As the first term of 2013 comes to a close, it is amazing to think how much we have crammed into ten and a half weeks of schooling. Sporting events such as the swimming carnival, cross country and Zone trials in football, league, netball and hockey provided students with not only a fun day out, but a chance to showcase their skills in a range of sports. Creative arts activities ranging from shadow puppets to painting workshops enthused kids of all ages, while special events such as the Easter Celebration and Ride to School day saw some fantastic community involvement.

Our school has been very settled this term, with students building on their academic skills in the classroom which is bringing some fantastic progress for each student. Teachers have undergone a range of professional development activities to support our school targets for 2013 which are well on the way to being achieved. Nevertheless, both students and teachers are itching to get into their holidays, and we wish everyone a happy and safe time recharging the batteries for another busy term in two weeks’ time.

ANZAC Day Services

ANZAC Day this year falls on the second Thursday of the holidays (25th April) and our school will be involved in several ways again this year.

The Millfield Dawn Service will again be held at our school starting with a march from the church to school at 5.15am. A short service will then be held by the Salvation Army which should finish around 5.30am. A free breakfast is then served in the canteen. We are also involved in the Cessnock ANZAC March and Service which begins at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre (next to Peden’s) at 11am. Students will need to meet Mr Anderson at 10.40am in full school uniform ready for the march down Vincent Street and then to the TAFE park for the service. It would be great to see as many students as possible representing our school at this event.

Asbestos Removal/ School Security during the holidays.

Schools are often targeted for vandalism or theft during the school holidays. Please ensure you remind all of your children about staying away from school grounds during the holidays, as this put them at risk of blame if we received some unwanted visitors.

It is especially important these holidays as we will be having several high risk works completed while the students are not at school. One of these includes the removal of the old general assistant shed at the front of school which is made of materials containing Asbestos. This work will be completed by accredited removalists, and will pose no risk before or after removal.

Please report any suspicious behaviour to the:

School Security Hotline - 1300 880 021 or Cessnock Police - 49910199
‘A Taste of Art’ with Ross Whitlock.

Our students were extremely privileged this week to receive a visit from renowned landscape artist Ross Whitlock. Ross is currently visiting from New Zealand as part of a tour to the Hunter Valley, and currently has an exhibition at Tyrell’s Winery. Students observed Ross use a range of techniques to produce a painting of our school landscape, before turning to their own paintbrushes to put their new skills to the test. An art exhibition was held in the hall to show off all our masterpieces.

Paint the Town REaD

Our school on Wednesday took part in the launch of ‘Paint the town REaD’, which is an initiative devised by the Cessnock Community of Great Public School’s (CCGPS) of which Millfield PS is a part. The initiative aims to promote early literacy practices in the community by placing boxes of books in businesses around town for infants to read while they are waiting for Mum or Dad. Our Year 1 and 2 students took part by delivering some of these boxes to businesses in Cessnock, which was followed by a launch in the TAFE park which involved an author reading and musical performances.
Debating Workshop

Four students travelled to Kurri Kurri Public School on Wednesday to take part in a debating workshop in preparation for our first school debate on 3rd of May. Students spent the day learning about how to organise their arguments, speak with purpose, and use attention grabbing techniques.

Staff Development Days, Term 2

Staff will participate in an extra staff development day at the start of next term. This is to help schools with transition into the new Australian Curriculum from the beginning of 2014. One of the days will be used to plan this transition, and allow staff to gain a deep knowledge of any changes. The other day will be used to complete mandatory CPR/Emergency Care training, as well as other school priorities associated with the 2012-2014 school plan. Students will return on Wednesday 1st of May.

K-2 Excursion – Bubble Wrap and Boxes

Students from K-2 will travel to the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre on Thursday 9th May to see a performance called “Bubble Wrap and Boxes”. Drama Victoria rated it “Best performance by a Theatre Company for Primary students”, and involves a story surrounding a strange nowhere land where all our lost parcels and undeliverable letters live. It is a story about how to live bravely in a big world and is told using acrobatics, clowning and a whole lot of cardboard boxes. This performance will be subsidised by the school and will cost $10 which includes bus travel and ticket. A permission note will be sent first week next term.

Stage 3 Japanese Projects

Stage 3 have been busy finishing off their projects as part of their Japanese Culture unit this term. Students were able to choose to complete their project in a range of ways, with students creating powerpoints, posters, books, cooking or fashion items. A few of these projects are shown below.

This week’s Principal’s Award

Congratulations to Jorja Shearer who gets this week’s Principal’s award. Jorja has been working extremely hard on her spelling and reading at school and home this term, which has seen some wonderful improvements. Well done Jorja!

Yours in Education, Scott Anderson - Principal
Term 1 Highlights

- Ross Whitlock Painter visit
- School Bike-a-thon
- Kinder’s first week
- Boys Sports Day
- Easter Celebrations
- Girls Netball Day
- Water Saving Show
- NRL ‘Tackle Bullying’ Workshop
- Sticks and Stones
- Zone Swimming
- Cross Country
CLASSROOM NEWS

Miss Pringle’s Class Awards K/1
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Jack Davis for learning all of his turtle sight words
Katelyn Shepherd for improvement and enthusiasm during maths

Mrs Ford’s Class Awards 2/3/4
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Jorja Shearer for always producing her best work in class
Keegan Shep for his excellent thoughts and contributions to class persuasive arguments

Ms Cornish’s Class Awards 5/6
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Shayne Lombardi for improving his 12 timetables
Montanna-Rose Morton for consistently completing homework tasks which has led to weekly classroom achievement
Caitlin Tiedeman for dressing in Kimono to demonstrate her understanding of Japanese dress

Mrs Durie’s Class Awards
Congratulations to this week’s award recipients:
Kaleb Henry for a settled and positive approach to learning
Jessica Butler for always being a quiet and respectful student
Clay Hollingshed for enthusiasm when attending a debating workshop

COMMUNITY NEWS

SCHOOL     HOLIDAY FUN!!!!
Tuesday’s 16th & 23rd April 2013
CESSNOCK BASKETBALL STADIUM
10am - 3pm
$20 per child
($10 for Boxing/$10 for Basketball)
School Age Children
5yrs - 17 yrs
Fully Supervised
10.30am - 11.30 Boxing (with qualified instructor)
11.30 - 3pm 3 on 3 fun
(Lunch 12.45 - 1.30)
Canteen will be open with lots of fresh food and drinks
Bookings Essential
Contact:
Sonia 0417 063 073
April holiday activities @ your library
No phone bookings, no refunds, tickets on sale late March. Numbers strictly limited

Baby Rhymetime - ages 0-2
Monday April 15  Cessnock Library  10.00 – 10.30  FREE
Monday April 22  Cessnock Library  10.00 – 10.30  FREE
Lap sessions for babies 0-2 years – songs, rhymes, instruments and a story – come and join the fun!

Outer Space Storytime – ages 2-8
Tuesday April 16  Cessnock Library  10.00 – 11.00  FREE
Stories, songs and craft about Outer Space!

Dinosaur Storytime – ages 2-8
Tuesday April 23  Cessnock Library  10.00 – 11.00  FREE
Stories, songs and craft about dinosaurs!

Outer Space Rhymetime/Storytime – ages 0-8
Wednesday April 17  Kurri Kurri Library  10.00 – 11.00  FREE
Songs, songs, instruments and dancing – followed by a story and craft about Outer Space!

Dinosaur Rhymetime/Storytime – ages 0-8
Wednesday April 24  Kurri Kurri Library  10.00 – 11.00  FREE
Songs, rhymes, instruments and dancing – followed by a story and craft about Dinosaurs!

Movie & Craft Afternoon – Wall-E – ages 5-12
Monday April 15  Cessnock Library  2.00 – 4.00  FREE
Wednesday April 17  Kurri Kurri Library  2.00 – 4.00  FREE
Come and enjoy an afternoon at the movies, then create a robot from space junk!

Mad Scientist Afternoon – ages 8+
Tuesday April 16  Cessnock Library  2.00 – 3.00  FREE
Wednesday April 24  Kurri Kurri Library  2.00 – 3.00  FREE
Warning – science experiments can be very messy! Wear old clothes to this hands-on kitchen science workshop, and take home your own bag of goo!

Gift Making Workshop – ages 5+
Monday April 22  Kurri Kurri Library  2.00 – 3.00  FREE
Tuesday April 23  Cessnock Library  2.00 – 3.00  FREE
Make some beautiful handmade gifts - decorate a magnetic picture frame for the fridge, make a tealight candle holder and a decoupage soap in a box.

Pizza, Wii and Games – ages 9+
Tuesday April 16  Kurri Kurri Library  5.00 – 6.30  $5.00
Tuesday April 23  Cessnock Library  5.00 – 6.30  $5.00

Please ring Cessnock Library 49 934399 or Kurri Kurri Library 49 371638 to enquire.

Sandy Ryan
Childrens Services Officer
49 934384
Email:  Sandra.Ryan@cessnock.nsw.gov.au