From the Principal...

Thanks to all those who wished me a speedy recovery during my time off and have welcomed me back to school. My throat is back to normal and nothing sinister was discovered during the operation, which was fantastic news.

On my return I have heard that there has been some talk in the community about a new principal being employed at Cattai Public School. I can tell you that this is not the case and I will be remaining at Cattai Public School for the foreseeable future.

I would like to wish all families a safe and happy holiday and enjoy the two-week break from routine. There is no Staff Development Day on the first day back next term, however there is a public holiday, so we look forward to seeing all of the happy, smiling faces when students return to school on Tuesday 7th October for the start of Term 4.

NAPLAN

By now you should have received a copy of your child’s NAPLAN results. We have not had time to sit down as a staff and analyse school results yet, however we will do so in the near future. NAPLAN tests help the school to plan for individuals and groups of students in terms of literacy and numeracy. We do not rely solely on this data, utilising other school based and department measures to assess and assist students in the classroom.

Remember the NAPLAN tests are a snapshot of your child’s achievements at school to date and do not always necessarily give a true representation of your child’s abilities in Literacy and Numeracy.

If you are concerned at all in regards to your child’s results, or would just like to chat about the NAPLAN tests, please feel free to make contact with your child’s teacher to organise a time to discuss your concerns.

Disco

Our school disco will be held tonight at the South Maroota Hall from 6pm – 8pm. We ask that students bring a plate to share. Students do not need to wear school uniform and there is no theme for the evening.

Matt Carter
Principal

Principal’s Awards
Congratulations to the following students who have received Principal’s Awards this fortnight:
K/1 2/3
AJ Kewen
4/5/6
Riley B Tyson
Jacob Riley D
Jonah Bejay

Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards
Congratulations to the following students who have received either a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award this fortnight:
K/1 2/3
Levi Isaac D
Luke G Alyssa
Matt Eliza
Curtis Tiana
Michell McKenzie
Georgia
4/5/6
Brandon Ben
Joel T Angus
Joel E Jacob
SPORTS NEWS
4/5/6 BOOT CAMP CUP
On Tuesday 16th September Years 4/5/6 went to a boot camp gala day run by Sergeant Ty at Vineyard P.S along with Maroota and Colo Heights. Firstly, we did a march past with our flag and mascot. Next we did some warm-up activities. There were many games and exercises that each school competed in for points. We played sergeant dodge ball, normal dodge ball, capture the flag and a roundabout game which was very exciting and energetic. We enjoyed a sausage sizzle for lunch and an ice-block at the end of the day. The final activity was tug-o-war. Everyone was in a team that won at least one tug-o-war match. Overall, we had a wonderful day with Maroota in 1st place and Cattai in 2nd place, closely followed by Vineyard 3rd and Colo 4th.

By Ben and Marcel

EAT IT TO BEAT IT – NUTRITION SNIPPET

Apps of the Week

Write About This Free                 Weird but true!

Write About This Free – Write About This is a visual writing prompt & creation platform perfect for classrooms and families! With endless ways to respond and the ability to craft custom photo prompts, it will kick-start any writing activity.

Free version provides more than 50 levelled text & voice prompts and the ability to try the custom prompt creation and digital publishing tools!

Weird but true! – Did you know a hippo’s lips are about two feet wide? Or that didaskaleinophobia is the fear of going to school? Or that before toothpaste was invented some people cleaned their teeth with charcoal? Filled with wacky facts and tantalizing trivia that will engage curious kids and parents alike, Weird But True presents each of the 625 facts in a fun, colourful, and interactive format that will keep kids entertained—and learning—for hours! And parents can rest easy knowing that each fact is age-appropriate and handpicked by a brand they know and trust: National Geographic Kids.

Both apps are free and available from the iTunes store.

MITCHELL PARK EXCURSION
Last Monday all of years 3 and 4, besides Zak, went to Mitchell Park to learn about the animals and plants that live at the National Park.

When we arrived at Mitchell Park, a lady called Nicole introduced us around the National Park. Next we did a role play and we dressed up as people who work there and they are called a Scientist, Park Ranger, Park Regenerator, Aboriginal Guide, Field Officer and Fire Fighter. Then Nicole took us on a trip around the National Park for about an hour and a half and while we were walking we passed two trees. One of the
trees was a Squiggly Gum Tree and the other tree was called a Pink-shaded Gum tree that feels cold because it has water in it and a koala lives in it. After that we went under a big log and when we looked back we saw lots of spider eggs. When we got back we had lunch and a toilet break. After that we had to make our own National Park and I think it was the best trip ever.

By Randall

Last Monday year 3 and 4 students went to Mitchell Park. We went there to learn about the plants and the animals that live in Mitchell Park. When we arrived we met Nicole. Nicole was a Park Ranger. Nicole’s job was to show the people around. When we arrived we had recess and role-played all the people and what they do. I was a Scientist and Sammy was a Field Officer. After that we went on a bush walk with Nicole and Mrs Evans. We were walking for about 1 and ½ hours and we saw Squiggly Gum trees and heard a Whip Bird and a Bell Bird and saw a tree that had bite marks from a Yellow-bellied Glider. A Yellow-bellied Glider is the size of my hand. It is a possum. When we got to a log that was hanging down we went under it and McKenzie found Funnel Web Spider’s eggs. There were so many in the web. We also did a hunt in the bush for things. When we got back to the house we had lunch and Nicole said we had to make a model of a National Park out of bark, sticks and grass. I was in a group with Amelia, Rebecca, Sammy and Jemma. Finally, we went and played ‘Forty-four Homes’ and went back to school. I was in a car with Sammy, Jemma, Randall and Jaxon. I felt tired and sore, but happy that I made it through that long walk.

By Kiera

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Australians throw away 3.3 million tonnes of food every year – up to a quarter of the country’s food supplies - mainly because we purchase too much. Consider planning your meals and only buy what you need. Reduce packaging in your child’s lunchbox and use re-usable containers rather than plastic wrap where possible. It also leaves our school grounds much cleaner!

MOBILE MATHS GAMES

Channel your child’s interest in playing mobile apps into a chance to improve their maths skills and recall. The free School A to Z app has a Maths Monkey game to help test times tables and the follow-up app, Maths Monkey’s Quest ($1.99), challenges kids from Yr 2 to Yr 8 with addition, subtraction, ratios and percentages. Both apps are created by the NSW Department of Education and are available for Apple iPhones and iPads, and Android phones and tablets. You’ll find links to both here: http://bit.ly/oSREYV

SELECTIVE SCHOOLS

Are you already thinking about your child’s Year 7 placement in a selective school in 2016? Selective high schools are government high schools that cater for highly-achieving, academically talented students by offering an educationally enriched environment. Application for entry to a selective high school in Year 7 in 2016 will be online only, from 14 October, 2014. You’ll find more information about selective schools and dates for examinations here: http://bit.ly/selectiveHS
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<th>19/9 Last day of term</th>
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<td><strong>TERM 4</strong>&lt;br&gt;Week 1</td>
<td>6/10 LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY&lt;br&gt;7/10 Students and staff return</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>13/10 Hawkesbury Music Festival&lt;br&gt;14/10 Hawkesbury Music Festival&lt;br&gt;15/10 Hawkesbury Music Festival&lt;br&gt;Cattai performing this night&lt;br&gt;16/10 CPR for Kids</td>
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Dear Parents,

It’s holiday time and we need people to look after the chooks over this period. This would involve checking their water and making sure it is filled, as well as checking they have food. The chooks are also laying quite regularly, so you would need to collect those eggs. As a bonus for helping out you may keep these fresh eggs. If you are able to help out, even if it is just for a day, could you please indicate the days you are able to help on the timetable below. We will get back to you on Friday with a finalised timetable letting you know which days you will be required help with the chooks.

Yours Sincerely,

Matt Carter
Principal

CATTAI PUBLIC SCHOOL
CHOOK ROSTER – TERM 3 HOLIDAYS

Family:

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Learning in the Hills
OPEN Day

and

Family fun Day

Wednesday 1st October
10am - 1pm
at Learning in the Hills
Balcombe Heights Estate
92 Seven Hills Road
Baulkham Hills

Come along to check out the fun, social, learning groups and classes on offer and enjoy a fun day

- Course Info & Enrolments
- Speak to Students & Tutors
- Open Classrooms
- Headspace will have information and resources on mental health
- Hillsong will be raising awareness about the anti-bullying ‘String Project’
- Also - Jumping castle, Police, Fire Brigade, Book Sale, White Elephant Stall & LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

School Holiday Workshops

Children’s Cupcake Decorating Workshop
Children can learn to work with fondant and ganache to decorate cupcakes.

Children’s CD Craft Workshop
Children can learn how to make a fish, bird or mouse by recycling an old CD.

All materials are supplied.

Date: Tuesday, 30 September
Two sessions for each workshop:
10.00 - 11.00am & 11.30am - 12.30pm.

LIMITED NUMBERS. $5 per child.
Must book and prepay to Hills Community Aid

SAUSAGE SIZZLE $2.50
Tea, coffee, cakes and scones also available to purchase.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
02 9639 8620
enq@hca.org.au
www.hca.org.au
Talai Estate Winery
Open Jam Night

Friday the 26th of September, 6:30pm - 12:00pm “Bring along your instruments, voices and backing tracks,
tap shoes… whatever… and join in the fun”

Unlimited gourmet wood fired pizzas $25 per head Beer/ wine/spirits/soft drinks available at bar prices Espresso coffee also available

No BYO, No Eftpos (cash only)

Please book early as numbers are strictly limited.
Call: 45 728 598 or email joroughley@bigpond.com

Due to licensing laws you must be over 18 to attend this venue.

Talai Estate, 748 Wisemans Ferry Rd, South Maroota.
Spring Fair
Grose View Public School
Sunday 12th October 2014

It will be a fun day out for locals or visitors to the Hawkesbury and will include:

- Amusement Rides
- Tree Adventures with Flying-fox
- Book Stall • Cake Stall & Devonshire Tea
- Chocolate Wheel • Crafty Nook
- Jars and Jams • Lucky Dips
- Trash & Treasure • Crazy Hair & Makeup
- Show Bags • Plants, Fruit & Vegies
- Variety of Food Stalls • RFS BBQ
- Variety of entertainment including tumbling, karate, local dance groups and much more.

A great day is expected with lots of people and many bargains.

10am till 3pm
249 Grose Wold Rd Grose Vale NSW 2753

www.cattai-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Second Hand Uniforms
As we begin phasing in the changes to the school uniform, please return any unused uniforms (winter and summer) to the school. Kris Waters has kindly organised for all of these to be donated to children in need in Indonesia.

Thank You
A very big thank you to Jo Robertson-Hahn for organising a lot of mulch. We really appreciate it as we can finish the beautification of our school.

Also we want to thank Rebecca for organising the hot lunch last week and all the parents and helpers who helped; Nicole May, Linda Hughes, Michelle’s Grand dad, Levi’s Grand dad, Kim Clark, Shontelle Armstrong, Mim Zariffa and Sarah. The kids really enjoyed it. It’s amazing how much fruit kids will eat when it’s cut up and put onto a skewer!

Book Club Fundraiser and Dollarmites Programme: Commonwealth Bank
We currently run a Scholastic Book Club Fundraiser through the school. You would have seen the brochures that come home twice a term. This is an initiative that has been running at the school for a long time and the school benefits.

For every book bought through the club the school earns credits that the teaching staff use to purchase books for the library.

Sarah Thompson currently runs the book club and has been doing a great job, but she has volunteered to run a school banking program. We are currently looking at the Dollarmites run by the Commonwealth bank. This program rewards regular banking with certificates and prizes and the school also gains small commissions that the staff can use to purchase resources for the students.

Kellie McLaren has volunteered to become our new book club coordinator.

Thank you Kellie and Sarah for volunteering to do this as it is a benefit not only the school but also our kids.

Ice-Blocks and Ice Cream
Ice-Blocks will be on sale on Fridays, starting this Friday 19 September, at lunchtimes for 50c. The year 6 students sell these as a treat in the warmer weather. (Sometimes in extremely warm weather they are sold on other days as well.)
The Home Ice Cream truck will be in the car park fortnightly at 2.30 pm on Fridays (Next on Friday 10 October) when he delivers for parents who would like to make purchases for home. Specials are as follows:

Summer Box (29 Products in one box)  $19.90  
Mini Hearts (10 pieces) $5.00  
2Lt Double Choc Chip - $5.90  
Gourmet Desire Tubs - $7.90

**Cake Roster : Wednesday 5 November**  
Families: Robertson-Hahn, Ponce, Hughes, Roughley

**P & C Meeting**  
After the October holidays the next P & C Meeting will be Thursday 9 October, 2014 at 2.30 pm under the COLA. Feel free and come along, we would love to see you there.

All items in regard to P & C to go into our Newsletter can be sent to the school marked “Attn: P & C Newsletter” or emailed to: natsar04@bigpond.net.au before Wednesday.