Term 1, Week 6  
Tuesday 3rd March, 2015

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Zone Swimming  
I was a very proud Principal when I had the opportunity to attend the Zone Swimming for one day last week. Our students performed extremely well and represented our school with pride. Congratulations to all concerned but special mention must go to Adam McCarthy for his outstanding results. A wonderful effort Adam. I was also fortunate to witness our relay teams. All swam very well and put in a great effort with our senior boys team winning the event. Well done, boys! Ms Ryan has a full report later in the newsletter.

I would also acknowledge the extra work done by the many teachers from the schools within the Razorback Zone. All of this work is additional to their normal teaching duties and it is a credit to their commitment and passion to organise these events for the children.

Parliament House Visit  
This Thursday, our school leaders will accompany me to State Parliament House as they represent the school. They will have the chance to meet with our local member of parliament, tour the building and also have a role play session in the Legislative Assembly. This should be a wonderful opportunity for the students.

**Mr Wray**  
Principal

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<td>5/3</td>
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**PRINCIPAL’S AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who have reached the level of Principal’s Award: Elena Calleja – 1B, Allison Kiss – 2BK, Danielle Hart – 1-6M, Jack Abboud – 5T, Charlotte Davis – 2C, Jamie Oreshkin – 2BK.

Your award will be presented at your next scheduled assembly.

**2015 (ICAS) International Competitions and Assessments for Schools**

The University of New South Wales is offering students Years 2 – 6 an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in school for over thirty years and in twenty countries.

An information note and Registration Form on these assessments will be sent home to all students Year 2 – 6 today.

If you have any questions regarding the ICAS assessments please don’t hesitate to contact Miss Sawyer in the library.

**ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Our school was wonderfully represented by our Zone Swimming Team. The carnival was held on Thursday and Friday last week at Picton Pool. It was wonderful to watch our
students support and cheer each other on as they competed in their events.

Congratulations to our Senior Boys relay team (Adam Nicholls, Adam McCarthy, Zach Taiba and Oliver Kaluzyn) who finished first and will be going through to the Sydney South West Carnival to be held on the 17th March.

Well done also to Emma McCarthy, Adam McCarthy and Zach Taiba who made it through to the finals. Great effort!

Thank you to all the families and staff who came along and supported our school across two jam-packed days.

Ms Ryan – Sports Co-ordinator

LIBRARY NEWS

We have some exciting news - there will be a collection of great books coming onto our shelves very soon! However, students must have a library bag to be able to borrow books.

If your child needs a library bag, our school library sells them for $3 each. Other alternative library bag ideas include using a pillowslip or an environmental shopping bag. With Premiers Reading Challenge beginning, it is important that students have the opportunity to take home some of our fantastic PRC books. More information on the Premiers Reading Challenge will be provided soon.

Miss Sawyer

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

We have had an outstanding response to school banking, so much so, that we had to buy a much larger deposit bin. We would like to say a huge thank you to the five parents who are giving up a lot of their own time to facilitate the administration of school banking.

To help them make this process easier, please try to put in the correct amount of money. They would also appreciate it if deposit slips were written out at home. The bin to deposit bank books will be outside the library doors every Thursday morning from 8.30 – 9.00. After this time, it is taken and locked away. If you arrive at school after 9am, you can put your bank book in the office drop off box.

Bank books are being returned to classes each Friday.

YEAR 7 2016 – HIGH SCHOOL

Information guide and expression of interest forms for parents and carers for Year 7 2016, will be sent home on Monday 9th March.

Forms need to be completed and returned to school NO LATER than Friday 20th March. Please read the information booklet carefully before completing each section. If you have any queries on completing the forms please contact the office.

MAHS Year 7 2016 INFORMATION EVENING

Reminder to prospective Parents and Students for Year 7, 2016. Mount Annan High School information evening will be held on Tuesday 10th March from 5pm. Information on the evening can be found on the note sent home to Year 6.

YARNING CIRCLE - Wednesday 11th March – 4:30pm – 5:30pm

A note will be coming home to all Aboriginal families inviting them to attend a Yarning Circle to discuss with parents/carers initiatives that we could implement to build cultural awareness such as discussing the significance of Country, traditional art and visiting local sites of cultural significance. Please complete the form and return to Mrs Wilson as soon as possible.

Story Time

Story time will be commencing soon for pre-schoolers aged 4 or 5. Pre-schoolers are welcome to come along and enjoy story time with Mrs Gawthorne. Full details will be in next week’s newsletter.

KINDERGARTEN BEST START

Best Start Kindergarten assessment letters will be coming home this week. Please watch out for these letters in your child’s bag. If you have any concerns please see your child’s classroom teacher.

ABSENCE NOTES
If your child has missed school, you are required by law to write a note with the following information:

- include your child’s name and class
- include the date/s and number of days your child was away
- explain why your child was away
- include other information as needed.

If your child is going to be away for more than three days please let the school office know. You will still need to write a note when your child returns. Staff at the school office are more than happy to assist you if required.

**REMEMBER: Bookpack/Voluntary Contribution**

The cost of the book pack is $25 per student and payment will be expected as soon as possible in Term 1.

In addition to the Book Pack, the Voluntary School Contribution is set at $40 for one child, $70 for two children or $100 for three or more children. These contributions will be used to support the purchase of additional resources for all students to use in classrooms in all Key Learning Areas.

### Macarthur Paediatric Occupational Therapy The “Write On” Club

- **Making handwriting FUN group!**
- **What:** A handwriting assessment and group program for infants and primary school children during the April school holidays.
- **Program will involve:** 1. Screening and assessment of handwriting legibility and speed. 2. 3 group sessions (1 hour each session) of 4 participants involving fun sensory motor activities teaching children about correct handwriting techniques. 3. Follow-up sessions focusing on letter formation and handwriting legibility (as required).
- **Who for:** Groups will be run separately for Kindergarten, Years 1-2, Years 3-4, and Years 5-6 children who have difficulties in:
  - Neatness
  - Speed
  - Pencil grip
  - Writing posture
  - Fluency

- **When:** Morning sessions (times TBA) April school holiday 2015
  - Week 1: Wednesday 8th, Thursday 9th, and Friday 10th;
  - Or
  - Week 2: Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th, and Wednesday 15th

- **Cost:** (claimable on most health funds or through Medicare under Allied Health Care Plan through GP)
  - $125 Screening assessment
  - $75 per 1 hour session

- **Total Cost:** $350

The group program is suitable for children with ASD. Social skills will be incorporated. Groups are claimable under FaHCSIA.

- **Where:** Macarthur Paediatric Occupational Therapy, 138 Thunderbolt Drive, Raby

**Bookings:** Phone 9824 8945.

The Department of Education and Communities and Curran Hill Public School in no way endorses any of the products or services mentioned in the following advertisements. Their distribution with our Newsletter is a community service.

**Inclusions with today’s newsletter:**
- Year 2-6 UNSW ICAS Forms

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### Book Packs and Voluntary School Contribution 2015

1st Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
2nd Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
3rd Child’s Full Name: ____________________________
4th Child’s Full Name: ____________________________

I have enclosed $______________ being for Book Pack/s. I have enclosed $______________ being for Voluntary School Contribution. Payment has been online. Receipt number is: ______________.

_____________________________           __________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian     Date