Parents and community members are reminded that animals should not be brought onto school grounds. Prior organisation and management needs to be put in place for this to occur.

P&C Meeting
Next Monday evening our P&C will meet for the final time for 2013. The meeting will continue to be held at 6:30pm as I have not received any other suggestions for a start time that might suit more participants. It would be terrific if we can get enough parents and community members to be a fair and balanced representation of all our families. Anyone willing and able to attend is invited and encouraged to do so.

I will be talking about the Department of Education and Communities new Rural and Remote Education blueprint at the meeting which flags proposed changes to Principal Classification across NSW schools, with smaller schools potentially not having a principal from the start of 2016. This is a topic that may be of concern to families as who would the community turn to for leadership decisions, and where may these people be based? I look forward to exploring the ideas of our community as to the benefits are/or detriments of a proposal such as this.

School Swimming Scheme
Our annual swimming scheme is under way and will run through until the end of next week. For maximum benefit students should swim every day, so I urge parents not to just give a days rest unless the student is not physically well enough to participate. The program is intensive by nature so that daily practise is undertaken.

Attendance, Absences and Late Arrivals
Daily school attendance, which includes arriving to school on time, is extremely important for individual students as well as classes on the whole. All families should be aware that classes commence at 9:25am and all students should be on site and ready to go by this bell time.

“Give a girl the right shoes and she can conquer the world.”
Marilyn Monroe
Student absences and late arrivals need to be suitably justified by parents/carers. The explanation should state the reason for the absence or late arrival with sufficient detail for the school to determine whether or not the absence meets justifiable criteria. Listing an absence for ‘personal’ reasons does not meet this criteria and absences will be recorded within our roll marking systems as ‘unjustified’. It is the legal responsibility of parents/carers to ensure students attend school in accordance with the School Attendance Act for students between the compulsory school ages of 6 through to 17.

Semester 2 reports on student performance will detail the number of absences/partial absences students have recorded for the year. By rule of thumb students should are expected to have greater than a 90% attendance rate.

**School Administration Procedures**

This week has seen our school begin the transition into a new way of financial management. This transition has not been as smooth as desired and is causing ongoing complications for our office staff. Please be patient and understanding of this as it impacts on all financial transactions across the school.

Making a system wide change after many years is a mammoth task and our school is at the forefront of this change. Our experiences as part of the 229 trial schools through this journey will hopefully benefit the remaining 2000 schools who will undergo this transformation throughout 2014.

**2014 Student Numbers**

We continue to get great news on student numbers for 2014, with several new enrolments already having started with us this term, however we still await final enrolment application forms from some families to be able to determine exact numbers and class structures for the year ahead. Many staff will be engaged in a planning day next Monday to consider our whole school targets and directions, along with possible class compositions. Such planning however is reliant on what final enrolments and year levels of students we have as we enter 2014. Anyone still in possession of, or needing to obtain and enrolment form, is encouraged to complete and return as soon as possible.

**The Little Mermaid Performance**

Thanks to all families who have already paid for this opportunity. The school is covering the cost of bus travel and participation is limited to 70 students (one bus load). Those still wishing to participate should return notes and payments as soon as possible to secure a place. In recent years Coraki students have travelled to join with us and this year it is our turn to travel and join with them. The performance is sure to be another wonderful experience for our students.

Until next week...

**SRC News**

**Australian Animal Swap Cards**

On Wednesday 27 November, students wishing to participate in a swap event can come to the Library during second half lunch. Direct one for one swaps only.

Please remember to only bring in cards you are prepared to swap, bring in a list with the name and number of the card you want and you might just be lucky!

Tracey Tebbutt
SRC Patron

**Carols In the Park**

The Woodburn Public School Choir will be singing at Carols in the Park at Riverview Park, Woodburn Saturday 14 December 2013 (this includes all children in Kindergarten, year 1 and 2/3). Our choir has been performing at this event for several years now and we have been working hard toward this performance all term. In order for us to perform and to be a success we will need as many of the children in the School Choir to attend. The children are to come dressed in red, green and white clothes. They can also wear anything Christmassy e.g. a Santa hat, tinsel or antlers.

Suzanne Johnston
Choir Co-ordinator
Year 6 Farewell

Initial planning for the 2013 Year 6 Farewell has begun. Any parents wishing to help out with preparations and/or on the night, please contact Mrs Mander to register your interest. Year 6 farewell will be held on Monday 16 December.

Student Banking

Remember to bring in your banking each Friday. If you would like to open an account with the Commonwealth Bank please come to the office for an application form.

Lyn Blake
COORDINATOR

Bunnings BBQ

The P & C will be running the BBQ at Bunnings Lismore on Saturday 30 November and we are looking for some volunteers to help again. If you can spare an hour or two please return the slip with your preferred times (starts at 8 am and finishing at 4 pm - 2 hour time slots would be fabulous!) to the office asap. We really appreciate your help!!!

Alison, Kim & Toni
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Uniforms

NEW Hooded Jumpers now in stock - $25 ea, sizes 6 - 16 available. Sloppy joes will be discontinued - $15 till sold out!

Kim Skaines
UNIFORM COORDINATOR

Important Canteen Stuff

As you can see, a few of our current volunteers have offered to be rostered for multiple days, we would love to see a few new faces take these places and spread the small load. There is also an option for a 3rd person to help with the lunch prep. Please let us know if you can help :)

Mel Gillett
COORDINATOR

Community Stuff

Playgroup at Woodburn Public School
Every Thursday (during school terms) from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Come along for a fun morning. We have a great facility with plenty of toys and games. It’s very informal - a chat and morning tea while the kids play. It’s open to Mums, Dads, Grandmas, Grandpas and Carers.

Rising Sun Support Group

• The Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre is now operating a support group for those effected by suicide called the Rising Sun Support Group. Supported by Provisional Psychologist, meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month commencing at 5pm.
• Bookings are not necessary. For additional information please contact the centre on 6682 4334.

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rostered Weeks</th>
<th>Monday 11 am - 2:30 pm</th>
<th>Friday 9 am - 2:30 pm</th>
<th>Friday (lunch prep) only 10 am - 12 noon</th>
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Well Done by Michael Grose

Sir Alex Ferguson, the recently retired coach of English soccer powerhouse Manchester United drove his players hard.
But this renowned hard-task master knew how to get the best out of his players. He was quoted recently: "No one likes to be criticised. Few people get better with criticism; most respond to encouragement instead. So I tried to give encouragement when I could. For a player, for any human being, there is nothing better than hearing "Well done." Those are the two best words ever invented. You don't need to use superlatives."

I couldn't agree more. Recognition is one of the most basic of human needs. Few people don't respond to words of encouragement - "well done", "good on you", "that's great!"

Let your face say 'well done' too!
Let your face light up when you give encouragement. Sometimes your words say 'well done', but your face says 'but you could have done better'.
Children are mood detectives. They pick up your non-verbal communication before they hear your words. Any lack of conviction will impact more than the words you say. So make sure your face says 'well done' too.

Amplify with touch
Touch amplifies your words. It drives the words into the sub-conscious mind. Accompany a sincere 'well done!' with a smile and your hand on your child's arm or back. This will amplify your recognition tenfold, lodging it in your child's sub-conscious to do it's real magic. Keep your recognition simple

Sometimes we search for complicated words to acknowledge or recognise our kids' efforts. But keep the words simple, make sure you smile and, if possible, accompany them with a gentle touch or a pat on the back. That way it really counts.

And perhaps take a leaf out of Sir Alex Ferguson's coaching playbook. Give your child recognition when it's deserved rather than give it willy-nilly. That way 'well done' will really impact because it means something.

Bunnings Help

Name: _______________________________

I would LOVE to help out at the Bunnings Lismore BBQ on Saturday 30 November. My preferred time is:

____________________________________

Signed ___________________   Date ______