HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

In 2014 Hunter Sports High School will offer 15 sports – AFL, Athletics, Baseball, Basketball, Boys Cricket, Girls Cricket, Football, Golf, Hockey, Lawn Bowls, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Swimming, Tennis and Touch Football. We have received information re application forms for 2014. Please contact Mrs Lowe or the school office for application forms if your child is interested in applying.

Please note that a SEPARATE APPLICATION is required for entry to Hunter Sports High School. This is in addition to completing the High School Expression of Interest form which should be returned by ALL year 6 students even if you are not attending a NSW Government School by Friday 22nd March.

All relevant information is available on the Hunter Sports High School website at www.huntersports.com.au. I wish to congratulate all our amazing students with their commitment to sport but especially to those students mentioned by Mrs Lowe for their successes in today’s newsletter.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM LITERACY AND NUMERACY – NAPLAN PARENT INFORMATION

Please refer to the National Assessment information brochure which was issued to parents of Year 3 and Year 5 students on Monday 11th March. Please mark the dates on your calendars. Language Conventions and Writing - Tuesday 14th May. Reading – Wednesday 15th May. Numeracy – Thursday 16th May. Please note that Friday 17th May is a designated catch up day for students who were absent on testing days.

SCHOOL SECURITY – Ph: 1300 482 737. Thank you to Michelle F, P&C President for providing parents with information on reporting incidents of trespassing or vandalism in the P&C newsletter. The more documented evidence we have the greater chance of receiving a security fence eventually.

IMPLEMENTATION of AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM in NSW

Why an Australian Curriculum? 13% of the 22.5M population move annually. Varied curricula, starting ages and transitions across different states. The cost of curriculum, support materials, professional learning. Differing teacher qualifications. International testing trends and a global approach to educational standards. NSW schools and teachers will be familiarising themselves with new syllabuses and support materials throughout 2013.

Implementation of the new NSW English syllabus is mandatory in 2014. Implementation of the new NSW Mathematics syllabus is mandatory in 2015. Teaching staff at Marks Point P.S. are currently attending professional learning sessions in preparation for this implementation. There will be combined professional learning sessions across the Galgabba Learning Community of schools. As per the calendar of events in this newsletter please be advised that all schools have been given an additional school development day at the beginning of Term 2 to be specifically used for training in the new curriculums.

YEAR 6 CAKE STALL

Thank you to all who supported our Year 6 cake stall. We have raised $199.70 for the school. Well done!!

Garry Standen, Relieving Principal

NOTES THAT HAVE COME HOME WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Cross Country Permission note.
Personal Information letter in a sealed envelope. Please make and amendments and return this to the office.
Go4Fun invitation
NEW Canteen Menu
Sporting Congratulations
2013 has started with some outstanding efforts in sport. Piper L and Darcy H were selected in the NSW U11 & U12 Oz tag teams to compete in the Australian Championships on the June long weekend.

Sophie Hi, Billy, Emma and Sophie Hu as well as Bronte C and Mathew B all competed in the NSW Surf Lifesaving Titles at Umina. Sophie gained a 1st in 9yrs Board Relay and a 2nd in 9yrs beach sprint whilst our other students competed to the best of their ability. Well done.

We had three students selected for the East Lake Macquarie Swimming squad: Sophie H, Mitchell E and Kirsty J. Sophie achieved her pb and finished 5th in division A final. Kirsty (Freestyle & Butterfly) and Mitchell (Freestyle - 3rd) qualified for Regional selection in their respective events and will progress through to the NSW PSSA Swimming Championships. Zone selections in League saw another great success with Billy H, Hunter C and Darcy H progressing through to possible and probables. Both Hunter and Darcy made the East Lake Macquarie team to move through to Hunter selection trials at Raymond Terrace on the 22nd March.

Zone netball saw Georgia W and Kirsty J selected into the Lake Macquarie team to contest Hunter selections on the last day of this term. Zone Soccer selections saw Mitchell E progress through to Hunter Selections and Stasia B named as a shadow. Congratulations and well done everyone. We are really proud of you.

Clever Climate Savers Initiative
Classes 6L and 1/2R will be looking at ENERGY, how we use energy and ways to conserve energy. They will be participating in some action research around our school and may have a questionnaire for parents to complete. Please assist them with their investigations, as findings will help students in compiling a submission toward energy conservation at our school.

Mathletics
It is pleasing to see the amount of students in our school that enjoy being challenged in Maths. Computer hits on Mathletics are on the rise and our maths homework on technology is taking off across some grades. It is advised that parents become familiar with Mathletics and the enormous educational benefits this can have for your child. If passwords have been forgotten then teachers have a reference copy.

Active After Schools Community
Please be on the lookout for an invitation to one of the final sessions of AASC Sailing or Lawn Bowls. It would be great to see as many parents along to support your child.

Debbie Lowe.... Assistant Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Public Speaking
Does your child suffer glossophobia? Fear of public speaking is common. Try creating opportunities for your child to present speeches to the family, without putting pressure on them to perform. Here are some tried and true tips to make your child’s next speech a success.

- When your child can choose their own topic, encourage them to pick topics that are of personal interest.

- It’s OK for younger kids to give a recount of a holiday or special event, but as they get older help them develop opinions.

- Help your child develop interesting beginnings and endings to their speeches, but always in a way that is meaningful to them.

- Guide them to use a variety of information sources including family discussions, the library or the internet.

- Use palm cards. Cut pieces of paper small enough to fit into the palm of one hand. Suggest to your child to practice their speech in front of a mirror or video so they can watch it and evaluate their own efforts.

- Spend time listening to your child’s speech. Give feedback on how they present and time them with a stopwatch so they can pace their speech to meet the time they have been given.

- Finally, avoid putting too much pressure on a child to perform.

BaRK - Building Reading Confidence for Kids
Recently staff at MPPS have become aware of a program running at Swansea Library called BaRK. The program runs each school term and children come one day a week, after school to read for 15 minutes to a dog and handler from Delta Dogs. The program aims to build confidence in reading in primary school aged children, rather than teaching them how to read. We have had some great feedback from both parents and teachers, who have seen a noticeable improvement in reading and literacy skills in students after doing the program.

Swansea Library hold sessions on Thursdays with sessions at 3.30, 3.45, 4.00 and 4.15pm. To see what vacancies are available and to book into the program, please contact Swansea Library on 4921 0783.

Facts about tutors
Parents sometimes ask teachers at Marks Point PS if they should consider a private tutor for their child. Private tutoring to give kids a helping hand in their schooling is a growing business. However, it’s also an area where parents can be vulnerable to bogus offers and misleading advertising.


Mrs Honi Faasisila—Assistant Principal

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Jams and Preserves for Sale
All enquiries regarding jams, relishes, chutneys, pickles and more please come to 278-280 Main Road, Fennell Bay on Wednesday or Friday, 12-5pm or call 0414 216 030. Products do not contain artificial food colourings. Proceeds help support the South Lakes Refuge.

This is a paid advertisement.
KEVIN THE ANT

Every evening, as the sun was setting and normal ants were having their dinner, with the sky like opal and the moon beginning to appear, Kevin scuttled down the road, carrying his electric guitar and his amplifier. Moving at top speed, staring straight ahead, he sprinted for the studio at the end of the street, and barged in.

CRASH!
First he plugged his amp in, as quickly as he could. Then he tuned his guitar and began to practise his playing.
His tiny, black eyes were popped open, except for a quick blink, when he hit a screeching big note- while his tiny fingers were plucking the strings, holding on tightly.
Down, down went his arms, smashing out a big sound.
And with each stroke of his pick, he pounded his foot.

STOMP! STOMP!
In no time at all he was at his friends garage and instantly they began a serious rehearsal, shaking their heads, jumping up and down, screaming, dancing, spinning around and pumping out sound.
And when they were finished, Kevin marched home and sat down for dinner with his mother.

“How did it go, Rock Star?” Kevin’s mum asked him. Ever since Kevin had joined the band, his mother had taken to calling him “Rock Star.”

“Rock n Roll,” Kevin yelled. “I feel pumped!” And how hungry was he after all that music. Three large chips! Two strands of spaghetti! Ten drops of hot chocolate, and three blueberries. “Slow down Rock Star” his mum said. “Quickly now, it’s time for bed.”

By 3/4 G
PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS


CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

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Please post me on your fridge