I have been teaching at Abermain Public School for 12 years, but I have never experienced the rapturous laughter of the entire primary classes and staff on mass like I did during the visit by award winning author, John Larkin. All the students were thoroughly entertained and mesmerised by his ability to tell a simple story in such a captivating manner. He spoke about his life experiences, inspirations and family in such a heartfelt and engaging way, that the students were truly inspired.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students and was organised by Kurri Kurri Public Librarian, Karen Bruce. Some lucky students purchased a copy of the book which was personally autographed by John.
PSSA CRICKET

Congratulations to the Abermain Public School cricket team who have advanced to the third round of the PSSA competition with a strong win against Pelaw Main Public School. The Abermain batsmen posted a score of 4/87 defeating Pelaw Main Public School 10/25 in limited overs match. All competitors played with great sportsmanship to make for a very enjoyable day. We wish them well in their next match! Thank you to the family members of our cricket team who always provide great support in organising and transporting the boys to matches.

Mr Power
Teacher

STAR STRUCK 2014 - “MAGIC HAPPENS”

I am pleased to announce that the group that auditioned for Star Struck “Magic Happens” have been successful in gaining a place in this year’s show. The girls have already worked really hard on perfecting the finale routine, which was used as our audition, and have now got another dance to learn.

Star Struck is an amazing opportunity for our students to be a part of, but is also a fantastic show to watch as an audience member. Tickets will available from the Newcastle Entertainment Centre at a later date.

Congratulations to the girls. Now the hard work begins.

Miss Craig
Star Struck Co-Ordinator

EASTER EGG COLLECTION & EASTER HAT PARADE

The Easter eggs are starting to mount up, though more are still needed for a huge Easter Egg Guessing Competition on Friday 11th April. Classes receive points for the eggs they bring in and so far K-1S are leading the point scoring, followed closely by the 1-2 classes. The last day for egg donations is Tuesday 8th April. The class with the most points will receive a special class reward.

Tickets are available at the front office if you require additional books. This is a major fundraiser for the school, so your support is needed and appreciated.

On Friday 11th April, students will be parading their hats after the BBQ lunch. The P&C are providing the food and drinks for the BBQ and parents/carers, relatives and friends are all welcome to come along and share in the occasion with us from 11:15am. After the parade, the monster raffle will begin. Previous years have seen upwards of 60 prizes, so please get your tickets in.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this fantastic event.

Miss Craig
Student Leader Co-Ordinator

Safe, Respectful Learners
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Instructional Leader
A new staff member will be appointed to our school next term in the role of Instructional Leader. This teacher will work exclusively with teachers and students in the Kinder to Year 2 section of the school. Their focus will be on improved outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy. The position will last until the end of 2016 and should be of great benefit to our school.

Trees
We have wonderful school grounds but trees can pose safety issues. The school is in the process of having one dead tree removed from the bottom soccer fields and is having a Tree risk assessment undertaken by a qualified arborist who will report on every tree.

Mr Boughton
Principal

MANAGING DEPRESSION
One in four kids over 12 have symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? In this podcast, brain and mind specialist Professor Ian Hickie chats with James O’Loghlin on helping kids beat the blues. Find out more:


HELPING KIDS LEARN HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS
If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. Teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning
WANGAT LODGE
We wish to remind Year 5-6 parents/carers who have paid their child’s deposit for Wangat Lodge that the next instalment of $35 is due on or before 10th April, 2014.

SHIP OF FOOLS
The school had a free visiting performance this week called “Ship of Fools”. “Ship of Fools” targets water wise strategies in the home. All students enjoyed the show.
LIBRARY NEWS

As the wind down to Term 1 begins, I would remind students to return any books they have outstanding. The Premiers Reading Challenge is going well for students, with a number of students having read half of the required amount. Keep up the great job! Any senior students who are reading thicker chapter books are encouraged to speak to me about borrowing for the holidays. Traditionally all books are required back in the last week of term, though due to the commitment of students pushing themselves for the Premiers Reading Challenge, I am happy for them to borrow and read their books during the holidays.

I would also like to remind parent about our Birthday Book Club, where students donate $10 which is used to purchase a book for the school library. If your child’s birthday is still to come, this could be a lovely way to have a reminder of their time at Abermain Public School and for them to experience the gift of giving.

Students in Term 1 who have donated to the Birthday Book Club are:

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<tr>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shanaya Burrell</td>
<td>Tahlee Roderick</td>
<td>Ryan Lewis</td>
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<td>Eliza Lantry</td>
<td>Tyrone Ward</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joshua Robertson</td>
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<td>Georgia Betts</td>
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I hope that the holidays are filled with amazing adventures to mysterious, far away places, through the pages of a great book.

Miss Craig
Teacher Librarian

WHAT MAKES A GOOD BOOK FOR KIDS?

Books with vivid imagery, exciting stories and strong characters will not only entertain your child but set them up to enjoy reading for the rest of their life.

P&C DISCO

On **Friday 4th April, 2014** the P&C will be holding a School Disco in the SCHOOL HALL. The disco will commence at 5:30pm and finish at 8pm. Drinks, lollies and chips will be available for purchase on the night. The Disco is for students of Abermain Public School only and all students must be signed in and out by a parent or guardian. Cost: Gold Coin.

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**Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids**

*A Program for Men and their Primary School Aged Children*

**Coming to Cessnock Term 2, 2014**

**Session 1 – Tuesday 6/May/2014**

*Then every Tuesday for the rest of term 2.*

How will you and your children benefit?

- Spend quality time in fun physical activities with their kids that lead to optimal physical, mental, and socio-emotional health
- Shed kilos without giving up the things they love
- Learn how to transform the dinner table from warzone to peace train
- Get active, fitter and healthier with their kids
- Receive the latest information on physical activity and nutrition

More information or to register your interest.

Please contact Zane Osborn – 0410 866 141

zane@pinnacleteamevents.com.au  
www.healthydadshealthykids.com.au

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Safe, Respectful Learners
The Conservatorium Youth Choir

“Life is a song worth singing... why don’t you sing it?”

Are you interested in: singing better, working as a team, developing your harmony singing, making new friendships and having fun?

Then join in the fun!

Entry: No audition – enrolment through Conservatorium Office

Ages: from 8 years (Year 3 onwards)

Rehearsals: Monday’s 4.00pm-5.30pm, Peter Martin Studio at The Conservatorium

Description: The Conservatorium Youth Choir endeavours to foster excellence in musicianship and a love of music as well as to nurture young voices. It is available to all children from the age of 8 years from public and non-government schools and welcomes new members throughout the year. The CYC participates in various activities around the region and in the life of the Conservatorium. Students who join can expect to perform in a range of Conservatorium and community events often in collaboration with the Conservatorium's other choirs. They experience music from a variety of cultures, exploring many styles and incorporating different musical and vocal techniques. New members are welcome at any time throughout the year.

Director: Christopher Blake

Cost: $99.00 per 9 week term

Contact: the office on (02) 4921 8900 or email: conservatorium@newcastle.edu.au
SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS