Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It’s hard to believe that another school term has come to a close at the end of this week. So much is happening at school during this week that it’s a great note to end on!

We are almost ready! The costumes have been completed! The technical wingles have been ironed out!

We will be holding a full dress rehearsal today Tuesday, Wednesday, 19th will see the Matinee performance at 12.30pm and the evening production will be at 6.30pm. On Thursday night performance will also be a 6.30pm start. I can’t believe how quickly the tickets are selling.

A very professional program, featuring every child in the school, will also be on sale at the door for $5 each.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE
Mr Lyddiard will be on Long Service Leave for the last 3 days of this term and Mrs Hislop will be on leave for the 1st few weeks of next term, from 8th Oct to 2nd November. Mrs Davis will be on leave in Term 4.

P&C MEETING
We have a P&C meeting tonight at 7.00pm in our staffroom and Miss Connolly will be explaining how elections for school leaders are held in our school.

We will also be discussing the FUTURE of our SCHOOL CANTEEN. Last week it was only open for one day and it’s not a viable proposition since there is much food wastage when this happens. The school canteen has always been a wonderful fund raising source for our school, enabling us to purchase library books, reading schemes, sports equipment and maths resources, among others.

To close it permanently would be disastrous really, so come along and discuss any options you can think of to enable its operation.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2012
We will have another (fourth time lucky) attempt to hold our Athletics Carnival this year. This will be our last attempt to hold the carnival, as the weather will soon become too hot to safely convene a carnival.
Details are...
DATE: Friday 12 October, 2012.
VENUE: Reay Park Dudley

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL 2013
Because of the fact that, over the years, we have had to postpone the carnival numerous times, we have decided to hold the 2013 carnival at the Athletics Field at Hunter Sports Centre, Glendale.
It is an all weather track with a large undercover spectator area. We have booked the carnival for **Friday 28th June, 2013**.

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**KIDS' CORNER**

Congratulations to every girl and boy at our school for the huge effort displayed in preparation for our major musical production. They have endured many rehearsals and, as parents, you will be amazed at the result. It is really fabulous.

- Two of our students, **Oscar Carr** and **Maddie Leask** performed so well at the Creative Arts Camp, that they have been invited to take part in the State Music Festival in Sydney. This involves an overnight excursion.
- **IH** wrote some very interesting stories based on the white wolf and the black wolf.
- **Jacinta Bourne** wrote: “The White Wolf is the good wolf and the Black Wolf is the bad wolf. In your heart there are 2 wolves fighting to win. The White Wolf protects everyone in everyone’s heart and helps everyone and everything. The Black Wolf is very rude and nasty and very sneaky. The both fight in your heart and you should go for the White Wolf because he is the kindest wolf ever. If you see the Black Wolf, say an "I statement" and then say, “Can I please talk to the White Wolf?” Well done Jacinta!
- **Ebony Arnol-Parkes** wrote: “The White Wolf is kind to everyone. The Black Wolf steals and he doesn’t give it back!”
- **Holly Randall** and **Amber Hughes** in 2D came 3rd in the State in Cheer Leading at Olympic Park in Sydney. They belong to the East Coast All Stars and they do American Style Cheer Leading. Congratulations girls! What a mighty effort.
- **Cameron Hayward** of 5B has been a very valuable helper in the preparations leading up to our school musical. He has taken on a huge responsibility helping to manage the backstage and he has been so sensible and well mannered throughout. Congratulations for showing such wonderful leadership Cameron. Well done indeed!
- Three of our students, **Kahri Anderson**, **Michael** and **Jacob Richardson** have initiated a huge fundraising event to help their 11yr old friend, **Jacob Cooper** who attends Redhead PS and who has been diagnosed with leukaemia. They organized this off their own bat because they care so much for their friend and want to help him. This epitomizes what a community is all about and they should feel very proud of their capacity to resonate such goodwill. Fantastic thinking and fantastic actions kids!!

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**COLOUR for COOP**

Our school is raising money for our friend, **Jacob Cooper** from Redhead. Jacob is 11 yrs old and has just been diagnosed with Leukaemia. His treatment is very expensive. Jacob’s friends from Year 5 & 6 are raising money at the musical and at the picnic table at lunchtimes.

$1 will buy a number in a 100’s chart. The winning number will win a $50 open voucher at Charlestown Square.

We would love it if you could donate a dollar or more to help our friend, Jacob.

Thanking you,

**Kahri Anderson, Jacob and Michael Richardson, Isobel Carr, Brodi Robertson and Sam Winpenny**

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**LOST PROPERTY**

As the weather is starting to warm up and children are starting to shed their jumpers, there are more of these items going missing. We have had a request that parents check their children’s clothing to make sure they have right clothing with their child’s names on them. It can happen by accident that a child will pick up someone else’s jumper and not even realize. Also if you are missing any items of clothing, please check the baskets in the quiet room.
VIRTUES CARDS
Just letting you know that the virtues cards will be on sale at each performance of the musical. There are 26 cards in all in the sets and the concepts behind them fit very well into Choice Theory and Restorative Practices. At our school, we only implement material that fits into our philosophy like a hand in a glove. Everything is complementary to our core beliefs.
To give you an idea of what is explicitly written, the RESPECT Card (Our virtue for this whole Semester) reads:-
“You are practising respect when you………
- speak courteously to everyone
- take special care of the belongings of everyone
- are receptive to the wisdom of elders
- honour the rules of your family, school and nation
- expect respect for your body and your rights
- treat others with dignity
I am respectful. I honour the wisdom of elders. “I treat others and myself as I deserve to be treated.” These are tips parents can use as well as us in training children to take their place in the world.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROBLEM
At school, we are learning together the need for respect at school, at home and in the wider community.

We have many elderly people living on both sides of Frith St. They have always been wonderful supporters of our school.
For some time they have had to put up with damage to their property. It has been alleged that:-
- plants have been pulled out of gardens by some students;
- fences have been broken;
- students have run across a front yard instead of keeping on the footpaths;
- some parents are watching their children walk along the top of one of the fences, letting it happen without correction;
- some parents are swearing;
- some parents are sitting on letter-boxes;
- cigarette butts and rubbish are thrown into front yards;
- some parents are parking across driveways of private homes; and
Mostly, it’s the same people involved all the time.

We are trying to teach our children about consideration of others, compassion for other people’s needs and certainly respect for other people’s property.

Many of these neighbours are elderly. They take pride in their gardens and it took a lot of courage for one of them to advise the school of the problems they constantly face for fear of repercussions.

Is there any way we can pull together, think of others and teach our children, through role modelling, how to show respect?

CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE
Whenever we turn on the TV news or listen to the radio, there are constantly stories of disasters & lives cut short because of accidents, illnesses and other tragedies.

Because our lives and circumstances are never certain, we need to make the most of everyday.

So burn the lovely candles, use the new sheets, wear the new or special clothes and let those you love know it.

Don’t save them for a special occasion!

Helen Harvie—School Chaplain
Players Wanted

**Newcastle Softball Association**

Are you sick of travelling all over the countryside to get to weekend sport?
Do you wish you played at the same ground every weekend?
Want to have some fun?
Want to make some new friends?
Don’t mind getting a little dirty?

**Why not come and give Softball or Teeball a try?**

**Competitions for All - Both Male and Female**

4yrs (Tee Ball) to Open Age (Masters)

Training to be held at  Stevenson Park, Mayfield West
All games are played at the same time and same location every week!
Stevenson Park, Industrial Drive, Mayfield West

Softball season commences on Saturday 13th October

For more details contact:

**NDSA**
Ph 49682587
Email us at secretary@ndsa.org.au
Visit our website at www.ndsa.org.au

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**CHARLESTOWN SWIM CLUB**

**REGISTRATIONS HAVE COMMENCED FOR THE 2012/13 SWIMMING SEASON**

Come along and have some fun and get some race practice for next year’s school swimming carnival.

All ages and abilities welcome.

For more info visit www.charlestown.nswswimming.com.au or email charlestownswimclub@gmail.com.

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**Get Ahead Speech Therapy**

*Proven - Professional - Personal*

Our experienced Paediatric Speech Pathologists offer functional communication therapy and support to our clients and their families.

- We have a passion for working with children and can help with:
  - Reading, spelling and writing
  - Expressive language
  - Receptive language
  - Attention and behaviour
  - Social skills
  - Phonological awareness
  - Speech sounds
  - Autism Spectrum Disorders
  - AAC forms, including:
    - Key Word Sign
    - Picture Communication
    - High Technology devices (e.g. iPod)
    - Visual aids, such as reward charts or visual schedules
  - Developmental Disabilities

**We Provide:**
- Bulk billing in clinic
- Loyalty card - 25% off your 10th visit
- Access to FaHCSIA funding
- Access to Medicare Funding
- Individual assessment and programs
- Progress reports and contact with teachers

Clinic locations at
Charlestown
East Maitland
Nelson Bay

Call our friendly team on 1300 657 220

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**18th September, 2012**

Pam Richardson
Principal

Sincerely

For more info visit www.charlestown.nswswimming.com.au or email charlestownswimclub@gmail.com