Principals Report

Small Schools Swimming Carnival

It is always a fun day at our Small Schools Swimming Carnival.

Zig Zag joined with Capertee, Cullen Bullen and Hampton schools for a great day swimming and participating in novelty races in and out of the pool.

Days like this always highlight the benefits and the wonderful nurturing atmosphere of a small school; “big kids” helping and caring for “little kids” – it is marvelous to see.

Well done boys and girls and thank you to Mrs Corney for organizing such a great carnival.

Sporting Carnivals

This year we will be holding all of our carnivals in Term 1. The Cross Country event will be next Friday the 6th March – starting at 11.30am. Capertee, Cullen Bullen and Hampton will be joining us for the run up Water Works Gully. Infants children will be participating in a mini cross country around Oakey Park Oval, they won’t be running up Water Works Gully.

Parent helpers on the day would be greatly appreciated.

The Small Schools Athletics Carnival will be held on Thursday 26th March.

Parents and Carers Meet and Greet

We are holding a parent and carer “Meet and Greet” afternoon tea next Tuesday 3rd March at 3.30pm.

This will be a chance for parents and carers to come and have a chat to your child’s teacher. Teachers will be outlining the features of our major programs running during 2015 as well as an opportunity for parents/carers and teachers to review students’ “Individual Learning Plans”.

As an added bonus students have been busily cooking in the kitchen to cater for the afternoon tea! So please come and sample the products of our cooking classes.

Congratulations Rydal Show Winners

Student’s art works were submitted to the Rydal Show and the following winners were awarded:

First Prize: Chase Anderson
Zenka Haas

Second Prize: Blake Brown-Butterworth
Zenka Haas

Third Prize: Jonah Lake
Mrs M Morton Prize for School Art: Patrick Grantham

Clean Up Australia Day

We will be holding our Clean Up Australia Day activities tomorrow Friday 27th February. It would be great if each child could bring a plastic bag, some rubber or gardening gloves and a hat.

I you do not want your child to participate in this activity please send in a note to your child’s teacher tomorrow.

Tell Them From Me Surveys

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that they survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete; it will be administered during school hours between Tuesday 9th March and Thursday 2nd April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 27th February. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

**Lithgow Show**

There are many Junior sections where students may enter their work for judging and display in the pavilion. These may be entered by individual students and the Show Schedule is available online at [www.lithgowshow.org.au](http://www.lithgowshow.org.au)

There are NO ENTRY FEES for school age students entering their work. There are Junior Sections in areas such as school book work, handwriting, projects, art, craft, photography, horticulture and cooking! There are even sections for LEGO and jewellery making.

**School Photos**

School Photo envelopes are being sent home with the newsletter, family envelopes are available from the office.

You can now pay for your school photos online in 4 easy steps:

2. Enter your student’s details
3. Choose the package you would like
4. Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page).

Please note late fees will apply once offers are closed. Family/sibling photo orders online close 48 hours before school photo day.

**Write 4 Fun**

The 2015 Schools Writing Competition encourages students to read and write through fun competitions with great prizes. The first prize is $1000 ($500 for the school and $500 for the student).

The quickest and easiest way for students to enter is online at [www.write4fun.net](http://www.write4fun.net) or alternatively email to enter@write4fun.net or fax to 07 5574 3644.

To maximize creativity there is no theme; entries can be on any topic and in any style. The sky is the limit!

Entry is free and the closing date is Sunday 29th March.

**Vicki Gillmore**

Principal

**P&C News**

**No Canteen**

Unfortunately there will be no canteen until further notice. We are having issues with the supply of items and the ladies are working hard to find a solution.

**P&C AGM**

The 2015 AGM will take place on Tuesday 17th March. I would like to encourage all parents and carers to come along and help the P&C with fundraising.

**School Banking**

Over the past few years School Banking has been on Tuesdays. Numbers for the service have dwindled and we are surveying families to decide whether we offer school banking again this year.

School Banking is a fundraising activity which earns the school a commission on the amount banked. In addition School Banking works to establish a pattern of saving habits and life-long money skills.

In order to gauge interest in School Banking we would appreciate it if you would complete the simple survey on the school website [www.zigzag-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.zigzag-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Volunteer Working With Children Checks**

In compliance with the DEC **ALL VOLUNTEERS** including parents transporting students to and from sporting events are required to apply for a Working with Children Check. As a volunteer there is no cost involved in the check. Please go to [www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check) and complete the online application form, you will receive the outcome by email or post if you don’t have an email address and you will need to then supply the school with a copy of your Working With Children number.
**Community News**

**Lithgow Thistle Soccer Club**
Lithgow Thistle SFC are seeking players from under 6 to senior men’s and ladies. Muster day will be held on Friday 27 February from 3.30-5.00pm and Saturday 28 February from 11am-12.30m at Marjorie Jackson soccer fields club room or phone Lorraine Keay on 0419 621 426

**Lithgow District Football**
Expressions of interest are being called for Coaches, Managers and Players for the 2015 District season. Age groups are from U10-U16 boys and girls competitions.
A Muster Day will be held at Marjorie Jackson Sporting Fields on Saturday 7 March from 11am-7pm.
Enquiries to Steve or Lia Jennings on 02 6351 2912

**Zig Zag Juniors Hockey Club**
Muster Day February 25 from 4-6pm
Hockey Club House Meeting Room
Age groups U7, U9, U11, U13 and U15-17
All are welcome from ages 4 and up.
Contacts:
Mick McGrath 0427 547 650
Christine Stapleton 0418 395 927

**Workies Redbacks Football Club**
Muster Days for new players
Friday 27 February and Friday 6 March 4.30-6.00pm
Registration for returning players online at www.myfootballclub.com.au
Further information contact
Karen Merry 0437 273 836
Fiona Slater 0429 070 471
Lia Jennings 0407 897 890 or workiesredbacks@gmail.com

**CALENDAR**

**Term 1**
**Week 6**
**Tues 3/3/15** Meet and Greet Afternoon Tea 3.30pm
**Fri 6/3/15** Small Schools Cross Country

**Week 8**
**Tues 17/3/15** Seniors Week
**Fri 20/3/15** P&C AGM

**Week 9**
**Thurs 26/3/15** Athletics Carnival
**Fri 27/3/15** NRMA Road Show
**Red Cross Mufti Day**

**Week 10**
**Fri 3/4/15** Good Friday