

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to all our current families, and a special welcome to families enrolling their children at our school this term. I would like to thank Mrs Karolis for doing such a great job relieving for me, and the rest of the staff for “stepping up to the plate” in my absence. I can tell you that my daughter’s wedding was a very special day, and she looked her most beautiful, though I admit to being biased.

## School Development Days

The extra pupil-free day this year has allowed us to familiarise ourselves with the National Curriculum, particularly English, which will be mandatory from 2014. Staff have spent the last two days examining the implications for teaching the new syllabus.

## School Uniform

At the P&C AGM, the five year uniform review was undertaken. The only substantial change is the introduction of a sports shirt, which will be on display when it is available. The other decision made was to enforce the current uniform, right down to the footwear. For many of our students, this will mean no change at all. For others who need reminding, normal day-to-day shoes are **black**. They can be black sports shoes (no contrasting colour laces) but not casual black slip-ons that offer little or no support. Socks are fold-down (i.e. covering the ankles) in grey for boys and white for girls. Term 2 will be a period of grace – from the beginning of Term 3 students not in full school uniform will not be able to access Playground C or attend any off-site activities.

## National Partnership

Our school has been fortunate to receive \$93 800 in Federal funding to assist in Literacy and Numeracy. This Monday Mrs Karolis, Mrs Gandy and I will be attending an information session on how this support can best be used. I will keep you posted via the newsletter on how the programs will be implemented.

## Gonski

No doubt you will have heard that the NSW Government has signed up for improved funding to schools offered by the Federal Government. This is good news for everyone concerned with education, and I will keep you informed on what this means for our school in the future.



### Coming Events

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 2 May  | School ANZAC Ceremony<br>12:00 noon   |
| 7 May  | 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting<br>6.30pm   |
| 8 May  | Zone Rugby Trials<br>3-6 assembly 2pm   |
| 9 May  | Mothers' Day Stall  |
| 10 May | Zone Cross Country<br>K-2 assembly 2pm<br>Monsters' Day for<br><i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> |

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P: 4681 8476  
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The office is open from 8.30am to 3.15pm



## Principal's Message Cont.

### Graffiti

Unfortunately we had some unwelcome visitors recently. Most of the mess has been cleaned up, and Police have attended. I remind families that if unauthorised persons are seen on the school site, the Department's security number is 1300 880 021.

### Anzac Ceremonies

Congratulations to the students and their families who attended either or both the services in Thirlmere on 21 April or in Picton on 25 April. As usual, our school was well represented.

### Earth Hour

By now you may know that our entry in this nationwide competition made the final five across Australia. On behalf of Mrs Budd, I attended the announcement ceremony in Sydney on 23 March. Though we did not win the national award (which went to Blacksmiths Public School near Newcastle), our Yarning Circle drew much praise from the Earth Hour Committee, which included Federal Education Minister Peter Garrett.

### Becoming Empathetic

Why your kids' garage band might make them become more empathetic. New research suggests certain types of group music-making can help kids develop empathy.

Find out more: <http://www.psmag.com/culture/making-music-together-increases-kids-empathy-41627/#.T5j1f7R1SQM.facebook>

### Kids' Bookshelves

It's 30 years this month since Mem Fox and Julie Vivas introduced kids to Possum Magic - and it's still a favourite in our bookshelves. What books are your kids reading in their leisure time? Here are more from the Premier's Reading Challenge.

Find out more: <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

## Principal's Message Cont.

### Glowing in the Dark

We love it when outrageously fun stuff is also sneakily educational. These amazing jars look as though they have glow-worms inside but they were actually created with just a brush, a little water, and glow in the dark paint.

Find out more: <http://500px.com/blog/551/tutorial-glow-in-the-dark-mason-jars>

Have a great week – it's good to be back!

Stephen Lord

### Afternoon Pick-up Arrangements

Could all Parents/Guardians please inform their child/ren before coming to School about afternoon pick up arrangements.

We have been receiving a lot of phone calls from Parents/Guardians requesting we pass on messages to their child/ren.

We understand that situations do arise where arrangements need to be changed but we cannot guarantee that these messages will be passed on to students due to Assembly, CAPA Groups or Sporting Activities etc.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## Excursions, Notes and Payment Due Dates

### Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

NONE

**Notes sent home this week**

NONE

### Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2)

NONE

**Notes sent home this week**

NONE

### Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Zone Cross Country payment due by 8 May 13

**Notes sent home this week**

NONE

### Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)

Zone Cross Country payment due by 8 May 13

**Notes sent home this week**

*Amazing Me Education Evening*

**NO PAYMENTS FOR EXCURSIONS  
WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER,  
“LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT”**

## Mothers Day Stall

### Thursday 9 May 2013

Gifts from \$1 - \$10

*Helpers needed to assist*

## Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open on the following days:  
Tuesdays and Thursday 8.30am - 9.00am and 2.30pm – 3.00pm

## Band News

Established Band Lessons were held today in lieu of the Queen's Birthday Holiday.

All Band fees will be invoiced by 10 May 2013.

## Canteen

The canteen is open on the following days: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

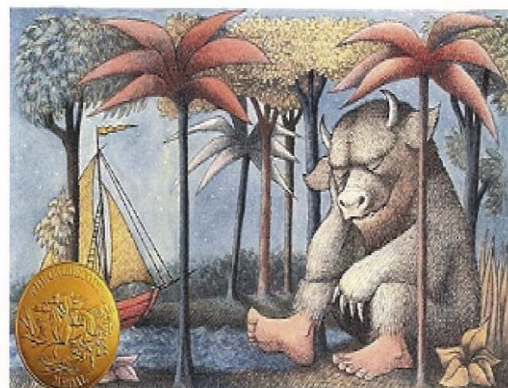
## Permission Booklet

A Permission Booklet will be sent home this week to all students.

We require parents/carers to sign and complete the booklet and return it back to the school as soon as possible intact.

## Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

### WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE



Monster Day Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May. Come to school in your best monster outfit to celebrate “the wild things” birthday

# Thirlmere Public School

1 May 2013

Term 2 – Week 1

## Stage 3 Canberra Camp

### Australian Government Assistance for National Capital Excursion

Dear Parents,

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognizes the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their national capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government contributed funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution is being paid directly to the school.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. We know that this excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

Stage 3 Staff

## Stage 3 Canberra Camp



On the 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> April Stage 3 enjoyed a wonderful visit to Canberra. 79 students and 4 teachers attended and were driven by two coaches. We visited many places such as the War Memorial, Parliament House, Telstra Tower, the High Court, the Royal Australian Mint, the National Museum and the Australian Institute of Sport.

The highlights included learning about our currency and watching future Olympic gymnasts train.

Questacon was awesome. The free fall was scary but cool. Telstra Tower was very cold on Tuesday night. It was windy and high but still enjoyable.

Overall it was a camp packed with fun.

I would like to thank Mrs Gandy, Mrs Rofe, Miss Clarke and Mr Jackson for spending their time with us.

Grace Casno  
5/6G





*Thornton Bros*

The school would like to thank Thornton Bros Flowers who are kindly donating a bunch of flowers to the school each fortnight to help beautify our office area.

**PATRICIA YVONNE**  
**Academy of Dance**  
**Drama & Theatre**

*Thirlmere and Bargo Classes Available*

Classical Ballet – Drama- Tap – Jazz – Modern – Musical Theatre

Beginners from 3 years to Advanced  
Special classes for Tiny Tots

**Enquires and Registration: Contact Miss Patricia**  
**4647 7728 or 0418 273 115**



**Taara Gardens**

*For the Not-so- retiring!*

Enquiries: Charlene Crocker: 0417 483931 or  
Jenny Cheetham: 0418 265 416

*We welcome you to come & have a look around the Village. Located at: 25 Estonian Road, Thirlmere*

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