Welcome to Week 8 of Term 4, 2014. I hope that all of our Stage 3 kids had a big rest over the weekend to help them recover from their huge week in Canberra!

Our time in Canberra was absolutely wonderful, with all students showing a great level of maturity throughout the week. For most students, Tenpin Bowling seems to have been a highlight. Our birthday boy, Jeremy Higgins won on his lane. Questacon came a close second when talking to the kids as they loved the interactive nature of this venue. Both parliament houses were interesting, as was Cockington Green and Telstra Tower. The War Memorial held special significance for many of our students who had discussed the role of their extended families in a variety of overseas conflicts. A huge thank you must go to our Stage 3 team of Mrs Leahy, Mrs Smith, Miss McArthur, Julie Hamilton, Debbie Vassallo and Marcel Rodrigue. Mrs Leahy worked tirelessly with this team to co-ordinate a very well organised excursion that ensured new and engaging experiences for our students. These trips away take many hours of planning and organisation outside of school hours (not to mention the time away from home during the excursion) and would not be possible without our dedicated staff.

Mrs Beauchamp held down the fort for us while we were away. By all accounts it was a great week. As always, we had a variety of issues, but these were worked through with parents, carers, teachers and Mrs Beauchamp.

Our Netball Clinic was held on Tuesday and involved all students from K-4. The kids had a great time and learnt many new skills. Mrs Haase did a wonderful job organising and coordinating this opportunity.

Our final scripture service will be held on Wednesday for all of those children who attend scripture each week. It will be a K-6 service and held in the hall at the usual time. Non scripture will be as per usual.

Don’t forget the P&C meeting which will be held this Wednesday at the usual time of 4:00pm in the staff room. All interested parents and carers are more than welcome.

This Friday is our Westpac Life Saver Fun Day. Students are encouraged to dress in red and yellow and bring a gold coin donation to support this incredible service. Thank you to Miss Wesley for all of her work organising this day. Special activities will be held from 12:00 noon until 1:15.

With less than 4 weeks to go it is time to begin thinking about classes for next year. Teachers will be getting together very soon to discuss the needs of individual students who are both leaving their class, and possibly entering their class. We do this by considering their peers, their learning needs and individual characteristics. Our classes are not allocated based on abilities or academic results. All of our staff are quality teachers and I stand firmly in support of them being able to get the very best out of each and every student. However, it is important that parents and carers let me know if there are any concerns or issues that we may be unaware of. Your advice and ideas will be thoughtfully considered during the classroom allocation process and will be of immense help. You can give me a ring or organise to pop in one morning after assembly to
let me know your thoughts. Once classes are set, we do not change them as we have to cater for the needs of 230 students and it just becomes too tricky. Instead, we will work to negate any fears or concerns that you may have in regards to your child’s placement for 2015. I look forward to hearing from you in the next few weeks.

Have a great week. Only 31 more sleeps until Santa comes!

Todd.

Canberra Excursion Funding

Stage 3 students last week undertook an educational tour of the national capital. Students had 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 will be contributing $30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards the excursion costs. The Rebate will be paid directly to the school now that the excursion has been completed.

Souths Care Oral Health Care Program

All Indigenous students are invited to take part in a FREE Oral Health Program at Macksville Public School on Wednesday 3rd December. The day will finish at 2:15pm. There will be buses to take students to and from Macksville. Notes will be sent home this week. Please return notes to Aunty Nerida before Friday.

Caught Being Good

Larnie Wheeler 2/1H-Picking up rubbish on the oval, Makayla Davis KD, Cameron Simon-Wilson KC-Sitting and eating, Will Urquhart MC-Sitting and eating, Joel Burke 2/1C-Picking up rubbish, Patrick Bagnell 4/3W-Helping Denise.


Class of the Week

2/1H

Congratulations
As we all know reading is an essential skill, and for children in particular it is a foundation for learning and engagement in the school years and for life.

The Nambucca Shire Libraries have a large range of resources for children and young adults, including fiction and non-fiction books, magazines, audiobooks and DVDs.

With school holidays fast approaching, Macksville and Nambucca Libraries will once again be hosting the Summer Reading Club, and this year the theme is Adventure! Children will be encouraged to explore fiction with storylines involving exciting journeys, fast-paced plots, heroes and villains. Participation is free, and there are some terrific prizes to be won. Summer Reading Club runs from 9th December 2014 to 23rd January 2015 and entry forms are available at the libraries. For more information, contact the Libraries on 65686906 or 65681422.

**Nambucca Valley Aboriginal Interagency**

**All community members are invited to attend.**

Date: Thursday 27th November, 2014

Time: 10am to 12 noon

Location: Macksville Public School (LCCR) Wallace Street Macksville

(Please sign in at Front Office)

Host: RJ Donovan, Aboriginal Education Officer (MPS)