School Holidays
Term 1 ends this Friday, 12th April, and resumes for students on Wednesday, 1st May. Staff will have the 29th and 30th April as pupil free Staff Development Days. Staff will be focusing on Emergency Care, CPR and Anaphylaxis training as well as the implementation of the new English Syllabus and the Tell Them from Me survey results.

For those wishing to plan ahead, the school Athletics Carnival will be held on Wednesday 22nd May (Week 4, Term 2).

Collection of Students
Any parents collecting their children from within the school at the end of the day are reminded to wait under the COLA for their children. Parents waiting outside classroom doors can be disruptive to classes that are still working.

Boys’ Cricket
Congratulations to all the boys in the cricket team for their commitment and effort in reaching Round 3 of the NSW PSSA cricket competition. Unfortunately, the boys went down to a well-drilled Nulkaba team. Abermain was unable to reach Nulkaba’s score of 83. This team is the only school cricket team to have ever reached Round 3. Great effort.

School Council
The staff and P&C Association will be re-establishing the Abermain Public School Council. This body looks at policies and practices in the school. As such it serves a different role to the P&C which has as its main function fundraising.

As part of the organisation we would like a community representative member. The community representative would possibly not even be a parent from the school but someone who has a strong commitment to the community of Abermain. Nominations can be sent to the school or the P&C President Mrs Debbie Davis.
ANZAC DAY
Students from Abermain traditionally march behind the school banner on Anzac Day. The local March will move off from the corner of Bathurst Street and Cessnock Road at 8.30 am. The March will proceed to the Jeffries Park Cenotaph for the service. Students wishing to march need to wear full school uniform and assemble in Bathurst Street near the pre school at 8.20 am. The P&C will provide a commemorative wreath to be laid at the Cenotaph.

Star Struck
Congratulations to the girls for their fantastic efforts with their audition performance. The girls have been successful in gaining a spot in the 21st Star Struck performance. Rehearsals and performance days will be in Term 2. Well done to all involved.

Amanda Craig

LIBRARY
It has been a fantastic term in the library. Most students have borrowed regularly throughout the term which has been great to see. As it is the end of term, books are now due back at school so they can be ready for Term 2. Thanks.

News from Stage 3 teachers
Stage 3 have had a productive start to the year and have enjoyed learning about China’s fascinating culture, the history of Chinese immigration and how our country has benefited from some great Chinese Australians. We’ve also been busy writing our stories ready for the Newcastle Herald, and thanks to Miss Craig these are now complete, and have been teamed up with some wonderful photos and cartoons and sent off to the Herald. We look forward to hearing when we’ll all get to see our words in print.
We’ve all been working hard at being Safe, Respectful Learners and are pleased to be getting some of those focus behaviours “signed off” as we strive towards achieving our PAWS badges. Many of us also earned our participation in the End of Term Rewards Day, and had lots of laughs at the movies watching The Croods. We were sad that not all of our friends were able to join us this time. However, we are hopeful that all of our fellow students will be there with us at the Rewards Day next term.

Spellcheck
Is your child learning to spell? Struggling with the weekly spelling lists? Here are a few strategies that will help:
Find out more:
Homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there's a plan - so print out our 2013 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Find out more:  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Managing depression
One in four kids over 12 has symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? Don't be afraid, ask your child how they are feeling and keep communicating with them. Find out more:  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/managing-depression-in-children

CONGRATULATIONS!
Quality Work shared with Principal

Hayden Fullerton
Jayda Gillis
Tanika Stoker
Paige Harris
Mitchell Parker
Scott Barry
Shakira O'Keefe

PBL LUCKY DRAW WINNERS 2013

Term 1  Week 10  Infants - Haylie Chapman
Primary - Mikayla Haynes
Families of Koori students are invited along to develop new skills that will help fill the family with healthy meals that are quick, easy to prepare and not hard on the purse.

Deadly Cooking in the Coalfields will run from 11am, Wednesday, 8th May 2012 at the Cessnock PCYC. This program will run weekly for six sessions, free of charge. If you think you can’t cook, don’t let that stop you! The class will go through new cooking skills together and learn a different recipe each week. You’ll pick up lots of ideas to help get value when you shop for the family or for when extra people drop in for a meal.

Sessions on budgeting and healthy meal planning is included as part of the program and a dietician will be available to assist with any diet and nutrition questions.

This is a fun, exciting and informal way to learn about low cost, healthy cooking. The Deadly Cooking in the Coalfields program is being organised by Cessnock Community Health as part of the Integrated Chronic Care for Aboriginal people program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, 15 years and over, in the Cessnock/Kurri Kurri Community.

Please register your interest by 22nd April, 2013.
To register or for more information please contact:

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Aboriginal Health Education Officer
Cessnock Community Health
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Mob: 0458466963    Merredy.Quinn-Bates@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au