Next Assembly Friday 27th February, 2015  11.15am

Principals Report.
A warm welcome to our new families that have joined us at Yass Public this year. The students seem to be settling in very well. Our new students are involved in all our school activities and will be an asset to our Yass Public family.

I was very proud of our students at our swimming carnival 2 weeks ago. The carnival was very well run and it was terrific to see everyone having a go and more students swimming 50 metres than in recent years. It was a great relaxing day to spend with students and their parents.

Next week all parents will be sent home a survey. The survey will provide me with parent views and ideas that will not only be included in the Annual School
Report, but also help in defining directions for our school plan. Please complete them and return them to have an input into our school.

I wish all of our 40 swimmers that have reached district level of swimming the best of luck on Friday. Swim well and proudly represent Yass Public School. Have fun! We look forward to hearing about your experiences next week when you return.

Please remember to come to school or ring if you would like to discuss any aspect of your child’s schooling. Our doors are always open.

Kind regards

Michelle Fahey
Principal

Newsletter
Our fortnightly newsletter is available on our Website at www.yass-p.schools.nsw.edu.au and is emailed to all our students and families who have requested an emailed copy.

If you would like an electronic copy sent to you but we do not have your email, email the school at yass-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au with your email address and we will then email you a copy.

Paper copies of our Newsletter will only be sent home if families specifically request a hard copy. Please help us reduce our paper consumption.

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**CANTEEN is open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.**

**Diary Dates 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>February, 20th</td>
<td>District Swimming Carnival</td>
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<td>March 6th</td>
<td>South Coast Swimming.</td>
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<td>14th-15th</td>
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<td>April. 3rd - 17th</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
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<th>Term 2.</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 20th</td>
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<td>21st</td>
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**Uniform shop open Monday 8.30am -9.30am**
Principal’s Award

Sam Adams
Being very settled in class. Having and remembering to use his manners. Working hard in class and not getting distracted.

Principal’s Award

Hunter Swann
Having a more mature attitude. Being a good buddy. Library behaviour has improved. Taking on more responsibility. Developing good work habits.

Principal’s Award

Brody Wykes
Very enthusiastic about his learning. Trying hard with writing, being helpful in class. Being a good friend.

20c Second Hand Library Book Sale
Every Wednesday.
SPELLING MASTERY.

Our new spelling program has been taught for 2 weeks and homework has been sent home once. The program starts with very easy concepts and words and builds on these skills to more challenging skills. So your child should be feeling like the spelling is relatively easy at the moment.

All students were extensively tested last year or the beginning of this year, with a placement test and put into the group that best served their needs. This is a very explicit teaching program and aims to teach each word, rule or groups of words to full mastery.

Therefore you should find that by the time the words come home for homework they have been learnt or are well on the way.

The difference in this program is that children have been found to be much more likely to transfer their learning to everyday use, with the extra practice.

SRC

The students were presented with their SRC badges yesterday by Mrs Fahey at our fortnightly meeting. The badge should be worn Monday to Thursday, with Friday optional if you think it could get lost during sport.
The students will retain these badges for terms 1 and 2, then return them ready for the new SRC students. Our Student Representative Council began just over two weeks ago and the students have settled into their roles as classroom leaders. The SRC came with a range of ideas and to date their requests have been fully considered with many of their ideas being put into action already or plans are being prepared. Their ideas included: Garden club - being undertaken once a week this term, Garden areas - each class assigned their own area to develop, Netball pole - planning for an additional pole to be installed over the holidays, Basketball court - planning to create a senior seating area at the end of the basketball court is underway as well as several other fencing concerns identified by the students. Their next task is to call a meeting with their class teacher and fellow students to decide how and when they would like to hold a fundraiser for this term. We will be supporting epilepsy research through our fundraising this term but exactly what the students would like to do will be determined by class meetings and the SRC. I look forward to hearing the creative ideas the SRC come back with.

Mrs Finlayson

Responsible Pet Care Program
On Friday 13th February Infants students attended a Responsible Pet Care session. The program was designed to educate students on how to be responsible pet care owners, how to meet and greet a dog and what to do if they are approached by an angry dog. Students engaged in discussions and active activities throughout the program. At the end of the session a select number of students were chosen to demonstrate their knowledge on how to meet and greet a real dog named Mojoe. Mojoe was very happy to meet our students and even tried to kiss one of our Kindergarten kids! The students had a fantastic time at the session and went home as experts armed with information and pamphlets to teach their families and friends.

How to Meet and Greet a Dog
1. Walk up slowly and stop
2. Ask the owner
3. Let the dog smell your hand
What to do when approached by an Angry Dog.

1. Stand still
2. Hands down
3. Quiet as a mouse.
4. Look at the ground.

Yass Public Swim Carnival.

On Friday 6th of February our enthusiastic primary students attended the annual swimming carnival at Yass Pool. The houses battled it out all day with McKellar finishing as our winner for 2015. Many thanks to our dedicated staff and family helpers. You made the day possible with your efforts to assist on the day. I was particularly impressed with the participation of so many students and the sportsmanship shown on the day was exemplary. Our champions on the day were

Jun Boys Cooper Thornely Runner Up Tony Davis
Jun Girls Lucy O’Sullivan Runner Up Eve Williams
11 Boys Runner Riley Wilson Up Will Fahey
11 Girls Tomika Grieves Runner Up Ruby Morrisey
Sen Boys Reece Bush Runner Up Chester Stacey
Sen Girls Chrissie Davis Runner Up Aimee Vitler

Diane Hickey
District Swim Carnival.
The district swim carnival will be at Yass Pool on Friday 20th February. We have a team of around 40 students attending. We wish them all good luck and hope they achieve some PB’s. Mrs Hickey will be at the pool and Ms Bird will meet those students at school that need to walk over to the pool. The Regional Swimming carnival will be the 6th March. Representatives proudly swim for our school with sportsmanlike behaviour.
Leaders News
Mrs Fin and Ms Bird are organising Year 6 shirts and have asked Yr6 families for their feedback. They are also interested in hearing from families that have Year 5 & 6 students that are keen to participate in a Leadership Conference in Canberra. We are trying to provide our senior students with more leadership opportunities.
Please return your notes ASAP.

BAY BLADE BAN.
Bay Blades are no longer welcome at Yass Public School. They will be taken out of the playground if they are brought to school.

P&C Meeting/ AGM
Our next P&C meeting will be our AGM. It will happen at 6pm on Tuesday 3rd March.
At that meeting we will also be discussing the uniform dress options we have for our school.

Uniform Shop Volunteer
The P&C is looking for an enthusiastic volunteer or group of volunteers to assist with running our uniform shop.
The uniform shop raises significant funds that contribute to the programs and resources the P&C is able to purchase for your children’s education.
Your time and energy in this role would greatly assist our school.
Please contact Kirsten Stafford 0402 479 014 to discuss what contribution you can make.
Thank you to all parents that have paid for their students textbooks. Over 95% of students have their textbooks and are using them in spelling and maths classes. It is appreciated if you haven’t organised payment if you could do this as soon as possible.

**Spelling and Maths Groups.**
Students have been attending spelling and maths groups for 2 weeks. Students seem very engaged in their lessons and most seem very motivated to do well. Our staff will be holding parent information evenings later in the term to inform them of these programs at our school.

**Homework.**
This week saw all of our students with their homework to take home. Homework will be given on a Monday and returned the following Monday. This is a great opportunity for families to talk about what learning is taking place at school. It is also setting up good work habits for the future.
**Garden Club.**
We have had two garden club sessions. Many students have chosen to help in the garden at lunchtime. Today we planted lettuce, beetroot and spinach donated by the high school. We will have garden group once a week. A huge thankyou to Tanya Koen for her help with the preparation and organisation skills

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**Parent Survey**
Early next week I will be sending home a parent survey to gauge feedback on our maths program as well as our school culture. Parents will also asked to highlight things our school does well and any suggestions to improve our school. This data will help write our Annual School Report. I hope you can find the time to give us some feedback.

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**Canteen News.**
Our new menu went out to all families last week as well as ways you can help out at the canteen. There is also the advertisement for the part time position in the canteen, applications close on 2th February. (This Friday)
**Garden Areas.**
Each class was assigned a garden area near their classroom to own and improve this year. There is a small budget to make this area more beautiful. Any parents that would like to get involved in this project just let your teacher know.

**Bank Visit.**
Last week we saw representatives from the Commonwealth Bank came to school to encourage students to sign up for school banking. If you missed them and would like your students to become involved in school banking drop into the office for an information pack.

**Clean up Australia Day**
Yass Public will get involved in clean up Australia Day on the 27th February. Each class will be given an area to clean up. There will be small prizes for class with the best area.
P&C AGM
Come along to the P&C AGM to be held in the staff room on Tuesday 3rd of March 2015 at 6pm.
At this meeting the outgoing office-bearers will deliver their reports for the year 2014. Office-bearers for 2015 will be nominated and voted in to represent and lead the P&C.

Positions:
President
2 x Vice Presidents
Treasurer
Secretary
Up to 6 Executive committee members can be nominated and elected at the AGM
If you’re keen this is your opportunity to nominate for a position!
By attending the meeting you will not be pressured into accepting an official role with the P&C. It is an opportunity for you to hear the achievements from 2014 and in the general meeting to follow we aim to set goals for 2015. We are interested to hear your views and ideas for the school.

We hope to see you there!
Lost property & Spare clothes
To prevent your child losing their property, use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels.
Remember to go through your child’s bag with them each night. If something doesn’t come home, ask at the office and check the lost property area.
From time to time we have to send home spare clothes with children that have had an accident at school and it would be appreciated if you could wash these items and return to the office.

Fruit juices
Many people think fruit juice is a healthy option. While fruit juice contains some vitamins, they lack fibre, antioxidants and other nutrients found in fruit. Fruit juices are high in sugar and energy, often containing similar quantities of sugar found in soft drink. Drinking large amounts can lead to tooth decay and excess energy consumption. Here are some things to consider if choosing juice:

✓ Limit fruit juices to no more than half a glass per day.
✓ Too much juice can lead to diarrhoea.
✓ Consider diluting juice 50:50 with water to reduce the number of kilojoules whilst still enjoying the taste of juice.
✓ It is easy to drink too much juice. One popper of juice is equal in energy to two pieces of fruit.
✓ Consider eating a piece of fruit instead. Whole pieces of fruit and veggies have higher levels of many vitamins, minerals, antioxidants and fibre, some of which are protective factors against some cancers and heart disease.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
The Catholic Parish of St Augustine’s, Yass, invites children baptised in the Catholic tradition, Year 3 or older, to continue their journey in faith by preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for their First Holy Communion. If you believe your child is ready to take this next step and you are prepared to be involved in the journey, please enrol your child at the presbytery on Wednesday 18 February or Thursday 19 February between 5-6pm. For further details contact Dianne Carey 0419276889 Sacramental Team Leader.

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We hope to see you there!

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**Country Childrens Early Learning**

**After School Care is Coming Back**

Michelle Bush will be reopening The After School Care program at Yass Public School from Monday 9 March 2015. We will have places available Monday through to Friday.

*Please Contact Julia or Tania*

**02 6236 8305**

NINJA DAY
Come and meet the turtles!

Find out what the turtles are eating, and help to survey pond life!

A team led by turtle expert Prof Arthur Georges, from the University of Canberra Institute for Applied Ecology, will conduct a survey of the biodiversity of the Chain of Ponds at Nanima Gold. The team will be catching and counting turtles, and assessing the pond life, with the help of Landcare volunteers - including you!

Sunday February 22, 9.00am start. Johnson Drive off Yass River Rd.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Bring a chair, hat, sun-cream, and be prepared to get muddy!

RSVP for catering purposes by Thursday Feb 19
Jan Grubb, 6227 1389 Email: janetandken@skymesh.com.au
Yass Show Society Inc is proud to present the Yass Show Poets’ Breakfast and Junior Written Poetry Prize, to be held in conjunction with the 152nd Yass Show.

Following the success of the 2013 and 2014 Poets’ Breakfasts at the Yass Show, we are delighted to announce that this year the Poets’ Breakfast will be a non-competitive, open microphone event in the Shearing Pavilion on Sunday March 15, 8.30-10.30am. All poetry lovers and supporters are welcome to either perform or listen.

The Junior Poetry Prize will continue to offer prize money in for written poetry, to encourage youngsters on their poetry journey. The winners will be announced at the Poets’ Breakfast. There will also be a $20 local encouragement award for a local junior poet who performs at the Poets’ Breakfast. Come and support our juniors!

The Yass Show Junior Written Poetry Prize 2015 will offer $70 in prize money: 1st: $40; 2nd: $20; 3rd: $10.

The program is designed for maximum enjoyment and to include poets at all ages and stages. Come and enjoy the eclectic open mic sessions (all styles of poetry and juniors welcome). Entries close Monday February 23.

*NB* Please read Conditions of Entry & Entry Forms carefully and keep a copy for your records. Monday February 23 is the deadline for written entries. Website: yassshow.org.au Email: robynsykespoet@gmail.com

To enter the Yass Show Junior Poetry Competition, please fill out the following form.

Closing date: Monday February 23, 2015
Yass Minor Rugby League Club invites all players to register for the 2015 season

Under 6’s - Under 16’s

Saturday 21st February 2015
At Walker Park
Football Fields, Yass
11am - 1pm

Cost per player - $130.00
(Family Discount Available)
New players are more than welcome to register.
(You must bring along your original birth certificate and a copy for us)

*Girls can register to play up to Under 12’s
Fees are payable at the time of registration.
All players to receive jumpers, shorts and socks at the end of season
WINTER FOOTBALL

Pee Wees to U18

Commences Saturday 2 May 2015
The competition is for players born 1997 -2010

(Pee Wee’s play at home each week)

Pee Wees 5-7 $70 per player
Juniors U/8 – U/9 $70 per player
Juniors U/10 – U/11 $100 per player
Competitive U/12 –U/18 $110 per player

Register online at www.myfootballclub.com.au by 22st Feb

Fees are to be paid by EFT direct to Yass Football Club Inc
Westpac Yass
BSB 032-771
Account 159593
Please use your name as the reference

Further Registration Info www.yassfc.com.au

Enquiries Drew Gallagher 0408 633 143
Jodie Gallagher 0400 260 172
Yoga in Yass

9 week Yoga classes starting:
Monday 2nd of February and running for Term 1
6pm to 7:15pm AND
Wednesday 4th of February from 3:30pm to 4:30pm
Berinba Public School Hall
81 Church Street, Yass
Cost $100 for 9 classes
or
$15 causal

Please email Cass on cassyoga@outlook.com or call 0418444863 to book a spot. Also offering one on one classes.

Namaste x
REGISTRATION DAY—2015 SEASON

SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 9AM-12PM

SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 9AM-12PM—REP HANDOUT

AT NETBALL COURTS—O’CONNOR PARK

*SEASON STARTS FRIDAY 13TH MARCH—NET SET GO & 3/4 AT 5PM—5/6 & 7/8/9 AT 6PM*

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<td>(15 &amp; UP) <em>NOW TUESDAY NIGHTS</em></td>
<td>NET SET GO $45</td>
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<td>SEASON STARTS 17TH MARCH—FROM 6.30PM</td>
<td>JUNIOR $55</td>
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CONTACT GENNENE KEMP—0481 159 079 OR dg.kemp55@bigpond.com