Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It’s hard to believe that the term is almost over and that school holidays will soon be here. Thank you for your support while Pam has been away. Whilst I have enjoyed the time as relieving principal, I can’t wait till Pam returns and I can get back into the classroom.

We had a prospective parent come for an interview a couple of weeks ago, and it was an absolute pleasure to walk around the school with her. In every classroom children were engaged with their learning. Although there was a real sense of peacefulness about the place, there was also a great vibrancy. Our visitor noted that all of the teachers seemed to be very calm and no one was yelling—which is just how we like it. None of the teachers knew that we were going to be walking around and visiting classrooms, they were just doing what they always do—providing the best possible education for the students in our care.

What happens in this place is a result of the effort you put in at home as parents and the hard work of our dedicated staff.

I am not sure whether that particular family will come to Kahibah Public School or not. But, as I said to the staff, they would be mad not to!

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY, Term 3**

Please remember that students return to school on the first day of next term (Monday, 16th July). The bus company has been notified of this change, so the buses will operate as they usually do. Our Staff Development Day will take place on Friday, 27th July (i.e. there will be no school on this day).

Thank you for your cooperation.

**PEACEFUL PARENTING**

Don’t forget that our Peaceful Parenting course will run again next term, beginning in Week 2 (Thursday, 26th July) and running for six weeks. Places are limited, so please book early if you are interested.

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**KIDS’ CORNER**

- We are so proud of Renee Pountney who recently went to Sydney to play for the Hunter Region team and now has been selected into the NSW State Soccer Team. What an achievement, Renee!
- Congratulations to Lachlan Blythe (1H) for his amazing reading and writing (in Reading Recovery) about
getting his shoes in the mud.

- Caelan Doel (2M) wrote and illustrated the fantastic story of Mr. Grug Meets Mrs Grug. (He found a shiny, golden stone and made a wish on it.) She did this in her own time at home. Ben Locking, of the same class, wrote a sensational information report about pets.

- 5B have been demonstrating their creative flair with Mrs Fidler by making decorative clay jugs and vases which they then glazed and fired in the kiln. Jayden Pryor brought me a magnificent specimen and described the construction process in intricate detail.

- From K5, the following students were thrilled to show me their fabulous writing and drawing samples: Luke Woodford wrote about his “happy self”; Lucy Pulsford described her “brown chickens”; Mia Turley had a “splashing dolphin” and Manning Gregory wrote a story about “a friend playing football”. It is very exciting to see such little people so engaged in their learning. Great job!

**MOBILE PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY**

The teachers at Kahibah School have been discussing a new policy which is attached for your information. Please feel free to contact Ms McNair or any of the executive team if you would like to make comments about, or suggest changes to, the proposed policy.

If there are no changes, it will be implemented from the beginning of next term.

**CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE**

Last newsletter, I wrote about how the “Seasons for Growth” program helps children gain strategies to cope with the many changes they will encounter in their lives.

As adults, we also need to be able to cope with change, & some of us find this fairly difficult.

Below, are some of the Key Principles of Change which may be worth reading.

**CHANGE IS HARD**

Change is often about giving up or losing something or somebody you like—or love. Accepting loss is difficult. Making a change is difficult. But change can led to a new beginning.

**EXPECT CHANGE**

Life is packed with change. You often don't get what you want when you want it. Events in life sometimes overtake the best laid plans.

**THE ONLY PERSON YOU CAN CHANGE IS YOU**

Change is not about fixing others, but about changing you.

**CHANGE IS POSSIBLE**

Life isn't fair and change often hurts like hell. However people do manage to survive the loss of a loved one, losing a job, tragic illness…

**DON'T ATTEMPT MAJOR CHANGE ALONE**

If you are experiencing change, the first step is to get the support of someone you trust.

Helen Harvie
School Chaplain

**NATIONAL SOCCER**

Congratulations to Renee Pountney who has been selected to represent NSW in the National School Football Carnival in Darwin.

Unfortunately there is quite a cost involved in being so talented. The help cover the cost of travelling to Darwin and the purchasing of uniforms to represent NSW, a raffle has been organised by the NSW PSSA. Tickets will be available to purchase from the office. These tickets will be $2 each, with five prizes to be won.

Please support Renee in this extremely exciting opportunity. Who knows, maybe she will be a Matilda one day?
**COLES—SPORTS for SCHOOLS**

Coles has launched their 2011 Sports for Schools program and we are excited to announce that Kahibah Public School will be participating and collecting vouchers for much needed sports equipment. We have decided this year to collect both Woolworths Earn and Learn Points and Coles Sports for Schools Points to maximise our chances at getting great equipment for our school.

Vouchers are available in all Coles stores from the 13th of June and we ask that you get involved to help collect vouchers for our school. We are appealing to parents and guardians to collect as many vouchers as you can. By collecting and encouraging friends and family to do the same, you are helping to provide a healthy and active education for our children.

Please visit coles.com.au/sportsforschools for more information about the program and you can also browse the sporting gear available to see what equipment we are aiming for.

A collection box will be located at the office so please feel free to drop the vouchers in the box or give them to your children to hand into class.

**GLENDENNING BABY**

Congratulations to the Glendenning family on the arrival of their baby girl!

Milla was born last Thursday, 14th June. A beautiful little sister for Oliver. All the very best wishes to the Glendenning family.

**CHOOKS**

The end of Term 2 is fast approaching and we are once again asking if there are any families who would be willing and able to look after our chickens during the school holidays. If you are able to help out, please give Heather or Loretta a call at the school office. Thank you in advance.

**YEAR 5 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP**

If you wish to secure a spot for your child to attend 'The Great Aussie Bush Camp’ next term please send in forms 1,2 and 3 from the information pack sent home recently. **Forms must be given to me by this Friday.** Thank you to all the parents who have already sent the forms in.

We will have a special guest speaker from 'The Great Aussie Bush Camp' visiting our school for a Year 5 information session on Friday, 29th June at 9am in the Library. Parents are most welcome to attend.

**SCHOOL MUSICAL 2012**

Please inform your child’s teacher as soon as possible if your child will not be attending school during week 10 of Term Three - musical week. Many arrangements are well underway concerning costuming and dancing. If you have made plans for family holidays during this time we do need to know so we can minimise the impact this will have on class items. Thanks for your co-operation.

**Primary Musical Update:**

**Knight costumes:**

All boys in 3D, 4A, 5B and 6L as well as students in the acting cast with a role as one of the ‘Mighty Medieval Men’/Arthur/Sir Hector will need a large grey shirt as part of their costume. These shirts have been bulk-purchased for each student to minimise costs and have already been delivered to school. **Shirts are $5 each. Please send payments in a clearly labelled envelope to class teachers.**

All 'knight's in these classes will also need black pants/jeans, long-sleeved black top, black belt/scarf/rope/sash, black socks and black shoes/boots/joggers for our performances next term. A huge thank you to Donna Smith who has sewn 70 knight hoods for our Primary Musical! Awesome effort!

**Damsel costumes:**

Those in 6L, 5B and 5/6C who requested help with the sewing of their child's damsel costume, please send fabric in to me as soon as possible (please refer to the note sent home a few weeks ago).

Kelly Bruce
CHOCOLATE DRIVE
A reminder that the orders for the Chocolate Drive will be processed on Thursday at the latest. If you still wish to participate in selling a box of chocolates, could you please have your form in at the office no later than tomorrow afternoon. Thank you to all those families that have agreed to sell chocolates to raise funds for our school.

BAND-SDD TERM 3
Correction: In the last newsletter I stated that band would begin in Week 2. The Staff Development Day for Term 3 is actually on Friday Week 2, therefore band will commence in Week 1. There will be no lessons or band due to the SDD in Week 2.

GYMNASTICS
The gymnastics program will begin next term for students in Years Kindergarten to Year 4. A note will go home shortly with details.

NETBALL GALA DAY
The netball gala day will be held tomorrow at Charlestown Netball Courts. Please make sure that if your child is participating that they are wearing sports uniform with joggers. Also there is to be no jewellery worn and nails are to be cut short. It should be a wonderful day!

Kendy Nicholas
Sincerely

Maggie McNair
Relieving Principal
19th June, 2012

www.swinfieldtennisacademy.com
Whitebridge Tennis Club, Lonus Ave.

Enjoy lessons with
Tennis Australia qualified coaches

MLC Tennis Hot Shots for 4-10yr olds
Beginners to advanced private & group tuition
for adults & students

For bookings & more details phone Sue
Kahibah Public School  
Positive Relationships for Positive Learning  
*Respect, Responsibility, Excellence*  

**MOBILE PHONE**  
**ELECTRONIC DEVICE**  
**POLICY**  

Revised: 01.06.2012  

The core business of our school is to promote and support teaching and learning in an environment free from unnecessary distraction or disruption.

Whilst the school discourages the use of mobile phones/electronic devices by students, we accept that there are times when they might be deemed important for safety and communication concerns, especially before/after normal school hours.

Due to issues surrounding security, interruptions to school operations and students perceptions of equity, the following expectations apply:

**PROCEDURES**

- Mobile telephones and electronic devices are brought to school entirely at the owner’s risk.

- The school will not be involved in disputes and/or investigations over damage, loss or theft of mobile telephones and/or electronic devices.

- Students who choose to bring mobile phones to school are to hand them in at the administration office first thing in the morning. Phones will be turned off and not used during the day. They may be collected at the end of the school day from the same office.

- Electronic devices with camera/video capability brought onto school grounds are NOT to be used at any time in order to protect the rights and privacy of all students at our school.

- Teachers will confiscate mobile phones or electronic devices seen during school hours and students will be able to collect them from the administration office at the end of the day. Repeat offenders will be held to account as per the school’s Discipline Policy procedures.

- If parents urgently need to contact a student during school hours, they should follow normal procedure and do so through the administration office. Contact with the student and support will be provided as necessary.

- It is requested that any electronic devices such as (iPods, DSs, electronic games, digital cameras etc) are not brought to school so that active play at recess and lunch times is promoted.

All staff are to implement these procedures as from Term 3, 2012. The policy will be reviewed every two years.
LIVE LIFE WELL @ SCHOOL

Keep active in the colder months
Don’t be a winter wannabe and let you and your children be sedentary this winter. Encourage children to engage in active play such as bush walking, bike riding, kicking the footy, or playing a game of tag all year round.

A close encounter with Blackbutt's reptile residents

The Newcastle Permanent Junior Ranger program brings kids back to nature. Have a close encounter with a reptile resident, hunt around the reserve for animals, and get creative with craft and games.

Dates: 2 - 6 and 9 - 13 July 2012
Time: 9:30 - 11:30am
Fees apply and bookings are essential.

For further information please contact:
Blackbutt Reserve Office - 4904 3344 or visit www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au