Principal's Report

Back in Action

Thank you to our school community for your patience last week as we recovered from the storm. It was a difficult week as we dealt with flooding, trees down and a sewer issue. I would also like to thank the dedicated staff and their families, along with Paul McCarron, Ursula, Nayt and Finn C, for working hard to clear the school of debris so students could return to a safe environment. We still have several large branches hanging from trees, so students will have limited access to parts of the playground until they are cleared. Classes are back to normal and we are looking forward to a fantastic term.

ANZAC Day

What a fantastic turn out to the Swansea ANZAC March on Saturday. Marks Point had 60 students come along to march with Miss McDonell – a huge number of our student population. Well done to Meg who spoke beautifully during the ceremony, and was a star on NBN news that evening. The school ANZAC service was held today with the school executive doing a commendable job leading the assembly.

P & C

The first P & C meeting for this term will be held on Thursday in the school library. Please note the earlier starting time of 5.30pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

Aboriginal Action Team

This year, we are forming an Aboriginal Action Team to design a program for our indigenous students to connect to their culture and country. If you would like to be a part of the team, we will be holding our first meeting this Friday at 8.30am in the school library. Come along with ideas and suggestions. If you can’t make the meeting, but still have ideas, please let me know before the meeting so I can pass along your suggestions.

Welcome Student Teachers

We welcome two student teachers to our school this term. Luke Lewin will be working with K/1J and Nick Kirkman will be working with 6L.

School Three year Plan

The school's three year development plan is almost complete and will be uploaded to the school website this Friday 1st May. If you have any questions or comments about the plan, please visit me in the school office to discuss. Parent input is welcome.

Opportunity Class Applications

Applications are now open for students wishing to apply for Year 5 Opportunity Class placement in 2016. Applications are now open online at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement and close on Friday 15 May. Intention to Apply letters have been sent home with Year 4 students this week. If you would like more information about the Opportunity Class, please contact me at school.

Zone Cross Country

The Zone Cross Country Carnival will be held this Thursday 30 April and we wish our competing students well.

Asthma Lessons

This Thursday, we also have a representative from Asthma Australia visiting to talk to the students about asthma and what to do to help someone having an asthma attack.

STARSTRUCK

Starstruck rehearsals start this week. Please check notes from Mrs Johns for details.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our school Athletics Carnival has been postponed until Tuesday 16th June due to the oval being too wet to hold the event. More details will be sent closer to the event.

Notes Sent Home

Zone Cross Country
Starstruck Rehearsal
Public Speaking
Boys Softball vs Wirripang
GRIP Leadership Conference
Opportunity Class Placement 2016

Respect, Responsibility and Excellence
**NAPLAN**

NAPLAN testing will begin on Tuesday 12th May for Year 3 and 5. Tests will be held over three days with a catch up day on Friday for those students who were absent earlier in the week.

**Miss Deborah Hall**

Principal

**SCARECROW Construction Competition for Class Gardens**

Congratulations to class 1/2L who won the Scarecrow competition with a very creative interpretation of a scarecrow wearing our school uniform. Well done to everyone. The class will receive an ice block for their efforts. Thank you to Mr Ellison who re-erected our scarecrow team when they were blown over with the severe weather conditions. Thanks also to the Prowd family who planted some seedlings in the 1/2L garden yesterday.

**STEWART HOUSE DAY Friday 8th May 2015.**

Stewart House gives respite and a much needed holiday to identified students across NSW and is totally funded by the staff and students from NSW Public Education schools. All families would have received a Stewart House envelope with this newsletter. Every year the Marks Point Parliament identifies Stewart House as a beneficiary. We are asking all families to dig deep and make a small contribution to this worthy cause. Place your donation in the envelope provided and return to school on Friday 8th May = STEWART HOUSE DAY. Donations will be collected by our treasurer. All families who make a donation will go into the state draw for an overseas holiday.

**Climbing Garden Construction**

A huge thank you to the small group of willing volunteers who donated time during the first week of the school holidays to ensure the completion of eight climbing gardens in the garden area. As you can see, our gardens are starting to expand and will look fantastic when planted with crops. Thank you to Mitch Spruce, Lauren and Tyler D and Dale Harvey, Megan, Dion and Saysha P, Kai, Tora and brother Rylee B, Oliver P and a willing worker and representative from from Wangi Mens Shed. Thanks must also go to our GA, Mr Gary Pollock for collecting all materials to ensure we had it ready to go for construction. Any climbing seedlings would be greatly appreciated ie passionfruit, snow peas, beans, cherry tomatoes etc. Keep an eye out for the next stage of construction …..NO DIG GARDENS.

**East Lake Macquarie Zone Cross Country**

Extreme weather conditions impacted on this running environment at Barton Oval. The event which was scheduled for Friday 24th April was moved to Thursday 30th April. Our Marks Point team are expected to compete extremely well. Good luck to our team for this day.

**Congratulations Charlie**

Our first Hunter Region representative after gruelling trials for 2015 is Charlie who was selected in the Hunter Rugby League side to compete in Sydney later this term. Well done and congratulations Charlie.

Both Sophie and Emma are still in the possible and probable’s netball squad for the 2015 Hunter Netball team. Good luck girls who are competing today for final selections.

**Can Collection Day**

What a great effort from students at our school. We have nearly filled the can cage for semester 1. The winning Class was 3/4G who had the most weight in their cans. Mr Gleeson’s class received a box of cold cans for their prize. When our can cage is full, it will be collected by Luckies and funds divided between Fred Hollows and Diabetes Australia. Keep those cans coming in please.

**Deb Lowe**

Assistant Principal

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**Weekly Program**

| Classes Begin: 9:00am and finish 3:00pm |
| Tuesday - Scripture |
| Thursday - School Banking & Assembly |
| Friday - Breakfast Club & Sport |
| Canteen - Mon, Wed, Fri |
| Uniform Shop - Thurs 2:30-3:00pm & Fri 8:30-9:00am |

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**Upcoming Dates**

| Thurs 30 April | Zone Cross Country |
| Thurs 7 May | Whole School Assembly |
| Friday 8 May | Mothers Day Stall |
| | Stewart House Day |