**PRINCIPAL NEWS**

Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers and grandmothers and maybe even great-grandmothers of Kurri Kurri Public School children. I am sure we will see many of you here for breakfast tomorrow. The children will be very excited to have you here, and in the classrooms as well if you are able to stay for a while. The teachers have planned some interesting activities for the morning.

Next week our Year 3 and Year 5 students will take part in NAPLAN. NAPLAN provides an assessment of students in literacy and numeracy. As well as being one type of assessment for the students, as a standardized test it gives data to schools and to governments about our areas of improvement, and areas for attention. Assessment of student progress is done continuously by teachers throughout the year.

Children should not be worried about NAPLAN. It is a different experience for children than a normal school day. We try to make it feel as normal as possible with most children in their familiar classroom settings, and with familiar staff around them.

Like any other school day, parents can help children by ensuring they get a good night’s sleep, a good breakfast, and get to school on time. It is best not to make them too focussed on NAPLAN, and let Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday just be no more special than any other day.

NAPLAN reports should be available to parents at the end of Term 3. There are two documents now on the website I hope that parents will look at. They are the School Plan for 2015-2017, and the Annual School Report for 2014

Warm regards

Eve Field

**INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER REPORT**

Thank you everyone for your patience over Term 1, allowing me to settle in and get to know our 295 K-2 children! Phew! I would like to provide an occasional report to you through our newsletter because my role here (improving Literacy and Numeracy outcomes) would be most enhanced by parents being involved as much as possible. I had the absolute pleasure of meeting some parents during Term 1 and am excited to meet the rest of you.

Since arriving, I have focused on training our K-2 teachers in Targeted Early Numeracy. This training introduces minimum targets for all students to achieve by the end of their respective year.

They are:

**Kindergarten:** Be able to get 20 items accurately when asked, count to 30 and identify numerals 1-20.

**Year 1:** Be able to add numbers up to 20 in their head and identify numerals 1-100.

**Year 2:** Be able to count forwards or backwards from any number you give them in the range of 1-100.

Why just Kindergarten to Year 2?

Have you noticed that your children between these ages are like little sponges? They seem to learn so quickly and begin developing their ways of thinking. This time at school is crucial for developing strong roots in Literacy and Numeracy so that they can continue to succeed in their upper primary careers and beyond.

If there is a gap between where your child is and where they should be at this age, it is much easier to get them back on-track and close this gap than it is when they are older.

At this stage 80% of our Year 1 children are on-track and 52% of our Year 2 children are on track in Numeracy.

What can you do?

Ask them to count for you (forwards and backwards)

Get them to identify numbers while shopping

Ask them simple addition and subtraction problems

Get them some dice!

Did you know?

Being able to reach these targets and beyond is a better predictor of future academic success than reading or writing! Wow!

**YEAR 2 NEWS**

Year 2 have had a great start to the term and have settled beautifully back into their daily routines. This term Year 2 will take part with the rest of the school in the Public Speaking Competition. Each child is asked to prepare a short speech on a given topic, to be presented in class during week 5. We ask that you work with your child in finalising and practising their speech. This will be in place of regular homework which will not begin until Week 5.

Year 2 are very excited about starting their novel study on Wednesday 27th May.

Building Resilient Families Workshop

On Wednesday 13th May our second Building Resilient Families Workshop will commence from 5.30pm - 7.30pm in the school AV room. This is an excellent workshop delivered by the Family Action Centre supported by the University of Newcastle. The program will focus on dealing with emotions, understanding where emotions originate and their impact on behaviour, learning to deal with disappointment and challenges, as well as covering techniques and skills to improve resilience behaviour and dealing with emotions and challenging behaviours.

To register for this workshop please call the school on 4937 1235.
**MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST**
On Friday 8th May we will be having our Mother's Day Breakfast and we would love to see families come along and enjoy pancakes or a bacon and egg sandwich to celebrate and receive acknowledgement and some pampering for the important role of mothering provided by mothers, carers and grandmothers. The morning will start with breakfast and games from 7.45am, and then move into class based activities from 9.10am - 10.15am. We look forward to sharing this special day with everyone who attends.

**MOTHER'S DAY STALL**
This week our P&C held their annual Mother’s Day stall in our school hall. The P&C offered a wonderful, very reasonably priced selection of gifts for purchase by scholars and staff. The students keenly made their purchases for their very special mother figure in their life. This event raised over $500.00. On behalf of the P&C and staff of Kurri Kurri Public School we would like to wish all mums and carers a wonderfully special day this Sunday.

**NDIS ROLLOUT SEMINAR**
Do you provide care and support for a child or adult who has a disability, mental illness, chronic medical condition or the frail or aged? There will be an information session available regarding accessing the National Disability Insurance Scheme, NDIS.

**WHERE:** East Maitland Bowling Club
**TIME:** 10:00am-12.00pm
**COST:** FREE - includes morning tea
**WHEN:** Monday 25th May

To register for this seminar call 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776

**WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR SOME CHILDREN TO LISTEN?**
Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) is a term used to describe a range of disorders that result in a breakdown in the hearing process. CAPD occurs when our brain can’t make sense of the sounds we hear because the auditory signal is distorted in some way. One of the biggest problems for children with CAPD is struggling to focus in noisy environments. While CAPD affects many children, it’s often undiagnosed because some of the behavioural symptoms are identified in other learning disabilities. To help tackle this issue, Australian Hearing offers services for teachers and parents. For more information please contact Australia Hearing East Maitland on 4937 9700.

**WELL DONE TAYLAH**
Last week Taylah A, of class 5-6MO attended Newcastle Netball Courts for the selection tryouts for the PSSA Hunter Netball Team. Taylah found the day a daunting challenge but very exciting experience among some very tall competitive well experienced players. Taylah is very appreciative for the opportunity to participate in the selection process even though she was not selected for the team during the process this time. Taylah is enthusiastically encouraged from this experience which has inspired her in her games this season as a team member of the Maitland Representative Netball Team and her regular Saturday Competition team and plans to strive towards participating in this selection process again next year.

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### P&C NEWS

**Photographic Fundraiser**
Sunday 31st May 2015 is our Photographic Fundraising Day from 9.00am – 5.00pm. Family Portraits are $20.00. Please book and return money to the school canteen as soon as possible so we can finalise our schedule.

**Email:** kurrikurripublicschool@pandaffiliate.org.au or find us on Facebook

### CANTEEN NEWS

**CACTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Janene Straker</td>
<td>Leanne Bloomfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Naomi Henry</td>
<td>Alana Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Julie Herbert</td>
<td>Cassie Bailey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Stoddart</td>
<td>Lea Couptherwaite</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Julie Herbert</td>
<td>Sallyann Coffey</td>
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Please let Jodie know if you are unable to attend or are no longer able to volunteer.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**Rover Motors – Emergency School Transport**

Given that Testers Hollow is still being advised as closed indefinitely we have changed some local bus timetables and routes to put extra buses into Gilleston Heights and Heddon Greta for Emergency School Transport. 8.30am Heddon Greta Store To Schools

Kurri Kurri Primary School
Holy Spirit Primary School Kurri Kurri
Kurri Kurri Primary School

3.20pm School Return To Heddon Greta Store:
Kurri Kurri Public School
Holy Spirit Primary, Kurri Kurri
Kurri Kurri High School

These services will operate until Testers Hollow opens. We will update you with information on this as soon as possible. If you require further information please call 4990 1699

**Cessnock City Council – Kerbside Rubbish Collection**

is asking eligible residents requiring assistance with removal of storm damaged material to register for free kerbside collection of urban green storm debris and storm damaged household goods by Wednesday 20th May. Please visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/kerbside to determine your eligibility and for more information please call 4993 4236.

**Cessnock City Library**

We subscribe to a tutoring service, Yourtutor that we provide free to Cessnock City Library members. This service is an anonymous chat program for students Year 3 through to Year 12 and TAFE, students are able to chat with a tutor (working with children approved) in a particular subject for twenty minutes, for example gaining assistance to solve a trigonometry problem or advice on how to structure a history essay. Some of the topics covered include English, Maths, Science, and assignment and research skills. The service open Sunday to Friday 3pm to 10pm, during school term. If you have any questions about the service please contact me via phone on 4993 4385 or email cessnock.spydus.com – eResources - eReference

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**MEDALLIONS**

- Jack M - 5G
- Zoe Y - 5-6MO

These principal awards will be presented at the next whole school assembly on Friday 15th May at 2.20pm.

**CLASS PERFORMANCE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten - KG</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1 - 1W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 - 2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2 - 4H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 3 - 6A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Unit - K-6W</td>
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**SCHOOL WEBSITE**

http://www.kurrikuri-publicschool.nsw.edu.au

A Vodcast of this Newsletter can be viewed on the School's Website.

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**P&c Awards**

Amy Lee B - 1J
Holly B - 1J
Luke P - 1J
Tarika H - 1K
Nakiah H - 2B
Ezekiel C - 2-3M
Brock Mc - 2-3M
Matthew C - 3H
Jack G - 3H
Addision B - 4M
Jordan G - 4Y
Zoe Y - 5-6MO
Riley J - 5-6MO
Jackson S - 5-6MO

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**Princpal AwarDds**

Zoey C
Addison B
Jack G
Matthew C
Brock Mc
Ezekiel C
Tamika H
Luke P
Holly B
Amy