SAFE
RESPECTFUL
LEARNERS

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

21st November
Kindergarten Orientation

25th November - 6th December
Intensive Swimming
(10 day Program)

27th November
Year 6 Farewell
Presentation Day

28th November
Year 6 Breakfast/Fun Day

29th November
Year 6 Last Day

16th December
“Carols on the Fields”

18th December
Last Day for Students

19th-20th December
Staff Development Day

TALENT QUEST

Mrs King has generously given her time again this year so our students could hold a Talent Quest. Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 performed in a variety of acts through 2 weeks auditions where the student leaders marked them on talent, being prepared and how entertaining the act was.

The lucky acts that made it through to the final and showcased their talent to the school and community members. Congratulations to all the acts and a massive thank you to Mrs King for all her hard work in organising the Talent Quest and the final.

Congratulations to our winners:

First Place - Infants: Ethan Hodgins

Encouragement Award: Kaysha Smith & Lydia Besoff

First Place - Primary: Delani Leigh

Encouragement Award: Grace Frankland-Shambler, Tabitha Hendrix and Shelby Hancock

This issue:

Talent Show
Cybersmart - Internet Safety
Student Requirements for 2014
Year 6 Farewell
Year 6 Fun Day

Miss Craig
Teacher Librarian
Congratulations to the following students:

- Jacob Woodbury
- Riley Mitchell
- Will Toner
- Bethany Bushell
- Naomi Jehu
- Siara Nash
- Jayden Green
- Nate Cunningham
- Cooper Darcey
- Keira Leggatt
- Brodie Moncrieff
- Ella Kirschner
- Shelby Hancock

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**PBL LUCKY DRAW**

**YEAR 6 FAREWELL**

Excitement is building amongst our Year 5 and Year 6 students as we approach the Year 6 Farewell to be held on Wednesday 27th November from 6pm - 9.30pm. As the date approaches we have a few reminders for families and students in order to prepare for the event:

- The evening will run from 6pm until 9.30pm
- All students in Year 5 and 6 have been invited
- It is a Year 6 Farewell, not a formal. Smart, casual, sensible clothing is suitable for the Farewell and transport arrangements are best kept safe and simple
- Parents/Carers of Year 6 are invited to join their children on the dance floor from 9pm for a farewell dance. A friendly reminder that from 6pm to 9pm it is a student only event supervised by school staff.
- The area dedicated for the Abermain Public School Year 6 Farewell is a drug and alcohol free area on the evening

Invitations including menu selections have been sent home with students. These are required back at school as quickly as possible in order for catering to be finalised.

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**UPCOMING FUN DAY**

On Thursday, November 28, the Year 6 Fun Day will take place. This promises to be a very exciting event for all students. On the day, students from all classes will have the opportunity to enjoy two action-packed amusements - a Giant Inflatable Slip 'n' Slide and a Giant Inflatable Obstacle Course. This event will be a reward for students who have met PBL expectations this term (ie no more than 1 Formal Notification) and will cost approximately $15.

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Miss Craig
Teacher Librarian

Mrs Roberson, Mr Power, Mrs Bower
Year 6/6 Teachers
Our students are to be congratulated on their ability to use Stop, Walk, Talk strategies in our playground.
Keep up the great work!

**STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2014**

**KINDERGARTEN**
1. set of good quality coloured pencils
2. 4 Glue Sticks - 1 for each term
3. 1 Scrapbook
4. 2 Plastic Sleeve Folders for Homework and Home Readers (clearly marked)
5. Soap
6. Tissues
7. Art Shirt

**Year 1 and Year 2**
- Set of good quality lead pencils/coloured pencils/textas
- Sharpener
- Packet of Highlighters
- Maths books (available from School Office - cost $32)
- Sheet of Cardboard for an Art Folder
- Art Shirt
- A4 Plastic Sleeve Folder for Homework
- Glue stick (not liquid)
- Box of tissues to share
- Liquid Soap
- Library Bag
- School Hat
- Roll of Paper Towel

**Year 3 and Year 4**
- Set of good quality pencils/coloured pencils/textas
- Sharpener
- Erasers
- Maths Books (available from School Office - $32)
- Glue Stick (not liquid)
- Scissors
- School Hat
- Homework book
- Paint Shirt
- Library Bag
- Tissues
- Hand soap
- Drink Bottle

**Year 5 and Year 6**
- Good quality lead pencils x 4/coloured pencils/textas
- Sharpener
- Erasers
- Maths Books (available from School Office - $32)
- Packet of Highlighters
- 2 x Blue Pens
- 1 x Red Pen
- Glue Sticks
- Ruler
- Year 5/6 USB
- School Hat
- Scissors
**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

The end of year is fast approaching but there are many things still underway at Abermain Public School. This week the school signed its Partnership Agreement with the AECG on behalf of the local Aboriginal community. The signed agreement is on display in the office foyer of the school.

You may have noticed new banners on the school fence promoting Carols by Candlelight at the school on the 16th December. This promises to be a major event with fireworks as part of the night.

We have had a number of major innovations at Abermain this year including collaboration with Newcastle University with the Aim High program, “Rock and Water” and “Careers Through Reading” and these have been very successful and popular with students. The other major innovation is the employment of speech pathologists at the school. This has been funded through the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools. I am pleased to say the speech pathology program will continue in 2014 and be expanded so that every child entering Kindergarten will have speech screening.

*Mr Boughton*
Principal

**2014 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS**

We are now taking registrations for Kindergarten students who will start school in 2014. Any families who have a child starting Kindergarten in 2014 are asked to contact the School Office on 4930 4210, or come to the office during school hours to register their child for Kindergarten 2014.
CYBERSMART - INTERNET SAFETY

Last Wednesday all students in Year 5 and 6 were invited to attend a ‘Cybersmart’ information session at Cessnock East Public School as part of an education initiative from the Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools. The session focused on online safety and privacy. Internet users should be aware of the risks online and the consequences of unsafe or fraudulent internet use.

Parents and carers are reminded that many social media websites have a minimum age limit above the age of many students in primary school. A key messages was that if students are using social media fraudulently then it is fair to say other people aren’t who they are or as old as they say they are either!

Parents and caregivers can find out more at http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/

Mr Power  
Teacher

This term students in Year 1 and 2 have taken part in an introduction into Cybersmart Safety. While the Internet has created substantial benefits for children, it has also exposed them to a number of dangers, including exposure to illegal and prohibited content. Parents rightly expect the Australian Government to play its part in helping protect children online.

Cybersmart is a national cybersafety and cybersecurity education program managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), as part of the Australian Government’s commitment to cybersafety. The program is specifically designed to meet the needs of its target audiences of children, young people, parents, teachers and library staff. See more at: http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/About%0Cybersmart.aspx

Mrs Genge  
Teacher
LIBRARY NEWS

Well we are past the half-way point of the term, and only have a limited number of weeks left for this school year. As borrowing will end in Week 7, with all library books needing to be returned in Week 9, it is time to start thinking about ways to encourage reading over the holidays.

Reading has a huge amount of benefits for all of us and for students it is essential to keep reading to maintain fluency and meaning. A great way to encourage reading is by visiting the local public library. Abermain residents have two libraries available to them, Cessnock and Kurri Kurri. Both of these libraries offer a range of facilities and have great resources.

Another way is to give gifts of books at Christmas. Scholastic book club has some fantastic deals on sale in the final issue, which would be great stocking fillers.

Encourage reading by sharing a book with your child (the big kids still love to be read a great picture book). Challenge your child with a novel and share the magic books can give us all.

Happy reading!

Miss Craig
Teacher Librarian

USEFUL “APPS”
Strip Designer - $2.99
This app allows you to make your very own comic strips using photos. There are a number of page templates to select from. When photos are taken or inserted, the fun begins. Speech balloons and a range of effects can be added to create a comic strip. This app allows for endless hours of fun and creativity. When created, the strips can be saved into photo albums and could be used for a range of things. Well worth a look.

Kids, homework and lies

Do you think your child is lying about their homework? Listen to psychologist Anne Hollonds chat with James O'Loghlin on what to do when the dog eats the homework.

Homework tips:

Maths at home

Kids' early experiences with measurement are often based on watching their parents. Seeing mum or dad measure and pour ingredients for a recipe or weigh items at the fruit shop will often become part of their play.

Maths at home:
**P&C CHRISTMAS HAMPER**

The P&C would like to ask for your support with donations of non-perishable items for this year’s Christmas Hamper. If you would like to make a donation, could you please bring your non-perishable items to the front office.

**CAROLS ON THE FIELDS**

Abermain Mission Hall Church and Abermain Public School P&C will be holding Carols on the School Fields on Monday 16th December. Gates will open at 6pm for a 7:30pm start. There will be a sausage sizzle and drinks available for purchase. For further information please call:

Cheryl-Ann Leggatt  0414625872 or  akitsudragonfly@gmail.com

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS**

Our school is looking for volunteers to help in our school canteen. Some parents are required to perform volunteer work as part of their entitlement for Centrelink payments. Work in the school canteen could count towards the required hours. Please contact the school if you are interested in helping.

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**The simplest way to increase your fruit and veg intake**

Myth: Frozen and canned fruit and vegetables don’t count towards your recommended daily intake of fruit and vegetables.

The facts:
- Frozen and canned fruit or vegies are great alternatives when fresh varieties are out of season, unavailable or more expensive.
- Frozen and canned vegetables are usually packed shortly after picking, so few nutrients are lost.
- Varieties with no added sugar or salt are the best choice, so check the label to make sure you’re making the best choice!

Hint: Look for tinned fruit in natural juice rather than syrup, and serve with a reduced fat natural yoghurt and honey for a sweet afternoon snack!
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