Principal’s Message

SASS Recognition Week
This week is listed as SASS Recognition Week through NSW Public Schools. SASS is an acronym for School Administrative & Support Staff and includes our office ladies, our general assistant and our teacher’s aides (SLSOs). The work this committed group of people do to support our students, our teachers and our community is amazing. Without them, our school would not function anywhere near as effectively as it does. I am sure you join our teachers and I in wishing all our SASS personnel the very best not only for this week but for every week of the year.

Monster family fun
A number of years ago a Sydney based events company provided access for our students to several large monster trucks here at Unanderra. I am told this was quite a hit with our students. That company will be holding a monster truck event in Albion Park on 19 September. There are 6 family passes that will be provided to winners of a colouring-contest being undertaken through several schools. If your child wishes to participate he / she can access an entry form in the school office. All colouring-in sheets to be returned to school by this Friday 4 September.

Spell-a-thon
Each year our P&C run a spell-a-thon to engage our students in spelling and to raise much needed funds to support our school. This activity is generally well received and I hope that continues in 2015. Please be aware that just like any regular spelling assessment, if the date of the spell-a-thon clashes with another school activity, eg. Gala Day, then the classes affected will undertake their spell-a-thon assessment a day before or on the following Monday. Please get behind the P&C spell-a-thon.

September 1, 2015

Stage Teams
The conversation about organising our school in stage teams from 2016 will commence in earnest next Monday evening at 6pm. A one hour session prior to the P&C Meeting will be an opportunity to share thoughts on this approach. Stage Teams would mean that instead of having two Yr 3 and two Yr 4 classes we would have four Stage 2 classes (Yrs3/4). The four stages would be ES1 (Kindergarten), S1 (Yrs1/2), S2 (yrs3/4) and S3 (Yrs5/6). Please inform our office ladies if you would like to be part of the conversation on Monday evening.

Back Gate
Last year our community came up with a terrific solution to an issue concerning the back gate. That solution includes volunteer parents arriving several minutes earlier to open the gate for everyone who uses it. This solution has worked well but we do need a greater number of volunteers to ensure those currently engaged in this effort can share the load more equitably. Please contact our office staff if you are able to provide this terrific support to our school.

Reading buddies @ childcare
Today a small number of our reading buddies and I visited the childcare next door. Our visit is in support of our constructive relationship with the childcare centre and provides an opportunity for our students to positively interact with their community.
What's in a colour?
As a school community we are very proud of our sporting students and we congratulate them on their efforts at district, regional and state PSSA carnivals. In recent years there has been a proliferation of supporter gear that students can purchase at these carnivals. While one form of recognition for their efforts, a regional or state hoodie is not school uniform.

Teachers have provided information to students that a PSSA hoodie from a regional or state carnival may only be worn on sports days, ie. Friday. Monday through Thursday our students are expected to wear their Unanderra jumpers and / or jackets. There is no correlation between supporter gear and school uniform regardless of whether the supporter gear was purchased through a school-based association such as PSSA or a department store. Please ensure your children adhere to school uniform protocol.

**Quote:**

Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment.

*Jim Rohn*

Craig Redfern
Principal

Regional Athletics Carnival 2015: On Friday 21 August, 19 of our finest athletes from Unanderra Public School, along with their families, travelled to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra for the South Coast Regional Athletics Carnival. The weather was pretty good all day (well, good for Canberra this time of year anyway).

As always, the competition was extremely strong with all of our students giving their best and representing our school and district with distinction.

Our 2 most outstanding results were:

2\textsuperscript{nd} place to **Mitchell (5/6A)** in the 11 Years Boys Shot Put

Equal 4\textsuperscript{th} place to **Janaya (3L)** in the 8 Years Girls 100m

A **massive congratulations to Mitchell**, who is now off to Homebush for the State Athletics Carnival!

Congratulations to all of our competitors for their wonderful efforts and achievements!

**Matt Batley, Sports Organiser**
Library Update: I just wanted to congratulate everyone on a wonderful Book Week Parade last week and thank all the parents for the help they gave their children putting together costumes. Despite the weather, everything went without a hitch and we all had great fun.

Well done to the winners of the Book Week Poster Competition: Charlotte M (KD), Joshua P (1/2C), Jack A (2G), Kez W (3L), Isabella C (4R), Tasharna A (4/5N), Hanna A and Megan E (5/6A) and the late winner for Year 5 was Connor B. All posters are hanging up in the library, presently.

Also, congratulations to the lucky winners of the costume draw.

A special thank you must be extended to Mr Bennett for coming in despite being unwell to set up and look after the sound system and also to Mr Thomas who dealt wonderfully with the change of venue due to weather.

We have more books that need covering so if anyone is interested in helping out, we will have a book covering working bee in the library next Tuesday at 2pm-3pm. Happy reading.

Miss Prior, Teacher Librarian

Enrol Now for Kindergarten 2016: Enrolments for Kindergarten 2016 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 1: for Existing Families to Unanderra Public School. Tuesday October 20 and Tuesday October 27, 2015.

A detailed letter and invitation to families, who have submitted their enrolment forms, will be going home in the near future, regarding orientation details. (Please note that Session 1 and 2 have changed for this year)

Carolina Wilkinson, Administrative Manager

P&C News

P&C Meeting: Our next scheduled P&C meeting will be held on Monday September 7, at 7.00pm in the school staffroom. Everyone is welcome so please come along and join us and find out about what’s happening in our school.

Parent Learning Session: Prior to the P&C meeting on Monday September 7, at 6.00pm will be a parent learning session on stage-based classes, which translates to composite classes across all years and classes i.e. 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6. I would encourage everyone to come along and be a part of the discussion of the pros and cons of this type of class structure for UPS.

Father's Day: Our Father's Day stall will be held this Thursday September 3. All Father’s day gifts will be $5 and students will be given the opportunity to purchase another gift from our second chance table if they wish. We have a wonderful selection of gifts available this year including some special gifts for all the grandfathers as well. A selection of gifts will also be available for those special mums out there who do it all. We still need a few more volunteers so if you can help out on the stall, please notify the office or myself on 0439190462.

Woolworth’s Earn & Learn: This is an opportunity for the school to receive great resources from points earned through this program. Sticker collection booklets can be obtained from Woolworth’s or sheets are available at the office. A collection box is located in the front office once your booklets are completed. The more we collect the more we earn. We have only one more week - Tuesday September 8, is the closing date, so keep those stickers coming in!

Woolworth's Community BBQ: This Saturday September 5, the P&C will be running a BBQ at Woolworth’s Unanderra from 8:00am to 2:00pm to raise funds for the school. If you can help out for an allotted time manning the BBQ or serving, then we would love your help. Please call Joanne on 0439190462. Otherwise, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT, so please come down to Woolworths on the day and buy an egg and bacon roll from 8:30am to 10:30am or a sausage sandwich from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Drinks are also available.

Spell-a-thon – Spelling lists and sponsor forms went home yesterday Monday August 31. If you did not receive your copy please ask your teacher or the office. Students will have 2 weeks to learn their words and obtain sponsors with the spelling test to be held on Thursday September 10, for Year 3-6 and Friday September 11, for Kindergarten to year 2. An alternative test date will be organised for any student on choir rehearsal. Great prizes are on offer for those students with the most sponsor money collected and pizza parties will be awarded to the classes with the most money raised.

End of Year Event: Will be held on Friday October 23, from 5:00pm to approx. 9:30pm. We will be holding an outdoor cinema night with a selection of Foster’s carnival rides operating before the movie, from
5:00pm-8:00pm. A great selection of food stalls will be available to purchase from including outback steakhouse BBQ, wood fire pizza, hotdogs, Dutch pancakes, ice-creams, fairy floss, popcorn, snow cones and more. Information flyers and pre-order forms for the cinema and ride tickets will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Joanne Crawford, P&C President

School Banking: Congratulations to 1J this week, they are the weekly class winners, we had a great effort with 86 bankers today.

We have been notified by the School Banking program that the ‘Cosmic Light Beam Torch’ is no longer available, this item has been recalled. The ‘Planet Handball’ is out of stock until further notice also.

Thank you for your continued support and efforts we hope that we can see an increase in bankers in the coming weeks.

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

Community News

Smith’s Hill High School Expo Night: Gipps Street, Wollongong, 2500. Wednesday 7th October, 2015 between 6:00pm – 8:30pm Smith’s Hill High School is a public selective coeducational high school catering for gifted and talented students. Applications for Year 7 2017 close on November 16th 2015. Year 5 students and their parents may wish to take the opportunity to see the school with a view to applying for admission in 2017. Year 6 students who sat the entrance test for 2016 admission and their parents are invited to attend our Expo to view our facilities and programs. Phone enquiries: 4229 4266

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.

Illawarra Sports Stadium Basketball: Be Part of a Team! Make friends, learn new skills and have fun. Learn to play Basketball at the Illawarra Sports Stadium in Berkeley. The basketball skills program runs on Fridays 4:30pm - 5:30pm, $10 for 4 weeks or $5 for 2 weeks and ends September 18th for Years 3 - 6. School holiday program runs from Monday 28th September to Wednesday 30th September, 9:30am to 12:30pm for $6 per day and open for children from Year 2 to Year 6. Children will learn skills and play games, and coaches include current Roller Hawks Players! There will be a new program in Term 4, with Years 3 - 6 games on Friday, and Kindergarten to Year 6 skills on Saturday morning. Ask your school for more information, or see Illawarra Sports Stadium on Facebook, email iss@rojan.net, call 0410 585 902 or go to illawarrasportsstadium.com.au

Junior Cricket Season 2015-16: Wests Illawarra Junior Cricket Club registration days will be held on Saturday August 22nd & 29 between 1 – 3pm and Wednesday September 2nd between 4:30 – 6pm at the Wests Illawarra Leagues Club. Wests Cricket caters for boys and girls within mixed teams, with or without experience, between the ages of 9 and 15 in U10 to U16 competitions. The Club will again be running a MILO In2Cricket program this season for the younger players aged between 5 & 8 (must have turned 5 at 31stAugust) and an area wide program T20 Blast program will also be conducted on Saturdays for players 8-12 years.

For enquiries, contact the junior registrar Kris Glaser on 0406 399 446 or email juniorrego@wicc.com.au

Free Online Tutoring with Wollongong City Libraries! Wollongong City Libraries now has more help for students. You can gain help with your assignment or resume through a new service called Your Tutor. Your Tutor connects a student to an expert teacher who can help with writing and schoolwork. Students either connect online for immediate help or upload a draft and get feedback returned in less than 24 hours. Students can use the service from home or in any of Wollongong’s seven libraries.

The service joins students with a fully qualified, Australian tutor between 3pm and 10pm on Sundays to Fridays. All library members need to do is visit the library home page. Tutoring is available for Years 3 to 12 and for Tafe and University undergraduates. The resume service is available for anyone! All that is required is a Wollongong Library card. For more information see the library website http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library

Holiday Fun Day for children in Years K-6: This coming school holiday fun day, September 28, will have a Star Wars theme to it. Have you got what it takes to be a Jedi Knight? Come and join the battle against the dark side via epic laser tag! Morning tea and lunch provided. Prizes for the best dressed! When: September 28, Time: 9:00am to 3:00pm Cost: $15 per child or $25 per family. Where Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibson Road Figtree. Register online at myfac.org.au

Unanderra Public School will, as a service to parents, advertise community news for non 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.