OFF TO A FLYING START!

Yesterday’s athletics carnival kicked the term off to a great start. The weather gods smiled and student participation was excellent throughout. Special thanks to organisers, Mr John and Ms Godden, and to parent volunteers and staff who assisted throughout. It was also fantastic to have so many parents and carers in attendance. Mr John has made further comment in this newsletter.

While the ‘normal’ weekly newsletter will commence next Tuesday, today’s note includes quite an amount of advice to keep you informed for the start of term.

The end of Term 1 saw a range of events: from the HSU Maitland Excursion to the Easter Hat Parade. The parade was a wonderful community event with so many colourful and imaginative hats and entries in the decorated eggs competition. Sincere thanks also to families and friends who supported the P&C Easter Raffle and to the numerous volunteers who helped in the canteen. It was a special end of term.

Thanks to parents and carers who attended parent-teacher interviews towards the end of last term. Please contact your child’s teacher if you missed out or if you have any queries. Such partnership between school and home significantly helps each student’s progress.

School photos will be sent home with students today.

MARTIN FROHLICH - Principal

Athletics Carnival
What a way to start term 2!
A fortunate and glorious day at Hunter Sports Centre yesterday provided Kotara South students a wonderful opportunity to show off their athletic and sportsmanship talents. Congratulations to all students who attended for your participation, support and behaviour. Thank you also to the parents and community of Kotara South who attended yesterday, especially those who volunteered their time assisting, be it as photographer, track official or assistant during novelty and field events. Your contributions are much appreciated as they contribute to the smooth running of the carnival.

At this week’s assembly the Carnival Champions and overall House winner will be announced.

Stage 3 Glenrock Excursion
Stage 3 students will be consolidating Term 1’s HSIE Rainforest Unit with an excursion to Glenrock State Recreation Area on Tuesday, 6th May, 2014. A permission note outlining the excursion and the requirements for day will be sent home with students today. This is a great learning opportunity for students to further their learning from Term 1.

Term 2 PSSA Sport Round Robin Competition
Years 3-6
Term 2 will the commencement of the Newcastle City Zone PSSA Netball and Soccer Round Robin Competition. This year will see students in Years 3 and 4 participating in the competition. Kotara South has entered two Junior and two Senior teams in the competition. The competition will begin on Friday, 9th May and continue each Friday excluding Starstruck Week (13th June). Students will be given permission notes this Friday.

Chess Competition
Term 2 will see the start of Kotara South Public School’s involvement in the Chess Competition. A selected group of students from Year 3 – 6 forming 5 teams, will be competing in an inter-school chess competition in our area. Further information regarding the competition will be provided to the participating students in the coming weeks. Transport to the away games will need to be provided by private transport. Assistance in this area will greatly be appreciated.

Our chess teams are:
Kings George, Pia, Ben, Bailey, Hudson
Knights Team 1 - Grace, Hannah, Rishi, Bryce
Team 2 – Navy, Ashleigh, Corey, Zac G
Rookies Team 1 – Joe, Cody, Charli R, Eve
Team 2 – Lachlan, Thubtan, Eden

PAUL JOHN
OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

1/2G & 2G READING GROUPS
A big thank you to our wonderful parent helpers who were able to assist with Reading Groups last term. We begin Term 2 groups next week on Monday 5 May.

COSTUME HELP
This year our Star Struck costume is based on a theme of prince and princesses. Before we buy/make costumes were are asking if anyone has a Princess Belle, Snow White or Cinderella costume in sizes 8-10 that they would be willing to loan to the school. Please see Ms Godden or Ms Gibson if you are able to help.
Thanking you,
MS GODDEN & MS GIBSON

HUNTER INTER SCHOOLS PRIMARY PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
Our school will once again be participating in the Hunter Inter Schools Primary Public Speaking Competition. All students are being asked to prepare a speech at home which they will present to their class in week 4. Class winners will present their speech to their peers in week 6 where two finalists will be chosen from each stage to represent our school at one of the Local Competitions which will be conducted throughout the region. A note explaining the details of the competition will be sent home with your child this week as well as notifying you of the date your child will be presenting their speech to their class.

MRS FEAR—PUBLIC SPEAKING CO-ORDINATOR

LUNCHTIME MUSIC WORKSHOPS will recommence next week with advanced guitarists-keyboard group on Tuesday; beginner guitarists on Wednesday; and primary choir on Thursday.
Guitar lessons by Newcastle Music Academy and piano / keyboard lessons by Piano-for-schools (Geri Rea) are by arrangement with these providers.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL
It’s hard to believe it is term 2 already! Welcome back, it is excellent to see all students excitedly awaiting the return of Active After School.
A reminder that Active After School Communities starts again on the 6th and 7th of May. This term the program will conclude with an excursion to Hillsborough Oval where students will participate in activities with students from a variety of schools in the area.
Places are full for this term and those students who are in the program have been informed.
MR WARREN

ROADWORKS IN RODWAY PARADE
As Council contractors will replace some kerbing in Rodway Parade when the weather permits, please take additional care when dropping off or collecting students.

P & C NEWS

Easter Raffle
Thank you for the generous contributions & to everyone who purchased tickets. The P&C were able to make up 30 prize packs. Congratulations to first prize winner - Elise Cowperthwaite.

Entertainment Books

If you are having problems ordering, please email Leanne at timeandleanne98@bigpond.com and she will forward the email link to you.
If you want books to be sent home with your child then please select the option for collection/pick up when ordering online. Flyers will be sent home this week with the link to order your 2014/2015 Entertainment Book. There is also a display book in the Office Foyer for your perusal. Cash sales are available from the Office. The cost of the book this year is $60.00, with $12.00 of each book being given back to KSPS P&C. Please remember to reference Kotara South Public School when registering your 2014-2015 Entertainment Membership.

Mother’s Day Stall – Thursday 8 May 2014
We are looking for helpers to assist with wrapping for the Mother’s Day Stall. Wrapping will be held on Tuesday evening 6th May from 5pm with the Mother’s Day stall to be held on Thursday 8th May. Please notify Leanne on timeandleanne98@bigpond.com if you are able to assist with either. The P&C have been purchasing items over the last 6 months to sell at this year’s stall. We have been able to find some great brand name items at great prices. We have purchased many of our items from House Kotara, Myer, David Jones, Robins Kitchen, Sheridan, Victoria’s Basement and Target. We will have brand name products such as Maxwell Williams, Ambrosia, Kimidoll, Mikado, 3Hats, Baccarat, S&P and Alex Liddy. Please support the companies that have supported our school by offering us an additional discount on their products- House Kotara Homemaker Centre, Victoria’s Basement, and Creative Sensations, Cardiff. We will have products priced from $2 to $15. The majority of our items will be priced at $5 each.

P&C Meeting
The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th May at 7pm in the school library.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop will be opened on Tuesday 6 May 2014 from 8.30am to 9.15am.

If anyone has any spare large plastic storage boxes with lids that they no longer require, could they donate to the P&C.

HELENA TAYLOR - KSPS P&C