Welcome to Week 8 and the cooler Autumn weather rolling in.

**Term 2 Staff Development Days**

Next term there will be two staff development days at the beginning of the term. The first day (Monday 29th April) is the normal Term 2 staff development day held every year. The second day (Tuesday 30th April) is an extra day provided to all schools for the sole purpose of holding teacher professional learning specifically for preparation in delivering the national curriculum in 2014. **Students will therefore commence Term 2 on Wednesday 1st May.**

**Congratulations to:**
- The P&C for a well run, very enjoyable “Welcome to 2013” BBQ. It was a very successful night.
- All students who represented the school at the district swimming carnival. From what I have been told everyone swam great times and all students gave their best effort on the day.
- The following students who have completed their Premier’s Reading Challenge: o Anežka Zubek, Charlotte Lorens, Adam Zubek, Sofie McKertich and Barunka Zubek.

**Thank you to:**
- All parents helping with transport for this Thursday’s Futsal competition.
- All students for their wonderful behaviour during school photos. Your behaviour was once again noticed and commented on by the school photographers.
- All students for their outstanding behaviour during the swimming carnival.

**School Assemblies – Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Assembly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 22nd March</td>
<td>Infants Assembly – 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5th April</td>
<td>Captains’ Assembly – 1:45pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**What’s Happening At Our School ……**

| **WEEK 8** |  
|------------|----------------|
| 18th & 19th March | Regional Debating Camp |
| Tuesday 19th March | Regional Swimming Carnival |
| Wednesday 20th March | P&C Easter Mufti-Day |
| Friday 22nd March | Infants Assembly – 2pm |

| **WEEK 9** |  
|------------|----------------|
| Monday 25th March | Young Leaders Day |
| Thursday 28th March | Pedlar’s Parade |
| Friday 29th March | Good Friday Holiday |

| **WEEK 10** |  
|-------------|----------------|
| Monday 1st April | Easter Monday Holiday |
| Friday 5th April | Combined SRE Assembly – 9:40am |
|              | Captains’ Assembly – 1:45pm |

| **WEEK 11** |  
|-------------|----------------|
| Monday 8th April | Yrs 5&6 Gold Excursion |
| Tuesday 9th April | P&C Meeting – 8pm |
| Friday 12th April | School Anzac assembly |
|              | End of Term 1 |

| **TERM 2 WEEK 1** |  
|------------------|----------------|
| Monday 29th April | Staff Return – Development Day |
| Tuesday 30th April | Staff Development Day |
| Wednesday 1st May | Students Return |
|              | Peer Support Camp – Yr6 |

| **TERM 2 WEEK 2** |  
|------------------|----------------|
| Monday 6th May | Yrs 3&4 The Rocks Excursion |
| 9th & 10th May | P&C Mother’s Day Stall |

| **TERM 2 WEEK 3** |  
|------------------|----------------|
| 14 – 17 May | NAPLAN Assessment – Yrs 3 & 5 |
| Tuesday 14th May | P&C Meeting – 8pm (Library) |

| **TERM 2 WEEK 4** |  
|------------------|----------------|
| Tuesday 21st May | UNSW Computer Competition |
| Thursday 23rd May | Sydney Writer’s Festival |
| Friday 24th May | District Cross Country |
2014 High School Forms
All Year 6 students need to return their High School Expression of Interest forms by this Friday 22nd March.

School EFTPOS Facilities
The school now has an EFTPOS facility where parents can now make all school related payments. Credit and debit cards can be used however there is no "cash out" function available. Please contact Mrs McKellar in the office if there are any questions.

P&C Easter Mutti-Day
Tomorrow, Wednesday 20th March, will be the P&C’s Easter Mutti-Day.

Children are allowed to wear casual clothes instead of their uniforms in exchange for Easter eggs (not gold coins). The P&C will collect the Easter eggs and basket them up for the Easter raffle which will be drawn at the Pedlars’ Parade assembly.

Please remember that children should be dressed sensibly (shoulders and belly-buttons covered), including shoes, socks and a hat.

School Staff Parking Areas
This is simply a reminder that the two staff parking areas should not to be used as pedestrian access points for the school. In the past couple of years there have been a few cases of ‘near misses’ where luckily no one has been injured. It would be tragic if that ‘unlikely’ event actually occurs and we have a student or parent seriously injured (or worse) because they are walking through one of the parking areas. There is no real ‘safe’ time during the school day for these areas as we have teachers and deliveries arriving anytime between 8am and 4:30pm. Please encourage your child to use the two pedestrian access points on Rusden Road when dropping your children at school or by setting a positive example when entering and exiting the school yourself.

Whilst on road safety, I have had a couple of phone calls from concerned residents who live further down from the school regarding parents crossing the road (with their children) and not using the pedestrian crossing. With the number of cars parked along Rusden Road, in the mornings and afternoons, there is a significant ‘blind spot’ for motorists who are unable to see people trying to cross at points other than the pedestrian crossing. Please keep this in mind when crossing Rusden Road and use the pedestrian crossing.

Mr Giles

P&C News
Next Meeting – Tuesday 9th April 8pm – School Library

Help us make our school better
The P&C annual general meeting has been held and we have our new committee. I would like to thank our previous committee for all their hard work and welcome the new and returning members this year.

The P&C has worked with the school Principal to identify the two most important fundraising goals:
- air conditioning in the classroom
- upgrading the outdoor play equipment.

At our next meeting we will be discussing fundraising ideas for the next year. It would be great if we could get as many ideas as possible.

Just in case you cannot attend the next meeting and would like to give us your feedback we have a short survey –

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2MQKXX2

It would be fantastic if you could take five minutes to complete this survey on events we have run such as the movie night last year and any ideas for this year that you have.

Our new P&C Committee is:

President - Phillip Handley
Vice President 1 - Mark Cheeseman
Vice President 2 - Dan Rice
Treasurer - Amy Wilson
Secretary - Lynn Wiezel
Canteen Co-ordinator - Sharon Gatt
Canteen Roster Co-ordinator - Michelle Finneran
Canteen Purchasing Officer - Marn Harrex
Canteen Treasurer - Amy Wilson
Uniform Pool Co-ordinator - Jeannie Martin
Uniform Pool Purchasing Officer - Kim McGoogan
Uniform Pool Order Co-ordinator - Lynn Wiezel

We will always be in need for parents to help out, especially in our canteen and when we are running events. Please let us know if want to help in any way!

Looking forward to a great year ahead for our kids!

Phillip Handley
P&C President
National Ride 2 School Day

Friday, 22\(^{nd}\) March, is **National Ride 2 School Day**. Children are invited (encouraged if possible) to ride, scoot and/or walk to school on this day. For those families who live too far away to accomplish this task easily they are encouraged to drive part of the way to school and then walk, scoot or ride the remainder.

During the day classes will survey numbers of students who participated and our numbers will be sent in as part of a national survey for the day.

Pedlars' Parade

Our hugely anticipated **Pedlars' Parade** is quickly approaching and will be held on Thursday 28\(^{th}\) March. The parade will commence at 11am where students will be able to show off their creation and also tell people about the wares they will be selling.

After the parade students will then move to the COLA where they will start selling their goods at their class stall. If there are any questions regarding the day please talk to your class teacher.

Playgroup

Thank you to all of the families who have donated unwanted toys to the playgroup – they have been a huge hit.

There is still a need for a baby/toddler gate type device that could be put at the doorway to the hall. This will allow parents arriving to enter whilst at the same time stopping the toddlers from escaping into the car park. If you have such a device and no longer need it please let the school know.

Student Teacher Placements

Between now and the end of Term 2 we are fortunate to be hosting 3 university students currently training to become teachers. The students from the Australian Catholic University (Strathfield) will be on KD, 1R and 6H. They will be with us for 7, one day visits before completing a 3 week block and another 1 week block during Term 2. I know everyone will make them feel extremely welcome.

Regional Futsal Championships

This Thursday, 21\(^{st}\) March, 3 teams will be competing in the Regional Futsal Championships held in Penrith. The school has entered one junior team and two senior teams for the day. If the teams successfully win their division they will then be able to compete in the State Championships. We wish them the best of luck and know they will play to the best of their ability on the day.

Pest Control – Saturday 23\(^{rd}\) March

This Saturday the school is being sprayed for spiders, etc. Mr Kershaw (cleaner) will try to ensure all dead bodies are cleaned up before children arrive on Monday.

To be on the safe side, teachers will be talking to students in class about finding dead spiders on Monday morning and I would ask all parents to remind children not to pick up any dead spider (or bug) they may find on the ground when they return to school on Monday.

Student Assistance, We Can Help

During the course of the school year there are many financial demands upon parents. Excursions, uniforms, shows and textbooks are just a few. As a parent I understand the constant pressure that these costs can bring to a family budget and that as parents we want to provide our children with all opportunities made available to them. Each year the school is provided with a small budget to help any parents who may require some financial assistance for school related expenses. **If parents require any assistance with school related expenses please contact Mr Giles or your child's teacher. All enquiries are confidential.**

Anaphylaxis – a shared responsibility

Being the start of a new school year it is just the right time to remind everyone about this issue. We now have a couple of students at our school who have a severe allergic reaction to peanuts. This anaphylactic reaction is likely to be life-threatening. For this reason we ask that peanuts are not brought to school. This includes peanut butter, nut spreads (nutella), and nut bars.

The inconvenience to some children is recognised and appreciated, but the consequences to children with this severe allergy are extremely serious.

All members of our school community are asked to be aware of the dangers of even the slightest contact with peanuts or tree nuts for these children.

To help minimise the risk, simply washing hands and cleaning teeth before coming to school would really help.

School Voluntary Contributions

Each year the school asks families to consider paying the voluntary contribution if they are in a position to do so. Money raised with the voluntary contributions is used to help provide additional funding for programs that the school runs. Voluntary contributions for 2013 are $50 per student or $70 per family.
Lost A Copy Of A Past Educom Issue??

The Educom Is On the Internet
Our bi-weekly Educom can be accessed from the internet on our web site - www.mtrivervie-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
If you are not receiving your fortnightly issue of the Educom from your child please feel free to come up to the office for another copy or go to our website. It is important that our school news reaches you.

School Security, You Can Help
If parents or community members observe any destructive or suspicious behaviour in the school grounds please ring the School Security phone number listed below. All reports are treated discreetly; names do not have to be left with the operator.

School Security - 1300 880 021

Tennis at Mt Riverview Public
As part of Tennis Australia's Hot Shots Tennis in schools program, Nepean District Tennis Association is now offering this great new program at your school.

Tennis in schools is a program that introduces children to tennis at their school from ages 5-12 years. It is delivered with the intention to help with the development of gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and introduce them to the fundamentals of tennis.

All equipment including rackets, balls and nets are brought on site by a Tennis Australia qualified coach in order to give children a realistic tennis experience with the convenience of being delivered at a time and place most convenient to you.

Classes are being offered at Mt Riverview Public in two timeslots on Thursday mornings: 8.00am-8.30am, and 8.30am-9.00am. The cost is $7 per 30 minute session. To register a place for your child, or for enquiries contact Elton on 47212880 or via email tennisinschools@gmail.com.

UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
Great Western Highway, Werrington North
(Building AO)

Is There Anyone Out There?
The Hunt for ET

The UWS Penrith Observatory is running an astronomy night for families on Saturday, 23 March at 8pm.
The evening will include a multimedia presentation with question time, a 3D astronomy movie and observing of the night sky through the University's computerised telescopes.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession & $40 family

Bookings essential:
Phone: (02) 4736 0135
(Mon, Wed or Thurs)
or email: r.mccourt@uws.edu.au
Web: http://www.uws.edu.au/observatory

EARLY EXPLORERS
Children’s Services

33 Layton Ave Blaxland
For children aged 0-5 years
Monday to Friday: 7:30am-6pm

Child Care Benefit Available
• Purpose built, air conditioned facility
• School Readiness Program
• Qualified, experienced, caring staff
• Privately owned and operated

Come and visit us any time!
Ph 47398828
BLAXLAND
Email: earlyexplorers@three.com.au
Nepean High School
50th Anniversary and Open Day

Nepean Creative and Performing Arts High School will be holding the 50th Birthday Celebrations and Open Day on Saturday 18th May.

The celebrations will include the official opening of the new Nepean Arts Centre and they would like to welcome as many ex students and staff as well as prospective students to the school.

So please come along on the day and help Nepean High celebrate its 50th Anniversary as well as meeting old classmates and teachers.

Bat Night at Katoomba Falls Kiosk

A free Bat Night is being held at Katoomba Falls Kiosk this Friday (March 22nd). It’s a wonderful opportunity for children and their parents to discover and learn more about these marvellous & intriguing creatures native to the Blue Mountains.

Visitors will have the chance to watch bats using their ‘radar’ to catch insects attracted by the lights of Katoomba Falls, use special microphones to listen to the ultrasound of bats hunting, hear talks and watch DVDs about these fascinating Australian mammals and engage in fun activities.

If you have any questions, please contact the NWPS centre on 47878877.
EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE IN 2013 AND IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME

In June-July students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student

Have You Ever Wanted to Work With Children?
Connect Child and Family Services is launching a new and exciting project called “Pathways to Early Childhood”!

We will offer you:

- Free training that meets criteria for Recognition of Prior Learning in Certificate III in Children’s Services.
- Volunteer placements at a variety of Early Childhood settings (eg Long Day Care, Pre School, Playgroups, Community Hubs).
- A supportive and inclusive learning environment that will build confidence, skills and experience.

Please contact Connect Child and Family Services on 4758 9966 or email steph.roper@connect.asn.au and we will keep you informed of training dates as they are confirmed.
Ngarra Wingarru

to listen to learn

Blue Mountains Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)

We would like to advise that the next meeting will take place in the Library at Blaxland High School, Coughlan Road, Blaxland on the 21st March 2013.

Please ensure that you arrive at 4pm with the meeting to commence at 4.30pm sharp.

If you have any interest in making Aboriginal Education a priority please come along and ensure the success of the Blue Mountains AECG.

Should you have any further queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Wilkins, Secretary on (02) 4782 6569.
PEDLARS' PARADE

Starts at 11:00

BRING GOODS

DRESS UP

JOEL 2K

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 2013
AUDITIONS - Applications close Thursday 4th April

Students with a strong interest in Dance, Circus, Drama, Music and/or Visual Arts are encouraged to audition.

Auditions Years 7 and 8 will be held in May and offers made in June.

Download an Audition Application at www.nepean-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

For further information phone 4728 7200.