Principal's Report

Homework
Families have different views about the value of homework. The Department of Education and Communities view on homework is that “homework is a valuable part of schooling. It allows for practicing, extending and consolidating work done in class.” The Department believes “homework to be educationally beneficial, meeting the realistic expectations of students and parents.” This is where the challenge arises for teachers, in trying to meet the expectations of thirty parents and the learning needs of thirty different students in the same class. These days, many families are busy after school with activities such as sport, dance and music lessons, and trying to fit in homework can, at times, become unmanageable. Some families complete homework daily, whilst others spend the afternoons otherwise engaged. In trying to meet the many different needs of students, each teacher sets homework with adjustments and modifications made for those students needing more time, more homework, less homework, harder work or easier work. We still rely on parents to monitor and adjust how homework is handled in their own homes. Please continue to alert teachers if your child’s homework needs to be adjusted. We asked a handful of parents their views on homework and this is what they had to say, “I’m one of those parents who like homework and feel that it should always be provided even if the majority of students aren’t doing it. I like the year 2 grid homework as it encourages my child to think and undertake other activities beyond reading, spelling and maths. It helps to contribute to my child developing into a well-rounded, healthy child.”;

another parent says

“homework is at times unmanageable because of other activities after school, or because too much is given. It’s OK when they can do the homework themselves, but when they need help it becomes time consuming, especially with more than one child. Revision - rather than assignments and extra learning - would be more achievable and helpful.”

We also asked some students what they thought about homework;
Principal’s Report (continued)
“It’s just right; it’s not too much, it’s not too little. It’s important because it’s like a brain teaser, you do the work at school and then you do it at again at home and it reminds you of what you already did at school.” – Ciarin, Year 6

“Homework is important, it helps you learn words from your spelling list.” – Luella, Year 1

“Homework helps you practice neat writing, I have done some really good angles stuff too.” – Lakota, Year 1

Both girls said it can be hard to fit homework in, as Lakota does swimming and Luella does dancing and gymnastic after schools. The girls said they didn’t like having to do their homework after their after-school activities.

As you can see, there are lots of different views about homework!

Student Led Conferences
Coming home in the newsletter today is a schedule of student led conferences, across the school. Please make time to visit your child’s classroom, so that progress and learning goals can be discussed with parents from their child. Just a reminder that formalised parent-teacher interviews are scheduled for the end of Term Two. If parents wish to speak to teachers formally about their child’s learning progress, an appointment time can be arranged from the student led conference for a later date.

Progress Folders
Our school has taken the initiative to introduce learning progress folders for each student. These folders will provide information to parents and caregivers of the progress students have achieved in various areas of their learning. Folders will be sent home this week, please look out for the learning progress folder letter, outlining what to do, questions to ask and when they need to be returned back to school. Students have shown me their learning progress folders and I am thrilled with the progress they are making. Over the coming terms, learning progress will become more visible and evidence-based. I look forward to gaining your feedback about the folders and the student led conferences at the end of the term.

Lastly I’d like to thank teachers for the exhaustive time and effort they have provided in developing this new initiative. Well done everyone.

Have a fantastic week everyone!
Mrs Hilliar
Focus on Reading
At Cambewarra Public School, the teaching and learning of comprehension in Years 2-6 is supported by ‘Focus on Reading’: an intensive professional learning program that supports teachers from Years 2–6 to understand and explicitly teach reading strategies that will enable students to access the range of texts that they are required to comprehend in the middle years.

The integrated teaching and learning of a small range of metacognitive comprehension strategies, vocabulary knowledge and fluent text reading form the basis of the Focus on Reading program content.

The program is designed to enhance student motivation to read and reading performance beyond the early years.

The school website has a range of resources and readings for parents wanting to better understand the process of reading in the middle years of schooling. The focus becomes comprehension and discussion. This is a departure from the reading practise that is common in the early years.

Kind Regards,
Ben Ross - Classroom Teacher

Student Led Conferences
Student-Led conferences will be held over the coming weeks. Please see the schedule below to book a time.

Kinder (KG, KW,)
Wednesday, April 2, 8am – 10am

Stage One
1M: Wednesday, April 2, 3:15pm – 5:30pm
1S: Wednesday, April 2, 3pm – 5:30pm
2H: Thursday, April 3, 8am – 9am & 3pm – 5pm
2R: Wednesday, April 2, 7:30am – 9am & 3pm – 5pm

Stage Two
3/4B: Wednesday, April 2, 8am – 9am & 3pm – 5pm
3/4M: Thursday, May 8, 8am – 9am & 3:20pm – 5:20pm
3/4T: Wednesday, April 2, 8am – 9am & 2:30pm – 5pm

Stage Three (4/5R, 5/6B, 5/6L,)
Wednesday, 2 April, 3pm – 5:20pm

Uniform Shop
Just a reminder that the uniform shop is open on Wednesday afternoons, from 2pm until 2:45pm.

ANZAC Day Assembly
This year the school’s ANZAC Day Remembrance Assembly will be held on Thursday, April 10 from 10am. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

Scripture Communication
If you need to speak to your child’s scripture teacher, please wait until the class has finished or send a note with your child and the scripture teacher will contact you.

Thank you,
Scripture Teachers

What’s On
Monday, 24/3
Tuesday, 25/3
Auskick Day Stage 2
Open Ruby League Zone Trials

Wednesday, 26/3
Thursday, 27/3
Girls’ Cricket

Friday, 28/3
Disco & Mufti Day
Regional girls' basketball trials

Monday, 31/3
Whole school assembly, 2pm
Sports News

AFL News
Well done to Adrian D., Jack B. and James P. who travelled to Batemans Bay last Wednesday to compete in the South Coast AFL Carnival. Don’t they look great in their AFL gear! They had a wonderful day and Jack was successfully chosen as a shadow player for the South Coast team.

Football (Soccer) News
Congratulations to Summer Hall, Nikki Murray and Rhys Burinaga who competed at the football zone trials last Tuesday. Well done to Summer who was selected to represent Southern Illawarra. She will be attending the South Coast Trials on Friday, 4 April. We wish her well.

Cricket News
The Cambe girls’ cricket team travelled to Berry on Friday, 14 March to play against Minnamurra. This was the first ever game for most of the Cambe girls! Summer Hall and Cassie opened the batting with Cassie batting well for 3 runs retired. Ella came in and hit 16 runs quickly before retiring and Summer smashed 26 before retiring. Nikki did very well for 8 runs and Emily Burinaga was not out for 2 runs when time was up for our innings. The team hit 125 runs off 21 overs and only lost one wicket.
It was our turn to bowl and each girl had 2 overs. Eilish got a wicket, thanks to the quick thinking of Nikki, who was wicket keeping and she stumped a batter who was out of her crease.
Ella and Imogen both got wickets by clean bowling a girls’ middle stump. Ruby Davidson, Emily Burinaga, Kacee Day, Emily Price, Bronte Batchelor, Summer O’Brien and Jorja Poulton all bowled well and we look forward to the next game!
Eilish has two direct hit run outs and Summer and Ruby also made run outs, leaving Minnamurra all out for 93. This meant Cambe won the game by 32 runs. Thanks to Mr Waters for making this fun game possible!

Ella Davidson and Summer Hall
(The Cambe girls’ cricket team is scheduled to play their second round this week. Go girls!)

The boys’ cricket team went to play Sanctuary Point Public School at the village green on the 26 February. We played well and batted out the 25 overs that were bowled. We only lost 2 wickets and scored a huge 149 runs. Nearing the end of the day we bowled them out for 53 runs to win the match.

The second round of the boy’s cricket was played on the 17 March against Illaroo Road Public School. We batted first and made quick runs putting 129 on the board. Rhys Burinaga and Adrian Dwight batted exceptionally well reaching 42 not out and 34 respectively. Our bowlers bowled fantastically and managed to keep Illaroo Road to a total of 77 with great displays by Aidan Woods with 1/9 and Alex Parsons with 1/3. Congratulations to the Cambewarra boys cricket team with a convincing win against hot competition.

Alex Parsons and Seb Jeffrey

Basketball News
Joel Lawrence and Jacob Smith competed at the regional trials at Berkeley last Friday. We hope they enjoyed the experience!
Nikki Murray will compete at the regional trials in Berkeley this Friday, 28 March. Go Nikki!
Sports News (continued)

Rugby League News
Congratulations to Kye McLaren and Joel Horgan, who were successful in being chosen to represent at the Southern Illawarra trials on Tuesday, 25 March. We wish them all the best.

Auskick Gala Day
Stage 2 will be attending the Auskick Gala Day tomorrow (Tuesday). We are sure they will have a wonderful day of activities and lots of fun too! Thank you to Mrs Toni Bryant for organising this day.

Touch Trials
The touch trials will take place on Friday, 11 April. This is the same date as the school cross country carnival. Mrs Tracey Wellington will organise the boys and girls for these trials. Arrangements are in place so that those who will be attending the trials can also compete in the cross country.

Cross Country
Keep training for the carnival which takes place on Friday, 11 April.

Stay active everyone!
Martina Reitz - Sports Coordinator

The Cambe Calf Award

Name: Georgia Collins
Year: 2
Type of Calf: Committed Calf

At Cambewarra Public School, as in all schools, it is our primary aim to give students the knowledge and skills they need to be successful and competent. However the acquisition of this knowledge and skills is sometimes more difficult for some students, and it takes a special student to utilise the extra help given, and get their learning back on track. Georgia is one such example. Last year, her teachers identified that she was a weak reader, and she was placed into the school’s Reading Recovery Program. Within a year Georgia had not only caught up to her peers, but had exceeded them, reading at an above average level. Georgia attributes this success to her love of reading and her commitment to succeed. Georgia shows this commitment by listening, paying attention and doing her best at all time. Georgia says she practiced reading at home every night, and that her spelling and writing also improved. Georgia says that she is “really proud” of how hard she has worked, and she now says that reading is one of her favourite activities – especially reading books about animals, because they’re “interesting, and I like getting to learn more about animals.”

Congratulations Georgia on your hard work, your commitment and your positive attitude to learning; learning is, after all, exactly what school is all about.
P&C News

Easter Mufti Day and Disco
Don't forget this Friday is our Easter Day. Students and teachers can come dressed in their Easter gear. Please bring along an Easter treat for the Easter raffle - chocolates, baskets, ribbon, cellophane, even your own hamper.

Fundraising Flyer
The P&C would love one parent from each class to join the fundraising team this year. Our focus in 2014 is to raise funds for air conditioners in classrooms, information and technology upgrades and home readers.

There are a variety of events planned - Mothers Day stall, Fun Run, Pie Drive, village Fireworks, Music trivia Night, Closest Cleanout, Halloween disco, Cambe Cook and Craft book and Art Auction. If you can help in any way with any of these events please call Amanda, our fundraising coordinator on 0417 441 799 or Amanda.s.poulton@gmail.com. It will be a great way to meet new people, have some fun and help make these events a success.

Our first two events requiring help are the Fun Run - handout iceblocks at cross country, collate sponsorship forms, order and distribute prizes and Mothers Day Stall - man stall at school Wed 30 April – Fri 9 May 8.15-9am.

Fun Run
This year’s fun run fundraiser again corresponds to the school’s cross country on Friday 11 April. All students have been given a sponsorship form where they can collect sponsors and at the same time win a prize for their efforts. Funds raised will go towards the costs of running the existing air conditioners in Stage 3 classrooms and purchasing new air conditioners for the Stage 2 and Year 1 classrooms. Completed forms and money need to be returned to school by Friday 2 May.

Canteen Monitors
Thank you to our year 5 and 6 students who have been trialling as canteen monitors. Your help in serving drinks, iceblocks and other cold treats is very much appreciated. Nominations for our 2014 canteen monitors will be finalised by the end of this term.

Canteen Update
A big thanks to all those helper who have been volunteering at the canteen and to our families who have been purchasing lunches and snacks. Cathy is currently preparing a new Term 2 menu which is to include the ever popular sausage rolls, meat pies and hot milos. If you can help in the canteen during Term 2 on a Tuesday (10.30am -12pm) or Friday (8.30am-12pm) please call Cathy on 0413 214 262 or cambemum@bigpond.com to have your named placed on the roster.

Cathy is still looking for helpers on Easter hat parade day Wednesday 9 April. Students and families are being offered a sausage sizzle lunch. Help is required on the BBQ and in preparing and serving the sausage sandwiches. If you can help between 10am-12pm please call Cathy.

Just a heads up that Cathy is coordinating a pie drive leading into the cooler winter months. Orders will be placed in May and delivered early June. If you and your family enjoy a hearty meat pie or warm apple pie, then make sure you keep your pie orders ready for our pie drive.
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Experienced Cambewarra guitar tutor offers

**Guitar Lessons**

Just right for kids wanting to learn the guitar!

The course will cover:

- Notes, positioning and tuning;
- Chords and Strumming Patterns;
- Learning your choice of favourite songs
- How to read Guitar Tablature.

Lessons cost $25 for Half an Hour.

**Beginner Guitars Available for Hire**

If you are interested, please contact me, Jesse Bourne, on:

**Mob: 0423 965 209**

**Be Quick!**

**Filling FINAL Spots for Autumn 2014**
Win a CommBank Marquee for your school and $50 for a student just by depositing to your CommBank School Banking account in Term 1.

The school with the highest percentage of active students at the end of Term 1 will win a marquee. Every student who compiles a minimum of two $50 deposits into their School Banking account in Term 1 will be in the running to win one of two $50 deposits into their School Banking account.

For more information, simply contact your School Banking Specialists or the School Banking Help desk on 1800 674 496.
The Inaugural Wombat Books Illustration Challenge - NOW OPEN!

Wombat Books is seeking original illustrations from Australian students to publish in a unique picture book by well-known children’s author Aleesah Darlison. The Challenge has been established to provide aspiring young illustrators with the opportunity to be published in a professionally produced children’s book and gain an introduction into the world of illustrating.

The book, titled Zoo Ball, is scheduled for release in early 2015. Up to twenty winning illustrators will be published in the book and will also receive two free copies of the book and a $50 voucher. They will be acknowledged on the Wombat Books website as a rising illustrator and there may be opportunities for them to illustrate work in the future.

One outstanding illustrator will be given the exclusive opportunity to design the cover for the book and will win a cash prize of $200.

For full guidelines and entry forms visit: www.wombatbooks.com.au/competitions
Can you name a team sport dominated on the world stage by both the Australian men's and women's teams? A sport in which our national women's team is given equal status and media coverage as the men's team? A team sport in which Australia has won 12 Olympic medals? **IT'S HOCKEY!!**

The good news is that your child can give hockey a go without having to give up their current Saturday sport, as the exciting new "Hookin2Hockey" program is on again this year from 5.15pm - 6.30pm Thursdays, from 1 May 2014 till the end of term 3. It will include a mixture of skills training and modified games, and is aimed at primary school aged children.

The cost for the program is $50, and for an extra $30 you can purchase a kit that includes a new hockey stick, ball and shin pads (a mouth guard is also advisable). It is not necessary to wear a uniform, as shirts will be provided.

**Key details - Hookin2Hockey program**
- For primary school aged children
- Thursdays 5.15 - 6.30pm, commencing 1 May and running through terms 2 & 3
- Bernie Regan Hockey Complex, West Cambewarra Road, North Nowra
- Registration $50 (optional hockey pack $30)

For further details contact Vaughan or Marnie on 4422 9878.
Keys to Developing Meaningful Lives
Nowra
WEDNESDAY
7 May 2014

2 workshops on the same day - attend one or both!

WORKSHOP 1
From Planning to Action
Developing vision and goals to assist with planning for action
— 9.30 to 11.30 AM

WORKSHOP 2
Involving Others and Building Networks
The why and how of building support for a person with disability
— 12.30 to 2.30 PM

Practical steps & follow-up support provided
Resourcing Families is a statewide initiative that works with families that include a family member with developmental disability. It provides information, ideas and resources about developing a positive vision for the future, building informal supports, establishing networks, creating community connections and having more choice and control within people’s lives.

T: (02) 9869 7753

Free call: 1800 774 764

E: info@resourcingfamilies.org.au

www.resourcingfamilies.org.au

Click here to register online

Or call 1800 774 764

All welcome
All workshops are free
Venue provided on registration

PART OF A 5 WORKSHOP SERIES

Workshop 3
Developing Community Connections - 17 September 2014

Workshop 4
A Practical Pathway to a Better Life - 14 November 2014

Workshop 5
Ideas for Self Directing Supports - 2015 (date to come)

Attend one workshop, a number or the whole series!
RSPCA Million Paws Walk 2014

SUNDAY 18 MAY
16 walks across NSW

Walk to Fight Animal Cruelty

Hill's
We need a foster parent like you.

Call 1300 130 585.

We have three adorable children needing a permanent home.

If you’ve got room in your heart and your home for Andrea* 7 years, Holly* 6 years and Daniel* 3 years (*not their real names) please contact us.

All three children are happy and settled at school and would respond well to assistance with reading and homework. Andrea loves BMX riding and horses, Holly enjoys lego and Daniel enjoys riding his scooter.

We train, back up and support our foster carers 24/7. We also pay a fortnightly allowance. For information, call 1300 130 585.

WILLIAM CAMPBELL FOUNDATION
www.wolfoundation.org.au
Giving children hope and a future.