Easter Hat Parade
Our Easter Hat Parade will be held on Thursday 28th March and the school’s Easter egg raffle will be drawn at the same time. The parade is one of the highlights of the year so parents please come along and be part of it. The parade is due to start at 12.40pm.

Return of raffle tickets for the monster Easter egg raffle has been slow. Please support the school in this fundraising event. Additional tickets are available at the school office. Classes 3-4-5J and 1-2E are leading the tally of Easter egg donations. Donations can continue until Tuesday next week. Thank you.

Special Assembly
Immediately before the Easter Hat Parade there will be a special assembly held in the hall. This assembly is to thank the sponsors and volunteer workers who made the new flooring in the hall a reality. Parents are invited to be part of this assembly.

Parking Arrangements
Please be aware of the parking restrictions around the school and in particular the new parking arrangements in Melbourne Street. I urge all drivers and pedestrians to be careful in terms of road safety particularly at the start and end of the school day. There are significant penalties for parking illegally and these are being enforced by Cessnock Council in areas adjacent to schools.

News from Stage 2 Teachers
Mrs Hourigan & Mrs Jarlett
It has been a very busy start to the beginning of the year. We are starting to all settle into the routine of our new classes and forming some nice friendships. PAWS contracts have been the topic of many conversations and many students are working hard on being Safe, Respectful, Learners as they endeavour to achieve their badges in near future.

Students have been working on developing their research skills in the library and utilising technology to build their knowledge of the solar system. Many students are enjoying the new computer lab and also finding out new and interesting facts about the universe. Our COGS unit has sparked some interesting discussions and engaged students in scientific reports and investigations.
The coming weeks have some fun activities occurring such as the Easter Hat Parade and Stage Rewards Day. Students eligible to attend the rewards day will hopefully strike it lucky at tenpin bowling. Watch out for upcoming information on these events.

As always the students keep our sense of humour alive so here are a few jokes we thought we would share.

**What is black and white and red all over?**
A sunburnt Zebra.

**Why did the chicken cross the road?**
It was the dog’s day off.

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**
**Quality Work shared with Principal**

Logan Southeron  
Jayda Gillis  
Hayden Nickerson  
John Barry  
Cody Lewis  
Cooper Follan  
Ivy Bowtell  
Roman Wilson  
Stevie Deans-Hona  
Miah Gay  
Kirstin Dent  
Maddy Stothard  
Jeremy Hancock  
Chelsea Wilson  
Shakira O’Keefe  
Zealan Love  
Daniel Southeron  
Bannica Martin  
Darrian Burley  
Naomi Jehu  
Madison Hall  
Jed Hawthorne  
Emma Davies  
Joshua Conroy  
Joel Lucas  
Amittee Cunningham  
Kiara Peachman  
Rai Berry  
Adam Gilbert  
Samantha Appleyard  
Andrew Passfield  
Nakeshia Innes

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**PBL LUCKY DRAW WINNERS 2013**

| Term 1 | Week 6 | Infants | Tori Hendrix  
| Primary | Will Stothard  
| Week 7 | Infants | Ivy Bowtell  
| Primary | Baily Axisa  
| Week 8 | Infants | Miah Gay  
| Primary | DJ Bevear |
Cross Country
The Cross Country was held at school yesterday. Thank you to the many spectators that attended and to those who assisted. Winning Sport House was HUNTER. Qualifying students have received a permission note to attend the Zone Cross Country to be held at Carmichael Park, Bellbird on Wednesday 27th March. Good luck.

Facts About Fractions
If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets.

Amazing Art
Autumn’s the perfect season to take a trip to a gallery. The popular ArtExpress exhibition connects us to the inner lives and self-expression of high school students. Amazing works are on show throughout NSW. Check out the calendar – it will be at the Maitland Regional Art Gallery from the 7th June till 28th July.
Find out more: http://artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/

Sounding Out Aloud
Making phonics fun. Help your child learn to read by sounding out their words. Here are some tips to help your child gain confidence reading.

Nulkaba Public School
Annual Country Fair
This Saturday 23rd March 2013
10am to 3pm
★ Sizzler ★ Jumping Castles ★ Giant Fibreglass Slide ★
★ Chair-o-plane ★ Laughing Clowns ★ Pirate Ship ★ Dunking Machine
...and don't forget to visit these great stalls
★ Chocolate Wheel★ Face-painting★ Freshly Made Fairy Floss on a stick★ Lollies★ ★
Popcorn★Ice’s★ Donuts★ Espresso Coffee★ Novelties★ Tattoo’s★ Golf Putting★
★ Hairspray ★ Family Portraits ★ 2nd Hand Books ★ Chocolate Shot★Plant & Produce★
★ Cakes & Craft★ ★ Our famous Bottle Stall★
★ BBQ and Drinks★
Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools (CCGPS) will launch "Paint the Town REaD" in the Cessnock Community on the 10th April. Students from grades 1 and 2 as well as school leaders from the fourteen local Public schools will march through the main street of Cessnock wearing red shirts and carrying red balloons in a joint demonstration of our Public Schools’ commitment to the engagement of the whole community in promoting early literacy skills.

"Paint the Town REaD" is an early literacy community scheme that encourages the whole community to read, talk, sing and rhyme with children from birth, so that they will be ready for reading and writing at school.

Research shows that the early literacy skills developed before starting school are the foundation and therefore vital for attaining competency in reading and writing at school – and future success and happiness in life - something we all want for our children!

A highlight of this significant Cessnock event will be the attendance of Australian children’s author, Krysten Walker Cox (Didgeridoo Dreaming), who will read to the students as they gather in the grounds of Cessnock TAFE. We also hope to have a local didgeridoo artist and Aboriginal dancers attend. A mascot for the initiative will also be introduced on the day.

Local businesses have been highly supportive and have agreed to assist CCGPS with the promotion of early literacy skills by incorporating specifically designed book-boxes into their shops/business fronts. These red boxes will contain books for children to read when they visit local services as well as rhymes etc which they can share with their families.

The launch event for this initiative will begin at 11am and conclude at 12:30pm on the 10th April. Community members are welcome and encouraged to attend, with simultaneous activities for younger children also being provided through Cessnock City Library.