Welcome Back in 2014!

On behalf of the staff and myself, I would like to welcome back our returning students to our school in 2014.

I would also like to welcome our new students to our school. Welcome to Charlotte and Chloe, our delightful little Kindergarteners. I would also like to welcome Joshua who has started in Year 5. We also have two returning students who we are very happy to have back with us. Welcome back Mackenzie and Jonathon!

We are all set for an exciting year of teaching and learning. Our teachers are Mrs Trevenen for K-2 and Ms Payne for Years 3-6. I will be taking the morning Intensive Literacy Group, performing the role of Librarian and covering the teachers’ classes when they have Release From Face to Face teaching (RFF).

Our Positive Behaviours for Success Values Hand
See Page 2

Mrs Pertout is our School Administration Manager and will be performing her duties for three days in even weeks and four days in odd weeks.

Our School in Term 1, 2014!

2014 is shaping up to be an exciting year of learning!

Beginning Wednesday of Week 2, we have Craig from ‘Team Rhythms’ coming to teach us African Drumming. This is an eight week course, which takes us through to Week 9.

We have contracted Craig to teach us African Drumming to support our Term unit on ‘Africa and Madagascar’.

This unit will cover the key learning areas of Science & Technology and Human Society and its Environments.

To celebrate and complement this unit, we will also be engaging in art/craft activities for display and on Wednesday of Week 11 we will be visiting Taronga Zoo! (Costing will be ready soon)

On Wednesday of Week 3, Jake will be visiting for a NRL Blitz. This will be at 12pm and parents are welcome to visit.

Cont…. P.2
Our School in Term 1, 2014!

On Friday in Week 3, Jake is visiting our school. Jake is a NRL facilitator and he will be coaching both classes in a NRL Southern Highlands Blitz!

We might see one of our students in a photo like this one day!

On Monday in Week 4, the school photographer will be here to take photographs of the children for 2014. Please ensure that your child is in full neat and clean school uniform, including black shoes and white socks, for the photos. This ensures a quality result for the money you are paying.

In Week 7 on Friday we are attending ‘The Barber of Seville’ at Exeter Public School. These Oz Opera performances are always terrific and help to develop the children’s appreciation for the performing arts.

And finally (as far as we know to date), we will be travelling to Berrima Public School for the annual Cross Country race on Friday of Week 10.

Phew!! I’m tired just typing it all!

MVHS Invitation to Students and Parents of Year 6 2014.

You will find attached to this newsletter an invitation from Moss Vale High School for parents to attend an information evening. Also, attached is an invitation to the Year 6 students to attend a ‘Taster Day’.

It is very beneficial for parents and students to take advantage of these special invitations that our high school has issued to you, whether your child will be attending in 2014 or not.

It is always important to keep your options open and to become fully informed as to what your local public high school offers.

I encourage at least one parent from each family and every Year 6 student to attend these events.

Public school education continues to educate the most highly achieving students in the Higher School Certificate and it is so much cheaper than private education.

Public Education v Private Education? Hmmmm…….You could probably buy a beach house with the money saved.

This could be you in those chairs.

Sutton Forest Public School…making your life easier!

You know all of those forms that we ask you to complete EVERY YEAR?

Well this year we are making it easier for you!

Yes, they are all still attached to this newsletter, BUT you only need to complete and send to school if:

. Your child has an illness or allergy that we should know about;
. Your child is NOT PERMITTED to have their photograph, name or writing published in media publications including our school website;
. Your child is NOT PERMITTED to participate in school BLOGS and WIKIS;
. Your child is NOT PERMITTED to participate in walking excursions around the village;
. Your emergency contact details HAVE CHANGED since the end of last year (New parents and students will have to do this one…sorry);
. In the case of an emergency, you DO NOT want us to arrange for medical treatment for your child if we are unable to contact you; and/or
. Your child is NOT PERMITTED to participate in Child Protection lessons in Term 1, you will need to write a letter to inform me.

If we do not receive paperwork back from you by Friday 14th February, 2014 it is accepted that these things do not apply to you.

Next year, you won’t even get the paperwork unless you request it.

Think of the trees we’ll save!!!
Children are a gift to us... we should all treat them the way we wish to be treated.

PBS Exciting News!!!

No doubt your child has already told you that when they earn fifty stickers for positive behaviours this semester, the reward will be a trip to the Empire Cinema in Bowral to see a movie.

Please encourage your child, remind them of our values and show them that you believe that they can do it!

Remember, you are an effective learner if you are:

Honest, Responsible, Respectful, Safe and are the Best You Can Be!

School Uniforms

It is expected that every child is in full school uniform, including school hat, every day.

This demonstrates to our community, and beyond, that students and parents value our school.

If your child is out of uniform, please ensure that they have a note explaining the reason in order for disciplinary action not to be taken.

School Contributions

School contributions remain at $55.00 per child this year.

This covers all of your child’s textbooks and minor excursions such as Oz Opera.

You may pay the full amount in Term 1 or pay by the term an amount of $13.75.

Please pay the full amount or your term instalment by 28th February 2014.

Thank you Nick, Clare and Caleb.

I know there is a lot of reading in this newsletter. I apologise and hope you won’t see another like this until Term 1, 2015.

Thank you, Tahlia.
K-2 with Mrs Trevenen

Welcome back to a new and exciting year of learning!

It was wonderful to welcome our two new Kindergarten students Charlotte and Chloe to our class on Thursday. Both girls have worked with enthusiasm and already are settling in well to their new school. Thank you to our returning Year One and Two students for being very helpful and friendly to our two newest members of the class.

Next week classroom News sessions will commence and students are invited to share something about their week with fellow students. Children may bring an item to school to show whilst they are speaking. Speaking in front of an audience can be a great boost to a child’s confidence, but may be a little daunting at first. With practice and support from classmates this soon becomes a favourite part of the daily routine.

News Days
Monday – Angus & Hamish  Tuesday – Noah & Ruby  Thursday – Georgina, Taleia & Jamie  Friday – Charlotte & Chloe

Crunch and Sip time is daily at 10am. This provides children with a short break from Literacy lessons and gives them an opportunity for an energy boost. Children are invited to bring fresh fruit or vegetables to eat in the classroom at this time. Some suggestions for items that can be easily eaten within 10 minutes would be grapes, small apples, bananas, blueberries, mandarins, carrot or celery sticks.

Resources that the children need are as follows: 2 triangular lead pencils, 1 pkt triangular coloured pencils, 1 eraser, 1 ruler, 1 pair round nosed scissors, 1 pencil sharpener, 1 glue stick. NO TEXTAS please.

Y3-6 with Ms Payne

Welcome Year 3-6 class of 2014.

Firstly, thank you to Mr Angus Stephen not only President of the P&C but parent and community member who has organised the purchase and installation of the Interactive White Board in the 3-6 classroom. Further, thank you for your generosity in giving up your own time to paint the wall of the classroom after installation. We greatly appreciate your kindness and commitment to our School.

Secondly, I ask that all students have with them at school at all times a number of “lead pencils”. More important than a fancy rubber or pencil sharpener is to be able to always access a pencil. It is the most used “tool” (apart from the “brain”) at school. Students who can not “find” a pencil start off their activity 5-10 minutes after everyone else. So, please can you firstly, provide lead pencils for your child, then a sensible and effective rubber (one that works), pencil sharpener, red pen, highlighters (2-4), glue, and optional but not necessary — scissors, textas and colouring in pencils. A box of tissues per child would also be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, underpinning all learning in the 3-6 class is a focus on a collaborative and cohesive learning environment where students are encouraged to develop initiative and independence in their thinking, where they take responsibility for their learning and ownership of their educational achievements. We value commitment to learning and being “the best you can”. We celebrate and encourage creativity and originality. As such, we look forward to a productive, interesting and exciting year of learning.

Karen Payne
### February 2014

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OTHER MATTERS

Excursions

There will be some high expense excursions occurring this year.

To assist you in budgeting we are happy to start to take periodic payment.

Our first excursion, The Barber of Seville, is covered by your school contributions.

The second excursion, Taronga Zoo, will be at your cost. At this stage, I suggest that $7.00 per week per child will take you close to the full payment. I will make the cost available to you as soon as we have booked the bus and the zoo.

Also, we will be welcoming parents, siblings and other family members on this excursion. Should you know someone who would appreciate being bussed to the zoo, and then taking the ferry into the city, please let us know as there will be a bus travel only price available.

The third excursion is the biannual Year 5/6 Camp to Morisset. This is usually around $170 and will be in Week 3, Term 4. I would suggest around $7.00 per child per week. Should the camp be cheaper, you will be reimbursed the extra amount you have paid.

Freddy Smith
Y5/6 Camp
$7.00

Simply put the money in an envelope with your child’s name, the excursion you are paying for and the amount enclosed. Mrs Pertout will send a receipt home ASAP after your payment. Please keep your receipts together as proof of payment.

Gardens

Should you have any native plants, cuttings from cottage garden plants or ferns or azaleas that you may like to donate, we would be very appreciative.

There is a bald spot in the native garden and the cottage garden behind the toilet block is looking bald all over.

The ‘fernery’ in the library garden has taken a beating over those horribly hot days we have experienced over the holidays and of late. If you enjoy building, we could do with a shade cloth cover over it as well to help protect it.
The Annual General Meeting of Sutton Forest Public School P&C Association will be at 6:00 pm on 17th February, 2014 in the school library. This involves the election of office-bearers for 2014.

Following the AGM, there will be a General meeting.

I would like to encourage at least one parent from each family to attend the meeting, as the P&C makes decisions that affect the education of your child. If you are not a member of the P&C you are then not in a position to participate in the decision-making process regarding the expenditure of funds raised.

Some of the areas we will be asking the P&C to provide funds for, will be to:

- Assist with the cost of the African drumming lessons;
- Provide extra technological resources for the students and teachers;
- Provide extra copies of the texts used for guided reading lessons in the Y3-6 classroom; and
- Provide both classrooms with PM Reading Program software.

Please come along and support your P&C and your school. We always need extra helpers for assisting with fund-raising activities. Please be pro-active in your child’s education.

Jacquie Crockford on behalf of Angus Stephen, P&C President