WELCOME KINDERGARTEN

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new families and kindergarten students who started at Abermain Public School on Monday 2nd February, 2015.

As a memory token of their first days in Kindergarten, parents and carers will be given a complimentary photo of their child.
Welcome back to the start of another exciting year. After the first few days all classes are settled and getting into the swing of school again. A special welcome to all new students and families to our school, and to Mrs Candice MacKay who has joined our teaching team and is teaching 3/4M. This is an extremely busy time of the year as we get everything up and running again.

A reminder that our school’s newsletter is our primary source of information followed by Facebook and the School app. Please don’t hesitate to contact your class teacher or the front office if you require clarification or more information.

Next week you will receive a number of permission notes that require you to sign and return to school. These permission notes will allow permission for your child to walk to nearby locations, have their photo published etc. Please return these notes as soon as possible and if you have any questions please contact the office.

A reminder that our school’s start time is 9:15am and we require all students to be ready to enter class and start their learning. School finishes at 3:15pm - students will be asked to line up under the COLA and wait for the teachers to dismiss the students at 3:15pm, this will include walking them to an exit gate. Last year we unfortunately dropped below the regional average attendance. I ask all parents/carers to have their children organised to be at school on time and if they happen to be away, a note explaining their absence should be returned to the school as they return or give the office a call and the absence can be noted directly into the system.

Last year we had a tremendous response to our Working Bee with over 75 people attending and getting our school looking great. This year’s Working Bee will be on Saturday 12 March (Week 7) from 8am—12 Noon, followed by a BBQ. We would like to get our gardens looking great by removing weeds and re-mulching, painting our lunch seats, repainting dots under the COLA, brightening the lunch area with some murals and generally get our school looking a million dollars. To make this a success we need your help, so come along, bring a wheelbarrow, paintbrush, drop sheets or whatever you can spare and make this Working Bee the best ever.

Thank you to the support of the outgoing P&C executive. On Monday night we held the P&C annual general meeting and a new executive was elected for 2016. Congratulations to all the parents who nominated for positions, it was great seeing the enthusiasm and commitment of our community members. The new committee is:

- President: Debbie Davis
- Vice Presidents: Tracey Toner and Melissa Brown
- Treasurer: Katrine Reading
- Canteen Co-Ordinator: Michelle Robards
- Fundraiser team: Nicole Morrow and Brooke Taylor

The next P&C meeting will be held on 14th March, 2016 at 5pm in the library. Items for the agenda are to be forwarded to Liz Pearson one week prior each meeting so it can be posted in newsletter and on Facebook.

Ian Lamph
Principal
Our school is currently considering an exciting new music program to commence in Term 1, 2016. To introduce the staff, parents/carers and students to the program, we are holding a demonstration at school on **THURSDAY, 11th FEBRUARY, 2016**.

There will be two activities on the Open Day:

1. **Parent Information Session 8:30am—9am** - Parents can visit the bus, meet the teacher and ask questions

2. **Student Tour** - students will take part in a short interactive session on the bus during the day

Students will be given an Expression of Interest form to take part in the weekly lessons. This will need to be returned to the school within 7 days of issue.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

The school photographs will be taken on Tuesday 16th February, 2016. The procedure will be the same as last year, that is prepayment. An order envelope will be sent home with students this week. Each student should bring back an envelope with the order ticked and the correct amount money enclosed, or order number entered (for on-line payments), if photos are required. Parents requiring a family group photograph should contact the school office for a separate family photo envelope. Envelopes and payment can be returned at any time until Tuesday 16th February. Photos will be taken of all children, although packages of photos will only be produced when payment is received. Students are to wear their full school uniform. If you would like further information, please contact the school.

**CANTEEN NEWS**

The school canteen will re-open on Monday 8th February, 2016. The canteen menu will remain the same as last year for Term 1, with the addition of fresh popcorn $0.20 and watermelon cups $0.50.

On Tuesday 9th February, 2016 the canteen will be selling homemade pikelets—2 x pikelets for $0.20, with butter.

We are still requiring volunteers for Wednesday and Thursday (lunch and recess). If you are able to help in the canteen, either weekly or fortnightly, can you please contact the school on 4930 4210.
Our annual swimming carnival is being held at Cessnock Pool on Monday 8th February, 2016. The carnival will commence at 9:15am and all students attending the carnival will require private transport to and from the pool. Permission notes, including nomination entry form, were sent home with students early this week and must be returned no later than Friday 5th February. Entry nominations will not be permitted on the day of the carnival. The carnival will run in line with zone and regional with no novelty events available. Students in years 3-6 can attend the carnival, as well as students turning 8 this year. Students not attending the carnival are expected to attend school for a normal day.

Cost for the carnival:
- Students: $2.50 (paid upon entry at the pool)
- Parent Spectators: $2

BOOK CLUB – All Book Club orders are due Friday 12th February

LOOP orders are available for parents/carers who wish to order and pay for their Book Club on-line. If you submit a LOOP order, you do not need to send anything into school. Your order will arrive with the schools order. If you would still like to send in the order slip and payment, you are more than welcome to. Orders will be placed on the following Tuesday. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Little Owl Early Education Centre
Long day care centre opening in Abermain on the 1st December 2015. This is a new service under new management with qualified educators.

Children aged 2 to 6 years
School readiness program
Hours 7.00am to 6.00pm
23 Grafton street, Abermain
Ph: 49372738
Email: littleowlabermain@gmail.com

Taking enrolments now for 2016 and remainder of 2015.
Previously known as Abermain Early Learning Centre
Abermain Public School Discipline Procedures

After trialling our revised Discipline Procedures in Term 4 and further consultation with the school community, the following procedures will take effect from the beginning of Term 1, 2016.

1. **Informal Notifications**
   - **Three Informal Notifications** in a **rolling 5 week period** will result in a **Formal Notification**.
   - Parents will be notified of informal Notifications in the following ways:
     - Informal Notification 1 = a slip to parent, sent with child for parent to sign and return
     - Informal Notification 2 = will be mailed home
     - Informal Notification 3 = phone-call (as it will be recorded as an Informal but will become a Formal Notification)

2. **Formal Notifications**
   - The **first Formal Notification** in the term will result in a **2 day playground withdrawal**.
   - The **second Formal Notification** within the term will result in a **3 day playground withdrawal**, and **loss of Rewards Day**.
   - The **third Formal Notification** within the term will result in a **5 day playground withdrawal**.
   - **Four Formal Notifications in a term** will result in a **suspension** allowing the school time to readdress the needs of the student.

3. **Suspensions**
   - The length of suspensions will be determined at the discretion of the Principal and in line with Department of Education policy.

4. **Return after suspension**
   - A Return-to-School Meeting will be attended by parent, child and school executive. The team will discuss strategies to ensure a successful return to school and put into place any support needed. The student will need to share completed set school work with the team at the Return-to-School Meeting.
   - Students returning to school after a suspension will be required to spend the next **two days** in the **Playground Withdrawal Room**. During their first session in the Playground Withdrawal Room, the student will identify appropriate behaviour goals which will be monitored daily through a “Check In/Check Out” process until all goals are achieved.

5. **Playground Withdrawal Room**
   - When a student receives a **third Formal Notification** resulting in a **5 day playground withdrawal** they will be required to identify appropriate behaviour goals which will be monitored daily through a “Check In/Check Out” process until all goals are achieved.
KNIGHTS COMMUNITY CARNIVAL

Yesterday, Wednesday 3rd February, our school had a visit from two Newcastle Knights First Grade players—Dane Gagai and Jack Stockwell. They were part of a team travelling around the local schools discussing how regular physical activities and good nutrition are key contributors to mental wellness. It was impressed upon our students that living a healthy lifestyle includes having a healthy diet, exercise and at least 11 hours sleep per night. Students participated in some fun activities to support a sense of belonging and building positive relationships. A representative from Kurri Kurri local junior football club was also present and spoke about their clubs upcoming registrations and how to join.

Students are to be congratulated with most students displaying appropriate and respectful behaviour towards our visitors.

ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEETING

Our next Aboriginal community meeting is being held at the school on Thursday 18th February, 2016. The meeting will commence at 6pm and there will be platters of food, as well as drinks available for $0.50.
STUDENT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2016

KINDERGARTEN
1 set of good quality coloured pencils
4 glue sticks – 1 for each term
1 scrapbook
2 plastic sleeve folders for homework and home readers (clearly marked)
Handwriting book (available from school office-cost $14. Students will only receive a handwriting book once paid for)

YEAR 1 and YEAR 2
Set of good quality lead pencils/coloured pencils/textas
Sharpener
Packet of highlighters
Glue Stick (not liquid)
Roll of Paper Towel
Liquid Hand Sanitiser/Soap

YEAR 3 and YEAR 4
Good quality lead pencils (approximately 10)
Coloured Pencils
Textas
Sharpener
Erasers
Glue Stick
Wooden Ruler
Highlighters
Whiteboard Markers

YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6
Liquid Soap
Tissues
Headphones
Year 5/6 USB

2016 REGISTRATIONS
KURRI KURRI MINOR LEAGUE

All new and existing players will need to register online using the link available on our website at www.kurrirkurriminorleague.sportingpulse.net

New players will need to upload a recent photo and copy of their birth certificate during the process. Payment is also required at the time of registration. All new players registering to our club $80. All registrations include shorts/socks & club polo.

Any player requiring clearance from another club will need to contact administration.

Registration fees for 2016 will be:
Under 6 – 16: $100
Under 17: $120

Please contact administration with any enquiries on 0448 386 708

Abermain Rams Football Club

2016 Registration – Orange Street Oval, Abermain at 6pm
Registration Dates:
Monday 8th February, 2016
Wednesday 10th February, 2016

Registrations Costs:
Under 6 – $75
Under 6-11 $90
Under 12-18 $110
All Seniors $200

Enquiries:
Steve Croucher (Secretary) Ph: 0411 078 862
Edie Geraghty (Small Sided Co-Ord) Ph: 0411 067 432
SAFE, RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

SCHOOL APP

The school app is available to the whole community
To download the school app visit the Apple App store or Google Play store
and search for Abermain Public School.
Log in using - Username: community       Password: abermainps

CORRECT FOOTWEAR
TO BE WORN AT
ABERMAIN PUBLIC SCHOOL