

few different angles, including teaching about it in the classroom and applying it within our school context. As part of our reviewed policy, we are introducing bicycle, scooter, skateboard etc safety guidelines. A copy of these guidelines is included in today's newsletter.

All children (and their parents/carers) who ride to school are now required to read and sign an agreement that ensures they will follow basic road rules and maintain their bikes/scooters. The agreements need to be returned before they start riding to school.

We have also included a bicycle maintenance check list and a guide to fitting a helmet for reference at home.

Now that this policy is in place, all students will be expected to follow it. Any student breaching the rules will receive a warning letter. Parents will be contacted if staff feel the students' bikes/scooters are unroadworthy.

If you have any questions/issues with our revised policy, please contact me during school hours.

Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Andrew Harris and Mason Meyer who both attended the small schools swimming carnival at Murrurundi on Monday. Andrew placed first in all his events and was awarded Junior Boy Champion for his efforts. Mason placed third in freestyle and breaststroke. Both boys were wonderful representatives of our school. I've had some fantastic feedback from two of the attending Principal's about their exemplary behaviour and sportsmanship. Well done, Andrew and Mason. Thank you to the boys families for organising to get them to Murrurundi and for supervising on the day. Andrew will now go onto compete in the Zone carnival at Muswellbrook next week.

Christina Darlington - Principal



2016 WITH MUSWELLBROOK FOOTBALL CLUB

Online registrations now open and will close for travelling teams on 28th Feb.

Registration and Info day at Muswellbrook Market place and Muswellbrook Fair Feb 13th 9-11 am

Trials for travelling junior teams on 3rd/8th and 10th March at Victoria Park.

3-6 class News

Last week, the class worked on a personal development program. They completed activities around problem solving, compromising and team work. They established class rules, values and expectations. They also reviewed work from the You Can Do It program, revisiting the five keys to success - organisation, getting along, persistence, resilience and confidence. For the next few weeks they will focus on being organised.

This week we have started our classroom program. In Literacy, we are focussing on fine motor skills in handwriting and revising short vowel sounds in spelling. Students have submitted two pieces of writing as a benchmark for improvement this year. Next week, we will begin an English unit based on the Aboriginal story "The Two Hearted Numbat".

In Maths we are currently focussing on numbers. Yrs 3 and 4 have been looking at odd and even numbers, place value to tens of thousands (Yr 3) and beyond tens of thousands (Yr4). All year levels are also learning about rounding to 10's, 100's and 1000's.

Yr 5 have been focussing on factors and prime numbers.

On Thursdays, the whole class work with Mrs Parker on problem solving strategies. To date they have covered "guess and check" and "make a table or chart".

Yesterday we began our Geography unit "Natural Disasters". Students watched a short Youtube clip about natural disasters around the world, then shared their current knowledge on the topic. Over the next few weeks, students will create a natural disaster map of Australia and then focus on bushfires. Our visual arts program this term will also be around the theme of natural disasters.

Our PD unit for the rest of this term will focus on farm and rural safety.

Christina Darlington - Class Teacher

Additions & Attachments

- Registration for Muswellbrook Football Club information.
- Road Safety guidelines and Bicycle and Scooter safety guidelines (3 lots of information).
- StrikeLive information.



SANDY HOLLOW SNIPPETS "Creating Future Leaders"

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10th February 2016

Class Structure

Now that swimming is finished, all students have settled into their new classes. We are structuring the classes exactly the same as last year.

Monday to Wednesday (until lunch), students are split into three groups:

- K-1 Ms Bullock
- 2 Mrs Parker
- 3-6 Mrs Darlington

After lunch, students go back into two classes:

- K-2 Ms Bullock
- 3-6 Mrs Darlington.

On Thursday and Friday, students are in two classes:

- K-2 Ms Higgins,
- 3-6 Mrs Parker (Thursday), Mrs Darlington (Friday).

Although on paper it looks complicated, we have found this structure to best meet the needs of our students.

Homework

All classes are now receiving weekly homework activities.

- K-1 homework is due back Friday.
- 2 homework is due back Thursday.
- 3-6 homework is due back Friday.
- Children are encouraged to change their home readers daily.

Clothing

Already we have unclaimed clothing. Please label your child's hats, jumpers, trackpants with their name so that it can be returned when left lying in the playground or classroom.

We have a large garbage bag of unclaimed clothing. Parents are most welcome to come in and have a look through it.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will start up next week. We are once again asking for volunteers to serve the students each morning. If you are available from 8.40 — 9.15, please let Jenny in the office know. We will send out a confirmation letter for volunteers on Friday.

Canteen

At the moment the canteen will be open at lunch time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The only thing on the menu is Zooper Doopers. Regular canteen will resume in a few weeks. We apologise for any inconvenience this is causing.

Head Lice

Yes, it's that time of year again. We have had some incidents of head lice. We ask all families to be vigilant. Please check your child's hair every day. If you find evidence of eggs or lice, they need to be treated and removed before your child comes to school. I thank you in advance for helping to keep these pests out of our school.

Road Safety

At the end of last year, I had the pleasure of working with Peter Harris on our school's Road Safety Policy. We looked at road safety from a (continued over)

DATES TO REMEMBER

Milo cricket begins

Thurs 18th Feb

Zone swim carnival

Thurs 18th Feb

Canteen

No canteen until after the P&C meeting

Next Toybox - Monday 15th February