Excursions: At the end of last week our primary students were involved in excursions to support learning. On Thursday, students in Mr Scalan’s and Ms Stevens’ class attended the Rumbalara rainforest centre. Located on the Central Coast, students were involved in a number of activities that provided hands on information about the ecosystem of the forest. On Friday students in years 3-6 attended the TOCAL Field day. TOCAL is always a popular excursion that provides an interesting insight into the traditional and changing practices of life on the land.

NRMA: Tomorrow we will be visited by representatives from the NRMA Science and Road Safety Show. Students in all classes will be involved in stage-based workshops that will provide important information about road safety. A parent workshop will also conducted at approximately 2:30pm. We would love to see lots of parents attend the session. A huge thank you must go to Miss Webster and Miss Lambert for organising the day.

Tree Audit: We were visited today by a consulting arborist who made visual inspections and appraisals of the health of the many trees we have in our playground. Our trees are a visually appealing addition to our grounds, but it is essential that we monitor their condition in order to ensure the safety of our students and to protect our buildings. The arboretist will provide detailed information about any trees he identifies as needing prompt maintenance.

Zone Touch Football: On Next Tuesday Ms Stevens will be the convenor for Maitland PSSA’s Zone Touch Football trials. Touch football is a highly popular sport for both male and female competitors in the area which suggests that a large contingent of students will attend the trials. Ms Stevens is a highly competent player herself, and I’m sure she will be able to select a talented and competitive team to represent the zone at the upcoming regional trials to be held mid term.

Active After School Communities: Our popular AASC sports program recommences this week. On Mondays we are offering Taekwondo with Gymnastics on Wednesdays. Mrs Coyle will once again be coordinating the program that includes a healthy snack and water for those involved.

Mothers’ Day: On Friday our P&C will be holding a Mothers’ day stall that will feature a selection of price friendly gifts for all students. Thank you to the parents who assisted in wrapping the gifts and, of course, a big thank you to our tireless P&C members for arranging the day.

NAPLAN: Next week our students in years 3 and 5 will be sitting for NAPLAN. The assessments will be held over three days; Language / Writing on Tuesday, Reading on Wednesday and Numeracy on Thursday.

Leadership project—Our year 6 students are in the process of organising a leadership project that will be presented to other Maitland High School feeder schools later in the year. Our students, in association with Ms Stevens, have decided to provide a ‘make-over’ of our MPC and the manner in which our sports equipment is stored. Over recent weeks shelving has been installed on the back wall (courtesy of Chef Harmes!) and an impressive storage trolley has been purchased. Eventually the shelving will have lockable doors which will mean that all equipment can be secured in a neat and orderly fashion. Well done year 6 and Ms Stevens, this is an impressive project that will be of great benefit to our school.

Drumming and Guitar Lessons: Just a quick reminder that our popular guitar and drumming lessons start this Thursday, Col and Jeremy are keen to pick up where they left off at the end of last term with our talented young musicians. In a changing world of music and the impact of technology, it is refreshing to see students learning the traditional instruments of guitar and drums.

P&C Meeting: Our P&C meeting was extremely interesting this morning. A very informative overview of our newly purchased communication app, Skoolbag, was provided by Mrs Touzell. I anticipate that Skoolbag will revolutionise the communication and information exchange between our families and the school and I urge our families to download the free app. In summary Skoolbag operates on both android and apple products and it provides an up to the minute ‘one stop shop’ for information (newsletters, permission notes, excursion / sport information etc.). It provides direct access to the school’s webpage and it also provides links to contact the school via email, phone or explain a student’s absence.

Woolworths Food sample Day: On Thursday, our friends from Woolworths at Stockland Green Hills will visit the school to run a series of healthy eating workshops for our students. Woolworths will provide a lunch for all students and also suggest ideas for nutritious and tasty snacks. Students are also asked to submit a favourite recipe—winning entries will be displayed at the shopping centre.

Peter Edwards
Week 2 - Term 2, 2014

Monday 5.5.14  Sally Godwin, Gaby Whelan
Tuesday 6.5.14  Angela Smith, Kylie Brand
Wed 7.5.14   Prue Wolfe, Mel Anderson
Thurs 8.5.14  Emma Ramm, Louise Vercoe
Friday 9.5.14  Kellie Upton, Sam Cook / Rachael P

Week 3 - Term 2, 2014

Monday 12.5.14  Lainie Hopkins, Sharyn Watson
Tuesday 13.5.14  Tara Porter, Nicki Shepherd
Wed 14.5.14  Erin Wilkes, Petah McGaw
Thurs 15.5.14  Louise Vercoe, Tammy Gakovic
Friday 16.5.14  Bleinda Duffey, Carol Nelson

Canteen News

P & C Email
The P&C now have their own email address. Families who wish to receive a copy of the meeting minutes can do so by sending a request to the Secretary. Likewise if you would like to have something added to the agenda please feel free to email your request to the email address below.
morpethspandc@gmail.com

Uniform Shop
Winter Uniforms are now in stock for orders.
The P&C Uniform Co-ordinator will be available for fitting and uniform purchases at the following times:
Monday - 8.45 to 9.30am
Friday - 8.45 to 9.30am  also Assembly Friday from 2pm
Other times by appointment
Please contact Jodi Lovell on 0438 131 447
or email the uniform shop morpethspuniforms@gmail.com

Winter Items
For the Canteen Menu
Sweet and Sour chicken with rice - $2.50
Fried Rice - $2.50
Beef and Gravy roll - $3.00
Chicken and Gravy roll - $3.00
Chicken patty - $2
Soup (Tomato & Pumpkin) - $1  Bread roll - 50 cents

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 12th May at 7pm

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MOTHERS DAY STALL
The stall will be help at school on Friday 9th May 2014 Gifts $1 to $5
Anyone wishing to donate items to the Mothers Day stall
Please leave them at the Canteen.
HELPERS NEEDED TO RUN THE STALL -
Please see Petah McGaw if you can help.

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HELPERS NEEDED TO RUN THE STALL -
Please see Petah McGaw if you can help.
Our School now has our own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community. We are asking parents/students to install our Skoolbag School App.

To install it, just search for our school name "Morpeth Public School" in either the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store.

Thank you to the P&C for helping fund this initiative.

Tip of the Week

Complete your absentee details and change of contact details electronically via the Parent eforms link on Skoolbag. No need to send a note into your class teacher – the information is sent directly to the school office.

ECONOMY NEWS

Jane Fincher - Economy Co-ordinator

Interest Cheques: Interest cheques at the rate of 100% on bank balances as at 11th April have been issued. Students from years 3-6 will need to complete a deposit slip to ensure that their account is credited with their interest. Our friendly bankers have deposited cheques for K-2 students.

Recycling: Congratulations to all those students who have brought in recycling items to the Economy. I have delivered another box full of used prescription spectacles to East Maitland Lions Club for World Vision and Mrs Shepherd collects a full wizbin full of plastic bags each week and delivers them to Woolworths. Our can crates are full and we have booked a collection with Mai-Wel, which will generate real income for the Economy. These funds are used to purchase auction prizes and gardening equipment for the students.

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

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: .................................................................
Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

> School, free push notification alerts
> School events
> School newsletters
> School documents
> School RSS feeds
> School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "Phone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Don’t forget to like us on Facebook! 

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au
Students in years 3-6 have the opportunity enter the **2013 Australian Schools Competitions**. The Australasian Schools Competitions are the largest external schools assessment programs available in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Region. They provide an opportunity for all students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external assessment situation. Students who participate will each receive a certificate and a detailed results letter indicating which questions they answered correctly, identifying the skill tested in each question and highlighting student strengths and weaknesses.

The competitions are offered in the subject areas of:

- Mathematics
- Spelling
- Writing
- English

**Please note that there is a minimum of 3 students per subject required to enable the program to proceed. No money is required to accompany this note - if the minimum numbers are achieved an invoice will be generated and sent home via your child.**

If you would like your child to enter, please indicate which competition/s on the form below and return to your child’s class teacher. Entry forms must be returned to school before 15th May 2014.

Students entering competitions will receive a reminder two days prior to the competition sitting date.

*Jane Fincher - ICAS Co-ordinator*

---

**Australian Schools Competitions Entry Form 2014**

Students name: ___________________________________________ Class ______________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please tick</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Course sitting date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 18th June</td>
<td>$11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 17th June</td>
<td>$17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Wednesday 3rd July</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 13th August</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed: ___________________________________________ Date____________________

*Parent / Guardian*

**NOTE: NO PAYMENT REQUIRED UNTIL MINIMUM NUMBERS ACHIEVED (See note above)**
Does your child order their lunch?
We now have re-useable lunch order bags available to purchase as part of a P & C fundraiser

Stickybeaks “Lunch Wallets” come in black with your choice of PINK, BLUE, GREEN, RED, YELLOW, GREY or PURPLE binding.

Whether it is daily, once a week or once a month, most children will get the opportunity to order their lunch. If this is your child, we would like you to consider purchasing a Stickybeaks Lunch Wallet.

Not only will you help the P & C raise much needed funds for our school, you will also be rewarded with the ease of using the lunch wallet along with helping to reduce our paper waste.

Keep and reuse the lunch order & name slips. They are available to print for FREE from the Stickybeaks website.

The lunch wallets fold flat, and have a separate zipper pocket to keep money separate from food and provide a re-usable bag for your child’s lunch.

*SAMPLES ARE IN THE CANTEEN FOR YOUR VIEWING*

PLEASE RETURN YOUR ORDER FORM AND MONEY BY THE 27TH MAY

---------------------------------------------
LUNCH WALLETS ORDER FORM

Child’s Name: ____________________________________________________________
Child’s Class: ____________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STYLE</th>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Blue</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Pink</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Green</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Red</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Yellow</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Grey</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Wallet – Black/Purple</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL
KINDER 2015
Please contact the school office now to register your child for Kinder next year

GIRL GUIDES meet in your area!
Come and join in the fun, make new friends and learn skills for life!

WHERE: St John the Baptist Hall, Cnr John & Church Street, Largs

For enquiries about joining, please contact:
Sandra Hebert
ph: 49301780 or 0418160402
e-mail: HERBSHAVEN@bigpond.com

For more information about Girl Guides visit: www.girlguides-nswact.org.au

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE COMING
Email the P&C if you would like to reserve your copy now

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