they are arriving and leaving the school.

End of Year Event: Our end of year is now in the early planning stages and we are working on something a little different this year - holding an outdoor cinema event with pre entertainment provided by Fosters amusement along with a wonderful selection of food vendors for options for dinner. So far we can advise that presale tickets for the Foster’s rides will be $20. All other details for the event will be provided through the newsletter as they become available.

Joanne Crawford, P & C President
School Banking: 97 students banked today, and 3L were class winners. Congratulations!

So that the ordering of rewards runs more smoothly, please keep tokens in your child’s deposit book, rather than removing them and keeping them at home. Tokens must be provided in order to redeem a reward. Rewards must be ordered, as stock is not kept at school. Orders may take a few weeks to be filled. If a reward does not arrive in 3 weeks, please ask your child to follow up with their teacher. It is very difficult to track down a missing reward months later. Thank you

Elizabeth Ilievski, Dajana Castagna and Jenny Evans, School Banking Coordinators

Information for Parents from the Department of Education and Communities:

Application for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2016
If your child is seeking Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2016 you must submit the application online between Monday 27 April 2015 and 15 May 2015. The application website is at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Spellcheck
Is your child learning to spell? Struggling with the weekly spelling lists? Here are a few strategies that will help:

Homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan - so print out our 2015 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Go4Fun®: Free fun program for kids to become fitter, healthier and happier! Go4Fun® is a healthy lifestyle program for kids aged 7 to 13 years who are above their ideal weight. The program runs one afternoon per week over the school term and aims to improve health, fitness, self-esteem and confidence. Program highlights include active games, tips on healthy food, label reading, portion sizes, a supermarket tour, plus much more! Term 2 programs will be held at: Horsley Community Centre every Tuesday from 4 – 6pm and Albion Park Rail Public School every Thursday from 4 – 6pm REGISTRATIONS ARE STILL OPEN FOR TERM 2 For more information or to book in to a program please phone 1800 780 900, SMS for call back 0409 745 645 or visit www.go4fun.com.au

Children’s Sleep Study: Research Participants Wanted. The University of Wollongong is conducting a study investigating the role of sleep in children.

We are seeking families (children and their care givers) who are willing to participate in this research. We will be seeking both healthy participants and participants with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity (ADHD) diagnosis.

Your child may be eligible if they are: Between the ages of 8-12 and willing to engage in a two week in home sleep study.

Participation will involve attending the University of Wollongong on two occasions to undergo testing. Both children and adults will be compensated with $50 for their participation.

If you are interested in participating in this research or would like more information please contact:
Dr Sarah Loughran: loughran@uow.edu.au or Patricia Joannou pj200@uowmail.edu.au or phone 4239 2116

A Free Parenting Program for Mums, Dads and Carers: Bringing up Great Kids. This program promotes positive, respectful parent and child relationships. Limited FREE Child Minding is also available. After completing this program parents will be better equipped to: Understand your parenting style, Understand the messages you give and receive, Identify and respond to your children’s needs, Build positive and respectful relationships. Wed 20th May to Wed 24th June 12.30 pm to 2.30 pm Horsley Community Centre 82 Bong Bong Road, Dapto. To register: 0417 088 856 or email admin@fsi.org.au

Community News:

Illawarra Women’s Health Centre: Free support group within the Illawarra community to support single women and their children, non-formal on Monday morning’s 10-12pm at the Illawarra Women’s Health centre and fortnightly Friday’s at the Berkeley Neighbourhood centre 10-12pm.

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.
Playing our part to build a national picture of child health

What is the AEDC?

In early 2015, our school, along with thousands of others across the country began preparations for the third Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

The AEDC measures five key areas of development in children during their first year of full-time school to build a national picture of health and wellbeing. Since 2009, the census results have helped communities, schools and governments plan services and target support for children and families.

Teachers are trained to assess each child and answer questions. Children don’t need to be present so no class time is missed, and parents/carers don’t need to supply schools with any new information for the census. Teachers’ individual assessments are then analysed by the AEDC and reported as anonymous groups of children in the final report.

In other communities across the country, census results have helped communities to plan new playgrounds and parental services; schools are seeing improved student performance through new literacy programmes; and governments are using the results as evidence to develop better policies for children.

Teachers have also noticed practical benefits in the classroom. Some said in previous years that completing the assessments made them more aware of the needs of individual children and the class as a whole. Others reported that the census results are useful in planning for transitions to school and for developing class programmes.

Participation in the AEDC is voluntary. Parents/carers don’t need to take any action unless they choose not to include their children in the census. A note will be sent home to Kindergarten students this week containing further information.

To find out more about the census and how communities are using the data to help children and families visit the AEDC website.