



MONTHLY BULLETIN

Issue 5

JULY 2022

Principals Report:

Welcome back to Term Three. I hope that you had an enjoyable Winter break with your children. Finally, the weather has been favourable which always lifts the spirits. Our teachers are prepared and ready for a great term of teaching and learning. Our school priorities remain focused on improving reading and numeracy, supporting positive wellbeing, and improving school attendance.

COVID-19 & Influenza Update

Unfortunately, COVID-19 and the influenza virus continue to play a significant factor in our community with a predicted surge in COVID cases expected in the next few weeks. Term 3 settings have been updated by the Department of Education and are very similar to last term. The main points being: keeping students and staff at home when any symptoms are present; using Rapid Antigen Tests to determine if positive; and, when a positive result is detected, isolating for 7 days and reporting this to NSW Health and the school. “Close contacts” are urged to wear a mask when coming to school. Mask-wearing in Primary schools is highly encouraged, particularly in the first four weeks of term.

Home Reading

We are really ramping up our Home Reading program this term with a “book-a-night return” system in the junior classes and daily reading check-ins with the senior class. Please encourage your children to read regularly at home. Our school data demonstrates that the students who read regularly at home progress far more positively in their reading. Great reading also contributes to being successful writers, and assists greatly with Mathematics, Science, and everything throughout life that requires reading comprehension.



Athletics

Following from the Small School Carnival, congratulations go to the students who qualified for the Manning Zone Athletics Carnival. The following students will represent our school at Tuncurry on August 5:

Tom (9yrs 100m, Relay, long jump)

continued on Page 2



Olivia (8yrs 100m, Junior 800m, long jump)

Quintin (9yrs 100m, long jump, Relay)

Malachi (long jump, Relay)

Samuel (Relay)

Tennis

Our school Tennis team, consisting of Shayla Boorer, Caitlin Hardgrave, Malachi Reece, & Samuel Fulton, travelled to Gloucester to play Boral Public School in the Regional Area semi-final this week. Our students played extremely well and came within a game or two of winning each set. Well done kids!

NAIDOC Celebrations



Last Friday, Mount George Public School celebrated NAIDOC with a range of learning experiences and variety of cultural activities ranging from jewellery making, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, indigenous games, and stories. A special mention to Lintara Saunders who gave up her time to be our special guest and to help teach the students about NAIDOC and Biripi Country.

This year's theme for NAIDOC was "Get Up, Stand Up, Show Up", encouraging communities to come together and champion institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative change while celebrating those who have driven positive change for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities over generations. I am proud of the work our school is doing in this space.

Education Week Special Assembly and Grandparents Day

This year's Education Week theme is 'Creating futures – Education changes lives' and celebrates the quality education we provide and the opportunities available to everyone in NSW public education. We are excited to invite all parents and grandparents to our School on Thursday 4 August to showcase what Mount George Public School is all about. Our special assembly will commence at 9:00am and will feature musical performances from the choir and instrumental groups. Afterwards, there will be opportunity for parents and grandparents to come into the students' classrooms to read and look at the work they have been doing in class.

Billy Cart Derby & Spring Festival

Our big billy cart derby is just around the corner – Sunday 11th of September. Preparations have already begun and the students are getting excited about performing on the day. A note will go home shortly asking for your assistance on the day. Please indicate what time and activity you are willing to help with. Your help with this large-scale school event is much appreciated.

Learning Conversations

Our Personalised Learning Plan meetings will be held in Week 3 on Wednesday 3 August. We will be conducting 20-minute interviews with you and your child to discuss their learning, progress, and goals for Term 3. This term's meetings will be conducted by Zoom, telephone, or by face-to-face sessions (COVID-safety guidelines to be followed strictly), depending on the parent's preference. Students will be present with their class teacher regardless of the delivery mode chosen.

Available interview times for your child's teacher have already been sent home.

Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition & Opportunity Class Placement Test

Well done to the year 6 students and Samuel Fulton (year 4) who sat the Newcastle Permanent Maths test this week as an extra challenge activity. This competition attracts over 22,000 students from more than 350 schools, giving Year 5 and Year 6 students the opportunity to test their numeracy and problem-solving skills.

In addition, it has been a huge effort by Samuel who really worked his brain overtime this week by also participating in the Opportunity Class Placement Tests run by Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing.

Long Service Leave

I will be away on long service leave from the 15th of August to the 26th of August. Mrs Owens will be Relieving Principal during this period.

National Tree Day

Our students enjoyed a lovely sunny Winter's day planting out new shrubs and native grasses to help stabilise the new soccer field bank. This will also beautify the school grounds and help to attract native insects and birdlife. A big shout out goes to the parents who were able to attend – thank you to Amaya's mum, Rachelle, and to Finn's mum, Beate – thank you for helping make it a fun and productive event!



- Mr Falla, Principal

