School Audit
Last week our school hosted an officer from the Department of Education Audit Services as a part of regular auditing processes. It is pleasing to report that we scored very positively in a high percentage of areas assessed; however there were a small number of areas in which we need to tighten our practices.

Students with unexplained partial absences will now require a written explanation to justify the times that they are away. This can be easily managed by parents and carers coming into the Office to sign students in. Even better – ensure students are at school by 9:10 am!

Secondly, all volunteer workers and contractors visiting the school must have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) or can have a declaration completed at school. These are available from the RMS and are free to people in a voluntary capacity. Whilst we have been very good at providing this evidence, the auditor did highlight a couple of incidents that will be followed up.

Singleton PS P&C Association
P&C Meeting – Wednesday, 2 March – School Library commencing at 6:30 pm for AGM and 7:00 pm for general meeting.
All parents and family members are invited to come along to the next meeting of our P&C association which will be meeting tonight. We have a very positive P&C body which have achieved many great things for our school including assisting with reading programs and library resources, our Band program and Breakfast Club. All are welcome!

Bike Riders
It is great to see so many children riding their bikes to school each day. Children are able to leave their bikes parked in the racks located near the Connected Classroom (behind the Parsonage). Please ensure that your child has an approved helmet and is aware of the basic cycling rules. Keep it up kids!

Summer Reading Program
Congratulations to all of the children that participated in the Summer Reading program coordinated by Mrs Van der Wel. The number of participants were fantastic as was the efforts made by each reader. I am sure that this practice over the summer break has contributed to improved reading success upon their return to school.

David Crowe
Principal

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2 March</td>
<td>Newsletter ONLY available electronically for the remainder of 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C AGM</td>
<td>6.30 pm followed by meeting at 7.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Library</td>
<td>Visiting Show - &quot;The Fairest of Them All&quot; money and note due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3 March</td>
<td>PSSA Hunter Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4 March</td>
<td>Visiting show - &quot;The Fairest of Them All&quot; No Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Canberra payments due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8 March</td>
<td>PSSA Hunter AFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9 March</td>
<td>Zone Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 11 March</td>
<td>Zone Netball Book Club Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon-Friday 14 - 18 March</td>
<td>Year 6 Canberra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 17 March</td>
<td>Kinder Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Hunter Rugby League</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uniform Shop - Winter Dress order form due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21 March</td>
<td>University of NSW tests money and note due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23 March</td>
<td>Zone Soccer Easter Service K-6 12.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Riding for Disabled starts Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25 March</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no assembly this week due to the Visiting Show.

Working With Children Check
Please be aware that all volunteers at school need to complete a Working with Children Check or declaration before entering the school. This includes working as a volunteer in the classroom for reading, canteen, uniform shop and breakfast club. This is a mandatory Department of Education requirement.
**Year 5 Surf Life Saving**

Last Friday, 26 February, Year 5 went down to Nobby’s Beach to do beach activities. This was the “Surf Safe Fun Day” program run by surf life savers. We all had a great time. There were games like beach volleyball and beach soccer. We went body boarding, did flag races and relays and even had a sandcastle competition. We also had talks about surf safety, rips and bluebottles. It was the best day ever.

Charlotte 5E

Some Quotes:

“Fun” “Amazingly sandy!” “Exciting” “Extraordinary!” “We should do it for sport.” “I loved it!”

**Aboriginal Cultural Group Murals**

Over the last couple of weeks the Aboriginal Cultural Group have been revitalising some of our old picnic tables near the Bush Tucker Garden.

Last Friday Michael Heitmeyer and the group started work on murals for the table tops. Michael drew designs and over the next weeks our students will complete the artworks.

We have a tabletop with animal tracks and a goanna to represent the Wiradjuri Nation, homeland of our school Aboriginal staff.

Come see our handiwork!
Uniform Shop Roster - Week 7 Term 1 2016
Mon 7/3/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Sarah Wilson
Fri 11/3/16 (8.30 - 9.30 am) Renee MacDonald, Debbie Hamson

Please contact someone else on the roster if you need to swap your duty.

Canteen Roster - Week 7, Term 1 2016
Mon 7/3/16 Kristine Lawrence, 1 more helper please
Tues 8/3/16 Renee MacDonald, 1 more helper please
Wed 9/3/16 Claire Elgar, 1 more helper please
Thurs 10/3/16 2 more helpers please
Fri 11/3/16 Carmen Lee Williams, Renee Mouser, Kate Howe

Please advise Nicole Gray if you have any changes to your rostered day.

Positive Behaviour for Learning – PBL Post-It
Every fortnight our school focuses upon a new behaviour to reinforce our school values of RESPECT – RESPONSIBILITY – QUALITY. All classes engage in small discussions about the various behaviours and students are rewarded for acting in an appropriate manner. This fortnight’s focus is:-

“Demonstrating the core values of our school”

Information from the DEC
Reading with your child at home
When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.

Credit Card Payment Slip - Singleton Public School
The school can accept credit card payments (Visa and Mastercard only) over the phone or by mail. Please note, this is not an EFTPOS facility. EFTPOS (Savings or Cheque a/c) can only be paid over the counter. This facility can be used to pay school contributions, excursions, uniforms or P&C levy etc. The minimum payment is $20.00. Building Fund and Library Fund cannot be paid by credit card.

Student’s Name: …………………………………………………………………………… Class: ………………………
What are you paying for? ……………………………………………………………………………………… Date ………..……
Credit Card Type (please tick one) □ VISA □ Mastercard Amount paying $…………………………

Cardholder Name (as shown on card) Please print in capitals
………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Credit Card Number ___ ___ ___ ___  ___ ___ ___ ___  ___ ___ ___ ___  ___ ___ ___ ___  ___ ___ ___ ___
Expiry Date ___ ___ / ___ ___
CSV ___ ___ ___ (last three digits on back of card)
Signature of Cardholder …………………………………………………………….. Contact Number: ………………………
**Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI)**

The Department of Education has requested that the school contact parents/caregivers to update their Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI). These are questions that appear on the enrolment form regarding education and occupation of parents and carers.

The Department of Education use the data you provide to best reflect our schools student profile and to ensure accurate record keeping.

The information gathered determines a portion of our school’s funding from the Government. Without the correct information in our system, the school receives funds based on the state average.

Some families will receive a letter that contains a print out of the current information our school has recorded for their family. If you receive a letter, please make any updates or changes on Page 2 (in red pen if possible). Once complete, return the letter to the school office as soon as possible to enable staff to update your child/ren’s records. You only need to complete the questions where the school has the response **Unknown/Not Provided** unless circumstances have changed.

The information that you submit will be treated with utmost confidentiality and securely stored at the completion of the data update.

Please contact the school if you need any further help clarifying the occupation group.

**Student Health - School Sores (Impetigo)**

There has been a reported case of Impetigo in the school. Please see the following from the NSW Department of Health - **Time from exposure to illness:** - 1 to 3 days. **Symptoms:** Small red spots change into blisters that fill up with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp. **Do I need to keep my child home?** Yes, until antibiotic treatment starts. Sores should be covered with watertight dressings. Please exclude if sores on exposed surfaces such as face, scalp, hands. **How can I prevent spread?** Careful hand washing.

**School Letters regarding unexplained absences**

As you may be aware, the school runs autogenerated letters each Friday that are sent home to parents to provide an explanation for unexplained absences. In the past, this has been for any whole day absences where a reason has not been supplied.

After the school’s recent audit, there has been a change in the process. Now, students with unexplained partial absences will also require a written explanation to justify the times that they are away from school. Unexplained partial absences are those where the student has not had a parent/caregiver sign them into the late/early leavers register at the office.

This can be easily managed by parents and carers coming into the Office to sign students in or by ensuring students are at school by 9:10 am.

**Year 6 Canberra Payments**

The balance of the Year 6 Canberra payments are due on Friday, 4 March.

**Working with Children Checks**

All volunteers that come into the school to help with Uniform Shop, Canteen, Breakfast Club, classroom, or excursions, etc should have completed either:-

- A Declaration for Volunteers and Contractors - Appendix 5 (available at the school office) as well as taking a 100 point check to the school office, or


*If you have not completed a declaration in the past 2 years, please update your declaration and 100 point check at the school office.*

Your co-operation with completing these checks is appreciated as it is a Department of Education requirement.

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**Singleton Netball Association**

Singleton Netball Association currently has a vacancy in our netta division. If you have a daughter turning 7 or 8 this year they would love to hear from you at singleton-netball@hotmail.com
Parking in Staff Car Park

The school’s staff car park is also used by the taxi’s dropping off our students from the Support Unit as well as parents of Support Unit students. It is not to be used by any other families unless prior consent is given by the School Principal. There is also no pedestrian access via the staff carpark. This is because the safety of our school community is paramount.

Singleton Public School P&C Annual General Meeting Notice

All parents/carers and citizens within the school community are invited to attend the Singleton Public School P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday, 2 March at 6.30 pm in the school library, and join our P&C. The AGM will be followed by the monthly P&C meeting at 7.00 pm. Children are welcome to use the library computer room during the meetings.

The objectives of the P&C are to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation, assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school, and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school. Our P&C operates the school Canteen and Uniform Shop, supports the school Breakfast Club and school band, and prepares the annual school magazine. Over the past 3 years our P&C has contributed over $100,000 to the school.

The Officers of the P&C consist of the President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. Other positions include an Assistant Treasurer, Uniform Shop Coordinator, Canteen Liaison Officer, Band Program Representative and Breakfast Club Coordinator. At the AGM all officer and other positions will become vacant and then be filled by nomination and, where necessary, by ballot of members. All nominees shall be members of the association.

Nominations can emailed to singletonpublicschool@pandcaffiliate.org.au. The audited balance sheet and annual report will also be presented and the AGM.

Please consider joining the P&C and see how you can get involved and help, as ‘many hands make light work’, and the P&C had such a successful year in 2015.

Thanks
James Skinner
Singleton Public School P&C President

School Cross Country

Date: Thursday, 24 March (Week 9)

To help the school make selections for the Zone Cross Country, all students in Years 2-6 will be taken to Cook Park on Thursday, 24 March to compete in the cross country run. Children will run/walk in their age group for the appropriate distance (2km or 3km). Selections for the Zone Carnival will be based on these results.

Children must bring a bottle of water, hat, sunscreen, medications and appropriate footwear. There is no cost as the children will walk to Cook Park accompanied by teachers.

There is no permission slip needed for this event as students should have already handed in their 2016 General Permission Note which covers walking to Cook Park.

Students are to wear school uniform (not house colours).

Please ensure that your child’s Medical Information Sheet, which was sent home at the beginning of the year, has been returned to the class teacher. Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless this form has been returned.

Cross Country Parent Helpers Return Slip (return to class teacher)

If you are able to assist at the Cross Country Carnival on the day (Thursday, 24 March) please fill out the slip below and return to your child’s class teacher. The job that is required would be to sit in a designated place along the track to ensure children are travelling along the course in the right direction and to provide encouragement for students who may be struggling.

I ……………………………………… am able to assist on Thursday, 24 March at the School’s Cross Country Carnival.

Signed……………………………………………. Date:   /    / Child’s Name _________________ Class ________  

Contact Number _____________________
Summer Reading Club 2015 wraps up!

We have completed our very first Summer Reading Club at Singleton Public School. Over 100 children joined the club at the end of last year meaning roughly 1 in every 4 children took up the opportunity to have some fun and keep up their skills during the holidays. The children showed great responsibility with nearly all our books returned in the first few weeks of the term.

Many of the children used the club booklet and put a lot of effort into their work. A big thank you also to all the parents, caregivers and big brothers and sisters who helped our children out.

We were lucky enough to secure a number of sponsors who generously donated lots of prizes for our students. We’d like to thank Teachers Mutual Bank and the Imperial Hotel in particular who were our major sponsors along with the following businesses:

Teachers Mutual Bank – cash donation, lanyards and pens
The Imperial Hotel – cash donation
Redbourneberry Clothing – gift voucher
Coal and Allied – drink bottles
Chicken Spot – cash donation
Discount Drug Store – gifts
Mall Chemmart Pharmacy – parent gift basket
Singleton Cinema – 2 for 1 tickets and family pass
Tenpin Bowling – 2 for 1 vouchers and free game passes
Howard’s Storage World – Ice Stix packs
Learning Marketplace - books
Mark Wilson (author) – signed book
Katrina McKelvey (author) and Kirrili Lonergan (illustrator) – signed book
Jess Black – book
Sybasigns – bookmarks
Modern Teaching Aids – lanyards, and gifts
Scholastic Australia – books
Masters Hardware – craft packs
Subway – vouchers
McDonald’s – vouchers
Officeworks - gifts
The school receives book club order forms from Scholastic which are sent home throughout the year via your child's class teacher. The children are given the return date by their teacher which is usually one or two weeks after the forms are received. The due date will also appear in the calendar on the front page of the newsletter. Should you wish to make an order, please complete the order form in the middle page of the brochure and return to school with payment in an envelope or zip-lock bag. You can send cash, a cheque made payable to Scholastic Australia or alternatively pay by credit card direct to Scholastic using the instruction below.

Paying Bookclub by Credit Card??

If you would like to pay for your Scholastic Book club orders by credit card please note the following step to take:

- To make credit card payments please login on to scholastic.com.au/LOOP, enter the books you wish to purchase, and pay securely online. Do not fill in the order form or return anything to school. It’s easy.
University of New South Wales Tests

Each year the University of New South Wales offers students across the world the opportunity to participate in a number of tests across a number of curriculum areas for children in Year 3-12.

These tests are the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) and occur through the year. A new ICAS test is developed annually for each subject in each year level by our team of subject matter experts.

All ICAS tests are reviewed by experienced teachers to ensure that they accurately assess students’ skills and are relevant to what they are learning at school. Each test is sat at the student’s school and is invigilated by teachers under normal examination conditions.

This year we are offering for any interested children from Years 3-6 the chance to participate in the following UNSW competitions:

- Digital Technologies (Computer Skills): Tuesday, 17th May
- Science: Tuesday, 31st May
- English: Tuesday, 2nd August
- Mathematics: Tuesday, 16th August

Each of these tests costs parents $8.80. If you would like your child or children in Years 3-6 to participate in any of the tests please complete the form below and return it to the school by Monday, 21 March. Unfortunately we will be unable to accept late entries.

Childs Name__________________________ Child’s Class ______

Tests I would like my child to participate in:
English / Mathematics / Science / Computer Skills
(Please cross out whichever is not applicable)

Each tests costs $8.80 Total enclosed: $____________ Signed: ____________________
Congratulations to our assembly award winners for Term 1, Week 5 2016

### CLASS AWARD RECIPIENTS K - 6

#### Assembly Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Cailin</td>
<td>Seth</td>
<td>KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Aiden</td>
<td>Molly</td>
<td>K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1FL</td>
<td>Ava</td>
<td>Ewan</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Connor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Isabelle</td>
<td>Yonggi</td>
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<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Charli</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Z</td>
<td>Tommy</td>
<td>Abbie</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5I</td>
<td>Life</td>
<td>Saving</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Mikayla</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Coleby</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KM</td>
<td>Jorja</td>
<td>Niko</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Vincent</td>
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<tr>
<td>1FL</td>
<td>Ciah</td>
<td>Tyson</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1E</td>
<td>Hayden</td>
<td>Charlotte</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
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<tr>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>Jayden</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Z</td>
<td>Clancy</td>
<td>Joe</td>
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<tr>
<td>5I</td>
<td>Life</td>
<td>Saving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>Paige</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Noah</td>
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### Singleton Stars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early</td>
<td>Seth</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Taneesha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage</td>
<td>Laila</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Harry</td>
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### Super Citizens

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Yonjae</td>
<td>Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2H</td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>Lachie</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment Award</td>
<td>Noah, Aidan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enter to Learn Singleton Public School
Classwork by 1FL

1FL have been reading “Possum Magic”, written by Mem Fox. We have been learning about Australia and following Hush’s adventures around our country.