DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 21st March 2014
Harmony Day - Wear Orange!

Friday 28th March 2014
School Cross Country Carnival

Monday 31st March 2014
Young Leaders Day : Sydney

Wednesday 2nd April 2014
CSIRO Show in MPC - All students

Thursday 3rd April 2014
PSSA Cross Country Carnival - Tocal Disco - Note sent home today

Tuesday 8th April 2014
Interrelate Family sessions

Thursday 10th April 2014
Rumbalara - 2/3L and 3/4F

Friday 11th April 2014
Last day of term 1

Monday 28th April 2014
Staff return for Term 2

Tuesday 29th April 2014
Students return for Term 2

Thursday 1st May 2014
Rumbalara - 4/5A & 5/6S - Notes home soon

Friday 2nd May 2014
Tocal Field Day Excursion - Yr 3 to 6

UNIFORM SHOP

The P&C Uniform Co-ordinator will be available for fitting and uniform purchases Friday mornings at 8.45am.

Direct Depositing School Payments

Account Name - Morpeth PS
BSB No - 032 001
Account No - 143579

PRINCIPAL’S NEWS AND VIEWS

Senior Cricket : On Friday our senior cricketers travelled to Vacy to play Gresford PS in Round 1 of the Reg Kelly Shield. Mr Scanlan has been busily coaching the players over the past weeks and the team put in a highly committed and enthusiastic performance. In what turned out to be an extremely close encounter, our team was defeated by one run. Gresford had first use of the wicket and posted a competitive total of 95. Morpeth then began the run chase and came desperately close but fell one run short of the total. Congratulations to all players for not only their impressive performance, but the manner in which they conducted themselves on the day. A big thank you also to our parents / family members who assisted with transport. Our next game will be against Seaham with details to be announced in the coming days.

Change to P&C Meeting Time : The Morpeth PS P&C Committee has reviewed the results of the recent P&C meeting times survey. The committee was extremely pleased by the excellent response to the survey with a high number of parents offering their preferences. The results clearly indicated that the option of holding daytime meetings would be a popular alternative to the current night time arrangements. Therefore, commencing on 7 April ( week 11 ) and for an initial trial period of 3 months, P&C Meetings will be held at 9:30am on the first Monday of the month. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend and we look forward to seeing some familiar and new faces in attendance.

Peer Support : Last Wednesday Mrs Fincher and Miss Stevens attended a Peer Support training day in Newcastle. We believe that student leadership, peer mentoring and student voice are essential components of a holistic education and that a well structured peer support program would provide an effective means to achieving that goal. Initially the program will involve the purchase of resources and training of our student leaders in their respective roles. We envisage the program will begin in term 3.

Harmony Day : On Friday schools across the state will be celebrating Harmony Day. The theme for this year’s day is ‘Everybody Belongs!’ This year our senior students will be drawing an outline of a goat under the COLA area and we are suggesting that students offer a coin ( gold or silver ) that will be placed inside the sketch. All money received will be used to purchase a goat ( or goats ) for a village in Africa through the Oxfam organisation. We understand that a donation was held today and we are conscious of the financial demands on families. However, if you are able to make a donation on Friday all proceeds will go to a very worthy cause. Students are also able to wear Orange on Friday to show their support of Harmony Day.

St Patrick’s Day : Today our students celebrated St Patricks Day. The school was awash with green as students came to school sporting the colour. A selection of delicious green food was also available from the canteen. All proceeds will be used to subsidise gifts for the upcoming Mothers’ Day stall.

BYOD Training Night : Tomorrow night Mrs Fincher and Mr Scanlan will be offering an information session for parents in classes 3 / 4F and 2 / 3L about the Bring Your Own Device ( BYOD ) initiative currently in operation in our stage 3 classes. We are expanding the program to include the stage 2 classes and we feel it is important to inform parents about BYOD and its implications. The session will begin at 6pm and will be held in Mr Scanlan’s room. We would also like to invite parents of students in 4 / 5A and 5 / 6S would like to attend.

Social Skills Report : In terms 2 and 4 students receive a written report detailing their academic performance and progress. To complement the academic report, our school also offers a written social skills / work habits report that is made available to parents in terms 1 and 3. The social skills report will be sent home in the final week of this term.

Country Fair : I have met recently with our P&C committee members regarding a proposed Country Fair to be held in October. The proposal involves holding the fair on the grounds of Closebourne Estate. A letter to parents, outlining the aims of the fair and a brief overview of the day is attached to this week’s newsletter. The fair will represent the major P&C fundraiser for the year with all funds being used to purchase equipment and resources to support our students. In order for the fair to proceed, the P&C will require volunteers to assist with the organisation and management of the day. I am hoping that we are able to get a positive response from our families in order to ensure the success of the day.

Peter Edmonds
STOCKLAND STARS
IS BACK !!!

Our star will be on display at
Greenhills (above the Customer Care Centre)
from
Monday 3rd March to Sunday 6th April 2014.
Please vote for our school and
help us win the cash prize!

Canteen News

**Week 8 - Term 1, 2014**

- Monday 17.3.14  Peter White, Kelly Mate
- Tuesday 18.3.14  Sharee Oldham, Jodi Lovell
- Wed 19.3.14  Belinda Duffey, Natalie Hutton
- Thurs 20.3.14  Sam Cook, Kellie Upton
- Friday 21.3.14  Sallyann Rumbel, Tracy Forbes

**Week 9 - Term 1, 2014**

- Monday 24.3.14  Jo Kennedy, Kelly Mate
- Tuesday 25.3.14  Kylie Brand, Rob Hanson
- Wed 26.3.14  Kim Tull, Louise Vercoe
- Thurs 27.3.14  Mel Anderson, Emma Ramm
- Friday 28.3.14  Jodi Lovell, Kristen Gadd

In the event that your child is absent from school, feel free to use the form below. This can be copied as many times as necessary.

**STUDENT ABSENTEE NOTE** - Please return to class teacher

**CHILD’S NAME:**  .................................................................  **CLASS:**  .................................................................

**Absence Dates:**  ........................................................................................................................................................................

**Reason for Absence:**  ........................................................................................................................................................................

**Parent Name:**  ..................................................................................................................................................................................

**Parent Signature:**  .................................................................  **Date:**  .................................................................

TERM 1 DISCO

Please see note sent home today

Tickets are only available to students who return a completed note prior to the event.

Tickets: $7 per student

HELP NEEDED FOR FRIDAY 4TH APRIL

The Canteen Committee require help on the following dates in term 2:

- May - 15, 16 & 26
- June - 2, 4 and 17 and July 3

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ECONOMY NEWS

Banking: Many students have begun recycling or working in the gardens and Economy office and have been paid by cheque. To deposit these cheques, all students from years 3-6 MUST visit the bank and complete a deposit slip. Our friendly bankers are happy to assist any students who are new to the Economy. The bankers process cheques for all students K-2. Please remember, you MUST have a bank book to begin saving and to be eligible to bid at auctions. Forms are available from the Economy office.

Auctions: Many students are eagerly awaiting the first auction for 2014 which will be conducted at this Friday’s assembly. Students from years 3-6 MUST have deposited their cheques into their Economy bank account by Thursday to be eligible to bid. The outright auction prize will be awarded to the highest bidder. All students with an account balance of $(P)50 or more will be eligible for the lucky draw.

To view a short film about our Economy, please log into the following link:


If you have any questions regarding Economy operations, or would like to assist, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jane Fincher - Economy Co-ordinator

Waterwatch: 3/4F will conduct their next Waterwatch testing session on Tuesday 25th March. A note with further particulars will be sent home this week.

Catchment Action Workshops

This Monday and Tuesday Hunter Water will be coming to our school to present fun and interactive workshops to students about waterways. Students will learn about the effects of inappropriate behaviours in a catchment and participate in activities that will help them learn how to protect our fragile waterways.

STUDENT BANKING

Many thanks for all the wonderful colouring competition entries that were received. Results will be announced at the assembly this Friday and listed in next week’s newsletter.

COUNTRY FAIR MEETING

All interested parents are invited to attend the next meeting about our Country Fair.

The meeting is being held at
THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL - MORPETH
MONDAY 31st MARCH 2014

BOOK CLUB ORDERS DUE

WED 19TH MARCH 2014

Please return orders to your class teacher.
Payment may be made online, by credit card or cheque (made payable to Scholastic Australia — NOT Morpeth PS) or cash which is receipted by the school.
Details are on the back of all brochures. Additional forms are available from the school Office.
MORPETH PHARMACY
“Always there for Family Care”
Open: Monday to Saturday
9am - 6pm (excluding Public Hols)
Phone: 4933 6229

SIMONES HAIR STUDIO
Catering for Ladies & Mens
Cutting - Colours - Perms
Phone: 4934 2855
5 Close Street, Morpeth

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For all your home maintenance needs
Phone Mal on 0402 456 774
Prompt, reliable and local service

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2/119 Swan Street Morpeth
(inside Heritage Hairdressing)
0408 405 051 or 4934 1370 - Salon
Do you want to win a $50 voucher

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