Welcome back to Term 2! Wow! What a start it was. I would like to firstly thank all of you for your support last week in what was a difficult time for our whole region. Parents made decisions regarding attendance on the first day back with their child’s best interest in mind.

As with all weather events Mother Nature does not often let us in on what she has in store for us. The unexpected nature of the weather event meant communication was difficult and I once again thank you for your support and patience. Our school seems to be one of the lucky ones, with only minor water damage in classrooms and the administration building.

The trees in the playground did take a battering though, with substantial amounts of debris from trees littering our grounds. While every effort has been made to clear this up, the more substantial branches may take a little longer to remove. The damage to trees means that some parts of our playground have been roped off until the health of those trees can be confirmed. Please ensure that younger (and older) siblings do not go into those areas that have been roped off.

Absences during this time will be recorded as leave for Tuesday 21 April. As the school was non-operational on Wednesday 22 April absences will be recorded as exempt.

EVERY DAY COUNTS—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
It is Departmental policy that when your child’s attendance rate drops below 85%, a letter detailing this is sent out to parents. This week I will be sending out a small number of these letters. Even if the circumstances have been discussed with the school this letter will still be sent.

If you do receive one of these letters don’t panic. It is early in the year and with regular attendance from here on in this rate will increase. If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child’s attendance please don’t hesitate to contact their teacher. We want all of our students to receive a great education and the building blocks for a great education start with coming to school each and every day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
1 May: Tom R
4 May: Jayden W
8 May: Tejay E
9 May: Kelly L

DIARY DATES
Thu 30 April: Zone Cross Country
Fri 1 May: CANTEEN CLOSED
Thu 7 May: Paul Harragon Cup—Bulls
Fri 8 May: Stewart House Donation Drive Day
Please return envelopes by this date
Tue 12 May: NAPLAN - Language/Writing
Sports-In-Schools - Martial Arts
Wed 13 May: NAPLAN - Reading
Sports-In-Schools - Cycling
Thu 14 May: NAPLAN - Numeracy
Fri 15 May: Jamie Oliver Food Revolution Day
Mon 18 May: P&C Meeting - 6pm

BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE BACK BY WEDNESDAY 6 MAY

CANTEEN CLOSED THIS FRIDAY 1ST MAY
ANZAC DAY
Thank you to all those students who participated in Anzac ceremonies over the weekend. I was extremely proud to see the fantastic job our leaders did at the dawn service at Pelican and the fantastic turnout at the Swansea march to commemorate 100 years of Anzac. Thank you to those parents who supported their children representing our school.

CANBERRA EXCURSION
The next instalment of $50 for the Canberra excursion is due on **Wed 6 May**. There are still a few families that have not paid the second instalment, which was due on 1 April. The payment schedule is there to help avoid having to pay a large sum all at once.

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY
Good luck to all our students competing at the Zone Cross Country this Thursday. The date was changed a number of times due to the storm last week. The weather forecast is stating showers and rain over the next couple of days, but due to Regional being so close the carnival will go ahead in the rain.

OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT 2016
Parents of students seeking Year 5 Opportunity Class placement in 2016 must submit their application between Monday 27 April and 15 May, 2015. The application website is at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement). Enquiries regarding opportunity class entry should be made to the High Performing Students Unit on telephone 1300 880 367. Of course your child’s teacher should also be consulted.

ASTHMA PLANS
As part of our Asthma Friendly School Program, last term we sent home Asthma Plans that are to be updated yearly. We have only received a few completed forms. If you have indicated that your child suffers from asthma at any time, we need to have an updated plan on our records. For those families that have not returned the updated plans, another copy will be sent home today and it would be appreciated if you could give this your urgent attention and return the plan to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS
The Australian Government have reviewed the Active After School Program and have changed the name to Sports in Schools. It will basically run the same as in previous years, two afternoons a week for 7 weeks, commencing in week 4 this term. Tuesday afternoons will be Taekwondo K-6 and Wednesday afternoons will be Cycling Years 3-6 only. Please see the office if you wish your child to participate in these programs.

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT & SCHOOL PLAN
The 2014 Annual School Report (ASR) and 2015—2017 School Plan has now been approved and will be available on the school website later this week. If you would like a hard copy of these documents just drop in to the office and let us know. Thank you to all of those parents, teachers and students who contributed to either of these documents through consultation processes such as surveys, focus groups at P&C, scribbling on whiteboards and putting red and green dots over things.

STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE 2015
Envelopes have been sent home today with the newsletter. These need to be returned no later than Friday 8 May to be eligible to go in the draw to win a $4000 holiday. All donations greatly appreciated by Stewart House.

**Aaron Quinnell - Principal**
### Assembly Awards - Term 1 - Week 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Kai</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Emerson</td>
<td>Kayla</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Phebi</td>
<td>Erin</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Harley</td>
<td>Eden</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Jorja</td>
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### Quality Work Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1</td>
<td>Tyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Finn</td>
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<td>3/4</td>
<td>TJ T</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Harry</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Lucy</td>
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### Home Reading Awards

- **25 Nights:**
  - Lily R
  - Joshua T
  - Chris T
  - Tegan H
  - Kaitlin R
  - Tyler S
  - Thomas C
  - Shaylee U
  - Maddison R
  - Emerson L
  - Vanlida L
  - Eddy M

- **50 Nights:** Ethan C

### P&C News

**Belmont 16’s & Community Raffle**
Volunteers are sought after to sell raffle tickets at the Belmont 16’s on Thursday 30 April and Friday 1 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.

### Canteen News

Please note that the canteen will be **closed this Friday 1 May** (and a number of other Fridays during Term 2) due to a lack of volunteers. If you would like to become a canteen volunteer, please see the office staff or call Col Taylor on 0402 814 202. Volunteers only work from 12pm to 2pm.

### Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri 1 May</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 4 May</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
<td>Mel Burge</td>
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<td>Tue 5 May</td>
<td>Mary Jo Elwell</td>
<td>Jo Annetts</td>
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<td>Fri 8 May</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
<td>Janelle Mitchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 11 May</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
<td>Kristine Patterson</td>
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<td>Tue 12 May</td>
<td>Carlie Weedon</td>
<td>Daina Hissey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15 May</td>
<td>Col Taylor</td>
<td>Sheena Harvey</td>
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### Green Corner

**Market Stall**
Our next Market Stall will be held this Thursday 30 April. Produce available for sale include:
- Watermelon
- Lettuce
- Spinach
- Potatoes
- Chokos

**Gardening**
We are still planting seeds into pots and are in need of paddle pop sticks to help identify our seedlings. If you have any at home could you send them in to the office asap. Thank you.
DYSLEXIA OR LEARNING DIFFICULTIES?
Some children experience reading and learning difficulties as a result of visual perception problems caused by

Irlen Syndrome/Scotopic Sensitivity
Irlen Syndrome can cause Dyslexia and difficulties with:
- Reading
- Spelling
- Comprehension
- Concentration
- Writing
- Ball Sports
- Fatigue
- Eye Strain
- Headaches

IRLEN DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC NEWCASTLE
Regional Clinics
Singleton: 49556904
Taree: 6551 3332
Coffs Harbour: 0437698559
www.irlendyslexia.com
Suite 3/136 Nelson Street
Wallsend 2287
Phone 49 556904

PIANO LESSONS
Have your child learn the piano in a fun, friendly and inspiring environment with an experienced teacher in your local area.

$20 per half hour lesson for beginners and intermediate students. Lessons available on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 3pm.

For more information or to sign up please contact Ashleigh Dives on 0431865449, or email at ashleigh.dives@gmail.com

SINGING LESSONS FOR STUDENTS K-YR12
Taught by award winning singer songwriter
Kirsty Lee Akers
LOCATED IN TORONTO
$25/hour lesson. Each lesson will cover vocal techniques such as breathing, diction, pitch control along with performance techniques working towards our half yearly and yearly concerts

PLEASE CONTACT 0490058643 FOR MORE INFO

This board game will SAVE kids’ LIVES!
Hot Grommet Surf Star Challenge

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

YOGA, HEALING and GROWTH
Variety of Yoga styles and classes
- Hot Power Yoga
- Vinyasa
- Hatha Flow
- Sivananda
- Restorative
- Aqu-Yoga
- Beginners
- Lunchtime Express

Intro Offer
10 Consecutive Days Unlimited Classes $20
6 Mitty Street BLACKSMITHS
Ph: 49716901

WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE
SUNDAY 17 MAY 2015
SINCLAIRS - 270 HILLSBOROUGH RD, WARNERS BAY
2.00PM TILL 5.00PM
$65 PER PERSON | $600 PER TABLE

Can’t think of what to buy Mum for Mothers Day?
Why not bring her along to our Helicopter High Tea.
A wonderful excuse to catch up with the girls in your life, be it mums, daughters, sisters, best friends, nieces, aunts, cousins or work colleagues. A glass of bubbles awaits you upon your arrival, before enjoying an afternoon relaxing & sampling an assortment of beautiful teas & tempting treats. There are fantastic prizes up for grabs along with our famous stalls of pampering.

Special Guest MC’s
CARLY AND TRENE

To book go to www.helicoptertos.com.au or call Annette Watson on 0249210003
School Banking is shooting for the stars.

At the beginning of 2015, the School Banking program launched students on a mission to save by making regular deposits into their Youth saver account. In just one term, over 958,000 School Banking deposits were made around Australia. It’s a fantastic result that’s seen thousands of Australian children begin their savings mission.

Rewarding good savings behaviour with two new items
To help keep students on track with their savings mission in Term 2, we’ve released two new awesome reward items from our Outer Space Savers range. Students just need to make 10 School Banking deposits to be able to redeem a reward item.

Invisible Ink Martian Pen
Intergalactic Rocket

You could win a 5 nights’ family trip to California’s Disneyland
Don’t forget, students who consistently display stellar savings behaviour by making 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically go into the draw at the end of the year to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland.

For more information visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things to know before you can: Conditions apply. Promotion starts 8.00am AEDT 21/1/15 and ends 11.59pm AEDT 18/12/15. Entry is open to all Youth saver account holders aged 5–13 years who participate in Commonwealth’s School Banking program. Entrants under 18 must have parent/guardian consent. The draw will take place at 10.30am AEST on 13/7/16 at the Promoter’s office. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip to California’s Disneyland valued at $22,348. The winner’s name will be published in the public notices section of The Australian on 30/7/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 at Level 2, 11 Victoria Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions available at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

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<th>SAT/ SUN</th>
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<tr>
<td>25/26 Apr</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>27 April Students Return for Term 2</td>
<td>ANZAC Ceremony</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country Science Fair Meeting</td>
<td>Debating Workshop</td>
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<td>2/3 May</td>
<td>28 April Paul Harragon Cup - Bulls</td>
<td>30 April</td>
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<td>13/14 Jun</td>
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<td>3 July</td>
<td>25 June Walkathon</td>
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<td>10 July</td>
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**Blacksmiths Public School - Term 2, 2015**

**Students Return for Term 3 on Tuesday 14 July**