NAPLAN: Throughout this week our Year 3 and 5 students have been taking part in the annual National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). Congratulations to all students on trying your best. Results should be forwarded to the school for distribution in September. Parents/caregivers of students who have sat the assessments should see their child’s class teacher, or Ms Bain, if they have any questions. Students who missed one of the mid-week assessments are able to sit a catch-up test on Friday this week.

Application for Opportunity Class Placement in Year 5 in 2016: If your child is seeking Year 5 opportunity class placement in 2016 you must submit the application online between Monday 27 April 2015 and 15 May 2015. The application website is at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement

Managing Depression: One in four kids over 12 has symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? Don’t be afraid, ask your child how they are feeling and keep communicating with them. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/managing-depression-in-children


Homework Planner: Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan – so print out our 2015 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

PBS Awards: This week’s award winners are: Liliana Watters, Tara Skelton, Tyler Gray-Thompson, Logan Staint, Bailey Cooper, Maka Ofati, Charlotte Miller, Amali Burton, Sophie Cardwell, Tahlia Lucas and Taysha Johnson.

IMB Colouring Competition: Congratulations to the following students who were successful prize winners in a recent colouring competition run by the IMB. 1st place went to Rianna Connolly, 2nd place to Mieka Evans and 3rd to Coco Houston. Highly commended awards went to Dylan Whalley and Summer Went.

School Banking On Wednesdays!

Don’t forget the School Banking program is now here. Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver (Dollarmites) deposit books, containing your child’s weekly deposit and a completed deposit slip need to be placed in the money drop box in the school office by 9.00am Wednesdays. The Uniform shop is open on:
Mondays from 8.15 am-9.15 am, Thursdays from 8.15 am-9.15 am & 2.15 pm - 3.15 pm.

If you are unable to attend in these hours order forms are available from the school office. Please fill the order form out with payment options and leave in the post box in the foyers.

Stewart House Reminder: Envelopes for the 2015 Stewart House Donation Drive were sent home last week. If you wish to donate, please place a $2 coin or equivalent in this envelope and return to school by Friday 15th May. Complete the details on the back of the envelope to be eligible to win a $4,000 holiday to a destination of your choice.

Book Club Reminder: The latest brochures are out and orders are due back by this Friday 15th May. NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED. Reminder – We do not accept cash orders for BOOK CLUB. You can pay by cheque made out to Scholastic Australia OR by credit card online at www.scholastic.com.au/payment OR by credit card automated phone service 24 hours freecall 1800 557 908. Once you made a payment you will get an 11 digit receipt number which needs to be recorded on the order form. Then return the order form to school for processing. Proceeds from Book Club go towards much needed books for the Library, however there is never any obligation to order.

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Canteen

Canteen Helpers: Thank you to our new volunteers helping out in the canteen so far this term. It is great to see some new faces. If you have any time to spare, even just an hour, when you can assist in the canteen, please complete the Helper’s Note on the bottom of the new menu and return it to school. Children love seeing Mum, Dad, Nan and/or family in the canteen.

K-2 News

Please remember to ensure that your child has a fresh piece of fruit each day. All of our classes stop for a fruit/vegie break at some stage during the day.

Class supplies: Please ensure your child has all their class supplies. Students need to bring in more whiteboard markers as many of the markers are running out of ink and they are used every day.

Assemblies: Our next assembly will be hosted by KW on Monday 18th May, Week 5 in the Jackson Hall at 1:55pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Watch it Grow: Stage 1 have been turning our eggs carefully like good mother hens and
keeping a diary on the changes that are happening inside. Only 6 days to go before they start hatching.

Bravehearts: K-2 learned some very important information about keeping themselves safe. They love meeting Ditto the bear. We will be following this session up with some lessons in class.

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**Stage 2 News**

**Student Supplies:** Thank you to the parents who have renewed their child’s basic learning equipment for Term 2. Unfortunately a number of children are still without whiteboard markers, glue sticks and highlighter pens. Please ensure your child is well equipped by supplying these items.

**PBS:** This week five students from Stage 2 have achieved PBS Merit Awards for completing one area of their PBS Matrix. Awardees were: Lachlan Harris for Care. Sam Hsiao for Respect. Jaimee Connell and Hollie Staight for Responsibility. Taysha Johnson received a wrist band for completing her Care Matrix four times.

**NAPLAN:** Year 3 is having a busy week completing their NAPLAN (National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy) Tests. On Tuesday they completed the Language Conventions and Writing, on Wednesday the Reading test and the Numeracy test will be on Thursday.

**Science Enrichment Program:** Four Year 4 students have been selected to participate in a Science Day for talented science students at the Bournda Environmental Education Centre on Thursday.

**Conversations:** This week’s parent/caregiver/child conversation topic is ‘Why we should always try our best at school’.

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**Stage 3 News**

We hope that all families enjoyed a happy Mother’s Day this weekend. Some students enjoyed making cards and presents for their mother, or someone who cares for them, like a Nan. Some students even learned how to write poetry including an acrostic, a cinquain and a haiku along the way!

**Multicultural Perspectives Speech:** Students could be considering what they might write about for this competition. It’s also great to practise public speaking not just for the competition but for class presentations. Now is the perfect time to quench those annoying nerves in a safe and caring environment before students head off to high school.

**NAPLAN:** The big week is almost done and, on the whole, our students have sailed through the test. We only have one maths test to go and it’s over for this year. It is very important for students and families to understand that NAPLAN is one test on one day. It gives a snapshot of approximately where your child sits in the context of school. It does not test honesty, friendliness, caring or sportsmanship. Our children are far more than can be tested in one test on one day.

**Practicum Placement:** Welcome to Miss Sophie Rose who will be spending 5 weeks in Mrs Hughes’ class. 5A students have enjoyed their first lesson given by Miss Rose today, and now know a bucket of things they didn’t know yesterday.

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**Sport**

**Softball News:** Last Thursday, the MPS Knockout Softball Team travelled to Pambula School to play. After winning the toss against Pambula, the girls took the field to bat. It was pretty scary to see how big the regulation field was, but the team batted well. 3 outs later, Merimbula got to field. With some good team playing and co-operative throwing, Pambula was not long in to bat. Merimbula took to the bats again and made a massive 12 runs home in the 2nd innings! What a great effort. Lots of encouragement and words of wisdom were flying around the diamond and the girls really hit their stride. We were finally out and once again changed over. Pambula had a few good hits and we had a few unfortunate misses with the fielding. At full time, as Pambula had not completed their second bat, the score of 20-16 our way had to be counted back to 8-1 their way in the first innings. So an unfortunate result, which did not really reflect the calibre of the girls on the field that day. However, rules are rules and this means we are knocked out of the competition. I was so proud of the way the girls played as a team, their sportsmanship when told the disappointing result, and the encouragement they gave each other while playing. They should be very proud of themselves and their improvement over the past few weeks. Well done girls – you gave it your all and played well! Better luck next time! Thanks also to all the training and in taking and returning the team. Beth Smith, Coach.

**PSSA Girls Knockout Soccer:** Congratulations to the Girls soccer team who played Tathra last Friday winning 4-0. The team played a great game. The first goal was scored by Aria Little and it didn’t take long for Blake Suter to find the goal. Blake Suter found the goals again. 2-1. However, Tathra stuck with us and soon levelled the scores 2-2. The game stepped up another gear as the clock showed 5 minutes remaining. Again Blake Suter took the pedestal after some fantastic lead up work and he found the net again with only 2:30min remaining. Merimbula were winners, 3-2. Thanks must go to all the players, both Merimbula and Tathra who played the game in great spirit. Thank you also to the parents who provided transport. This week’s points went to 3 Blake Suter, 2 Noah Overend and 1 Cameron Harrison. Our next game will be against Pambula at Pambula on a date to be determined.

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**Tennis News:** On the 5th of May Logan, Maka, Aria and Charlotte went to Candelo for the PSSA Tennis Knockout Competition. We played against Bemboka Public School. We beat them 8-0 in sets and 48-0 in games. It was a good day and we enjoyed the hospitality of the students and their parents. We are looking forward to our next game against the winner of Batemans Bay and Narooma.

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**TERM 2 - 2015**

**WEEK 4**

Monday May 11 – Years 3-6 Assembly 2pm
Tuesday May 12 – NAPLAN - Language & Writing
Wednesday May 13 – NAPLAN - Reading
Thursday May 14 – NAPLAN - Numeracy
Friday May 15 – NAPLAN Catch up, State Dance Workshop
Sunday May 17 – SCLC Music Camp.

**WEEK 5**

Monday May 18 – Monday May 20 – SCLC Music Camp
Monday May 18 – K-2 Assembly hosted by KW, 1:35pm, Stage 3 Art & Writing Workshop at Bournda EEC
Friday May 22 – Stage 2 & 3 Multicultural Speaking Competition Final.

**WEEK 6**

Monday May 25 – Years 3-6 Assembly 2pm
Thursday May 28 – Stage 3 Mini Fete
Friday May 29 – Regional Cross Country. Stage 3 Marine Science Day at Bournda EEC.

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