Finally we have some rain. It has made a real difference to the look of our oval to finally have had some good rainfall. Here’s hoping that it will steadily continue for a little while yet.

With all the classes now settled, we are starting to really get stuck into the year and by all accounts all classes are making great headway with their learning. By now you should have received notification about parent / teacher meetings for your child’s class (except for 2/3M) as Mr Minter has been absent. He has mentioned to me that his meeting will be held on Thursday next week 27-02-14. He will confirm this on his return. These meetings are designed to give all parents a broad overview of the class and the way things are run. They are a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and start, what will hopefully be, a productive connection between home and school. Any specific issues relating to your child in particular can be discussed in private with the teacher at a later time. Simply ask for an appointment and the teachers will happily oblige.

There have been a small number of people expressing concern about the recently introduced Resource Fee which went home last week. To reassure you, it was the school that decided to introduce this and not the P&C. It was discussed at the P&C meeting where I outlined my thoughts as to why I thought the school community could support the school in this way. Any money raised via this way, will be directly spent on enhancing and expanding the learning experience for all students at school. We have been presented with a wonderful chance to take this school from a great school to a fantastic one which offers a variety of learning opportunities for all its students. If you have any concerns about this issue, please feel free to contact the school and I am happy to meet with you and explain the reasons behind this fee. If unsure about any matters relating to the school please feel free to contact the school directly as this is usually the best source of information.

A small reminder about the office hours at the school. The school’s office opens at 8:30am each school day. Whilst there may be people at school before this time, it is often when they are able to get a lot of work done preparing for the day. Plans are underway for the staff of this school to attend a seminar about dealing with students who have suffered from trauma. This seminar is being held at Club Forster on Tuesday 11 March from 4pm until 8:30pm. As this will be after school hours I will be seeking approval to offset the hours spent at this seminar with hours on the final day of Term 4 (Friday 19th December 2014). This will mean that the school will be closed on that Friday. This will have no impact on the students as this day is already deemed a student free day. If you have any questions about this can you please contact the school directly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coming events Term 1 2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>21/2/14</td>
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<td>3-8/4/14</td>
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The following students received Assembly Awards at the Primary Assembly on Monday 10 February and the Infants Assembly on Monday 17 February 2014.

Primary Assembly:
5/6J
Marcus Worth – working well in all areas
Halle Ford – 100% in her maths test
Amber Whiteley – excellent spelling results
Kristy Green – excellent multiplication
5C
Indianna Choma – a bright and productive start to the year
Teagan Nicholson – excellent results in beginning assessments
Chloe Young – excellent contributions to Narrative lessons
Otto Pickering – a settled and productive start to 2014
4/5V
Jay Kizilos – using well written justifications in his review
Connor Lyle – a clever use of conjunctions and well written sentences in his narrative review
Haylee Brabant – excellent results in her comprehension assessments
Bronte Ward – excellent results in her algorithm work
2/3M
Baden Bell – application in Mathematics
Oni Crowley – working well in all areas
3/4I
Olivia Pearce – excellent spelling results
Max Hillyer – excellent spelling results
Ned Bush – excellent class behaviour
Charley Parkinson – excellent comprehension skills

Infants Assembly:
2/3M
Kye Wilson – consistent effort in all his work.
Tayla Wait – always putting in 100% effort.
1/2M
Ella Dunn – welcome to Hallidays Point
Meryem Hamer – welcome to Hallidays Point
Sunny Aldridge – excellent effort in all school work
Hayley Holman – working well in all areas
1H
Troy Bush – consistent effort in class
Boston Black – consistent effort in class
Ashlee Brabant – outstanding effort in class
Matilda Dangel – outstanding effort in class
K/1J
Tom Patterson – working independently
Ashlyn Johnson – working independently and enthusiastically

Julian Hanna – being a reliable, responsible student
KB
Zack Richardson – being an enthusiastic member of our class
Ryder Edstein – applying himself to all areas with enthusiasm
Milla Giffin – a settled and focused start to kindergarten
Miley Cox – a settled and focused start to kindergarten

Friendly School & Friendly Families:
5/6J – Charlie Farnell – being a polite, helpful class member
5C – Max Wynne – being a great class helper
4/5V – Brieanna Ward – her willingness to help out and organise herself quickly
3/4I – Ethan Baker – his willingness to help others
2/3M – Jasie Brown – king and helpful class member
2/3M – Thomas Worth – being a caring and helpful class member
1/2M – Lilyanne Small – being a polite and helpful class member
1H – Stevie Burston – being a caring classmate
K/1J – TakaihlaBillinghurst – always volunteering to help others
KB – Taia Shedden – being a thoughtful and considerate member of our class

The following students received Merit Certificates at the Primary Assembly on Monday 10 February and Infants Assembly on Monday 17 February 2014.

Primary Assembly:
Emily Cougle – Year 3 (2 Merits)
Riley Giffin – Year 3 (2 Merits)
Thomas Knights – Year 3
Kalan Steber – Year 3
Baden Bell – Year 3
Ethan Baker – Year 4
Georgia Daley – Year 4
Ruby Daley – Year 5
Halle Ford – Year 6
Ethan Williams – Year 6

Infants Assembly:
Bridie Hooper – Year 1
Cassius Hourn – Year 1
Charlotte Nunn – Year 1
Lachlan Castle – Year 2
Jett Johnson – Year 2
Ella Simnett – Year 2
**MERIT AWARD SYSTEM**

**Merit Awards**: (Yellow - 1 point)
- These awards may be given at any time during the week.
- Students are responsible for the collection and safe-keeping of these Awards.

**Assembly Awards**: (Blue and white - 2 points)
- They are worth two points each towards the Certificate of Merit which is the next step in the system.

**Friendly Schools & Families Awards**: (Orange and black – 2 points)
- Each teacher may award one of these at each fortnightly assembly. They are worth two points each towards the Certificate of Merit, which is the next step in the system.

**Certificate of Merit**:
- Students are eligible to receive a Certificate of Merit when they have collected and handed in 10 Merit Award points.
- These can be in any combination of Merit Awards and Assembly Awards provided they total 10 points in value.
- The Certificate of Merit will be presented by the Principal at a fortnightly assembly.

**Student’s names are listed in the School newsletter.**

**Special Award Medallions**:
- Students are eligible to receive a Special Award Medallion when they have collected and handed in 5 Certificates of Merit (Bronze Medallion), 10 Certificates of Merit (Silver Medallion), 15 Certificates of Merit (Gold Medallion) and 20 Certificates (Citizenship Medallion)
- The Special Award Medallion will be presented by the Principal at a combined assembly held twice per term. The student’s photograph will be displayed in the school newsletter.

For all years, Kindergarten - Year 6
- 10 award points = 1 Certificate of Merit
- 5 Certificates of Merit = 1 Bronze Medallion
- 10 Certificates of Merit = 1 Silver Medallion + $10 Book Voucher.
- 15 Certificates of Merit = 1 Gold Medallion + $20 Book Voucher.
- 20 Certificates of Merit = Citizenship Medallion + $30 Book Voucher.

All awards can accumulate from one year to the next. In this manner, the Merit System is designed to be ongoing. A ‘win bin’ takes place weekly with major draws for prizes at least once a term.

Please ensure that merit awards are handed into the office at the latest on a Wednesday morning for the following Monday assembly. This is to facilitate the preparation of the Certificates of Merit as well as sending out invitations.

Last week you would have received your statement of account for this year’s visiting performances and the resources your child will use in class.

The first visiting performance, World of Maths, will be presented in five weeks’ time. These performances are part of the school curriculum and it is therefore important that all students attend.

If you could finalise this account as soon as possible it would be greatly appreciated.

**PARENT INFORMATION**

Please be reminded about the Parent Information Sessions to be held in Week 5.

**Monday 24 February**:
- 1/2M – 3.30 pm
- KB & K/1J – 5.00 pm
- 4/5V – 5.00 pm
- 5C – 5.00 pm
- 5/6J – 5.30 pm

**Tuesday 25 February**:
- 3/4I – 5.00 pm

**Thursday 27 February**:
- 1H – 3.30 pm

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

The results for the very successful swimming carnival are as follows. Ruby came first with 301 points. Sapphire was second with 275 points and Emerald, third with 246 points. Congratulations to Ruby! Following are the results for each race.
**Girls all age 100m**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Maddison Aiken

**Girls 8 years age race**
1st No Qualifiers  
2nd  
3rd

**Girls 9 years age race**
1st Emily Cougle  
2nd Olivia Dew  
3rd Georgia Daley

**Girls 10 years age race**
1st Hayley Brabant  
2nd Jasmine Nunn  
3rd Olivia Pearce

**Girls 11 years age race**
1st Maddison Aiken  
2nd Giselle Black  
3rd Olivia Knights

**Girls 12/13 age race**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Claire Newham

**Junior Girls breast stroke**
1st Olivia Dew  
2nd Emily Cougle  
3rd Awatea Quinn

**11 years Girls breast stroke**
1st Maddison Aiken  
2nd Lilli-Mae Geer  
3rd Laura Wilson

**Senior Girls breast stroke**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Claire Newham

**Junior Girls back stroke**
1st Emily Cougle  
2nd Olivia Dew  
3rd Awatea Quinn

**11 years Girls back stroke**
1st Maddison Aiken  
2nd Jasmine Axisa  
3rd Olivia Knights

**Senior Girls back stroke**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Claire Newham

**Junior Girls Butterfly**
1st Emily Cougle  
2nd Hayley Brabant  
3rd Georgia Daley

**11 years Girls Butterfly**
1st Edie Gillis  
2nd Giselle Black  
3rd Jasmine Axisa

**Senior Girls Butterfly**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Claire Newham

**Girls All Age Medley**
1st April Cougle  
2nd Halle Ford  
3rd Emily Cougle

**Girls Junior Relay**
1st Sapphire  
2nd Emerald  
3rd Ruby

**Girls Senior Relay**
1st Sapphire  
2nd Emerald  
3rd Ruby

**Junior Boys breast stroke**
1st Schafer Aiken  
2nd Hamish Wilson  
3rd Dylan Hooper

**11 years Boys breast stroke**
1st Jak Wunder  
2nd Dominic Forbes  
3rd

**Senior Boys breast stroke**
1st Callum Boag  
2nd Max Wynne  
3rd Jak Wunder

**Junior Boys back stroke**
1st James Davison  
2nd Ethan Williams  
3rd Jesse Welsh

**11 years Boys back stroke**
1st James Davison  
2nd Jay Kizilos  
3rd

**Senior Boys back stroke**
1st Callum Boag  
2nd Ethan Williams  
3rd Jesse Welsh

**Junior Boys butterfly**
1st James Davison  
2nd Marcus Worth  
3rd

**11 years Boys butterfly**
1st James Davison  
2nd Dominic Forbes  
3rd

**Senior Boys butterfly**
1st Callum Boag  
2nd Max Wynne  
3rd Jak Wunder

**Boys Junior Relay**
1st Ruby  
2nd Sapphire  
3rd Emerald

**Boys Senior Relay**
1st Ruby  
2nd Sapphire  
3rd Emerald

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**Winning House**
Ruby – 301  
Sapphire – 275  
Emerald - 246
MANNING ZONE TENNIS

On Friday 14 February, our school had four representatives taking part in the Manning Zone Tennis trials. Maddison Aiken and Rainer Fagerstrom had some great shots and serves. Dominic Forbes entertained spectators with great smashes and skids on the wet court, before having to end his third match abruptly due to heavy rain at the start of a tiebreaker. Laura Wilson showed superb style and great sportsmanship in the matches she played. Unfortunately, both Dominic and Laura both missed out on playing their last two matches because of rain. Well done to all four students.

CANTEEN MENU NEWS

An updated canteen menu with revised price changes for 2014 is being sent home with all students today. These price changes are effective immediately due to increase in food costs.

HPPS P & C

Hallidays Point Public P & C would sincerely like to thank Adrian and Barbara Schultz of Happy Hallidays Holiday Park for allowing us to hold our annual Christmas holiday fund raisers. A big thank you too, to the parents and kids who helped out and came down to have some fun at the barbeques and disco.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

KIDS KLUB 2014

Kid’s Klub will be starting 7 March 2014 at 3.30 – 6.00 pm. Kid’s Klub is for children in years 3 – 6 and is held on alternate Fridays at Hallidays Point Community Church on Diamond Beach Road. The school bus stops at the church where the children are met by a senior leader. Parents are asked to pick up the children at 6.00 pm. Lots of fun, games, stories and food. Come and join us. We look forward to seeing you.

TWILIGHT JUNIOR CRICKET

Great Lakes Junior Cricket is holding a four week twilight competition on a Friday evening, from 5.30 pm for 7 to 12 year olds. Games will be short with 6 players per side. Everybody bats, bowls and wicket keeps every game. Players bat in pairs and use rubber balls. This competition is suitable for all skill levels. Just bring yourself and own drinks. Free sausage sizzle for players at the end of each session. Cost is $20 per player (covers all 4 games), FREE for existing Great Lakes Players. Games are at South Street, Tuncurry and will commence on 14 February to 14 March. To book email trevmcb@bigpond.net.au or call Trevor McBride on 0422 436 517.

CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

On Saturday 1 March Newcastle Permanent Building Society will be hosting the Cinema under the stars at Forster Town Park. This is a FREE family friendly event. The night starts at 5.30 pm with entertainment and at sunset “Monsters University” the movie will be screened. The community is encouraged to bring along their own picnic rug and picnic or purchase food from one of the food stalls.

MESSAGE FROM MIDCOAST WATER

Please be reminded that level 3 water restrictions are currently in place for our area. Sprinklers and fixed hoses are banned at all times. Hand held hoses can be used for up to one hour every second day (based on odds and evens system, with house numbers and days of the month – eg. House number 20 could water on the even days of the month, 2nd, 4th etc) before 10.00 am or after 4.00 pm. For more information go to www.midcoastwater.com.au or call 1300 133 455.

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

There will be a Blue Light Disco on Friday 7 March at Tuncurry Bowling Club from 6.30 to 8.00 pm for primary students year 3 – 6. Cost is $5.00. All Blue Light events are drug and alcohol free and supervised by Police Officers.

Important Dates for 2014

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>21/2/14</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>20/3/14</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
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<td>21/3/14</td>
<td>Senior Choir perform for Seniors Citizens</td>
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<td>24-25/3/14</td>
<td>World of Maths Visiting Performance</td>
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<td>26/3/14</td>
<td>Canteen Red Day</td>
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<td>School Photos</td>
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<td>31-2/4/14</td>
<td>Manning Myall Music Camp</td>
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<td>3-8/4/14</td>
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<td>8/4/14</td>
<td>Stage 2 Timbertown Excursion</td>
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<td>2/5/14</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
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<td>19/5/14</td>
<td>Beating Around the Bush Performance</td>
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<td>20/5/14</td>
<td>NSW Computer Skills Competition</td>
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<td>4/6/14</td>
<td>NSW Science Competition</td>
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<td>16-20/6/14</td>
<td>NSW Writing Competition</td>
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<td>21-25/7/14</td>
<td>Stage 3 Canberra Excursion</td>
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<td>29/7/14</td>
<td>NSW English Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>29/7/14</td>
<td>A Swag of Tales Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8/14</td>
<td>NSW Mathematics Competition</td>
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