Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe how fast this term is going. So much has already happened and there is so much yet to be accomplished before the end of the term.

Attendance
It is very important that all children attend school every day unless of course they are ill. The following is an extract from the new policy regarding attendance. A little statistic which is very interesting is that if children's attendance is regularly under 90% they will have effectively lost 12 months of schooling by the time they enter High School. This is frightening. Please read.

Parents Must Ensure:
2.1. their children of compulsory school age are enrolled in a government or registered non-government school or, registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) for Home Schooling.

2.2. their children who are enrolled at school attend every day the school is open for instruction.

2.3. they provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence through means such as telephone call, written note, text message or email. The 7 day timeframe for explaining absences is a requirement of the Education Act (1990).

2.4. they work in partnership with the school to plan and implement strategies to support regular attendance at school. This includes communicating with the school if they are aware of issues impacting on their child’s attendance or engagement with school.

Attendance letters will be sent home today with any child who has an unexplained absence over the last four weeks. If you previously sent a note for the absence we thank you. Unfortunately that note has not reached the office. Could you please re-indicate the reason for the absence and return to the office.

There are also new regulations in regard to exemptions from school. We have always had application forms here but we will need to change them in light of what has been advised.

As part of the implementation of the National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel outside of school vacation periods is necessary, parents will need to complete an Application for Extended Leave – Travel, at the school office for the approval of the Principal. If the application is approved your child’s absence will be marked as Leave. If you have any questions regarding the new DEC procedures, please contact our school office.

Diving
Three of our students represented Nulkaba Public School at the Regional Diving Trials. All three of them have been selected as part of the Regional Team to compete at the State carnival. Congratulations to Isla B, Mali B and Aubrey B for making it through to this elite level of competition.

Swimming
On the 6th March Lily S and Isla B will compete at the Regional Swimming Carnival as part of our Zone Team. Best of luck girls - we are very proud.

P&C AGM
Don’t forget the AGM for our P&C is on next Tuesday (10th March). Please come along and be a part of this amazing group who do so much for our school. The meeting will begin at 6pm in the Staff Room.

School Fair
Our School Fair is coming closer; it is scheduled for the 28th March. We had a successful bottle collection day
last Friday as part of the bottle stall. I know the P&C are looking for volunteers to man stalls as are our classes. Please try and help for a part of the day if you can. Your help will be greatly appreciated. We have a raffle as well so supporting us by selling those tickets would be fantastic. It is also Election Day, we will be a polling booth station as well. Encourage as many people as you can to vote at Nulkaba and while here support the Fair.

For new parents this is one of two major fundraising events run by the P&C. Funds from the success of previous Fairs have purchased laptops, walkways, cafe blinds around the Hall, a new cricket pitch and the refurbishment of Stage 3 rooms, to name just a few.

2014 Cessnock Sportsperson of the Year Awards
These awards are to be held on the 20th March. The Nulkaba 'Silver Angels' are finalists in the Teams section for their efforts at the National Titles. Isla B has also been named as a junior finalist for her wonderful effort at the National PSSA Titles in Diving. We are very proud of Maddie, Mali, Cooper, Ava and Isla. Well done girls.

Note: If your child succeeds in something outside of school please let us know so we can acknowledge them in our newsletter. I know some children compete on behalf of Nulkaba in individual pursuits, not necessarily as part of a school team.

Working with Children
There are new forms which need to be filled in relating to parents, friends and community members working with our children. Please see your class teacher, Linda in the canteen or our office staff to complete. You need to have 100 points of identification with you. Any questions please contact the office.

Student Financial Statement
The office has printed student invoices and these are being sent home on Friday. These invoices include payments required for any excursion, sporting activities, camps, school stationary fees, etc. School stationary fees have been set at $80 for each student and can be paid in full or by the term. The stationary fee assists the school in covering some of the cost for purchasing stationary, books, paper, craft items, paint, etc which are all used in the classroom. These payments can be made by cash, cheque and EFTPOS. The office is also happy to take payments over the phone using a credit card.

Kindergarten 2016
Yes it’s that time of the year again... Kindergarten enrolments for 2016. If you have a child that will be starting school in 2016 please call the office and leave your details. The school's office will organise an official DEC enrolment form for you to complete.

This information will be distributed to pre-schools but it would be wonderful if you could mention that Nulkaba is now taking enrolments for 2016 to any parents that will have their first child starting school in 2016.

Out of Zone Applications
The DEC expects all schools to keep a 10% buffer for in zone enrolments throughout the year. The school will close out of zone applications at the end of Week 5 Term 2 – Friday May 22nd 2015. Families can make contact with the office and arrange for an out of zone application to be completed. This needs to be completed even if you already have children enrolled at Nulkaba. Every year we have a large amount of applications for out-of-zone enrolments for kindergarten students. We need to follow set protocols and procedures in line with the DEC policy. Our arrangements are as follows:

1. All out-of-zone applications for Kindergarten 2016 must be at the office by the end of Week 5 Term 2 2015.
2. They must contain all relevant information - be very precise about the reasons you want your child to attend Nulkaba.
3. You need to have been to your local school to discuss your enrolment (this step does not apply to siblings)

During the rest of Term 2 we will look at those applications and make our decisions.

The time frame does apply to those of you with siblings already enrolled here.

Nulkaba has some facilities we would like to have upgraded. This will never happen while we have a large number of out-of-zone students. This includes extra classrooms.

Have a wonderful fortnight.

Narelle Hunt
Principal
Nulkaba Public School
What's on the Calendar?

2015 Term 1 – Week 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>9 Mar</td>
<td>J. Kylie, L. Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>R. Beckett, T. Broadbent, C. Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>11 Mar</td>
<td>S. Clark, R. Procter</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>12 Mar</td>
<td>L. Williams, Help Needed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>13 Mar</td>
<td>J. Borghero, M. Wills</td>
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Help Needed

2015 Term 1 – Week 8

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<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>16 Mar</td>
<td>F. Lanser, K. McDonald, M. McLellan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>B. Cunningham, L. Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>18 Mar</td>
<td>M. Knight, C. Thwaites</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td>W. Jenness, C. Vickers</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>20 Mar</td>
<td>W. Saywell, J. Slatter, L. Tinkler</td>
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WHAT'S ON THE CALENDAR?

EOI for Year 6 Students Starting High School in 2016

On Friday 6th March, the school will send out expression of interest forms to all year 6 students. These need to be returned to the school by all students regardless if your child will be attending a government high school or will be moving to the private or catholic system. We included a detailed letter explaining how to complete the form. If you have any questions please contact the schools office.

These EOI forms will need to be returned by the 13th March.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

P&C Meeting – Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 10th March 2015 at 6.00PM
In the School Staff Room
All welcome, have your say be involved in your child’s education
Parents new to the school especially welcome
Library

2015 Premier’s Reading Challenge
Online Entries Now Open!

As of last Monday, March 2nd, students are able to complete their online entries for this year’s PRC - and it is wonderful to see that even after just a few days of being able to access their online entries, we have several students who have indeed completed the challenge already. Mrs Morris will be checking the records to find out how many of our students are eligible for the Gold and Platinum level certificates - there are sure to be many again this year. 2014 was our most successful year to date - let’s see if 2015 can be even better! Got a question? Just drop in and see Mrs Morris with any enquiry! Oh and watch for an update about the Challenge in our next newsletter.

Book Club Issue 2 Now Out

Brochures and order forms for Issue 2 of Book Club have been distributed this week. Students now receive just 1 brochure each, which is grade/age appropriate and includes a wide range of items. Only having 1 brochure each certainly makes choosing easier. Every order placed helps us purchase new items for our library – every little bit helps!

Orders and payment need to be handed into Mrs Morris no later than Friday March 13th to ensure that orders are received by Scholastic before the closing date.

1-2-3 Magic

The 1-2-3 Magic Course for parents and carers is a practical and worldwide popular evidenced based program written by Dr Thomas Phelan, registered PHD clinical psychologist. This Course addresses the difficult task of child discipline with humour, insight and proven experience. We will look at ways to manage troublesome behaviour more effectively allowing you to enjoy your children more!

We will be offering this program here at Nulkaba Public School over 4 Monday mornings from 9- 10 a.m. The dates are; 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th of March.

If you are interested or would like to put your name down for the group by the 6th of March, please contact me at school. I look forward to sharing this wonderful program with you.

Christine Warren-Davey
Learning and Support Coordinator

Epilepsy - Purple Day

Wear Purple for Epilepsy on Friday 13th March.

Epilepsy is the world’s most common serious brain condition. 800,000 people in Australia will be diagnosed with epilepsy at some stage in their lifetime, 50% of those diagnosed are children or adolescents.

As a way to help raise awareness and much needed funds, we ask that students wear something purple and bring in a gold coin donation.

All money raised will be donated to Epilepsy Action Australia

Epilepsy Action Australia is Australia’s national provider of education and support services for people with epilepsy, their families and community, and professionals.

Thankyou, School Representative Council
1/2CW Are Learning...

1/2CW have been very busy this term. We love reading our Accelerated Literacy book Mrs Wobble The Waitress and are creating interesting stories. This week we have been learning about fractions. We created ‘Fraction fish’ artwork by cutting paper shapes in half to show our understandings of halves.

In Theme we have studied animals that live in wetland environments and recorded facts we have learnt to create an information report. We have also enjoyed learning about food chains. Our excursion to the Shortland Wetlands will help us further understand wetland environments. In Sport we have been thoroughly enjoying our Dance2BeFit lesson. The children participate eagerly and our dance skills are improving each week.

We have also been very busy making paper bowl jellyfish. First we painted the bowl in pink, purple or blue. Next we painted spots on our jellyfish and let it dry. Then we glued on googly eyes and drew a mouth with permanent marker. After that we glued crepe paper strips to the inside of the bowl. Finally we threaded through a piece of fishing line to hang our jellyfish up in the classroom.

School Horse Sports

Could anyone interested in representing Nulkaba School in School Horse Sports in 2015 please contact Wendy Saywell for more information on 0417 065 586 or wendy@saywells.com.au

Events include showing and sporting, dressage and jumping. Riders must have their own horse and transport to the events.

Upcoming events:
Scone Horse Sports  Monday 4th May
Singleton Horse Sports  Friday 22nd May.

Mount View High School Year 6 Parent Information Session

Parents and Year 6 students interested in enrolling at Mount View High School in Year 7 2016 are invited to attend our

INFORMATION AFTERNOON FOR YEAR 7 2016

Monday 9th March 2015
5:30pm - 6:30pm
in the Mount View High School hall

This is a wonderful opportunity to:
- meet Mount View High School staff, including the Year Advisors for Year 7 2016, Melissa Parish and Rebecca Roundley
- hear about the subjects on offer
- be advised of the enrolment process
- receive information about our transition program for Year 6 into Year 7 2016

Mount View High School has a proud tradition of academic, creative, performing and sporting success and is committed to excellence, diversity and fostering individual talents.

If you have any enquiries please contact the school on 49902566 and speak to Tania Spruce, Community Liaison Officer

We look forward to meeting you.
NULKABA SCHOOL FAIR 2015
We are counting down - 4 weeks to go!

Saturday 28th March 2015 - 10am to 3pm

DONATIONS REQUIRED

We are now collecting donations for our 2nd Hand Book stall – They may be taken to the library.

Start thinking about what you might bake or make for the cake and craft stall. Do you have a green thumb? Start cultivating now for the Plant & Produce stall. (Cakes and Plants won’t be needed until the 28th / 29th March)

School Fair Rides

Bigger and Better Rides in 2015!!
★ Giant Chair Ride ★ Twister ★ Giant Slide ★
★ Surf’s Up Ride ★ Inflatable Castles Tramp ★ Pirate Ship ★

PRE-PURCHASE YOUR ARM BAND NOW
Arm bands need to be collected on the day of the fair

Pre-paid price $30  (Arm bands on the day will be $35 Individual rides will be $5 each)
I would like to order _______ arm bands for the School Fair (Saturday 28th March 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of arm band User</th>
<th>Class (if not from Nulkaba school, pls write ‘Other’)</th>
<th>Price ($30 each)</th>
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Total Price $  

Payment Option 1: Direct Deposit Into P&C Account – BSB: 032-516 A/C 256 409 – use your surname as your reference YOU MUST STILL RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE
Payment Option 2: Cash or Cheque – return form with payment to the office (Cheque payments should be made out to “NULKABA PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C”)
Payment Option 3: EFTPOS at the office

Kids do not need to be students of Nulkaba School to pre-purchase a discounted arm band – invite your friends along to join in the fun!!

PRE-PAID ARMBANDS ONLY AVAILABLE UNTIL TUESDAY 24TH MARCH
Class Stalls: Keep your eyes out for notes from teachers regarding the stalls being run by classes

Can you help on Fair day?
If you can be one of our many helpers needed on fair day please contact Jacqui (jacqui@boltup.com.au) or Melissa (angussophie3@gmail.com)

School Fair Raffle
Raffle Tickets will be sent home next week. $1 per ticket with additional tickets available at the office. Fantastic Prizes on Offer

Prize 1: Two nights for 4 guests @ Tropic Oasis Holiday Villas - Coffs Harbour
- Big Banana four attraction combo pass for 4 people
- Family pass to the Pet Porpoise Pool Coffs Harbour

Prize 2: Family pass to Tree Top Adventure Park Newcastle

Prize 3: Girls Bike (donated by Ray White Cessnock)

CHOCOLATE WHEEL DONATIONS NEEDED
If you have something to donate, or know of someone who would like to donate to the Chocolate wheel, please contact Melissa (angussophie3@gmail.com)
or simply take your donation to the School Office

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS SO FAR:
Tropic Oasis Holiday Villas ★ The Big Banana
Pet Porpoise Pool ★ Tree Top Adventure Park ★ Scenic World Blue Mountains
Jenolan Caves ★ Ray White Cessnock ★ Allison Smith Nutrimetics
Peter O’Neill Jewellers

FOR YOUR ARM BAND ORDER FORM – PLEASE TURN OVER
Crunch&Sip

Please ensure your child has a water bottle filled with water and a piece of fruit or vegetable every day. For more information visit: http://www.crunchandsip.com.au

Nutrition Snippet

The simplest way

...to put healthy treats in your kid’s lunch.

This delicious **Blueberry + Banana bread recipe** is fruit-filled and tasty!

**Ingredients**
- olive or canola oil spray
- 3 ripe bananas, peeled
- ¼ cup raw sugar (60g)
- ½ cup reduced-fat milk
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups self-raising flour
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 cup frozen blueberries

**Method**
Preheat oven to 220°C and spray a 20 x 10cm loaf tin with oil - line base and sides with non-stick baking paper. Mash bananas in a large bowl. Add sugar, milk and eggs and mix with a fork until well combined. Sift flours and cinnamon on top of mixture. Mix ingredients together until just combined, taking care not to over-mix, then gently fold through blueberries. Spoon mixture into prepared loaf tin and smooth the surface. Bake for 35-40 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean from the middle.

**Hint**
When cool, slice and freeze individual pieces in snap lock bags and keep for up to 3 months. Send to school as a healthy treat!

For more information visit
www.eatittobeatit.com.au
or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit
AN INVITATION TO CARERS

Do you provide care and support to another person?

You are invited to Carer Connections
Take the Opportunity to Connect with other Carers and listen to our Guest Speaker!

Carers are usually family members or friends who provide support to children or adults who have a disability, mental illness, chronic condition or who are frail aged.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Kathie Nickerson, Clinical Nurse Specialist
Hunter Integrated Pain Service (Hunter New England Health)

TOPIC: “The Meaning of Chronic Pain: and Hunter Integrated Pain Service’s approach to Improving Life”

VENUE: East Maitland Bowling Club, Bank Street, East Maitland

TIME: 10.00am – 12.00pm

COST: Free - includes Morning Tea

WHEN: Monday 23 March 2015

RSVP: Wednesday 18 March 2015

For more information or to Register Contact: HNE Career Education & Support Program – Hunter on: 4921 4995 or 1300 887 776
or Email: Educare-Arming@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au
(We ask that you RSVP for catering purposes)