Dear Parents/Caregivers,

**SUN SAFETY POLICY**
The Department of Education and Communities has introduced a new sun safety policy that has clear guidelines as to what is considered in the best interest of children’s safety. One of the main points is the need to protect our children’s ears and necks from the sun. The current baseball style caps do not supply this protection. All children need to be protected from skin damage and the bucket hats that are the only hats available from the uniform shop offer this protection. The Uniform Shop will be selling the correct school hats for $5 till the end of this term. In the interest of our students’ health starting from term four, children who continue to wear the baseball style caps will be restricted to the shaded areas of the playground.

**BICYCLES AT SCHOOL**
There has been a large increase in the number of bicycles being ridden to school each day. Children who ride bicycles to school need to be aware of the rules associated with their bicycles while in school grounds. Children, and their accompanying parents, need to walk their bicycles at all times while within school grounds. With the large number of children arriving and leaving school at the same time, riding bikes in school grounds and in close proximity to the school is not an option. For everyone’s safety please walk your bikes in high pedestrian areas.

**CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS**
Our students are certainly fortunate that they have a canteen available five days a week from which to order their lunch or purchase snacks. This is not the case in quite a number of schools. However, we rely heavily on our parents helping out. We are critically short of volunteers for the canteen and there is a real risk that the canteen could close one or two days a week. If you can spare one day a week, a fortnight, a month or even a term your help would be greatly appreciated.

**ELECTION DAY BBQ**
The P & C will be holding an Election Day barbecue (Saturday 7th September). This is a great fundraiser for the school with the large number of people visiting the school on this day. If you are able to assist for an hour or two please complete the slip attached to this newsletter.

**FATHERS’ DAY DONATIONS**
The P & C are looking for donations for the popular fathers’ day stall that will be held on Thursday 29th August. If you are able to help with gifts that would be appropriate as a gift for dad, please send them in to the office.

**ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**
Well done to the children who competed so well over two very different days at the zone athletics carnival. There were some outstanding results with a number of children who will represent the school at the Regional Carnival.
DARE TO LEAD
The Dare to Lead (DTL) team visited at the end of term two. I would like to thank the children, parents and staff who took part in the interviews conducted by the team. The feedback by the DTL team has given the school some future directions that we will include in our school planning.

BOOK FAIR AND PARADE
Next week we will be having a book fair and the ever popular book parade. The parade is on Tuesday 20th August starting at 12.30pm. We encourage parents to also come in costume. The theme this year is “Read across the Universe”.

P & C DISCO
The P & C disco will take place on Wednesday 28th August. Notes have been distributed to the children and need to be returned by 22nd August.

SAILING FOR SPORT
An opportunity to participate in sailing for sport in term four this year and term one 2014 is being offered to students at school. The cost is $100 per student. Students must be a junior sailing member of the 16ft sailing club and a parent or guardian of each student must be a full member of the club. Accredited instructors, boats and safety gear are provided.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART
This year as part of our physical education program we are taking part in jump rope for heart. Notes were distributed over the last couple of days. The jump off will be held on Wednesday 18th September 2013.

CYBERBULLYING – PREVENTION TIPS FOR PARENTS
The statistics around cyber bullying are sketchy, mainly because it often goes unreported. What we do know is that the likelihood of children being bullied online or over the phone increases as they get older and use technology more frequently. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/say-no-to-cyberbullying

HOW MUCH SCREEN TIME?
‘Screen time’ used to mean how many hours you spent watching TV and playing on the computer. However, with the growing number of digital devices on offer today, the question of what screen time means now is far more complex. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/using-technology/screen-time

WHEN LUNCH COMES HOME - AGAIN
Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds. But it's a battle families can do without and there are some simple steps to help avoid it. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/when-lunch-comes-homeagain

EIGHT WAYS TO BUILD YOUR CHILDREN’S WRITING SKILLS
Here are a few practical tips to help your child to work out the best way to express themselves through their writing. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/eight-ways-to-support-your-childrens-writing-skills

BENEFITS OF SCHOOL SPORT
If you want your child to grow up to be a confident and well-adjusted adult, then team sports may well be the answer. Playing a team sport provides kids with important lessons in personal values. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/fitness/benefits-of-team-sports

Thomas Kelly
Principal
DEBATING
Congratulations to the Senior Debating team who won against Eleebana Public School. It was a very difficult topic to argue: “Parents should be banned from smacking their kids”. Our team had to argue against this. Well done to our other debating team who represented our school proudly at Mt Hutton Public School yesterday. This was their first debate and they are looking forward to participating in the local schools debating competition.

SOFTBALL
Good luck to Grace Wand Paige H who are part of the Hunter PSSA Girls Softball team. The girls will compete at the Regional titles at the end of August. Congratulations to Grace who has been selected as the team Captain for the competition.

SOCCER
Welcome back Kai B from Japan. Kai visited Japan as part of the Junior Jets Soccer team. He competed against a variety of countries during his two week visit. Well done Kai.

STAGE 3 EXCURSION
Stage 3 students will be going to the Blue Mountains, Bathurst and Jenolan Caves from the 23rd – 25th October. Could all permission notes, food allergy, behaviour contracts and outstanding money please be sent to the office by the 4th September? The last instalment of $100.00 will be due at the beginning of Term 4.

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY
As you know Liam S has been selected to play in the NSW State touch football team at the National Titles in October. It is a very expensive competition and to help support Liam we will be having an out of uniform day on the 4th September. Students are encouraged to wear their favourite football team colours and make a gold coin donation. Liam will also be selling raffle tickets on behalf of the PSSA association. Prizes include a lap top, television & ipods.

FRUIT TOKENS
The canteen is currently promoting healthy eating by rewarding students who purchase fruit from the canteen. Each time students purchase a piece of fruit they receive a sticker. When students have four stickers on their token card they receive a prize from the canteen.

Zone Athletics News:
Congratulations to all the Belmont children who attended the Zone Athletics Carnival! All the children participated to the best of their ability and their behaviour and their sportsmanship were fantastic. Thank you to the parents who helped out with transport and supported the children over the 2 days of the Carnival. Belmont Public School had 28 students attend on Wednesday and 20 students on Thursday and we were well represented in all events in both track and field. All competitors should be very proud of their achievements.

Special congratulations to the children who have reached Rregional level for their chosen event.

12/13 Yrs Shotput  Caitlin J
200m, 100m, High Jump  Liam S
100m  Jessie P
High Jump  Eilsel H-C
800m  Jacob C

We wish these students the very best of luck at the Regional Carnival.

Cameron Smith
Sports Organiser
Canteen Roster:

Thu 15th Aug: Trish, Janelle, Tracy
Fri 16th Aug: Ian, Helper Needed
Mon 19th Aug: Cassie, Helper needed
Tue 20th Aug: Maree, Tara
Wed 21st Aug: Christie, Helper Needed
Thu 22nd Aug: Kath, Kylie
Fri 23rd Aug: Leanne, Rebecca
Mon 26th Aug: Gail, Helper Needed
Tue 27th Aug: Katie, Helper Needed

Just a reminder that Cheese & Bacon rolls **cannot** be ordered for lunch or recess, they are only available before school.

A big thank you to everyone who helped on the day of the School Athletics Carnival.

**New Declaration for Volunteers**

Due to the new “Working with Children Check” guidelines, all volunteers and parents who assist at sporting events, excursions, canteen and classroom helpers will have to update their declaration forms. These new forms are available at the office. Please bring proof of identity with you.

Di Watson
School Office Manager

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**ELECTION DAY P & C BARBECUE**

Please indicate if you are able to assist with the Election Day barbecue on Saturday 7th September 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00am - 9.00am</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00am – 10.00am</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am – 11.00am</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am – 12.00pm</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00pm – 1.00pm</td>
<td>Yes/No</td>
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Name ________________________________ (Please print)

Contact number ________________________________
Bring the family dressed in theme or as your favourite book character.
Characters and cakes.
Performances and prizes.
Tuesday 20\textsuperscript{th} August from 12:30

Book Fair: Monday 19\textsuperscript{th} - Wednesday 21\textsuperscript{st} August

Books for sale @ 8:40am and again @ 3:10pm

Cakes will be sold for 50c each. (If you can donate something please deliver to canteen Tuesday morning or bring along when the parade begins.)
All money raised from the Book Fair and Cake Stall will be used to purchased quality books for our school library.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 16th October</td>
<td><strong>Orientation to School</strong>&lt;br&gt;New kindies will meet their buddies and go on a tour of the school and share some activities in the kinder rooms while Parents attend an information session on school procedures and kindergarten routines. Everyone is then invited to enjoy a sausage sizzle lunch.</td>
<td>School Library / Infants playground</td>
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<td>12.15 pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 30th October</td>
<td><strong>Early Birds - Session 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;Parents and children participate in a variety of fun activities with Kinder teachers Recess with buddies so <em>bring along a small snack and drink.</em></td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<td>12.15 - 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 6th November</td>
<td><strong>Early Birds - Session 2</strong>&lt;br&gt;Parents and children participate in a typical day in kinder – a music lesson, a visit to the library and a game on the oval. Recess again with the buddies.</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<td>12.15 - 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13th November</td>
<td><strong>Early Birds - Session 3</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children continue with a variety of learning activities. Parents attend a Literacy information session where one of the Kinder teachers will show you how we teach reading and writing in Kinder and how you can help your child. Recess again with buddies.</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<td>12.15 - 1.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 20th November</td>
<td><strong>Early Birds - Session 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Children participate in their final fun learning session. Parents attend a Maths information session to explain what your child will learn in Maths and show you how you can help your child develop their number concepts by playing games at home. Final recess with buddies.</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<td>12.15 - 1.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 29/1/14</td>
<td><strong>Best Start Assessment Sessions</strong>&lt;br&gt;To assist our Kindergarten teachers develop teaching and learning activities that cater for the needs of all children, new kindies are asked to attend a half-hour assessment session prior to starting school. Parents/caregivers will also meet with the teacher to discuss any concerns they may have.</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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<td>Thursday 30/1/14</td>
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<td>Friday 31/1/14</td>
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<td>Monday 3rd February 2014</td>
<td><strong>Kindergarten Commences</strong>&lt;br&gt;All kindergarten students commence school at 9.15 a.m.</td>
<td>Kinder Classrooms</td>
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</tbody>
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