Principal's Report

School Attendance
Parents or caregivers of children from Kindergarten through to Year 12 are responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day. When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building up friendships.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administrative assistant at the school, or explain the reason by phone, email or written note as soon as possible, or within seven days.

Once children are enrolled parents are legally required to send them to school every day that the school is open for instruction or participation in school activities, such as sports days. A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- has to go to special religious ceremony
- is required to attend a serious and/or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school, or has an infectious illness.

Failure to explain an absence within this time will be recorded as an unjustified absence on a student's record. Schools will inform parents if a student is absent from school without explanation.

I have included a flyer with this week’s newsletter that provides further information about Attendance at school and why it is so important.

Parent Information Night
Thank you to those parents who attended our Parent Information Night. These nights are a fantastic opportunity to provide an overview of school routines and class work. It also gives parents an opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues.

School Camp 2014
In 2014 the decision has been made to organise our own school camp rather than join with the other small schools as has happened in the past. It is expected that we will continue to join with the other small schools in future years though. We are at present investigating the possibility of taking our Yrs 4/5/6 students to Sydney for a few days (most likely in term 3). We hope to have these details sorted out in the next 2 weeks. Once this is done, we will pass this on to parents. At that point, parents will be asked to pay a deposit to confirm numbers and will then be able to pay the balance in instalments.

Wisemans Ferry Public School P & C Committee are as follows

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Please feel free to contact any of these representatives if you have any concerns you wish to discuss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Simone Hayhurst</td>
<td>0423 483 563</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Jenny Smart</td>
<td>0425 248 586</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jenni-Mae Clissold</td>
<td>0415 880 936</td>
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Principal’s Report (cont’d)

School Fees
A schedule outlining school fees for 2014 has been sent home. You will note that a significant portion of the total costs represents the cost of the textbooks/workbooks that the students use on a regular basis. Another portion helps to cover PART of the cost of subscribing to Mathletics. At all times, we attempt to keep these costs at a minimum. These fees can be paid off over 4 terms (even though the students are using these materials from term 1). The money that these fees bring into the school allows us to offer things above and beyond the ‘basics’. Our aim is to offer students a ‘World Class’ education and to do this, we ask for small contributions from parents. We understand the financial pressures that families are under (we feel these pressures too!) and you can rest assured that we aim to keep the costs of education as low as possible while still offering a high quality education to all students.

School Fees Amendment
This was a typing error on the Years 1/2 and 5/6 School Fees note that was sent home recently. The yearly fee for years 1/2 is $110 and years 5/6 is $107. My apologies.

Mrs Oliver

Fantastic Ferry Awards
Congratulations to the following students who have received awards during the past fortnight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K/1/2</th>
<th>3/4</th>
<th>5/6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payton</td>
<td>Dayne</td>
<td>Henry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyla</td>
<td>Joshua</td>
<td>Zahra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td>Liam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shayla</td>
<td>Zachary</td>
<td>Angus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison</td>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>George</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tess</td>
<td>Duke</td>
<td>Alexander</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ashley</td>
<td>Kane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elijah</td>
<td>Harley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Karl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are reminded that when they have collected 5 Ferry Awards then they qualify for their BRONZE award. If they have collected 10 Ferry Awards this year then they qualify for their SILVER award. These Ferry Awards are handed in at the school office.

Bronze/Silver/Gold awards are presented at our fortnightly assemblies. Please note that parents are always welcome to attend these assemblies.

Students are responsible for looking after their Ferry awards and lost Ferries are not usually replaced. If students are away on the day their Ferry award is presented, it will be held over to the next assembly.

Leadership Camp (by Harley & Karl)

On the 24 & 25 February, we went to Leadership Camp at Yarramundi. When we arrived a we had a game of gaga ball. Gaga ball is where everybody went into an arena and then we would all say gaga ball and then we would have to try to get others out.

Great Northern Rd/Convict Trails Excursions (by Mykaela & Zahra)

The highlight of the Old Great North Road was the crazy convicts. Another highlight was the humour of Redcoat and Percy Simpson! Also the amazing sites at Hangman’s Rock.

More highlights were the flogging and the beautiful sights along the way. At the Stockade Sight, we met up with Maroota Public School. We really like the Old Great North Road.
Wisemans Ferry & district Sports Inc (WF&DSI)

Swimathon Wednesday 5 March
A swimathon is being held next Wednesday at the Retreat Swimming Pool at 3pm to raise funds for the Amani Children’s Home in Tanzania. If you have not yet received a sponsorship form please collect one on the day.

Del Rio Wednesday 12 March
An outing to Del Rio has been organised for Wednesday 12 March. We will be meeting at Del Rio after school, please note it is necessary for each family to arrange transport for their child/ren to and from Del Rio. (Please advise if you have difficulty arranging transport.) Please take swimmers and hats, and push bikes (optional). The cafe will be open to purchase food and drinks while our group is there. No entrance fee will be charged to the group.

Also coming up:
26 March & 2 April – Circus skills to be held at Community Centre
9 April – Bus outing to Planet X, Richmond for some trampolining
All children aged 4 years and older are most welcome, and if you are interested in joining WF&DSI to provide your children with some fun and sporting opportunities, please contact Chris on 4566 4212 for further information. The group meets after school every Wednesday at a location in Wisemans Ferry.

PENRITH OBSERVATORY
FAMILY ASTRONOMY NIGHT
Saturday, 8 March (8pm – 10pm)
Science from the World’s Biggest Telescope: The Square Kilometre Array
Dr Nick Seymour from CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science will discuss Australia’s SKA Pathfinder, currently under construction in WA, and his work with it. He will further discuss the science to be done with the SKA in Australia and South Africa. The night will also include a 3D astronomy movie that will run for 15-20 minutes, a tour of the dome area and stargazing through various computerised telescopes. Our program will run regardless of the weather.

Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.
Bookings are essential:
Book and pay online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What’s On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au

Please come to our Book Fair
Reading Oasis
A Cool Place to Discover Hot Books!
Date 10th - 14th March
Place The Annex
All purchases benefit our school!

Hills Community Aid
Providing Support Since 1909
www.hca.org.au
Hills Community Week 15 - 23 March 2014
Live Life!
HOSTED BY HILLS COMMUNITY AID & SUPPORTED BY A NSW SENIORS WEEK GRANT

For more information, phone Hills Community Aid on 02 9639 8620 or email micib@hca.org.au

Seniors Rock
Friday, 21st March 2014
11:30am to 3:00pm at Northmead Bowling Club
166 Windsor Road, Northmead
At SENIORS ROCK you will enjoy:
• Lunch - your choice from a selection of four meals
• Hot rods, classic cars and special interest cars on display
• Rock & Roll dance lesson and fun from ‘Born to Boogie’
• Entertainment by the ‘Remixes’
• Photobooth by Bright Light Photography
• Drinks can be purchased at the bar. Tea/coffee & cake available for $2.50.

SPECIAL GUEST – Cllr Dr Michelle Byrnes

TICKETS
$5 per person
Tickets must be purchased in advance
from Hills Community Aid or Northmead Bowling Club

Be there for the Mystery Lucky Door Prize!
### Wisemans Plumbing

All your plumbing needs. Free quotes. No job too small. Plumber, drainer, LPG & natural gas, irradiation, pumps, roofing & guttering.

0418 601 666
24 Hours 7 days
ABN 63 1371 6383
Lic No L11245

Servicing the Hawkesbury Valley area for over 27 yrs.
For reliable, quality pest management contact us on
9651 2311

### Alinga Family Day Care

**With Krisa Ferguson**

In Hawkesbury.

Registered as Hawkesbury Family Day Care Scheme, ref: 3000-01-01

**Family day care in quality home-based care and education**

One point of difference between us is:

Family care

Reliability

Families

Ease of mind

Accountability

Paying by the hour

Paying by the day

Paying by the week

Paying by the month

Our services care for families:

During the day

Before school

After school

Our services care for families:

During the day

Before school

After school

At home

At school

Making it easier for you

We provide care for all children in the community

- Supportive parents
- Quality care
- Quality education
- Quality family

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### Benedictine Monastery Arcadia

**is holding their**

**49th ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR**

121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia
9th March 2014

- Plants
- Sweets
- BBQ
- Choc. Wheel
- Raffles

- White Elephant
- Hot/Cold Drinks
- Farm Produce
- Cakes
- Fancy Goods

- Tours of the Monastery - 11:00am / 12:00pm / 1:00pm / 2:00pm

**MAJOR RAFFLE PRIZES**

1st: $1000 travel voucher or computer goods
2nd: $150 shopping voucher
3rd: $75 shopping voucher

- COUNTRY SETTING
- FAMILY DAY
- MASS TO BEGIN 10.00AM
- FETE TO BEGIN 10.30AM

**RAIN OR SHINE**

Telephone 02 9653 1159

www.benedictine.org.au/go/countryfair

In aid of the Benedictine Missions

### HILLS HAWKS FOOTBALL CLUB

2014 SOCCER SEASON

U/6’s - Over 45’s and

Ladies Social Comp.

PLACES STILL AVAILABLE

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

www.hillshawksfc.com

For further details contact: Michael Rosier Registrar on 0418 676 768

### Tour de Hills Bicycle Classic 2014

Charity Cycling Event: Sunday March 2, 2014

Castle Hill Return

Charity cycling event is coming along the 19th Tour de France Classic. Tour routes to choose from, including a Family Friendly 10km, and in Hawkesbury, Sunday 2nd March, register before the event via the website tourdehills.com.au

Help raise $50,000 for community groups while having a great day out! Organised by the Rotary Club of Castle Hill.


We’re helping Rotary Castle Hill let people know about a charity bike ride they’re organising. It starts at Rouse Hill and winds up towards Wiseman’s Ferry. There’s also a shorter route for families. Visit the website for further information

### Wisemans Ferry Hair & Beauty

Shop 7/2 Old Northern Road Wisemans Ferry

0245 664 300

Business Hours

Monday & Friday 9:00 to 5:00

Wednesday 9:00 to 3:30

(Monday evening available by appointment)

1st & 3rd Saturday of each month 9:00 to 1:00

Closed Tuesday & Thursday