



*Our very proud recipient of our school's PBL acknowledgement award. This "student created" achievement scale, acknowledges the great work and behaviours of our students.*

## Diary Dates:

The Cranky Bear performance at the Civic Theatre - Tuesday 8th September : Kinder & Year 1  
 Terrigal Trotters - Saturday 12th September  
 Visit to Kitchener PS for musical - Wednesday 16th September  
 Term projects due - Wednesday 16th September  
 Kurri Gymnastics Centre visit - Thursday 17th September  
 Multi-cultural day - Friday 18th September  
 Final Day of term 4: Friday 18th September

Welcome to Week 9, of term 3.

It's hard to believe that it's week 9 already, only another week of school after this one and we've hit holiday time.

We had a great week last week with excursions to the Army Museum at Singleton, to Cessnock West Public School to listen to author Mark Wilson and then to Kurri Community Gymnastics Centre for an exhausting but fun filled afternoon of tumbling, twisting and turning during gymnastics. I'd like to thank our school staff Mrs Beneke, Miss Naysmith and Mrs Dunstan for ensuring all excursions ran smoothly and for making sure all had lots of fun, even though Clayton tells me, "they all tried hard not to but just couldn't help it."

Last Wednesday I, along with all principals in our Cessnock area, attended a meeting to learn more about Positive Education. Positive Education focuses on specific skills that assist students to strengthen their relationships, build positive emotions, enhance personal resilience, promote mindfulness, and encourage a healthy lifestyle. This philosophy fits directly into our Congewai focus for our students and I'm happy to say that our Cessnock Community of Great Public Schools will be undertaking this in the future. School staff will be immersing themselves in professional learning over the next 12 months in order to enhance their knowledge and understanding and our students will certainly be gaining stronger skills in these areas as a result. I was very happy to be able to share our Congewai story with colleagues and our students successes in their Train Your Brain program, which already has many elements

of Positive Education within it.

We're welcoming lots of visitors to our school this Saturday when the Terrigal Trotters participate in the annual Great North Walk 100s (GNW100s). Organised by the Terrigal Trotters running club for the first time in 2005, there are two simultaneous trail races, a 100 Mile and a 100 Kilometre, along The Great North Walk south from Teralba on Lake Macquarie. The 100 Kilometre race will finish at Yarramalong in the scenic Yarramalong Valley and the 100 Mile at Patonga on spectacular Broken Bay. While I find it amazing that someone would want to do this, I'm in awe of their determination to do so. On Saturday, our school will be one of the check points and meal break point. As such we will be hosting a BBQ with fresh foods and snacks for runners and support crew. Please let us know if you're able to help at any time, we'd love to see you.

Teachers would like to remind parents that our term's school projects are due next Wednesday. All students had to choose a country and complete a project of their choice and format to present and share to their classmates. As part of our term's learning about countries around the world we will be holding a Multi-cultural day lunch on Friday of next week (18th September) at 1am and we'd like to invite all parents and family members to attend. As this is also an assembly week, we'll be giving our assembly awards at the lunch. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

*Until next week,  
 Donna Stackman*

## News from the classroom:

**Cranky Bear Performance on Tuesday:** A reminder to parents that Kindergarten and Year 1 students are joining children and staff from Paxton PS to travel via bus to and from this performance. Congewai staff will be driving students attending from Congewai PS to Paxton PS in their private vehicles to Paxton PS to catch the bus and parents may collect their children from Paxton PS in the afternoon. Please leave your child's car seat with staff at school at drop off in the morning.

**Speaking and Listening topic:** We had lots of fun last week, listening to the “biggest lie ever told” topic, with our children using their imaginations really well. This week we'll continue to use description and imagination by listening to the topic, **“IF I HAD A SUPERPOWER IT WOULD BE ..... AND I WOULD.....”**

**Friday - Library:** Unfortunately Mrs Van Der Wel succumbed to the dreaded lurg and wasn't able to make it to work on Friday. Children borrowed books today instead and we've discovered that some books are rather overdue. Children can return library books at any time during the week, putting them into the returns basket in the library.

**Class Photographer:** Our photographer last week took some great photos of the exciting activities we were involved in. Please have a look at our Face Book page and our school's website for some great shots. This week's photographer is Olive and we're sure she'll enjoy showing off our school through her photos.

**Special play time:** Gabrielle will be choosing a friend to do a play activity this week. There's lots of special things to choose from.

**Country study:** We'll be flying to South Africa this week for our country study.

**Term 3 project: Just a short reminder** - *Just over a week until our projects are due. Please have them in on Wednesday of next week.*

**Kitchen Garden:** Our Kitchen Garden team will be cooking Vetkoek this week. A traditional South African dessert, it is a dough, cooked and spread with sweet spreads. Yummmmmmm! In gardening on Wednesday, we'll be planting veges and salad greens. We'd love some help if you can make it up to school at 2pm.

**Sport:** Gymnastics lessons this week will be on Tuesday. We'd like our students to wear sports uniform please.

**Notes due back soon:** *Please disregard if already returned*

- ◇ Kinder and Year 1 : Cranky Bear Performance at the Civic Theatre—with payment and medical note
- ◇ Whole school: Matinee performance of the musical Alice, at Kitchener Public School. - gold coin donation, permission note and medical information note

**Why is it important that medical notes are returned along with permission notes for excursions?** Although we know it can be annoying to have to complete this each time we attend an event, it is important to do so, to enable the school to have the most up to date information about any concerns or issues with your child. It is also a Department of Education requirement.

**Medication at school:** It is a Department of Education requirement that parents complete a request to administer medication form (available from the office) if their child requires the administration of any medication at school, including over the counter tablets. If this includes prescription medication, we must have authority from a medical practitioner.

## **HELP!**

*Are you able to bake a cake, a slice, or some biscuits for our school to sell at the Trotter's Day this Saturday 12th? Bring the goodies in on Friday 11th, ready for a busy day on Saturday. Helpers for the Saturday to help on the BBQ would be muchly appreciated too. This is a BIG fundraiser for our school and its learning and support programs.*