

Principal (A): Mrs Cherrie Paterson

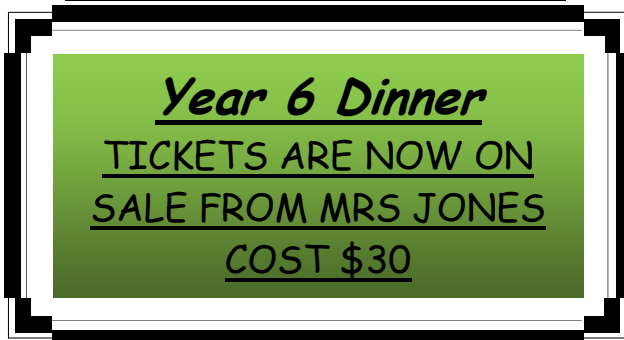
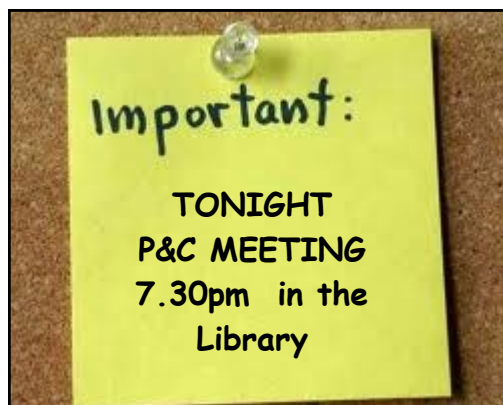
School Captains: Kate Jones, Jesse Streeting

School Executive: Mrs Cherrie Paterson, Mrs Leonie MacGregor,
Mrs Jodie Ridley, Mrs Kim Smith

4 December 2013

CALENDAR

02-16.12.13	<u>Water Safety - Years 3-6</u>
4.12.13	7.30pm P&C Meeting
6.12.13	<u>Presentation Day</u>
10.12.13	12noon Special Awards Assembly
13.12.13	Parent Helpers' Morning Tea
16.12.13	Year 6 Farewell Dinner
17.12.13	5pm-7pm BBQ and Items from Students
18.12.13	Last Day of Term for Students
28.01.14	Teachers and Staff return to School
29.01.14	Year 1- 6 Return to School
03.02.14	Kindergarten First Day



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - WEEK 9

As we start to wind down towards the end of the year I would urge parents to remember that students are expected to be in attendance at school every day that lessons are provided. School for students continues

until Wednesday 18 December. Staff will be attending on Thursday 19 to participate in Professional Development activities. If parents are withdrawing their children from school early please complete an exemption form and notify your child's teacher.

Attached to today's newsletter is a survey to assist in the evaluation of our school's programs. This survey is put out by the school annually as part of the evaluations for the Annual School Report. The survey is to give parents and caregivers an opportunity to provide feedback to the school about your understandings and opinions on the teaching and learning that occurs at ACPS. Please return the survey by Friday 13 December 2013.

Our Presentation Day will be held in the auditorium at Armidale High School this Friday commencing at 11.00am. As this is a whole school event a permission note is not required. Students are to wear full summer school uniform. Parents are reminded that they must send a note or contact their child's teacher if they intend taking their child home after the assembly. Thursday is a mufti day to ensure uniforms are clean and tidy for Friday's special assembly.

Swimming is underway for the next 10 days. A huge thank you to **Mrs Kelly** for her great organisation and to all the parents who have signed up to help out. Students are expected to attend every day to gain the full benefit of the lessons.

Semester 2 Reports will be handed out on Friday 13 December. If children are absent on that day reports will be sent to the front office for parents to collect on Monday 16 December.

Children who are recent enrolments (this term) will not receive a full report. Teachers will provide parents with information about their children's level of ability which they have assessed since their arrival at our school. I would ask parents to contact teachers or the front office this week if you require more than one copy of your child's report.

The Parent Helpers' Morning Tea is an annual event at ACPS and one which all staff look forward to. It is an opportunity for us to say thank you to all our wonderful helpers who have supported the work of the school throughout the year. This year the morning tea is to be held on Friday 13 December. Invitations were sent home this week and we ask that parents contact us if they have names of people who deserve to be recognised at this special time. Many of our helpers work behind the scenes and are not always visible at school. I look forward to sharing a cuppa with these special members of our school community.

We have a HUGE amount of unclaimed clothing in the various Lost Property Boxes around the school. Please check that your child is not missing some of their clothing and ask them to have a look for anything that might be missing.

Yesterday the school had a visit from members of the Citizen's Wildlife Corridor (CWC) Armidale to thank our school for the \$2500.00 donation received from our school. This donation was half of the prize money received from the New England Mutual's MAD competition run earlier this year. Students from Stage 3 won first prize of \$5000.00 in the environmental video competition for primary students. The school was asked to nominate a local organisation which works with the environment to share the prize money. The CWC was chosen after debate within the student group. The remaining money will be used to purchase technology for students in the classroom. Below is a brief overview of the work undertaken by the CWC within Armidale.

Overview of Citizen's Wildlife Corridor

CWC began over 22 years ago in 1991 to protect the native wildlife habitat remaining on the Northern Tablelands and to link it all up with built wildlife corridors on our members' own rural properties. The scheme has no boundaries and at present stretches from Stanthorpe in Queensland to 300kms south past Tamworth. Then it stretches from the escarpment in the east to about 150kms westwards to Inverell and Manilla in the west.

Members protect with fencing their remaining native remnants, plant and fence wildlife linkages between these remnants and also fence their riparian or stream sides and plant native trees and shrubs inside the fenced areas. These strategies protect the fenced areas from stock damage, although they can be strategically grazed at times. CWC gives financial incentives to landholders for the native plants and for the fencing materials.

Over time our members have built 20kms of wildlife corridors and protected 20kms of riparian areas with over 91,000 trees and shrubs.

CWC's aim is to protect and replace native habitat for the stressed birds and animals of the region due to tree decline.

Reminders

Orders for the Bakers delight Mince Tarts and Lemon tarts are due to the office by tomorrow. Orders will be delivered to the school on Monday 16 December 2013.

Last week a gold wedding band was found in the playground. Please contact the office if you think this could be yours.

Cherrie Paterson
Principal (A)

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY
SPORTS AND ARTS AWARDS
ASSEMBLY
TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2013
12.00
ALL WELCOME

Christmas in the Mall

Date: Saturday December 14
Time: 10am to 2pm

Activities include:

- 9:30am** City Band Christmas Carols
- 10am -12noon** Armidale Talent Showcase
- 11:30am** Locals4Locals Christmas "Shop & Win" Drawn (3 prizes)
- 12noon** Santa & his Elves giving away over 200 presents!
- 12:30pm** BopCatz (be entertained by this fabulous band for 2hrs!)

Also... Activities in the Mall for the kids from 10am
And... Food Stalls available from 12noon

Come and Celebrate Christmas in the Mall 2013!



Armidale
Dumaresq Council

BOOK CLUB
DUE
THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2013

To help compile the Annual School Report the Armidale City School Council would love all families to fill out the following surveys and return them to the front office by **Friday 13 December 2013**. The surveys are to give parents and caregivers an opportunity to provide feedback to the school about the understanding and opinions on the teaching and learning that occurs that occurs at ACPS.

PARENT SURVEY about **LEARNING**

As part of our school's self-evaluation, we would like to know the opinions of parents and caregivers on different areas of school life. With the school's consent, the information will be used to develop a picture of responses from across public schools in NSW. Your response is confidential and will be stored securely. Survey completion is voluntary.

Colour the circle for the answer you agree with most. For example, the parental response was *usually* for the statement – *What students are asked to learn is important*. If you do not have an opinion about a question leave all boxes blank.

		Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1	What students are asked to learn is important.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

		Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1	My child's classroom is an interesting place to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Teachers talk to me about my child's learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	My child has access to good equipment that helps him/her to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	People other than my child's teacher help him/her to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	The school expects students to achieve to the best of their ability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	Students at the school demonstrate pride in their learning.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	In class, my child's teachers provide a balance of independent and group learning activities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	My child tries to do things in the classroom that are new and different.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	My child looks at samples of his/her work over time to see how he/she has improved.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	Teachers at the school are continually upgrading their skills.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	Teachers share ideas about teaching and learning with other teachers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you for completing the survey

PARENT SURVEY about TEACHING

As part of our school's self-evaluation, we would like to know the opinions of parents and caregivers on different areas of school life. With the school's consent, the information will be used to develop a picture of responses from across public schools in NSW. Your response is confidential and will be stored securely. Survey completion is voluntary.

Colour the circle for the answer you agree with most. For example, the parental response was usually for the statement – *My child's classroom is an interesting place to learn*. If you do not have an opinion about a question leave all boxes blank.

		Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1	My child's classroom is an interesting place to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

		Almost Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely
1	What students are asked to learn is important.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	Teachers provide class activities that are interesting and appropriate to my child's needs and abilities.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	My child talks to his/her teachers about what they are learning and why.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	The way my child's teachers manage the class helps him/her to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	My child's teachers know what my child can do and what they need to learn.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	My child's teachers keep records of his/her progress.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	Parents and students understand how students' learning will be assessed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	The school provides clear information about student achievement through the school's reporting process.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you for completing the survey