A Sad Farewell.

A sad goodbye to our cleaner Jo Hobday who will be finishing work at our school today. Jo has been a huge part of our school for the last 5 years, going above and beyond her duties on a day to day basis. My first impressions of Jo are of her giving up her time on a Sunday to help mow areas of the school to ensure it looked neat and tidy for the first day back. This is just one small example of her efforts and showed me straight away the commitment Jo had to our school, and know she will be impossible to replace. Jo is very sad to be leaving us, although needs to take this time to look after family and hopefully complete training in aged and special needs care which we know she will be well suited towards.

From all the staff, students and parents of Millfield Public School, we wish her all the best and know she will keep fond memories of Millfield wherever she goes.

Canteen operators needed.

Unfortunately we are still not able to run canteen as we have no-one to co-ordinate in Lisa's absence. It is hoped that we can make some changes to canteen this year to lessen the load of one person. Some of the ideas put forward are selling recess items at lunchtime to reduce time commitment, as well as sharing responsibilities around a canteen committee so it does not fall on one person. This is a very popular service for families that unfortunately cannot run without people to run it. If you are able to help in any way, could you please see Karen Ringland or the school office.

Small School's Swimming Carnival

Our small school's carnival was held at Cessnock Pool on Tuesday. All students had a fantastic time competing in both the novelty and competitive races. Many students had a try at all activities and went home with some very tired bodies at the end of the day. Star performers in the competition races included Clay, Blair, Shayne, Addi, Dayandhi, Madeline, Cassandra, Brooke, Keegan and Drew.

Our third place senior boys relay team
2013 School Fees

Parents are now welcome to start paying their 2013 Resource and Voluntary School Contributions at the office. Resource fees for 2013 are $10 per child which goes towards paying for student resources and booklets. Voluntary School Contributions are set at only $20/family and go towards the everyday costs of providing educational tasks to our students. Although this fee is voluntary, we do rely on this contribution to provide all the little extras that are not included in our funding.

Home reading to start next week

Everyone knows how important it is for kids to have daily reading practice at home to improve their reading. For this reason it is important that children and parents put aside time each night to read together. This can take the form of listening to your child read or reading to them. The most important aspect is that it is valued and enjoyable. Our school home reading program is being revamped this year to encourage more reading at home. It will involve a series of incentives for students who spend time reading to or with their parents. Home readers will be sent home on Monday and should be returned at least weekly (it is good to read them more than once to build skills), although anything from magazines or library books can be read as well.

Millfield Money/Strive to Succeed

Our “Millfield Money” and “Strive to Succeed” positive behaviour programs have also been modified this year to ensure consistency by combining the two programs. Students will now earn points in the class and playground that go towards earning Millfield Dollars to spend when they reach 5 dollars. Money can be spent on a range of playground and class reward activities such as table tennis, computer time etc. These will also accumulate to earn Bronze ($20), Silver ($40), and Gold ($60) awards which was a stand-alone program last year.
Successful Start for Kindergarten.

Our new kindergarten students have made a great start to their school life this week and loving their time at school. They have completed a range of literacy, numeracy, art and craft activities to wet their appetite for learning and have been busy in the playground. The buddies and older students have been doing a wonderful job in the playground to settle them in and make sure that they are on track for a successful time at school. Meet all our new students on the attached page.

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High School Applications for 2014

Application and enrolment forms for next year’s high school intake have already been sent home, exciting our Year 6 students. These forms allow the local government high school to plan for your child’s arrival, while allowing parents to apply for specialist schools such as Meriwether Performing Arts HS and Hunter Sports High. There is also a section to complete if you are wishing your child to attend another high school other than Mount View. Please return these by 22nd of March to the school office.

Sticks, Stones and Broken Bones Performance

Students in Years 3-6 will be treated to a hilarious performance at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre on Monday 25th February. This comes straight from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and involves a series of shadow puppet melodramas in the theme of Warner Bros Wackiness. The ticket cost (including bus travel) is $13 which is a huge discount when compared to public ticket prices.

Child Safety Handbook

A child safety handbook has been sent home with the newsletter. It is produced by Police Legacy and is full of great ideas and tips to ensure you and your family stay safe in a range of daily activities. Please take the time to flip through and read anything that you feel meets your needs.

This week’s Principal’s Award

Congratulations to Chantel who receives the first principal’s award for 2013. Chantel is one of the many senior students who has done a wonderful job helping our new Kindergarten students settle into our school. Well done Chantel!

Yours in Education,

Scott Anderson – Principal
Meet Our New Students

We welcome all our new students and their families to Millfield Public School. Below are some quick profiles to help you get to know the latest members of the Millfield School Team.

Name: Bethany  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Keegan (4), Angus (2), Kaitlin (K)  
Fav. Food: Cake and Ice Cream  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Drawing  
When I grow up I want to be a: Pop Star

Name: Katelyn  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Keegan (4), Angus (2), Bethany (K)  
Fav. Food: Ice Cream  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Painting  
When I grow up I want to be a: Hairdresser

Name: Jack  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Madeline (5)  
Fav. Food: Jelly  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Play with Lego  
When I grow up I want to be a: Motorbike rider

Name: Samara  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Caitlin (6)  
Fav. Food: Smoked Salmon  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Painting  
When I grow up I want to be: Look after animals

Name: Kaleb  
Year: Kindergarten  
Fav. Food: Ben Ten Cake  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Play games  
When I grow up I want to be a: Fireman

Name: Hunter  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Dillon (6)  
Fav. Food: Lollies and Chocolate  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Tennis and Cricket  
When I grow up I want to be a: Fireman

Name: Molly  
Year: Kindergarten  
Fav. Food: Biscuits  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Making things  
When I grow up I want to be: a Café Owner

Name: Riley  
Year: Kindergarten  
*Siblings at M.P.S:* Jordan (6), Jacob (3)  
Fav. Food: Spaghetti  
Fav. Thing to do at school: Play with cars  
When I grow up I want to be a: Teacher
Name: Rhys
Year: 2
Previous School: Gunnedah (Previously at Millfield)
Fav. Food: Peach
Fav. Thing to do at school: Play with friends
When I grow up I want to be an: Inventor

Name: Tane
Year: 2
Previous School: Cessnock West
Fav. Food: Apple
Fav. Thing to do at school: Soccer and Cricket
When I grow up I want to be a: Policeman

Name: Caitlin
Year: 6
Previous School: Cessnock East
Siblings at M.P.S: Samara (K)
Fav. Food: Watermelon
Fav. Thing to do at school: Art
When I grow up I want to be a: Beauty Therapist

Name: Jessica
Year: 2
Previous School: Kitchener
Fav. Food: Watermelon
Fav. Thing to do at school: Art
When I grow up I want to be a: Hairdresser

CLASSROOM NEWS

Miss Pringle’s Class Awards K/1
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Samara Tiedeman for being a helpful and happy student
Jack Davis for being a polite and caring student

Mrs Ford’s Class Awards 2/3/4
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Cloe Hindmarsh for always producing her best work in class
William Cagney for working hard across all area of his learning

Mrs Sewell’s Class Awards 5/6
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Caitlin Tiedeman for settling in so quickly into her new classroom
Dayanidhi Torrisi for developing strong arguments in literacy
**P&C NEWS**

**Canteen**
A special meeting will be held this coming Monday 11th February to discuss the running of the canteen. It will be run after school from 3.00pm in the school library. Please come everyone is invited.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Hook into Hockey Program**

*Suit Boys & Girls U6 to U16 years of age*

*Starts: Wednesday 27 February to Wednesday 13 March 2013*

*Time: U6-U10yrs – 5:00pm to 6:00pm*

*U11 ~ U16yrs – 6:00pm to 7:00pm*

*Where: Maitland Hockey Field, Maitland Park*

*Elgin Street, Maitland*

*Cost: $60.00 includes Shin pads, stick, ball and mouthguard*

**Play Hockey this Winter**

*Registration Day on Thursday 28 Feb 2013*

*Juniors (U6 – U16) – 5pm to 6pm*

*Women’s – 6pm to 7pm*

**FUN, SAFE, ONE PLACE, ONE TIME**

Further information and registration forms are available on our website: www.maitlandhockey.org.au

**MAITLAND HOCKEY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

**CESSNOCK BASKETBALL ARE NOW TAKING NOMINATIONS FROM TEAMS FOR COMPETITIONS STARTING IN 2013.**

**NB: COMPETITIONS WILL COMMENCE WEEK BEGINNING 4TH FEBRUARY.** Draws have been done, however, if new teams wish to nominate we can incorporate them into the draw from March. Uniforms with numbers displayed must be worn. The first competition runs for the first 2 terms of school, and the second for terms 3 and 4. Semis and finals will be played and trophies/medals awarded.

**MONDAY NIGHT** : FROM 6PM OPEN MIXED COMP - (EACH TEAM MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 2 FEMALES ON THE COURT AT ALL TIMES).
TUESDAY NIGHT:
FROM 4.20PM - ROOKIES IS A COMPETITION USUALLY FOR CHILDREN UP TO YEAR 4 WHO
WISH TO PROGRESS FROM THE “LEARN TO PLAY” STAGE, THE BACKBOARDS REMAIN
LOWERED.

FROM 5.00PM - SUPER 12’S COMP (CAN BE MIXED – NO REQUIREMENTS)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT:
4.15 - 5.00PM - LEARN TO PLAY IS FOR THE LITTLIES WHO WANT TO COME ALONG AND
HAVE FUN AND LEARN BASKETBALL SKILLS FROM SOME OF OUR MORE SENIOR PLAYERS.
THE BACKBOARDS ARE LOWERED FOR THIS LEVEL.

FROM 5.10PM - HIGH SCHOOL COMP (CAN BE MIXED – NO REQUIREMENTS)

4.00 - 4.45PM - WE NOW OFFER A PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

MOST COMPETITIONS WILL HAVE AT LEAST 2 DIVISIONS (DEPENDING ON NUMBERS).
(NB Times may vary depending on the number of teams in each competition. Draws may change
during the competition if new teams wish to come into the competition).

MEMBERSHIP / GAME COSTS:

LEARN TO PLAY : $40 PER TERM. PRICE INCLUDES 12 MONTH MEMBERSHIP (NORMALLY
$55), STARTER PACK (BALL AND DRINK BOTTLE – ONE TIME OFFER) OR $5 PER WEEK (NO
STARTER PACK IF YOU PAY THIS WAY).

ROOKIES COMPETITION : $55 MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR (USUALLY CHILDREN IN YEARS (3 &
4 AT SCHOOL) PLUS A GAME FEE OF $6 PER PLAYER PER WEEK.

SUPER 12’S COMPETITION : $70 MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR OPEN TO ANY CHILD UP TO THE
AGE OF 12 YEARS. PLUS A GAME FEE OF $7 PER PLAYER PER WEEK.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION : $70 MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR. PLUS A GAME FEE OF $8 PER
PLAYER PER WEEK.

ADULT : $85 MEMBERSHIP PER YEAR PLUS A GAME FEE OF $10 PER PLAYER PER WEEK.

SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM : $5 PER WEEK

THESE TIMES AND COSTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

NB: HIGH SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO PLAY IN THE MONDAY NIGHT MIXED COMP
AS WELL AS THE HIGH SCHOOL COMP. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO
PLAY IN DIVISION 2 OF THE HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION AS WELL AS SUPER 12’S. ONE
MEMBERSHIP COVERS ALL COMPETITIONS.

OUTREACH CESSNOCK/BELLBIRD UNITING CHURCH
my name is Anne Hawkins. I am the Children and families Outreach
Worker at Cessnock/Bellbird Uniting church.
we have some fun activities happening for children and families

First Sunday each month – Godly Pay, @ Bellbird church, 11:30-
1:30pm. story time, wondering, craft, feast and shared lunch.
3rd Sunday each month - FFAT Church @ Bellbird (Families Friends All Together), 11:30-1:30pm. Bible, drama, discussion all over the shared lunch table.

4th Sunday each month - Alpha course @ Bellbird. Discussions of the big questions of life, again over the shared meal table.

CUBBY CLUB - @ Bellbird, Tuesdays during school term, 10-noon. Playgroup for all families with children not yet at school.

BELLS HOMEWORK & FUN CLUB - @ Bellbird, Tuesdays during school term, 3ish-5:30pm. Supervised homework time then organised fun activities.

YOUTH GROUP @ Cessnock Uniting Church Hall - 6-7:30pm, Fridays during school term. Supervised and directed discussion, crafts and fun for high school aged students.

During the year we also hold one-off events for families.

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**EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE IN 2013 AND IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE STUDIES AT HOME**

In June-July students from over 20 countries around the world will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To hear more about this wonderful opportunity or our student exchange programs out of Australia

Call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit