## Principal’s Message

Welcome back everyone to Term 2! After speaking to students it sounds like everyone had a fantastic break and the Easter bunny was good to all.

### Opportunity Class 2015

Parents seeking Opportunity Class placement for Year 5 entry in 2015 are required to submit an application by **16 May 2014**. Generally students are in Year 4 in 2014 when applying for Year 5 entry in 2015.

Parents can apply online at [www.det.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement). Parents will be able to apply for up to two schools of their choice.

Online applications open on **Monday 28 April 2014**. All other applicants must complete an official printed application form.

### NAPLAN testing

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy testing will take place on **Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 May**. Every year, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are assessed on the same days using national tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The results help determine if students are reaching important educational outcomes. More information: [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

### Kik, Vine, Instagram – are they safe?

It is no contest – kids discover and understand new social media long before we adults do. If your child is thinking about creating a new social media account – or complains that “everyone else is doing it”, you can get the facts at a glance from School A to Z’s technology glossary. You will also find information about age restrictions and things to watch out for: [http://bit.ly/188OerY](http://bit.ly/188OerY)

### Metella Road Out of School Hours Child Care - OOSH

Our OOSH participated in the National Quality Standard Assessment at the end of last term. The assessment determined whether and at what rating the level of services meet the National Quality Standard and the requirements of the Education and Care Services national Regulations and the Education and Care Services National Law.

The rating system used is **Significant Improvement Required**, **Working Towards national Quality Standard, Meeting National Quality Standard and Exceeding National Quality Standard**. The exceptional staff and parent committee of our OOSH were rated at **Exceeding National Quality Standard**.

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### Calendar

#### What's On

#### Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7 May</td>
<td>Boys Softball Knockout</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>Debate v Bert Oldfield PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 May</td>
<td>Debate v Quakers Hill East PS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Western Sydney Wanderers</td>
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<td>Football Program</td>
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#### Week 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting @ 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 15 May</td>
<td>Western Sydney Wanderers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 15 May</td>
<td>Football Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 16 May</td>
<td>PSSA commences</td>
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#### Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20 May</td>
<td>ICAS Computer Skills Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 May</td>
<td>Pulse Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 May</td>
<td>Parents Auxiliary Meeting @ 2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 May</td>
<td>Western Sydney Wanderers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 May</td>
<td>Football Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 23 May</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country Carnival</td>
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This is an extraordinary result and is not given to many centres. I have always known that David and his team are an integral part of our school and run a brilliant centre, but now we have the proof that it is so!!!

Congratulations to David, Shona, Kim, Jessica, Ben, Riley, Monika, Blanka, Daphney, Sarah, Cheryl and Vince!!!

Dads Corner
A father’s role has changed dramatically in just one generation. The modern dad is now more involved with parenting than ever before. A father’s relationship with his kids contributes unique aspects to their emotional, social and educational development. Here at Metella Road we believe that this more hands on, unique role not only needs to be acknowledged it needs to be celebrated and supported. As such, the school is planning to put on a number of special Dad’s activities throughout the year (details to follow). The school will also be starting a regular ‘Dads Corner’ every Friday morning from 9 - 9.30am to give all dads an opportunity to catch up with other dads over a coffee. One of our volunteer fathers, Jason, has kindly agreed to run the Dads Corner. All fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers are welcome anytime.

Mr P. D’Emilio
Principal

Parents Auxiliary News

Welcome Back
Welcome back, I hope everybody had a fantastic break and are looking forward to another great Term.

Cadbury Chocolate Fundraiser
We are still chasing chocolates, if you have the monies or any unsold chocolates please return to the school office ASAP. Again, a huge THANK YOU to those who have sold and returned monies and assisting with this fundraising event!

K-2 Easter Hat Parade
I would like to thank the wonderful volunteers, who assisted with the tea/coffee/cold drinks at the K-2 Easter Hat Parade, a great team!

Mother’s Day Stall
We would just like to let you know that our Mother’s Day Stall will be held on Thursday, 8 May. The gifts will range in price from $2.00 - $5.00. A separate flyer has been sent out.

If anyone is available to help with the selling on the day of the stall, we would love to see you. The stall will be held under the Hall COLA from approximately 9.00am to recess.

The Good Guys
If you shop at Karl Holdsworth – THE GOOD GUYS, Prospect, mention at the PAY POINT that you want your SKOOL IS KOOL dollars to be allocated to the Metella Road Public School P&C Association. This is a great way for the P&C to get prizes and giveaways. We supported the chocolate wheel and raffle at the Spring Fete last year from this great sponsorship system. The Good Guys, Shop 17 HOMEBASE Shopping Centre, 19 Stoddart Road, Prospect.

Entertainment Books
The sale of Entertainment Books is currently available, so many bargains in one compact book. Please contact the school office for more information.

Next Meeting
Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 21 May at 2pm in the staffroom. All parents welcome.

Alison Steele
Parents Auxiliary Convenor

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by volunteering to host one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2014 for their 3, 5, or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Spain and Colombia will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money, and comprehensive insurance cover, all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. You choose the nationality, the gender, the duration and the interests of the student that you feel is the best match for your family. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceast@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!
Stage 3 Update
Term 2 Week 2

Students had lots of fun helping their buddies and cheering them on as they paraded at the Easter Hat Parade.

Graffiti Talk
Stage 3 were lucky enough to attend a Graffiti Talk offered by Blacktown City Council to raise awareness about the effects of graffiti on individuals and the community. We enjoyed hearing Zed’s story.

Play Support
Year 5 have been doing an outstanding job in running our school’s Play Support program! This involves students giving up their lunch time to run fun and engaging activities for students in K-2.

Teachers and students have been very impressed with the enthusiasm and responsibility of our Year 5 students.

Friendship Ambassadors
Year 6 completed their Friendship Ambassador training in Term 1 ready to begin the peer mediation program at the start of Term 2.

Friendship Ambassadors wear red vests and can be found in the K-2 COLA, K-2 Field and 3-6 Field to help students who are having minor disputes.

Well done to our volunteers for being great leaders!

TERM 1 WRAP UP
Term 1 was a jam-packed term for Stage 3 students! We were involved in a number of programs and events, including the Easter Raffle, Graffiti Talk, Play Support and Friendship Ambassadors.

Easter Raffle
Year 6 did a wonderful job donating lots of Easter eggs and baskets to create our amazing prizes for the Year 6 Easter Raffle. Altogether, Year 6 created 19 prizes, including the major prize.

Year 6 would like to thank the P&C Auxiliary for donating three hampers for us to give away. Thanks also go to all students, teachers, parents and community members who helped support Year 6 by purchasing tickets.

Congratulations to all of our winners!

Easter Hat Making
All Stage 3 classes worked with their K-2 Buddy Class to help make Easter Hats.
THE TERM AHEAD

Term 2 looks to be an extremely busy term. Some important upcoming events include:

Maths Olympiad

The Maths Olympiad team will begin completing their preparation sessions and competing in the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO) this term.

The aims of the APSMO are to:

- Introduce students to important mathematical concepts.
- Teach major strategies and develop flexibility for problem solving.
- Foster creativity and ingenuity and strength intuition.
- Stimulate enthusiasm and enjoyment for Mathematics.
- Provide for the satisfaction, joy and thrill of meeting challenges.

Good luck to our Maths Olympiad team!

NAPLAN

Year 5 students will be completing the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests in Week 3 this term. The dates and tests are as following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 13 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 14 May</th>
<th>Thursday 15 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions 40 minutes</td>
<td>Reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>Numeracy 50 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing 40 minutes</td>
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It is important for Year 5 students to make sure they eat a healthy breakfast each morning and get a good night’s sleep each night to be ready and focused for each test.

Winter PSSA

The Winter PSSA competition will commence Friday 16 May 2014 (Term 2 Week 3). Please refer to the Calendar on our school website for information on games and venues.

ICAS Competitions

For those Stage 3 students who have paid to compete in the ICAS Competitions, they will begin very soon. The dates and tests for this term are as following:

- Tuesday 20 May: Computer Skills
- Wednesday 4 June: Science
- Tuesday 17 June: Spelling and Writing

Greystanes High Achievers Program

Selected students from Year 5 have been lucky enough to participate in the Greystanes High Achievers Program. They have participated in Hands on History, Sushi Train and Junior Masterchef. Sounds like fun!

Stage 3 Teachers and Students