



# SANDY HOLLOW SNIPPETS "Creating Future Leaders"

Phone: 6547 4521  
Fax: 6547 4450

17th October 2012

## Lost Property

We have a huge amount of lost unclaimed clothing in lost property. Most of the items do not have a name on them, making it difficult to return. A number of items appear to be quite new. All lost property will be put out Thursday and Friday. Parents are encouraged to claim anything they feel belongs their child. Anything left over at the end of the week will be donated to charity.

## Cassilis Sports Workshop

Well done to all the students who attended the Cassilis sports workshop. We braved sub-zero temperatures and rain to enjoy a day of lots of fun activities. Students had the opportunity to play football, soccer, athletics, mini golf, orienteering, zumba and judo. Everyone's behaviour was fantastic. Thank you to the parents who also braved the freezing temperatures to transport students. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

## NAPLAN Results

We received our NAPLAN results at the end of last term.

Year 5 have shown pleasing growth in most areas. The school average was above both region and state averages in reading, spelling and all aspects of numeracy. Year 5's results in writing were equal to region averages and slightly below state averages. Grammar and punctuation is the area that they still need to focus on. 80% of Year 5 displayed adequate growth, with results in numeracy showing the biggest improvement. This is quite pleasing as the school has been focussing on this area for the last twelve months.

Year 3 were equal to region and state averages in numeracy, however, were slightly below region and state in reading, and significantly below region and state in writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation. These are areas that obviously require further focus.

Staff have almost completed an analysis of the results which will be used to inform future whole school plans. If parents would like to discuss their child's results, please do not hesitate to contact the school and arrange a time.

## Quad Bike Safety

Thank you to all students who have returned their notes and money for the quad bike safety session with Ken Tuckey. Please note that the date has changed and it will now be held next week on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October**. Students in the beef bonanza team will not be able to participate, as they will be required to attend the education day at Scone that day.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**UH Performing Arts Festival Rehearsal**  
**Thurs 18th Oct**

**P&C Meeting 2pm in the old Library**  
**Thurs 18th Oct**

**UH Performing Arts Festival**  
**Fri 19th Oct**

**Ken Tuckey visit** **Wed 24th Oct**

**Beef Bonanza Education Day**  
**Wed 24th Oct**

**Canteen Monday 22nd Oct -**  
**Bernadette Kearney**  
**Monday 29th - Wendy Stair & Christine Scott**

**Next Toybox - Mon 22nd October**

**Claim the Date**  
**Music concert at school** **Tues 30th Oct**  
**Remembrance Day** **Fri 9th Nov**

## Cassilis Sports Workshop photos.

## Additions and Attachments

- ♦ Sandy Hollow Hall Luau night.
- ♦ Denman swimming club flyer.
- ♦ Some P&C receipts.
- ♦ Note re booster seat, some parents.

## Upper Hunter Performing Arts

### Rehearsal

**When:** Thursday 18th October  
**Depart school:** 11.15am  
**Where:** Muswellbrook High School  
**How:** Bus - NO COST

### Performance

**When:** Friday 19th October  
**Depart school:** 9.50am  
**Where:** Muswellbrook High School  
**How:** Parent drivers

Thank you very much to all the parents who are able to drive the children to Muswellbrook on Friday for our performance. Could I please ask that you meet us at school at 9.40am to ensure that we depart by 9.50am.

Also, thank you for endeavouring to locate the black clothes. In some cases it was a little tricky. However, we were able to locate some spares to rectify this problem.

The festival should finish after 1.5 hours. However, we will take our recess and lunch with us just in case it does not finish on time.

The children are to wear their uniform and runners to school. They will change into their black clothes as soon as they arrive at school.

Pauline Bullock  
Co-ordinator

### Beef Bonanza

Our steer, Shananza has arrived at school. The Beef Bonanza team of Simon Budden, Taylor Byfield, Luke Sheen, Olivia McLean, Gracie Russell, Jake Pike, Hugh Higgins, Angus Higgins and Kristy Walker have started taking turns feeding the steer. Today, they began to work with the steer, under the supervision of Mr and Mrs Walker. The steer was also weighed. Next Wednesday, the team will travel to Scone to attend an Education Day, where they hope to learn more about caring for Shananza. A weekend feeding roster will be finalised tomorrow and sent home ready for the first round of feeds starting this weekend.

Students are reminded that they need to organise their uniforms – cream pants, clean riding boots, a belt, blue scarf or tie and a cream coloured akubra or

western style hat. The school will supply a shirt. Students will need their uniforms for the Education Day next week. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are experiencing difficulties in obtaining uniform items.

### Warm Weather

From one extreme last Friday to the other this week. It's great to see that most students are wearing their hats at school. Can parents please ensure that their child's name is on their hat, so it is easy to return when found in the classroom or playground?

Christina Darlington  
Relieving Principal

### 3-4-5-6 Class News

Already term 4 is shaping up to be busy. 3-4-5-6 will be involved in a variety of activities.

In writing, we are spending a few weeks reviewing phrases and clauses, sentence punctuation, and complex sentences. There are a number of students struggling with these areas, so we are going to ensure everyone has a good understanding of them before we move onto writing explanations.

In spelling this term, we are focusing on dictation. Every week, the students will have a dictation passage that they will work with, identifying sounds and editing errors, before being tested at the end of the week. Students will be learning how to apply their spelling skills to other areas of literacy and numeracy. In Numeracy, we will continue working on investigations set up to allow students to apply their mathematical skills. We will be specifically focusing on fractions, percentages, decimals and measurement. Students have shown an improvement in their ability to apply their skills and knowledge to the investigations.

In HSIE, we have started a unit about State and Federal Government. This week we discussed who makes rules and why we need them. Next week, we will look at an overview of the three levels of Government.

In PDHPE, we will be learning about safety on wheels. We will specifically focus on bike safety and the importance of wearing a helmet.

Even though it is nearly the end of the year, students still need to come to school prepared to start the day with as little disruption as possible. All students need

a blue pen, red pen, lead pencil, ruler, scissors, glue stick and coloured pencils. These things run out or get lost at this time of the year, so I am requesting that all parents ensure their children have the required equipment for school. Lessons are often disrupted when students have to borrow equipment from others, often not returning after they have used it.

Christina Darlington  
Class Teacher

### Weekly Awards

- ♦ Apryl Cotter - dynamite job punctuating sentences.
- ♦ Amelia Harris - excellent job punctuating sentences.
- ♦ Georgie Russell - excellent job punctuating sentences.
- ♦ Olivia McLean - getting in and having a go at Cassilis Sports Workshop.
- ♦ Dustynn Turner - working well to complete all tasks.
- ♦ Andrew Harris - displaying great development in handwriting skills.

### Workers of the Week

K/1/2 - Natasha Marsh and Darcy Wallace.

### Drumming Group

Max, Amelia, Jackson and Emmett attended their final workshop last Wednesday, before our performance day on Friday.

They are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm and commitment during these workshops.

They will be drumming with the group of sixty drummers at the same daytime concert that the entire school will be performing at. Also they will be returning to Muswellbrook High for the night concert.



## Kindergarten Orientation

Lucas Stair, Steven Allen, Rowdy Walters, Bill Chambers, Riley Borradaile and Angel Blackhurst attended school for their first full day today.

The children's activities began with a focus on listening. What should we do to improve our listening skills? They learnt firstly it is important to **LOOK** at the person who is speaking, secondly to keep their bodies **STILL** and lastly to **THINK** about what is being said.

All their literacy, numeracy and craft activities involved them practising these skills throughout the morning.

### Peer Support

Today our Peer Support programme began for 2012. After lunch the entire school came together under the COLA where the children were placed into six groups. The leaders of the groups are the Year 5 students who are our new kinders buddies. Before the children started the activities, they revised the social skill that the new kinders learnt this morning. This was LISTENING.

Through role play and discussion everyone familiarises themselves with the LOOK, STAY STILL and THINK strategy. It is outlined below for you to revise with your children at home.

For the remainder of the afternoon, each group participated in a variety of activities following the instructions of their leader.

To conclude the session, we all came together again to revise the skills associated with listening, once more.

### Listening

**Look** - Discuss the importance of looking at the person who is talking. Point out that sometimes you may think someone isn't listening, even though he or she really is. These steps are to show someone that you are really listening.

**Stay Still** - Remind the children that staying still means keeping hands and feet still and not talking to friends.

**Think** - Encourage the children to think about what the person is saying, and be sure they understand if the person is asking them to do something.

Pauline Bullock  
Teacher