Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you all so much for supporting our whole school musical in the last week of last term. Everyone did an amazing job and I’m sure you’d all agree that it was a fabulous experience for the excited children. The performance was very professional and they will remember it all of their lives.

So many children expressed that they wished there could have been more performances and they were so disappointed when all came to an end. This is a very natural response, but none the less it indicates how much the kiddies loved every minute of their involvement.

The show is not really about making money, but I need to share with you that on our first evening performance, during the 20 minutes interval, the canteen took $700!! This was unbelievable and we would like to thank every person who helped inflate our funds and we thank sincerely the lovely ladies who worked so hard in sales.

Thanks also to all of the parents who spent so much time making the delightful costumes. We remain very grateful for all the help.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

This Saturday, 13th October, our whole staff will be taking part in a special staff development day, learning how to operate the IT program, school wide, called “Sentral”. On this program, student behaviours can also be recorded, reporting to parents will be less time consuming for staff and student attendances will be easier to closely scrutinize. There are many other functions which will be very useful for staff and which will help minimize the extent of the paper work which is mandatory.

**ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

This coming Friday, 12th October will be our 3rd attempt at holding our Athletics Carnival at Raey Park Oval, Dudley. (Next year we are booked into the Glendale Athletics Track).

We do look forward to seeing lots of parental support, not only through your presence, but also because we trust you will all encourage your child to attend.

The Athletics carnival is fun and it’s all about involvement, regardless of ability. Supporting their houses is team building. If this is what you want for your child, you will make sure they attend and not provide an excuse for an absence. You really do no favours for them, ultimately, if you do this. You are virtually saying: “It’s OK to opt out!
It's really not OK!  Sport is a mandatory part of the school curriculum.
**SWIM SCHOOL**
Next week is our turn to take part in the Departmental Swimming School with lessons occurring from 11.00am until 11.30am each day for 10 days.

All children need to be able to swim. We target students in the primary years firstly, because no child entering Yr7 will be able to escape being tested. It's very embarrassing for HS students to be placed in "Learn to Swim" classes. That's why we need them to have swimming capability in the Primary School.

Due to there being places left for this year's swim school, we are now offering these spots to children from Year 2. If you want your child to participate, please fill in the permission note and pay $63 at the office as soon as possible.

**KIDS’ CORNER**

♦ Sunday 7th October Lucy Smithson (2D) competed in the NSW State Gymnastic Club Championships at Sydney Olympic Park.
   This is was the final competition for 2012 for Lucy. As we all would have read, Lucy has won many championships over the year, doing very well in her individual competitions.
   On Sunday, Lucy competed with 3 other girls from her Gymnastic Club, BGA. Lucy’s Team were crowned 2012 State Club Champions - Level 1 Junior. Great Team Work!!!
   All that hard work, training 4 days a week and school holiday training paying off :)
   Congratulations Lucy!
   Huge congratulations to Jye Hollier in Yr6. He came 50th in the Hunter Region Maths competition and this was out of 17,000 participants. Brilliant effort Jye!

**THANK YOU**
We wish to thank the Jones family and the Leask family for looking after our precious chickens during the holidays. Both families did a great job and it was very much appreciated. Thank you.

**CHAPLAIN’S MESSAGE**
The recent mini heatwave last week resulted in some bush fires and even the loss of some property.
This was perhaps an opportune time to remind everyone to prepare for a possible fire disaster, as forecast by the weather bureau.

Apart from clearing leaves from gutters and clearing rubbish away from buildings etc, it is imperative to have an Evacuation Plan.

In thinking about this, we also need to have a plan regarding what to take with us.
As well as essential items, such as clothing and medication, we are also forced to consider which treasured possessions we would take, and prioritise these. Obviously some items would have to be eliminated because of their size. (So the family heirloom dining setting would have to remain!)

Have you given thought to which of your treasured possessions you would take?
This is a good mental activity to prioritise the material things that are most important to us.

However, you may reach a conclusion that the MOST important things in life are not "things.”
They are, apart from people and pets, abstract needs, such as love, safety, good health, happiness and a good sense of humour.

Helen Harvie—School Chaplain
**CANTEEN**

Please be advised that the Canteen will be **CLOSED tomorrow, Thursday**. Please ensure your child has their recess and lunch on these days and we apologise for any inconvenience.

The Canteen will be operating at the Athletics Carnival on Friday but there will not be a BBQ.

**BAND**

There will be no band practice this week due to the Athletics Carnival on Friday. Please note that in weeks 2 and 3, band practice will be held on Thursday morning.

Due to the many expressions of interest in joining the band this term, we have had to postpone new students joining the band until next year. A letter has been sent home with this information.

Sincerely

Pam Richardson
Principal
10th October, 2012

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**SOUTHERN CROSS**

**TAE KWON DO ACADEMY**

*For Men, Women & Children (from 5 yrs +)*

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CARDIFF</strong></td>
<td>John Young Community Hall</td>
<td>Mon: 5:30 – 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Thomas Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DUDLEY</strong></td>
<td>Dudley Vintage Hall</td>
<td>Tues: 5:30 – 6:30pm</td>
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<td>96 Ocean Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE JUNCTION</strong></td>
<td>St Josephs School Hall</td>
<td>Tue: 5:45 – 6:45pm</td>
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<td>182 Union &amp; Kenrick St</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BROADMEADOW</strong></td>
<td>Merewether High School</td>
<td>Thurs: 5:45 – 6:45pm</td>
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<td>Chatham Rd</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WALLSEND</strong></td>
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<td>Cnr Nimmi &amp; Macquarie St</td>
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