THANK YOU
A very big thank you must go to Mr and Mrs Roddom and Mr Wright for mounting the artworks on the walls around the school. The beauty of the Marks Point Public School environment is now even more enhanced by the addition of these impressive aboriginal artworks. Thanks for donating your time and labour.

CRUNCH ‘N SIP – FRUIT and VEGETABLES and WATER
Last Friday some canteen volunteers, parents and staff attended an information session presented by Tessa from Hunter New England Health to discuss healthy menus for the school canteen and school lunches in general. The development of healthy eating choices starts at an early age. Schools and parents can foster and encourage healthy eating habits by providing nutritious snacks and lunches. Remember, Marks Point P.S. is a “Crunch ‘N Sip” school. Students are encouraged to eat fruit and vegetables and have a drink of water as a break in the middle of the morning session. Thank you to our many parents who provide these fruit and vegetables on a daily basis. It is very encouraging to see the variety of different types of fruits and vegetables that parents send in to school.

ATTENDANCE
Please ensure your child attends school on a regular basis. Your child’s education can suffer if they miss too many days of school. If your child is absent from school he/she must return to school with a written note explaining the absence. The two acceptable reasons are sickness and leave for personal family reasons. If no written note is received, the absence is recorded as unexplained. All absences are monitored regularly by Department of Education Home School Liaison Officers. Parents are reminded to sign their child in at the school office as late arrivals if you arrive after the morning bell has rung. Always call at the office to sign out your child for an early departure.

RETURNING OF NOTES
Parents and guardians are reminded to return notes to school for excursions, sports events and other special events. This is particularly important for the school to determine numbers attending, how students will be transported and so teachers can check medical requirements.

Often notes are returned on the morning of the event and teachers are presented with limited time to check all the details. It would be very much appreciated by the teaching and office staff of Marks Point P.S. if notes could be returned within a reasonable timeframe. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this matter.

STRANGER DANGER
There have been more sightings of a driver in a white van approaching children in the local area from Caves Beach to Belmont. Please continually remind your child to be aware of strangers and to adopt safe practices not to approach and to go and tell an appropriate adult.

BIKE SAFETY
Thank you to our teachers who improvised the bicycle course at school last Friday when the safety trainer could not get to our school. Yesterday, the students went through appropriate riding skills and safety regulations as part of the ‘Ride to School’ program. This program, along with Department of Education PD Health PE syllabus activities promotes safe practices when riding a bicycle. Sadly, some of our students have been observed riding their bikes to and from school in an unsafe manner by community members. How do you as a parent know that your child is riding to school safely? What discussions do you have with your child? What monitoring processes do you implement in order to ensure your child’s safety? Many parents who can spare the time ride alongside their child on the way to school until they are sure the child knows how to ride safely. Thank you for ensuring the safety of students at our school.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES
Parents, guardians, caregivers and grandparents are always welcome at any Friday assembly, held just after lunch at approximately 2:00 p.m. K-2 assemblies are held in the community room near the canteen and Year 3-6 assemblies are held in the grand hall. Whole school assemblies (K-6) are generally held in Week 3 and Week 8 of each term. Please come along and share in the celebration of awards and certificates. Your child will feel really special because you are in attendance.

Garry Standen, Relieving Principal
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Easter Hat Parade
Thank you to all the classes for decorating the cola so beautifully, it definitely feels like Easter! Thank you to all the students who brought in Easter eggs that contributed to the Easter raffle and thank you to all the P&C helpers for the yummy hot cross buns and Easter raffle prizes! Thank you to Miss McDonell for coordinating the Easter colouring-in competition and Book Fair and to all the students and parents that invested in some lovely literature! Thank you to all the families that were able to join us for a picnic lunch and from everyone at MPPS we wish you a happy and safe Easter long weekend! And one last Thank You to the Easter Bunny for visiting our school and leaving some Easter treats for everyone!

School Zone Safety
A reminder to parents about the operation of school speed zones around the Easter holidays.

School zones exist for the safety of children and families; they will operate on Thursday 28 March, then resume on Tuesday 2 April.

Forty-kilometres-an-hour school speed zones operate across New South Wales at all school sites on gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil-free days.

Find out more:

Practice to be a Journalist
This website could definitely make practicing writing and spelling more interesting for all of us. Make a newspaper clipping with your own headline and story. Your child may even start imagining themselves as a publisher or journalist.
http://www.fodey.com/generators/newspaper/snippet.asp

Mrs Honi Faasisila, Assistant Principal

Congratulations League Representatives
Hunter and Darcy attended Hunter Region selections on the 22nd March at Raymond Terrace. It was reported that both boys trialled well, with Darcy progressing through to Possible and Probable selections on Wednesday 27th March. Well done boys and good luck to Darcy.

Fruit @ Recess and Lunchtime and Water in Classrooms.
Student Parliament is again offering apples, oranges, bananas, watermelon and seasonal fruit which may be purchased at a very reasonable cost during recess and lunch breaks.

Thank You…….. BRUMBYS
Free bread may be collected every Tuesday morning outside the Admin block. This bread has been donated by Brumby’s @ Warners Bay. Thank you to Mrs Karen Roddom who collects these items and makes them available to our school community. Thank you to Brumby’s proprietors, Mr Simon and Mrs Shannon Baker for their generous donations.

Mrs Debbie Lowe…. Assistant Principal
Easter Cinquain Poetry by 2/3F

Easter
It means new life
Having Easter egg hunts
Celebrating with your family
Joyful!

Easter
Jesus
The empty tomb
Jesus died on the cross
Jesus is important to us
Easter

Easter
Yummy chocolate
Bunny gives out chocolate
Fertility goddess Eostre
Hurray!

Easter
Big chocolate egg
We go Easter hunting
My birthday is on Easter
Chocolate

Easter
Easter is great
Easter is lots of fun
I love Easter eggs and bunnies
New life!

Easter
I love Easter
We get lots of great treats
We celebrate Jesus’ new life
Have fun!
By Amanda

Easter
Easter bunny
Easter bunny rabbit
The Easter bunny delivers
Chocolate
PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>T-Ball Gala Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>C.A.R.E.S Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Go Green Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Head Start Program yr. 5/6 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Anzac Day Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>STUDENTS RETURN for Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Water

Tap water makes the best drink! Not only is it thirst quenching, but also contains fluoride which helps make teeth stronger. Here’s what water has to offer.

- It is cheap and readily available
- It doesn’t contain any kilojoules or sugar
- It encourages optimum function of the body
- We should all aim to drink between five to eight cups of water a day.

In the warmer months it is important to keep well hydrated. Always have water available when children are active. Encourage them to drink water regularly, even in cooler months.

Please post me on your fridge