NEWSLETTER PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Term 2, WK 3, Wed 14th May 2014

This week, our Year 3 and 5 students are participating in NAPLAN (National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy). According to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), the main purpose of the NAPLAN tests is to measure literacy and numeracy skills and knowledge that provide the critical foundation for other learning in the community. NAPLAN results at school, system and national levels are used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of education programs and to help set goals for improvement. In the classroom, NAPLAN results show teachers how their students’ achievement compares to a wider group of students across Australia. Individual student reports can be used to assist discussion between parents and teachers about a child’s achievements and progress.

It is important to remember that the results reflect each student’s performance at a single point in time only. Teachers in all schools assess their students’ learning in literacy and numeracy on an ongoing basis. NAPLAN testing adds to but does not replace the information that teachers gather.

We had the privilege of hosting some of our local Aboriginal community elders on Monday. They came to speak to our Years 3 to 6 students about Sorry Day which occurs on the 26th of May. Sorry Day acknowledges the impact of the policies spanning more than 150 years of forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families. Our students will use the experience to create an artwork with the assistance and support of Miss Mason, our resident art teacher, which will be unveiled on Sorry Day itself. I would like to thank Miss Mason and Uncle Bruce for their organisation of this event.

I would also like to thank Ms Karanikolas and Ms Gale for coordinating our Cross Country Carnival which took place last week. I wasn’t able to attend as I had another external meeting scheduled for that day but, by all accounts, the carnival was a great success. I don’t think I’ve ever heard students so excited about running a long distance! Last but not least, I would like to thank the P&C for their support with our Mothers’ Day stall and hope that all of our mums, grandmas, aunts and carers enjoyed their gifts and their special words of gratitude.

We have changed the way payments for sport is handled. Instead of students handing the money to their sports teacher on a Friday morning, payments can now be made to your child’s teacher or at the office any day from Monday to Thursday. If paying at the office, students need to place their envelope containing the money into the slot to the right of the office counter. We will inform the students about these changes but your support in paying for sport by Thursday would be appreciated.

We now have about a quarter of our newsletters emailed to parents and carers which is great news. If you would like to receive it in this way as well, please complete the slip in today’s newsletter and return it to us.

Have a great week.

Helen Empacher 
PRINCIPAL

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Request For Newsletter
Please tick one option only

☐ I would like to continue having the newsletter sent to me as a paper copy

☐ OR I would like to have the newsletter emailed to me at the following address

Email: ………………………………………………………………………………………… Parent’s Name: ……………………………………………………………

Name & Class of Oldest Child: ……………………………………………………………………………… Date: ……………………………………………………………

Signed: ………………………………………………………………………………………… Date: ……………………………………………………………
Introducing Nemo
By 1M

1M has a new class member!

Introducing our class pet fish Nemo! Nemo is a Siamese Fighting Fish and has shiny, dark blue scales.

We’ve been learning all about how to look after him. We need to:
- Feed him a small pinch of fish food each day
- Clean the fish tank every 2-3 weeks
- Say hello to him every morning

We love Nemo and having the responsibility of a class pet. We know Nemo loves to watch us learn too!

Primary School Sports on Fridays

Money for Friday sports should now be given to your child’s teacher or dropped into the office between Monday and Thursday (before 10:00am) of each week if you have not paid for the full term. Money is no longer to be handed in on Friday mornings. Please place the money in an envelope with your child’s name, class, sport and the amount of money enclosed. Please ensure that you include the correct amount as change is often limited.

It is vital that all children Year 3 to 6 arrive on time for their Friday sports. The buses leave at 9:00am sharp and you need to allow plenty of time for your child to take their school bags or belongings to their class and make their way to line-up so they are ready to leave at 9:00am. The buses do not wait for late comers and it unfortunately means that they miss out. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

Recess and Lunch

Please remember to pack your child something to eat at recess (little lunch) and lunch (big lunch) and that your child is aware of exactly where it is located in their bag. We have had a number of children coming to school without anything to eat for the day. Every effort is made to contact the parents should this occur but it invariably means that children miss out on valuable playtime whilst waiting for their parents to arrive with food. Likewise, if you need to order food for your child from the canteen please make sure you tell your child that is what will happen. This is particularly important for children in Years K to 2. Orders should be placed directly with the canteen. Don’t forget to pack a bottle of water!

Kindergarten Blog

Mascot Public School has launched a blog for Kindergarten which includes information on activities we are doing in class, photos, information on what’s coming up during the term and other relevant information.

In order to respect the privacy of students and staff, please do not reproduce the photos or text without the prior written consent of those involved. Kindergarten parents can leave feedback or ask questions and we will respond to you as soon as we can.

The blog can be accessed through your child’s DEC username and password. You can either google "DEC" or to access the DEC portal, go to www.dec.nsw.edu.au. Next you must click on login, select "student" from the drop-down options and enter your child’s username and password which was provided to you in the original note. If you have misplaced the username/password, please see your child’s class teacher. The username and password is also used to access the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

Updates will be made regularly so please remember to check in with the blog and see what we have been doing in Kindergarten.

Powerhouse Excursion Years 3 and 4

On Tuesday 20th May (Year 4) and Thursday 22nd May (Year 3), Stage 2 are taking part in an excursion to the Powerhouse Museum. This is to consolidate work done on Simple Machines as part of the children’s science unit for Term 2.

On the day, the children will be taking part in two workshops. These are a museum guided tour on Marvellous Machines and the Oopsatorium Design and Make Workshop. This is an important part of the science unit for the term and all staff attending are looking forward to spending the day sharing this unique learning opportunity with all the students in Stage 2.

Payment of $23.50 together with a signed permission slip must be at school by Thursday 15th May 2014 at the very latest. If you have not already done so, please ensure that the school has your payment by this date.

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

Check out the School A to Z and the NSW Health website for an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness. www.bit.ly/1hytn2E.
Mascot Public School
PARENTS AND CITIZENS

Last Wednesday, the P&C organised and ran the annual Mothers’ Day stall, which was a tremendous success with students afforded second and third round opportunities for purchase. I can assure all parents and carers that our students are great shoppers and that our economy is in good stead if these habits continue into their adult development.

It was an excellent example of students coming together with their parents and carers and the school supporting what turned out to be a wonderful event. Our Fathers’ Day stall is set for 4th September.

Parents have approached me with ideas for events. This is absolutely wonderful and I am thrilled that people are engaging in this way within the school community. Our P&C events are costed and run with the support of the school as a measure to bring together Community. A well organised event with broad buy-in by school, parents and students will succeed in engaging community involvement. Thank you to those who have stepped forward to make a contribution. The P&C works closely with the school in the interests of our key stakeholders, our students.

Our P&C meetings run for an hour. We discuss broad matters of a strategic nature and at a macro level. We endeavour to organise the finer detail prior to the meeting so that we have a smooth, cohesive and productive meeting. This is our experience. If you have a suggestion, please let me or a member of the P&C Executive or our Principal know in advance so that prior to the meeting a proposal can be discussed or worked up for discussion at the meeting. As a reminder, our next P&C meeting is scheduled for 2nd June at 7pm.

Birthday Celebrations
Birthdays are an important time for young children and at Mascot Preschool we would love to help your child celebrate their special day. These celebrations are enjoyed by all and also fit within the EYLF framework:
- Outcome 1 - Children have a strong sense of identity;
- Outcome 2 - Children are connected with and contribute to their world; and
- Outcome 3 - Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

We suggest you bring cupcakes or small donuts for their birthday. But, do remember no nuts. Please speak to your child’s teacher before the day to organise.

Winter
Now that the weather is cooling down, can you remember to put a jumper and/or jacket in your child’s bag, along with the usual sunhat and spare change of clothes?

Last term, we asked you to bring cot sized sheets for your child. As it is getting cooler it is important that your child keeps warm during rest time so you may like to bring a small blanket as well. We do have a supply of freshly laundered small blankets if you should forget to bring one or don’t have anything suitable.

Please do not send your child to school if they are sick. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter, so that no child is exposed unnecessarily to infections. If it is a long term illness, could you please phone the school office to let them know?

Vision Screening
Have you remembered to bring in the note regarding the Preschool Vision Screening? If not, could you please return it as soon as possible as the screening dates are coming up fast?

Donations
Thank you for your donations last term. They are really appreciated and help the preschool. This term we need tissues; large macaroni (the type the children use to make necklaces - please see your child’s teacher if you aren’t sure); cotton balls; old clothes suitable for dress ups and home corner; magazines for the children to cut up; and old boxes (such as those from cereal, toothpaste, etc) for the art program.

Term 1 was exciting and busy and we look forward to continuing to work with your child again this term. We have some exciting events planned. Please read the school calendar on the front page of this newsletter for updates on what’s happening across the school.

Hope all mums and grandmothers had a very happy Mother’s Day.

Stan Kondilios
P&C President
The South Eastern and Northern Sydney Family Referral Service (FRS) provides services to agencies, young people, children and families who live in 16 Local Government Area’s (LGA’s) across South Eastern Sydney (Ashfield, Botany Bay, Burwood, Canada Bay, Canterbury, Hurstville, Kogarah, Leichhardt, Marrickville, Randwick, Rockdale, Strathfield, Sutherland Shire, Sydney, Waverley and Woollahra). We are a new support service in Sydney funded through NSW Health and would like appreciate an opportunity to discuss the possibility of having a information about our service in your school newsletter or on your school website.

We work with families effected by homelessness, poverty, mental health concerns, domestic violence, financial stress, parenting issues amongst other vulnerabilities, to link families to support services in their local area. The service is a key initiative of the Keep Them Safe reforms to provide holistic services to families in need. We cover 16 LGA’s and we are a free service.

**LOST PROPERTY**

There is large amount of school uniform and other items that have become estranged from owners!

If your child has lost any of their belongings please have a look through the lost property bins (located just inside the infants hall and outside the staffroom).

Any items not claimed by the end of Term 2 will be disposed of.

**Winter Is Here!**

Winter school uniform can be purchased from the uniform shop Mon, Tue, Thur & Fri 8 am - 9 am

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**Student of the Week**

- **KD**: Jayvis Jiang - for excellent word-making during literacy groups.
- **KK**: Mia Papazoglou, for trying hard in story writing.
- **KR**: Dominique Chau, excellent work presentation.
- **1M**: Michael Pateras, for being quiet and responsible in class
- **1S**: Angelica Johnstone for excellent answers during literacy discussions.
- **1/2W**: Matthew Subekti, for working conscientiously in all areas.
- **2G**: Samira Muznibi, for sharingfantastic ideas during class discussions.
- **2Z**: Matthew Huttly, for his enthusiastic attitude to learning.

*Please note, there was no Primary school assembly due to cross-country.*

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**Cross Country Results**

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<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 Years</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yasin Kuscu</td>
<td>Jacinta Samera</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Jhamboy</td>
<td>Jade Lloyd Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salih Saracoglu</td>
<td>Helena Tautelofua</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zeth Zambrano</td>
<td>Lara Guisti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jasneel Prasad</td>
<td>Rhyana Alcaraz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senjumara Watariguchi</td>
<td>Stasia Tan</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9 Years</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper Muirhead</td>
<td>Alyna Kondilios</td>
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<td>Arda Lok</td>
<td>Fatima Purvion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deacon Mautama</td>
<td>Sarina Rando</td>
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<td>Stanton Saffiti</td>
<td>Arwaar Muni</td>
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<td>Munkhtuguldur Mungunkhuhn</td>
<td>Jazz Kenneally</td>
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<td>Mikael Widjaja</td>
<td>Tiffany Huang</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10 Years</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ali Kumburlu</td>
<td>Katlyn Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Hansen</td>
<td>Taliah Akbaba</td>
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<td>Thomas Martin</td>
<td>Alisa Akbaba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Todi Raychanovski</td>
<td>Paris Kritikos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathanael Hollink</td>
<td>Saretaima Tonuu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Todd</td>
<td>Fiona Zhu</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11 Years</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Zeke Zambrano</td>
<td>Paige McGuinness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Butler</td>
<td>Reannon Vera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kodi Barnes</td>
<td>Chloe Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maksim Kasalovic</td>
<td>Danica Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sebastian Montoya</td>
<td>Norham Bakr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mushfiq Ahmed</td>
<td>Megan Pemberton</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12 Years</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Khan Yuksel</td>
<td>Josie Karanikolas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Yuksel</td>
<td>Tyrah Chan-Hampton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan Hill</td>
<td>Kyisha Sue</td>
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<td>Kanji Watariguchi</td>
<td>Jasiyah Haque</td>
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<td>Ebnill Sardar</td>
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<td>Owen Steward</td>
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