The end of Term 1 is now upon us and what a term it has been. I would like to thank all of our wonderful students, parents and of course our teachers for all your efforts in making our school the best in all of Lake Macquarie. Our students have already been involved in a number of school experiences this year. The sporting field enabled our students to shine in swimming, cross country and T Ball. Students tried out for Zone teams in soccer, netball and rugby league. Student leaders in Year 6 completed the Young Leaders program and all Year 6 students attended their first Taster lesson at Swansea High. Students in 4/5 and 5/6 began SAKG lessons, enjoying cooking and eating the fresh produce from the garden. Our GATS group have put the final touches to their newspaper articles and now await eagerly to see their stories in the Newcastle Herald Schools competition. Our kindergarten students have all settled in exceptionally well and are making great progress in all areas.

In the classrooms, teachers have continued to implement the Focus on Reading program and have been using data from PLAT (Powerful Learning Accountable Teaching) to inform their learning programs. I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday period.

AUSTRALIAN EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENSUS (AEDC)

Between May and July this year our school will be participating in the AEDC, which is a nationwide census of early childhood development and helps our school and community understand how children are developing before they start school, what is being done well and what can be improved. Children and parents DO NOT need to do anything. Only students in kindergarten will be involved in the census. Teachers will complete the survey based on their observations. The census is voluntary and is not a school test, so should you wish for your child’s/children’s information to be excluded please let the school know in writing.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday & Happy Easter
STATE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS
Blake C recently represented the Hunter at the NSW State Swimming Championships. A fantastic effort and reward for all of Blake’s hard work in and out of the pool.

HUNTER PSSA RUGBY LEAGUE TEAM
Last week Beau McGregor, Max Jones and Philip Talaileva all tried out for the Hunter Rugby League team. All 3 boys participated in a trial match and all 3 have been successful in qualifying for the team. The boys will now play for the Hunter in June at Cronulla.

CONGRATULATIONS
Blacksmiths can be proud of the efforts of Shani P and Jenna H at the recent State Athletics carnival. Shani placed 3rd in the 100m final and 12th in the long jump. Jenna placed 6th in the high jump. A fantastic result from both girls.

Congratulations also to Hope T, who was awarded a Highly Commended certificate for her entry in the state-wide Interrelate Anti Bullying poster competition.

EASTER HAT PARADE & BBQ
The Easter Hat Parade will be held on the last day of Term 1, Thursday 2 April commencing at 12 noon. Children in K-2 will be creating their Easter hats in class, with the help of students from class 5/6. We hope to see lots of parents, grandparents and family friends on the day. The P&C will be holding a Sausage Sizzle for those who wish to stay for lunch. Order forms have been sent home. No orders will be taken on the day.

RED THREADS DAY
Blacksmiths PS will be participating in Red Threads Day this year to raise funds for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. This will also be held on Thursday 2 April. For a gold coin donation, students K-6 are encouraged to wear something red to school on the day. This will be an “Out of Uniform” day.

SCHOOL FEES
Work book and resource fees are now overdue. Please contact the office if you are having difficulty paying these fees.

YEAR 5 & 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION
The Year 5 and 6 Canberra excursion 2nd instalment is due by the 1 April, 2015. Please mark that date in your calendar. POP payments are accepted.

BELMONT 16S & COMMUNITY RAFFLE
Volunteers are sought after to sell raffle tickets at the Belmont 16s on Thursday 30th April and Friday 1st May. These raffles generally raise between $400–$500. If you are available between 5pm and 7:30pm on these dates please let Mrs Clark at the office know. She will pass on your details to the P&C.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS - Week 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student 1</th>
<th>Student 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Mitchell C</td>
<td>Thomas C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Cameron R</td>
<td>Hope T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Jackson C</td>
<td>Shannon K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Tejay E</td>
<td>Isaac F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Thomas H</td>
<td>Conah H</td>
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QUALITY WORK AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Joshua T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Kaitlin R</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Ty L</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Jed B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Thomas H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HOME READING AWARDS

25 Nights:  
Atlanta K  
Cameron R  
Emma T  
Hope T  
Amos T  

Aaron Quinnell  
Principal
P&C NEWS
There will be a new menu and new pricing for Term 2. Please ensure you order from this menu from next term. A copy of the menu will accompany this newsletter.

In Term 2 the canteen will, once again, be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays (including recess orders on Fridays).

The canteen will open on the first day back at school, Tuesday 21 April.

Col Taylor is currently developing the canteen roster for Term 2. If you are able to assist in the canteen please advise Col of the dates that you can assist, and/or dates that you are unable to assist. This will allow Col to develop the roster, enabling the canteen to open in the first week of Term 2. Volunteers are required between 12 noon and 2pm. Col can be contacted on 0402 814 202.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

GARDENING
We are currently planting seeds into pots ready for next term but are in desperate need of paddle pop sticks to help identify our seeds. If you have any at home or could collect them over the holidays and send them in next term, we would really appreciate it.

COOKING
We are also looking to stock our kitchen and are asking for donations of the following items that may be sitting in your cupboards at home and no longer needed:
- Cutlery
- Crockery - plates and bowls
- Utensils
- Mixing bowls

All donations will be greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped in at the school office. Thank you!

ANAPHYLAXIS ALERT
IN THE INTEREST OF ALL CHILDREN WHO ATTEND BLACKSMITHS PS WE ENCOURAGE PARENTS NOT TO SEND NUTS, OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS, TO SCHOOL

Thank you

GREEN CORNER
GIANT PUMPKIN CHALLENGE
It gives me great pleasure to announce that our entry into this competition at the Sydney Royal Easter Show was awarded First Prize. A great effort for our first-time entry into the Primary Schools under 50kg class! Here is a photo of our pumpkin on display at the show. Please make sure you check it out if you are attending the Royal Easter Show this year. It is located in the “Flower and Garden” pavilion.

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THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

Relaxing  Fun  Great value  Safe

Entertain the kids these school holidays with a Sport and Recreation camp. Our popular Kids and Family Camps offer a range of exciting activities to keep even the busiest kids entertained. Try your hand at over 60 different activities, including fishing, swim vid, bowling, cricket, karate, cooking and more - and by qualified instructors, you can be sure knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Kids’ Day Camps start from $42 per day for kids and $56 per day for adults (Kids under 5 attend free). Cost includes accommodation, meals and activities.

13 15 02
facebook.com/lismoresportsandrecreation

You’re kidding me expo

Connecting families with services and programs in Lake Macquarie

Guest speaker
Natalie Ebnl, sleep consultant from Sleep and Settle. Topic: sleep secrets for newborns and toddlers

Free music workshops and puppet shows for children

Wednesday 20 May 9am - noon
Sala’s Function Centre  Hillsborough Road, Warners Bay

This board game will SAVE kids’ LIVES!

Hot Grommet Surf Star Challenge

Teach kids important life saving messages wrapped up in a board game built around the coolest sport of all...surfing

Available for purchase online plus Dymocks Stores, Responsible Surfshops and many book and toy stores

www.hotgrommet.com