Dear Parents,

A big thank you to all the parents who have already offered their assistance in supporting our school fair, which is rapidly approaching. The 23rd March is now only just over two weeks away. We are certainly hoping that the weather will be fine. Everyone is working very hard and I’m sure it is going to be a wonderful event.

Our next P&C Meeting is next Tuesday, 12th March, in the school staff room. All are welcome. It will begin at 6.00 pm as it is the AGM. We would love to see you there. All staff are currently looking at our new national syllabus documents as we prepare for their introduction which commences in 2014. I will present these at P&C.

Just a little reminder in regard to the DEC policy on contacting parents. If a child is sick or they miss the bus etc... a member of the office or a class teacher MUST contact the parent to make arrangements. I know parents are just wanting to help but is a requirement we must follow.

A big thank you to all our families who have contacted the office and completed the necessary paperwork regarding enrolment for 2014. Thanks also for spreading the message to other families they know. This will make organisation much easier for all concerned at Nulkaba.

It is wonderful to see so many of the students involved in sporting teams, aerobics teams, dance teams, choirs, debating and much more. The enthusiasm of both the staff and students is fantastic.

Next week will be our first whole school performance - Joffa - it is also the first of our new method of payment. Just a reminder all notes will need to be returned as per the date on the form. This will then be closed. If you have missed out you will need to discuss this with your child's teacher - not the office.

We have a number of major excursions throughout the year for Stage 2 and Stage 3 students. Please come and see me if there are any difficulties with the payment of these as arrangements can always be made.

Narelle Hunt
Principal
Nulkaba Public School
P&C Meeting

Tuesday 12th March 2013 at 6.30 PM
In the School Staff Room

All welcome have your say be involved in your child’s education

REMINDER
FINAL DATE FOR PAYMENTS

K-6 JOFFA’S TOONSCHOOL
$6.00 DUE FRIDAY 8/03/2013

YR2-6 SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY
$3.00 DUE FRIDAY 15/03/2013

STAGE 1 WETLANDS EXCURSION
$16.00 DUE 22/03/2013

“What’s on” the Calendar?

TERM 1
Fri 8th Mar Out of Uniform Day Bottle Donation
Regional Basketball Trails
Tue 12th Mar Joffa Performance (K-6)
P&C Meeting (Staff Room 6.30pm)
Wed 13th Mar Joffa Performance (K-6)
Thu 14th Mar Boys Cricket vs Kitchener
Fri 15th Mar Rugby 7’s HVG
Tue 19th Mar Zone Soccer Trials-Boys and Girls
Wed 20th Mar School Cross Country (Yrs 2-6)
Thu 21st Mar School Banking Sign-up
Sat 23rd Mar School Fair
Tue 26th Mar Wetlands Excursion (Stage 1)
Fri 29th Mar Good Friday
Mon 1st Apr Easter Monday
Wed 10th Apr Paint the Town Read
Fri 12th Apr Last Day of Term 1

TERM 2
Mon 29th Apr Staff Development Day (Staff only)
Tue 30th Apr Staff Development Day (Staff only)
Wed 1st May First day back for Students

Nulkaba Nibbles
Canteen Roster

Week D
Monday 11th March to Friday 15th March 2013

Day       Date          Names
Monday    11th March  J Vivian
           12th March    S Boyd
           13th March    R Beckett
T Tuesday  12th March    T Broadbent
Web        13th March    C Webb
W Wednesday 14th March    D O’Brien
           15th March    L Father
Th Thursday 15th March    S Cough
           14th March    A Burke
           15th March    A Trowbridge
           16th March    K Saunders
           17th March    G Ellis
           18th March    R Stirrat
           19th March    V Schreiber
F Friday   15th March    G Ellis

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           18th March    R Stirrat
           19th March    V Schreiber
F Friday   15th March    G Ellis

Week A
Monday 18th March to Friday 22nd March 2013

Day       Date          Names
Monday    18th March  F Lanser
           19th March  M McClellan
T Tuesday  19th March  A Raywood
           20th March  E Cunningham
Web        20th March  Z Shilder
W Wednesday 21st March  P Twentyman
Th Thursday 21st March  L O’Brien
           22nd March  K Ambrum
           23rd March  W Saywell
F Friday   22nd March  W Saywell

Week B
Monday 25th March to Friday 29th March 2013

Day       Date          Names
Monday    25th March  HELP NEEDED
           26th March  HELP NEEDED
Web        27th March  R Meyers
W Wednesday 28th March  N Gavin
           29th March  L Robinson
Th Thursday 28th March  R Munroe
           29th March  T Lysaught
F Friday   29th March  PUBLIC HOLIDAY

IF YOU CAN HELP TO FILL OUR CURRENT VACANCIES
PLEASE CONTACT LINDA ON
0457 514 786
Support your school by volunteering in the canteen once per month.
School Kid’s Bonus

Please share the information below with families and students at your school

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 - have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education - whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting:

And if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink - either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

Aboriginal Garden Volunteers

Our school has been given a grant to purchase plants for our Aboriginal garden.

We are asking for anyone interested in helping with the establishment of our garden and mural, please contact Miss Heather Brockwell.

Cessnock United Football Club

Cessnock United Football Club is in need of some 12, 13 and 14 year old boys or girls to fill spots in our 13 and 14 age groups.

Contact Ann on 0416 001 979

School Team Socks for Sale - Now Available

If students are selected in a team representing the school which require socks as part of the team uniform it is expected that students purchase the socks through the office at a cost of $10.00. If you have any queries with this please see Mr Payne.

School Horse Sports

If anyone is interested in representing Nulkaba Public School in School Horse Sports for 2013. Events include showing, sporting, dressage and jumping.

For more information please contact Wendy Saywell.
Phone: 0417 065 586
Email: wendy@saywells.com.au

GET POTTING
Plant & Produce Stall
NPS Fair – Saturday, 23 March

With only 1 month until our annual Fair, it’s time to get organised for donations for the plant and produce stall.

- Take cuttings of your favourite garden plants. Many plants are really easy to strike!!
- Buy herb and annual seedlings to pot up and nurture until fair time.
- Make chutney’s and jams with your excess produce.
- Volunteers needed on the day.
- For more info call Rachel Murray 0417 826 115.

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NSW Government Bus News

Bus Passes
Please find below information regarding bus passes. Students should now have received their 2013 bus passes, if your child has not could you please contact the office. If your child does not have a pass it is $1.10 each way payable to the driver or you may obtain a Term Pass from Rover Coaches at a cost of $50.00 per term.

Bus Pass application forms are available from the office.

School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS)
The NSW Government School Student Transport Scheme provides students with free travel between school and home.

Applying for a Free School Bus Pass
A new application must be completed when a student:

- Enrols in kindergarten
- Progresses from Year 2 to be an eligible student in Year 3
- Progresses from Year 6 to Year 7
- Changes their name, school and/or address

Eligibility Scheme
To be eligible for the a free school bus pass an applicant must be a NSW resident Aged 4 years and 6 months or older, and enrolled as one of the following:

- an infant student (K-2) regardless of the distance between their home and school
- a primary student (Years 3-6) who lives more than 1.6 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.3 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school
- a secondary student (Year 7-12) who lives more than 2 kms (radial distance) from school, or 2.9 kms or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school
- a TAFE student under 18 years of age at 1st January of the year of application who is:
  - enrolled in a full-time TAFE course for a minimum of 20 hours a week
  - not employed
  - living more than 3.2 kms from the college by the most direct practical walking route
  - attending the college closest to their home where enrolment is available

Conditions of Free Travel
Free travel is only available between the student’s home and school on school days for the purpose of school attendance.

- Passes are not transferable.
- Passes must be shown when boarding the bus and when requested during travel.

Travel by bus is subject to the conditions laid down by the Department of transport governing the carriage of passengers on privately operated bus services, including adhering to the Code of Conduct.

Replacing Lost or Stolen Passes
Lost or stolen passes can be replaced by contacting Rover Coaches on (02) 4990 1699.

Library News

Issue 2 Book Club
Order forms for Book Club’s second 2013 issue have been distributed this week, with lots of lovely items just in time for Easter. As usual, there are books and goodies galore, with some terrific bargains to be had. Orders and payments need to be left in the Book Club Orders box in the Library and are due in by Friday March 15th.

Joffa’s ToonSchool
Have you returned your Joffa permission note yet? Joffa will be visiting us next week, to show us how the art of cartooning can help us all to find greater self-esteem and confidence, as well as share a few laughs along the way. Sessions will be held for all classes, with K-2 students meeting Joffa on Tuesday March 12, and our 3-6 students meeting him on Wednesday March 13. This is sure to be a fun activity for all, and we are sure that there will be many students discovering new artistic talents!

So be sure to get those permission notes in by this Friday - March 8th. Cost per student is $6.00.

Library Borrower of the Week
After several enquiries from students, we will again be holding the Borrower of the Week lucky dip each week. Any student who simply borrows something from the library each week has their name automatically entered into the weekly draw for a lucky dip in the library Treasure Bin. So just for borrowing from the Library, you not only have a terrific book to read but you might be our weekly winner!

Library Bags
While many students are busily borrowing from the Library, especially for the Premier’s Reading Challenge, there are a significant number who are forgetting to bring a Library Bag to school so that they have a safe place to store their borrowed books. The expectation for students to have a Library Bag is held for all Kinder, Years 1 and 2 students, with older students having the option of no longer using a Library Bag if wished. It is important for students to have a bag, as it is sometimes difficult to fit larger sized books into schoolbags, and so a Library Bag allows books to be carried easily. Depending upon the type of bag used, books can also be protected from moisture and dirt. So please remember your library bag!
Premier’s Reading Challenge

**WOW! What a start we have had!**

Online entries have only been open since last Monday and already we have 15 completed entries! Aspen B of S3S was an early starter, and was quickly followed by several more members of S3S – obviously they are again aiming to be the first primary class to finish this year’s Challenge. Joining Aspen in completing the Challenge, we can congratulate Lilly S, Eloise B, Lily C, Mackenzie F, Mackenzie S, Nicholas N, Ella R, Molly W, Elizabeth B, Kyla B, Lily L, Charlotte N and Tarryn T. We certainly have some dedicated readers at Nulkaba!

Information sheets and reading records can be picked up at the Library, or just see Mrs Morris for further information.

**Library Donations**

Every so often, families have a tidy up and find a few books ready for a new home. Recently, we have had two students donate some lovely items to the Library. Firstly, thank you to Cooper B from Year 5, who decided to donate two new titles to our much-loved Magic Collection – Dragonology and Wizardology - both fabulous additions to our collection. Also, Lily C from Year 5 decided to donate her Rainbow Magic collection to the Library - some 54 books! And since Rainbow Magic is a very popular series, the addition of these new titles is very welcome! Thank you Lily and Cooper!

**Staying Busy in the Library**

No - the Library hasn’t been invaded BUT... Several of our Year 5 boys put in some time and energy to create this rather colourful robot model, using sets of the building blocks purchased for use in the Library. They have really become a favourite item for use at lunchtime in the library.

The boys were certainly pleased with their efforts, but were just as keen to dismantle their robot to see what other models they could use the blocks to build. Great team work boys!

Lily with some of the Rainbow Magic books she has donated to the Library.
EASTER EGG RAFFLE

** EGG DONATIONS WANTED **

Easter is just around the corner and we are having an Easter Egg Raffle to celebrate - to be drawn on Thursday 28th March at The Easter Hat Parade at school between lunch and recess (11.30am - 1.00pm)

Look out for tickets to be sent home soon with your kids!

So please, bring in your donation of Easter Eggs with your bought raffle tickets and money to the office by Tuesday 26th March so there are LOTS of prizes to be won 😊

WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP - Wrapping the Easter Egg Prizes on Tuesday 26th March at 9.15am

Please contact:- Kathryn on 0420539468 or Kathryn@akmsselfstorage.com.au

Thank you in advance for your support
Product Safety Recall

Baby Solutions Wrist Rattle
41759738
Sold at Kmart stores between November 2012 and February 2013

Defect In some circumstances the sewn-in care label may become detached from the product.

Hazard If the defect occurs whilst being used a child may put this in their mouth posing a potential choking hazard.

What to do Consumers should immediately remove the label to eliminate the hazard or stop using the product and contact their nearest Kmart store for a full refund.

Contact details You can contact the supplier by phoning 1800 333075 Mon-Fri 9.00-5.00pm or via email at stuartc@bigsofties.com.au

See www.recalls.gov.au for Australian Product Recall Information

TRIPLE P SELECT PROGRAM

Triple P Parent Seminars

The power of positive parenting  Thursday  28 March 2013
Raising confident, competent children  Thursday  4 April 2013
Raising resilient children  Thursday  11 April 2013

Time: 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

AT
Samaritans Neighbourhood Centre
198-202 Vincent Street, Cessnock

To book a place or for more information please phone

CESSNOCK FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE
on
4990 4507

Seminars are presented by an accredited Triple P practitioner

Financial assistance for this service is provided by Community Services, Department of Family and Community Services NSW