**The Week In View**

**Week 9**
- Tuesday – Staff Focus on Reading Training 3pm – 6pm
- Wednesday – Book Week Parade and Book Fair
- Thursday – Life Skills Wellbeing Day
- Friday – Concert Band

**Week 10**
- Monday – Year 6 Leaders WCoS Day at Kahibah PS
- Thursday – Charlestown Cup Years 3&4
- Friday – Concert Band, last day of term

**Terms of Agreement**

I’m sure that most would agree wholeheartedly that our soon-to-be-ending Term 3 has been one full of pleasure and purpose! Musicals, Canberra excursions, Father’s Day BBQs and Stalls and new Kinder interviews …. the list just goes on! Thank you to everyone for contributing to making it a wonderfully eventful term of endearment. Please note that students and staff all return Tuesday October 6. Please come primed and ready to go!

**The Great Southern Land Raised The Flag**

What a superb effort by all at CSPS in making our musical, ‘The Great Southern Land’, such an entertaining spectacle. From the hilarity and rock of Peter Garrett, ACDC and INXS, to the gracefulness of our kinders and the poetic tones of My Country, every moment was special. I loved the launch of our Aboriginal Dance Group and our musical opening that included the National Anthem sung in the local Awabakal language. It was a feast of patriotic green and gold. As a point of clarity, it was dust that caused my watery eyes when kinder so beautifully sung I am Australian! It is also worth noting that Mr Kelly is walking on thin ice with his Newcastle Knights wooden spoon reference! A special thank you to all of our office, support and teaching staff for the sacrifices of time in order for the show to go on. To Miss Walker and Miss Lawson for writing much of our ‘in between class item’ material and coordinating our dancers and choirs …. brilliant! And Mr Blake ..... wow! What an enormous job doing the job of 12 people for each performance running sound, lighting, audio visual gear, computerised musical sections, conducting Concert Band, playing piano for various group and solo items…. and that was just before the curtain went up!!! Take a huge bow Mr B!

Thank you also to the many parents and community members for the many emails and gifts (cakes!) that came through as tokens of gratitude. All were greatly appreciated. One community member who is part of our mentor program wrote:

“Hi Colin,
WOW! What a great concert. Congratulations to the children, the teachers and staff and to you.
It makes us very proud to be Australian when we see the enthusiasm and talent shown by so many young people.
With the skills and values that are abundant in your school we know that the future of these children will be positive.
Thank you for letting us play a tiny part in the life of the school.”
**The Capital Delivers**

Our Canberra driver James had to turn the bus lights off on the way home due to the smiles that lit up the faces of our weary travellers. What an adventure! For those that followed the four day epic journey of our Year 5 & 6 students on Facebook and Twitter through our Nation’s Capital, you will know that they had an absolute ball! Thumbs up to Mr Kelly for updating us via social media every 5 minutes. It was brilliant! Despite returning with bags full of washing, they also returned with a greatly expanded understanding of Australia and some of the many elements that make our nation young and free. It was wonderful to watch the simulcast of the closing ceremony at the War Memorial last Wednesday as our students sat reverently observing as our School Captains Sam and Imogen laid a wreath of remembrance. We also salute Miss Walker and Mr Kelly who sacrificed a week away from their families in order for our students to have the experience of a lifetime.

**The State of Play**

Congratulations to our four fine athletes who represented CSPS and the East Lakes Zone at the recent Hunter Region Athletics Championships at Glendale. Eli Barnes-Loxley, Louis Selkirk, Mikayla Bull and Imogen Petrie, despite being weary from a week of musical performances gave their all on the track against the elite of the Hunter. Imogen Petrie was successful in making it through to the State Championship in Discus and Shot Putt. These titles will be run at Homebush Olympic Park in Term 4 and our fingers are crossed for State medals for Imogen just like 2014.

**We’re Colouring Our World**

We are now only a few short weeks away from the largest facelift we’ve had at CSPS for some time. The resurfacing of our COLA area is a huge undertaking which has been made possible by our wonderful P&C team. Our team were successful in their application for a Community Partnership Grant for $39,600 and have added via fundraisers another $11,000 in order to see the project completed. The team from Complete Playgrounds will be on site 2 minutes after we head off for our September holidays preparing the surface for the hot rubberised pour. The transformation over the next 7 days should be a sight to behold! Our undercover area will turn from a dull concrete grey to vibrant rubberised blues. The area will also include brightly coloured counting and jumping circles as well as hopscotch court plus a few other little surprises around our gardens in the COLA area. The generosity of Complete Playground manager Peter Hansen, has been worthy of great applause. Peter has worked tirelessly to give us the very best outcome for our budget which has included offering to cover the stairs to our admin area totally free of charge. Be ready to be amazed on Day One of next term.

**Charlestown Cup A Cracker**

One of the highlights for our Stage 2 (Years 3&4) each year is the Charlestown Cup held at St Johns Oval at Kahibah. The ‘Cup’ is a massive non-competitive fun sports day involving our 6 local primary schools who dive head first into 5 hours of Touch Footy, Soccer, T Ball, Golf, Cricket and more! Parents, be ready with a pillow and rug around 6pm as they will be exhausted from all the fun!

**A Good Facelift Also Needs Some Cosmetics!**

To accompany our COLA area ‘facelift’, we are having all of the external timber-framed windows on our kinder and 2/3 rooms sanded and repainted over the holiday period. This will also include the painting of our grey galvanised steel poles in our COLA area. I hope we recognise everything upon our return?

**Keeping Watch**

Parents, we have noticed a couple of our students beginning to wear colourful wristbands of varying sizes and material and would request if they could keep these at home for afternoon or weekend wear. However, we do allow the wearing of appropriately sized watches. Apart from the wristbands not being part of CSPS school uniform, many of the students love their bands and would be devastated if they lost them, which is always a possibility at school given all of our various activities. Added to this is the safety factor during sporting activities whereby they could ‘catch’ these on equipment and result in injury. Thank you for your support with this request.
Mr J’s Free Parenting Tip

A wonderful way to instil confidence and the basis for quality social skills and interactions is to explicitly teach your children to engage with adults who say hello to them and ask them how you are. Let’s for the purpose of this free tip assume that we have taught stranger danger and we are talking adults they know or may meet at school or when out with mum and dad. No doubt you have said to a child some time or another “Hello Billy, how are you?” (please don’t be difficult here and say “But I don’t know a Billy!”) only to get a non-communicative stare as if you have asked them something far too difficult to process and respond to. On other occasions they might simply stare at their parent in the hope that they will respond for them. So, what can we do that can benefit our kids when placed in this position? Lead them word by word, action by action through what they can do when addressed by an enquiring adult and then practise it with them until it becomes second nature to them. Here’s a brief possibility of a ‘welcome’ framework for kids.

Step 1 – Look the adult in the eye and smile.
Step 2 – Say “I’m really well thank you.”
Step 3 – Then say “How are you?”

This step takes it to a whole other level and every adult at this point will take note and be highly impressed and usually acknowledge the child further. If you can get that simple interaction happening, not only will your child grow in stature but the way that adults view them will also improve significantly. If you just stop there and master steps 1 to 3, you have achieved something. However, if you’re brave enough to go to step 4 and 5, the game heads into expert territory! Step 4 is teaching them how to respond when adults ask them what they do or like to do. Practise with them a standard response. “I’m a dancer. I learn the ballet at Beryl’s School of Dance and I go 2 afternoons a week. I’ve been going for 3 years now and love it!” Most adults will be a little wide eyed at this point and look at you as the best parent on the planet, bar none! Step 5 …. this is where the adult almost faints! Step 5, teach them a couple of questions that they can ask the adult such as “I dance in my spare time, what do you like to do?”

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government has contributed funding of $20 per student under the Parliamentary and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

See all the exciting photos in this newsletter!
Canberra Trip

Great Southern Land
the Musical
“As a parent when you look down at your phone and realise the school is calling you, you naturally assume the worst, that your child is sick or has been injured. Imagine my surprise when I was informed I had won first prize in the Father’s day raffle! We are so thrilled to win this prize. All these great tools will be put to good use. Thank you.”

Chris

Aidan & Jack’s stepdad

A big ‘Thank you’ to Belmont Bunnings for generously donating the wheelbarrow for our raffle prize.

**Diary Dates**

**September**

- **Tue 8**  Whitebridge High Uniform Shop visit 8.30am
- **Wed 9**  Book Week Parade 9.30am, Book fair from 8.30am
- **Mon 14**  WCoS Leadership Day - Year 6 students
- **Thu 17**  Charlestown Cup - Stage 2
- **Fri 18**  Last day Term 3

**October**

- **Mon 5**  Public Holiday - Labour Day
- **Tue 6**  Students return to school
- **Fri 16**  Final payments due for Stage 2 Sydney Excursion
- **Wed 21**  Kinder 2016 Orientation Morning
- **Thu 22**  Year 6 ‘Have a Go” day at WHS
- **Wed 28**  Stage 2 Sydney Excursion to Fri 30

**Upcoming in Term 4**

Kinder to Year 4 will again participate in our Intensive Swimming Program, late in Term 4, from Mon 23 November to Fri 4 December. A detailed note will follow in the next few weeks, however if you would like to spread the cost, payments can be made anytime now at the office or online with POP. We expect this program to cost approx. $70 per child which includes bus fare and swimming lessons each day for two weeks.
Victory OOSH Vacation Care Program is out now on the website www.victoryoosh.org.au

Charlestown Anglican Church Family Friendly Fun

Saturday October 10 9.00 am to 3.00pm
At St Martin’s Anglican Church, Hexham St, Kahibah

Come and join us for a fun filled day with lots of goodies, food and friendly people. There will be stalls, pony rides, face painting, balloon shaping and a jumping castle.

Stall include: white elephant, handicraft, garden plants, Christmas items, bottle and jar stall, lucky dips and cake decorating for the children.

There will be plenty of delicious food including Devonshire teas, a cake stall and BBQ.

Buy a ticket in our Monster raffle only $2 each. First prize is a $500 Weekend at Potters Brewery Motel, Nulkaba.

We look forward to seeing you.
Community Notices

Arrendell secondary education centre
years 1-6
reading
writing
comprehension
maths
selective schools exam prep
top quality primary teachers
40 years of helping Newcastle students succeed
4929 2522
arrendell@ozemail.com.au

KIDZCARE
SPRING HOLIDAYS
21st Sept Till Oct 2nd
CHILD CARE BENEFIT AND REBATE AVAILABLE
Casual & permanent bookings

Lake Macquarie PCYC Kidzcare offers
Vacation Care (8:30am to 5:30pm)
To children in years K-6
PCYC Lake Macquarie KidzCare offers a range of structured and free play social activities, sports, excursions and incursions which include dinosaur and fossil workshop, flip out trampoline park, Tocal Farm, Toonworld art program, parkour program, Ice Skating as well as art and craft activities that vary daily. Afternoon tea provided. For more information contact Lake Macquarie PCYC

PCYC Lake Macquarie. Lake St Windale. NSW Phone: 02 4948 6622

Begin Bright
School Readiness, Primary Tutoring 
& Holiday Workshops
Newcastle
www.beginbright.com.au
Ph: 1300 234 462
Helping to create happy, smart 
and confident children.

Like us on Facebook!

MUSIC SOLUTIONS WARNERS BAY
Presents...
YOUR TICKET TO LEARNING AN INSTRUMENT
All instruments, Levels & Ages Experienced Teachers
Call: (02) 4954 8889
Visit: 9/305 Hillsborough Rd, Warners Bay

Lake Macquarie's Premier Music Tuition Studio
Lake Macquarie's Premier Music Tuition Studio