FROM THE PRINCIPAL

North Rocks School Fete

30 August 2014

We need your help!

Our thank to the individuals who have come on board so far to assist with the fete organisation. Every student and every family will be encouraged to commit to supporting this community event. Our next meeting will be Wednesday 7th May, 2014 at 6:30 in the staffroom. EVERYONE is welcome!!

K-6 Movie Night

This is the second children’s movie night to be held in the hall on Friday 16 May. Last year the children had a wonderful time watching “The Three Stog-es”. For 2014 the movie selected is “The Croods: This prehistoric comedy adventure follows the world’s first family as they embark on the journey of a lifetime when the cave that has always shielded them from danger is destroyed. Traveling across a spectacular landscape, the family discovers an incredible new world filled with fantastic creatures.

Just like the school discos this event is fully supervised. Notes have come out this week. If you missed the note select the link in the Notes Online table.

Winter uniform change over

From Monday 12 May students are expected to wear winter uniform. Parents should use common-sense when dressing their children in the periods directly before and after 12 May and check the forecast. If it is cold before hand or exceedingly warm after we don’t mind children wearing the appropriate uniform for the weather conditions.

NAPLAN schedule

Tuesday May 13: Language Conventions and Writing tests
Wednesday May 14: Reading test
Thursday May 15: Mathematics Test

These assessments will be conducted from 9:30—10:30 for Language; Reading and Mathematics and 11:30-12:30 for Writing.

Students who miss a test will be required to catch up on Friday morning.

FOOD ALLERGY ALERT

To help minimise the risk of life threatening allergic reactions we ask all parents to refrain from packing foods that contain peanuts or tree nuts in lunch boxes. Help us protect our students.
Reminders
- Students are expected to wear correct school uniform from head to foot. This includes a school hat and black shoes.
- If your child is away from school an explanation via a note to the teacher is sufficient.
- If your child suffers from asthma a health plan from the doctor should be submitted to the office and then communicated with the class teacher.
- Just a reminder that teachers are extremely busy in the morning planning for the days teaching please organise interviews at other times.
- Wednesday afternoon is staff meeting time. Please consider the teachers need to be on time to the staff meeting by allowing them a quick getaway on Wednesday afternoons. Similarly Monday afternoons is when we have our executive meetings.
- There is no entry to the school car park before and during school hours—this is for the children’s safety.

Good Guys Promotion
The Good Guys at Castle Hill have offered $1 coupon for every $50 spent in store for our school. The coupons are then exchanged by me for items used for the raffle, fete or the like. Next time you are in the market for electrical or home appliances think about the Good Guys and ask for the voucher for North Rocks.

Opportunity Class Placement for 2015
Parents seeking opportunity class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by 16 May 2014. Parents seeking opportunity class placement for students in 2015 will be able to apply for up to two schools of their choice. It is expected that parents will make appropriate decisions when choosing a school that is within reasonable travelling distance. Parents are strongly encouraged to give careful consideration to the time taken and modes of transport involved when choosing a school with an opportunity class. Parents of students currently enrolled in a NSW public school with access to the internet, a printer and their own email address (not the student’s) should apply for opportunity class placement online by going to this internet website: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement Online applications open on Monday 28 April 2014. Late applications will not be accepted after the closing date of 16 May 2014. Application forms should be received by the student’s current primary school by Friday 16 May 2014.

Staff training
During our recent staff development day teachers looked at the implications of the disabilities legislation and how it affects schools and the provision of services for students of all abilities. We also looked at the new science syllabus due for implementation during 2015.
From Tuesday 20 through Friday 23 May four of our teachers will be at intensive training on Choice Theory. For those of you who are new Choice Theory underpins our response to student welfare and our conversations with students around their behavioural choices. Mrs Watson, Miss Hayman, Mr Diaz and Mrs Olliffe will be out of school for those four days. We have engaged casual teachers to take their classes for this period.

Crossways Church coffee cart
Our friends from the Crossways Church will once again be on hand to provide a free coffee or hot chocolate to parents and staff on Friday morning prior to the start of school. Please join the crew and enjoy a coffee break after dropping off the kids. The coffee cart will be outside Miss Neville’s room.

Staffing news
Unfortunately Miss Neville, class KN, will be taking personal leave three days per week until the end of this term. Miss Karen Young, with whom KN parents will be familiar, has agreed to take the class for Wednesday—Friday each week. Although this is not an ideal situation I can assure parents that both teachers have a strong commitment and great experience teaching kindergarten and that this short term arrangement will not provide any deviation to the kindergarten program.

Working bee
Please set aside Saturday 31 May in your diary for our next working bee. For the term 2 working bee we will be joined by members of the Crossways Church who have kindly volunteered to assist us on the day. We are trying a Saturday afternoon for this working bee hoping to get more families available to help.

Safety alert
A report has been made by a school in the Rydalmere area that a girl was approached by a car which is a Silver 4WD yesterday morning on her way to school.

Peter Harker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Certificate Winners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yrs 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Hotshots & Auskick

The response to both the Hotshots tennis program and AFL Auskick as part of primary sport this term was overwhelming. As such, all places are now full. These programs will again be offered in 2015.

Around the Grounds

In this week’s ‘Around the Grounds’ students in Year 2 shared some interesting insights about their Term 1 areas of study including ‘Families’ and ‘Spain’. Mylen and Jordan from 2W explained that they had read a book about Spanish food and that seafood paella, a dish with sliced lemons and seafood including mussels and prawn was one they would like to try. 2AA students Bethany and Ashley recounted the construction of ‘Me’ boxes in class, which they filled with important personal artefacts from their childhood. Ashley had chosen special photos, a blanket and her favourite book, Tinkerbell. Callum and Ethan from 1/2E enjoyed making a family tree in art lessons and practising saying different words for ‘mum’ and ‘dad’ from around the world. In 2M Hayley and Jon Rei compared and contrasted themselves with other members of their families. Hayley is similar to her mum because they both like to read books and watch funny movies, while Jon Rei is different to his brother because his brother doesn’t like vegetables!!

On the other side of the school, K-6H students were enthusiastically recounting their holidays when I paid a visit today. Lachlan was overcome with excitement by his new Fryno Skylander addition and stated (without any prompting!) that he felt “awesome” about being back at school to learn new things. Meanwhile Joshua, Raymond and Rozhina all enjoyed going to playgrounds and visiting friends and Dean and Mrs Hammond were intently practising handwriting.

As I visit classrooms and teach various groups each week, I continue to be warmed by the natural love of learning and high levels of engagement on display throughout the school.

Tom Moth
Deputy Principal

Cross Country Carnival
Friday 9 May
Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students throughout Kindergarten to Year 9. Participation by schools and students is voluntary. The Challenge aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure, and to enable students to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

All students who enter and successfully complete the Challenge will receive a Premier's Reading Challenge certificate for that year and their name will be published on an Honour Roll.

Each year, the Challenge runs from 1 February to 1 September. The booklists, Challenge rules, frequently asked questions and helpful tips can be accessed via the PRC website: http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au

To qualify for the Challenge a required number of books read must be entered electronically. Online reading records are available in March and books can be entered via any computer with Internet access at school, in a public library or at home.

Students use individual usernames and passwords to access their own record. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to support the Challenge to promote the development of literacy skills and a love of reading and to inspire their children to continue reading until they have finished the Challenge. To complete the Challenge students in K to 2 need to read 30 books. Children in years 3 to 6 need to read 20 books. The book list is available on the PRC website under the tab booklists.

To login to the PRC and enter books into the student reading records, students use their school login and password. Please begin reading and entering books at home. We will send home a list of books read in class later in the year that can be added to your child’s booklist.

Students can logon to the Premiers’ Reading Challenge website and enter their school login and password. I encourage you to support your children in completing the challenge by reading books outlined on the PRC list and assisting students in entering the information online. Students will also enter books during their time in ICT at school.

Public Speaking Competition

All children from 3 – 6 will be participating in the North Rocks Public Speaking Competition during Term 2. The competition forms part of classroom speaking and listening programs and it is expected that all children will participate. Refer to the Speaking and Listening handout from your class teacher as to when your child will be presenting to his or her class.

Two speakers from each class will present their speech in front of their grade. A grade winner will be announced and will be presented with a medal at the Primary Assembly during week 8 (18th June). These children will also deliver their winning speech at this assembly.

Topics - Own Choice

Speech Rules

- Students present one set speech.
- Years 3 and 4: 2 minutes and Years 5 and 6: 3 minutes.
- No microphone to be used. No props/visual aids
- Speeches will need to be written and rehearsed at home. Parents are encouraged to assist their children however, please do not write the speech for them.

Preparing your speech

Preparation – use palm cards with key points written on them. An attention getting beginning to engage your audience – You could use a rhetorical question, a story etc. Try not to begin with, “Today I am talking about...”

- Speak in a loud, clear and expressive voice.
- Use body language that is appropriate to your speech.
- Eye contact – look around at your audience, don’t read your notes.
- Stick to the topic.
- Timing is important.
- An effective ending.

Marking Criteria

Students will be assessed in class using the following criteria – eye contact, use of voice, pace, effective introduction, detailed content, effective conclusion, use of palm cards, timing, evidence of preparation, delivery and body language. We are looking forward to hearing the student’s speeches.

Have fun and good luck!
FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Cross country 2014
Please join us on Friday 9 May for our annual cross country. The program below indicates approximate start times for each age group. Our K-2 carnival will be held from 1:30pm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Starting Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Girls 8/9 yrs born 2006/05</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td>9.10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Boys 8/9 yrs born 2006/05</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Girls 10 yrs born 2004</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Boys 10 yrs born 2004</td>
<td>1500m</td>
<td>9.35am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Girls 11 yrs born 2003</td>
<td>2500 m</td>
<td>10.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Boys 11 yrs born 2003</td>
<td>2500 m</td>
<td>10.05am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Boys 12/13 yrs born 2002/2001</td>
<td>2500 m</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
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</table>

Winter PSSA results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winter Sport</th>
<th>R1</th>
<th>R2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snr Soccer</td>
<td>Snr Soccer</td>
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<td>Jnr Soccer</td>
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<td>Sen League</td>
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<td>Jun League</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snr Newcombe Ball</td>
<td>Snr Newcombe Ball</td>
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<td>Jnr Newcombe Ball</td>
<td>Jnr Newcombe Ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snr Netball A</td>
<td>Snr Netball A</td>
<td>Snr Netball A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Netball B</td>
<td>Senior Netball B</td>
<td>Senior Netball B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun Netball A</td>
<td>Jun Netball A</td>
<td>Jun Netball A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jnr Netball B</td>
<td>Jnr Netball B</td>
<td>Jnr Netball B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sydney West softball
Congratulations to Kate P who is the final selections squad for the Sydney West Softball team to play at the state titles later in the year. Well done, Kate.

From the Music Room
Last year North Rocks Public School participated in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. North Rocks families collected stickers on purchases made at Woolworths, and returned them to school. The final tally for the Woolworth’s Earn and Learn promotion was a huge 11,341 points!! What a mammoth effort for our first year. We have just received our new musical instruments. THANKYOU WOOLWORTHS!

Our new equipment includes Aboriginal clapsticks, (which kindergarten children played the next day), 2 sets of boomwackers, rhythm sticks, various maracas, a xylophone, a box of instruments from around the globe, including a pan pipe, a bird whistle, a mini rainstick, an oracina and a frog guiro, and additional guiros…. which have already been played by 1W.

Thanks must go to the whole community for their support of this program.

Karen Andrews
RFF - Music Teacher
P&C NEWS

P&C President's Report
The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 May at 7:30pm in the staff room. If you have any matters that you would like discussed at the May meeting would you please email the P&C Secretary at "nrpspandc@yahoo.com.au" before 6 May.

Anthony Macarthur
P&C President
(parramaca@gmail.com)

Fete Committee
The next Fete Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 7 May in the staff room between 6:30pm and 7:30pm. Each of the coordinators will provide an update on key actions completed, next steps and any decisions required by the Fete Committee. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Anthony Macarthur
Fete Committee Chair

Harmony day
On the last Thursday of last term our school held our annual Harmony Day celebration. The weather was awful – but we had a fun day anyway. The International Food Stalls were a great success again this year – the food was delicious, beautifully presented, and much appreciated by everyone.
Please join me in thanking the following people – without whom this international feast would not have been possible. Sonia, Jodee, Ciara, Carla, Veronica, Belinda, Lynda, Debbie, Dawn, Lisa, Audra, Casey, James, the Korean parents, Jon, Lillian, Kathy, Elaine, Tina, Jianphen, Gul, Petra, Amy, Lochiel, Mercedes & Leah. Our school is so lucky to have you amongst us. Special thanks go to Sonia, Jodee, and the Korean Parents – all Lebanese, Aussie & Korean food was donated – this was an unexpected, but gratefully accepted gift to our school and we are truly thankful.
WE HAVE RAISED - $3128.96 – that’s amazing! Well Done to everyone involved. Mr Harker will use this money for the benefit of all of our children.
Here’s hoping we can do it all again next year!!

Cheers, Vicki Gillard, for the P&C

Parent Auxilliary News
Movie Night on Friday 16th May – The PA will be hosting another movie night this year. Information will come out this week. This is not a night to be missed! Tickets for double gold class seats are available to purchase from the office for $2.

Mothers Day stall – Thur 8 May
Grandparents Day – 13 June
Trivia Night 26 July

Carol Rizk

Band news
Last Monday over 70 students attended Band Camp at Home. They spent the day having a combination of small group and full band lessons. All 3 bands did a concert for parents at the end of the day which was fantastic. The Beginner band did really well for their first performance and the first time they had all played together. A huge thanks to all the parents who volunteered their time to help make the day such a good one. Without your support days like this could not be held. A big thanks also to all the students, their behaviour was great all day and they worked hard during their lessons.

Beginner band rehearsals have now started on Tuesday mornings. Could all band students please arrive at the hall at 7.35 so they have time to set up before rehearsals begin at 7.45. The earlier everything gets set up the more actual rehearsal time the kids get.

If you have not been getting any band emails please send an email to northrocksband@gmail.com to be included in the distribution list.

Kirrily Pereira
Uniform Shop News
Attention Uniform Shop has new opening hours in term 2. Fridays 8.15 -9.30am Fridays.
Volunteers needed . We would love you to come and put your name on our roster. Half an hour, one hour , once a week or once a month will be greatly appreciated.
Kerri Swadling
0419913525

Canteen on the Rocks News
Welcome back, I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.
Our new Winter menu is available on the website.
We have two new additions:
‘Pizza’ Melts (Green, available everyday) – Wholemeal base, tomato sauce and your choice of topping, Cheese only, Chicken & Cheese, Ham & Cheese and Ham and Pineapple - $2.50
Mini Potato Pie (Amber, Wednesday only) A Lean Mini Potato Pie, Healthy kids endorsed, $1.50

Pictured: Ham and Pineapple ‘Pizza’ Melt (all Melts are freshly made on site)
Thank you Lisa Treglown

Band
I would like to welcome Jane Robards as the new Band Co-ordinator, she will do an amazing job. We will be doing the handover over the next few months.

There are limited spaces still available for Band Camp at Home. If you are interested in coming please return your note and payment to the school office by Monday. Contact northrocksband@gmail.com if you need a copy of the note or more information. This event is highly recommended to all band students. It would be great to have all performance band members coming as this day is used as preparation for the Yamaha Festival.

Important band information will be emailed out over the next few weeks so if you haven’t provided the band committee with your contact details please email northrocksband@gmail.com asap.

Kirrily Pereira

Lost Property
We are no longer keeping a stock of lost property in the K-2 classrooms. All items that are left in the classroom and playground are being collected and returned to the child. Parents are asked to ensure that all clothing and lunch containers are labelled to assist us in this process. We have had an ongoing problem with mouldy, unlabelled containers accumulating in the classrooms. Any items left that are unlabelled will be thrown away by the classroom teachers at the end of the week.

Erin Dooley, Assistant Principal
At NRPS we value RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, SAFETY, HONESTY

Mothers Day Stall

8th May 2014
All gifts $5.00
Gifts Include:
Mug and Coaster set
‘Mum’ Umbrella
Glass Plaque
Notebook and pen set
Manicure and bath bomb set
Body wash Set
Beach Bag
Recipe book
Assorted surprise gifts

There will be plenty of gifts so you can buy multiple gifts for mum’s, grandmothers, friends, aunties etc.

This year the school has asked us to hold the Mothers day stall between recess and lunch. We have decided to do the gift wrapping on the same day as the stall. We will be gift wrapping from 9.00am until approximately 11.00am and the stall is from 11.15am until 12.45pm on Thursday the 8th May.

We need volunteers to help on the day with the gift wrapping or the Mothers day stall or both.
Any help would be appreciated and little ones are also welcome.
If you would like more information or are able to help, please contact Lisa Treglown- nicktreg@optusnet.com.au or 0403 666 667

Knowing What To Do In An Emergency Situation Could Save Your Child’s Precious Life

Kids First Aid offers the only first aid courses delivered exclusively by experienced paramedics, designed to teach parents, grandparents and caregivers how to respond calmly and confidently to 10 of the most common first aid emergency situations.

Courses available now:
Castle Hill RSL
Saturday 17th May, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Book Online Today: www.kidsfirstaid.com.au
or call 1300 138 133

Private Sessions also available

Variety, The Children’s Charity

Date: 12 April 2014
Time: Book a 30min time slot between 9am-4pm
Venue: Dural Music Centre (Cherry Hill) 574 Warrimoo Ave, Dural
Cost: $35 (with a $10.00 (min. donation of $10) or more for your ‘Pet Sets’)
Booking: 9651 7333 or at Dural Music Centre (tickets essential)

All proceeds from the day will be passed on in full to Variety, The Children’s Charity.

Are you interested in a little extra one-to-one band tuition during the Easter Holidays?
Would you like a lesson from a specialist music teacher on your instrument?
Do you have an old guitar or keyboard laying around you’d like to dust off for a good cause?

DMA and DMC Staff are coming together to donate a day of their time, raising money for charity these Easter holidays and invite students, staff, parents, family and friends to sign up for a good cause.

Help DMA and DMC Staff support MS Lewis and
Car 56 on the 2014 Newcastle Variety Bash
with our School Holiday Music Tuition Day
raising money for

Kids First Aid

Kids First Aid offers the only first aid courses delivered exclusively by experienced paramedics, designed to teach parents, grandparents and caregivers how to respond calmly and confidently to 10 of the most common first aid emergency situations.

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Private Sessions also available

Variety, The Children’s Charity

Date: April 22
Time: Book a 30min time slot between 9am-4pm
Venue: Dural Music Centre (Cherry Hill) 574 Warrimoo Ave, Dural
Cost: $35 (with a $10.00 (min. donation of $10) or more for your ‘Pet Sets’)
Booking: 9651 7333 or at Dural Music Centre (tickets essential)

All proceeds from the day will be passed on in full to Variety, The Children’s Charity.
Become an EYE CHAMPION at High Sight Optometry.

Is your child struggling to read?
Complaining of tired, watery eyes or blurry vision?
Having trouble concentrating in the classroom?
Losing their place or confusing words and letters?

Sometimes glasses are not enough and children need vision training to become EYE CHAMPIONS in the classroom.

For more information or to book an appointment for an EYE CHAMPION assessment ring PH 98710633. Appointments booked before Easter 2014 will have the initial $90 fee waived.

Regular eye examinations are otherwise bulk billed to Medicare.

High Sight Optometry
Shop 3,326 Pennant Hills Road (near cnr of Coleman Ave, Carlingford)
PH 9871 0633
E: info@highsight.com.au
The Rocks Report

At NRPS we value RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, SAFETY, HONESTY

Providing Speech Pathology services to children requiring assistance with:

- Pronouncing sounds
- Following instructions
- Problems expressing ideas
- Understanding/comprehension
- Stuttering
- Learning Difficulties
- Reading and writing difficulties
- Visualising and Verbalising
- Formulating correct sentences
- Voice problems

Services are available at our Epping office Monday-Friday and also within the North Rocks Primary School on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

To make an enquiry:
Phone: 9876 4962 or Email: carlingfordspeech@gmail.com

The Hills Drama School
The way to your dream!

Acting Classes for all ages
Children: 6 - 11yrs
Teen: 12 - 16yrs
Adult: Mature age

FREE Trial Lesson

During the term:

- Stepping outside your comfort zone,
- Improvisation games & exercises,
- Monologues, script study & character creation,
- Voice & movement development,
- Acting for stage & camera, Group performances, teamwork,
- Identifying, acknowledging and developing your strengths,
- Talent quests, film festivals, group performances and awards,
- Audition preparation & job opportunities.

Discounts for families

Afternoon Classes held at:

- Carlingford - Tuesday
- Beaumont Hills - Wednesday

For more information
Call Aaron 0413 029 899
www.thehillsdramaschool.com.au
WESTLEY UNITING CHURCH GIANT GARAGE SALE

Wesley Uniting Church grounds at 32 Showground Road, Castle Hill.

Dates/Times: **Friday May 9th 2014** (operating from 8:00am to 3:00pm) and **Saturday May 10th 2014** (operating from 8:00am to 1:00pm)

Sale items/Stalls will include Books, Records, CDs, DVDs, Clothing, Electrical, Plants, Toys, Furniture, Manchester, White Elephant, Fine Art and China etc.

We will also be providing tea and coffee during sale hours, together with a Sausage Sizzle for lunch on both days, and Bacon and Egg rolls for breakfast on Saturday morning.

Enjoy the friendly atmosphere, and pick up a bargain (or two) knowing you are helping those families who need help within the Hills District, through the Hills Family Centre.