UP AND COMING

8/3 Winter Zone Trials- Rugby League, Soccer, Hockey

11,12/03 School Photo’s Family photo envelopes are at the front office

12/3 Hip Hop workshop Yr6

15/3 Hip Hop workshop Yr 6

15/3 Senior Boys cricket v’s Warialda in Warialda

MERIT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards last Thursdays assembly:

Class Awards: Jake Collins, Sharntae Durbin, Zane DeWitt, Charles McCormick, Matthew Chapman, Machiel Heyns, Ashly Gibson, Jessie Waddell, Andrew Wietecki, Ethan Bower, Phoebe MacLachlan, Wayne Read.

Principal Awards: Gabby Single, Chloe Hamel, Lachlan Buxton, Krystal Ryder, Riley Cross, Holly White, Chelsie Hobday

Sports Awards: Chauntaya Leece, Samantha Whitton, Tyson Hodges, Indy Gardner, Jared Martin, Gabby Single, Sarra Magann, Maddison Klaack

School Service Award: Chelsie Mitchell, Katie Mitchell, Sophie Magann

Student who have seen Mrs Stewart or Mrs McKinlay with outstanding work: Stanley Fields, Charlie Wall, Jack Dekkers, Liam Snaith and Jade Pevy

Captains Report: Welcome to the whole school assembly for week 5. New classes started this week and arrangements will stay this way for the rest of the year. Remember to bring a sun safe hat with a name on it to play in the sun. Make sure you are bringing in healthy food and have some fruit in the morning for fruit break, for example, apples, grapes, oranges or even a fruit salad!

Sport Report: Primary sport started last week. Well done swimmers who competed at the zone and regional carnivals.

Regional Swimming Carnival: Well done to all of the swimmers who travelled to Armidale, braving the freezing and wet conditions to achieve great results. Congratulations to Poppy Price who won the 8yr 50m freestyle with a time of 45.33 seconds. Good luck Poppy, at the state swimming carnival in April.

POPPY PRICE– THE FASTEST 8yr 50m FREESTYLE SWIMMER IN THE NORTHWEST!! A minute with Poppy-

What do you love about swimming? “not sure”!
What do you want to be when you grow up? “a swimmer”
What energy food do you eat before a race? “hot cross buns”
Favourite colour? “pink and purple”
Who do you want to thank for getting you this far? “mummy and daddy”
What are you looking forward to in Sydney? “This will be my first trip to Sydney, so swimming really fast, going on a train, seeing the harbour bridge and opera house and maybe the zoo!”
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Following the school’s increase in enrolments that led to the establishment of an extra class, our students have settled well to their school routines. Kindergarten students are becoming “old hands” at the myriad of activities that make up the school day and across Years 1-6 interesting, engaging learning opportunities are evident in all Key Learning Areas. I would like to congratulate students are taking pride in their work.

In 2013 PE/Health/Personal Development is a focus area. The school is part of the ‘Live Life Well’ Program and following extensive professional discussion regarding the most effective way to encourage lifelong healthy living, daily PE has been enthusiastically introduced to improve students’ physical fitness and readiness for learning. Sports skills development is also important and activities emphasise the skills and understanding that will assist students to participate in the physical and social aspects of sport and games. Healthy eating is an important part of good health and Morning Fruit Break is very popular, providing a chance for children to ‘top up’ on a healthy snack early in the school day. We anticipate enhanced student engagement in learning, improved physical fitness and more fun in the school day through the implementation of this program. Feedback from students has been extremely positive.

The variety of learning on offer across the school this year will include all of our regular programs with an emphasis on English, Literacy and Numeracy learning. Just some of the additional opportunities planned for this year will include Public Speaking and Debating in Term 2, Science, Environmental Education, Performance and Drama, Dance, Music and Sports Competition.

Our dedicated staff are providing students with a varied and interesting suite of learning opportunities where there is something to pique the interest of every student.

Warm Regards

Robyn Stewart
Principal

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Let’s Celebrate Attendance
Hints and Tips No. 3: Writing Notes

Parents or caregivers are required by law to provide an explanation to the principal to say why their child was absent from school. A note of explanation should contain:-

1. Date that the note was written; 2. Child’s name; 3. Days/dates the child was absent from school; 4. The reason the child was absent; 5. The signature of the child’s parent or caregiver.

If more than one child from the same family has been absent a separate note for each child should be written. A note should be brought to school on the first day the student returns to school after an absence. Your school is required to investigate all unexplained absences (where a child has been absent and no explanation has been received) within two days. Did your child give the note to their teacher? This can sometimes be a problem with younger children.

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BOOKCLUB

The latest issue of Bookclub is currently being sent home and is due back on 18th March. Please give your order to Mr Waterford in the library or to Mrs Wilson.
NRL VISIT

Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well

Peter and Zak from the “National Rugby League-One Community” attended school on Wednesday to deliver the Eat Well, Play Well, Stay Well message to primary students. As well as giving advice to the students about living healthy lifestyles by making good food choices and participating in physical activity, students were given some tips on dealing with bullies. Some students will be treated to some prizes throughout the remainder of the term if they can remember some of the advice that they have received.

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PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Thank you to all of our parents and caregivers for attending the parent information evenings over the last week. It is a great opportunity to meet your child’s teacher and an opportunity to gain an understanding of what is expected and strategies for the year ahead.

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SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos begin on Monday 11th March. Students in Years 5 and 6 will have their photo’s taken on Monday. The rest of the school will be taken on Tuesday. For our photo’s to show we are proud of ourselves and our school, please ensure all students are wearing full summer uniform, black school shoes and red and white ribbons only in the girls hair.

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HEALTHY BITES

There are many reasons why we need to help our children make great food choices that result in a balanced diet. Our children are at critical stages of growth and development and the choices we make today will affect their future quality of life. In addition healthy choices help our children to:
- concentrate and learn at their best while at school - build strong muscles and bones
- maintain a healthy weight - take in vitamins and minerals - feel good about themselves.

Finally when they are no longer in our immediate care, food choices will assist our kids to become healthy and productive adults!

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GARDEN NEWS

The school garden has harvested its first crop of radishes. Planted early this term 5/6 L have been feasting on freshly picked radishes in fruit break. The garden has come a long way over the last few weeks as these before and after photos show. Mr and Mrs McKinlay have kindly donated to the school a worm farm, that will also use up our fruit break scraps and add wonderful organic fertilisers to our garden.
**Canteen News**

Tuesdays and Thursdays are pastry free days! Don’t forget our breakfast menu. Watch out for Miss Marianne’s specials. The new canteen menu is out with an adjustment to large pies $2.80, small pies $2.00

Note: We are still trialling a new concept at our canteen this term. The menu changes daily. Please check you are ordering the right days choice!!

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<td>Anita George</td>
<td>Ellen Dekkers</td>
<td>Angie walker</td>
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**WORLDS GREATEST SHAVE**

Bec Waddell will be having her purple locks cut as part of the “Worlds Greatest Shave” on Thursday 14th March at IPS after assembly (approximately 2.30pm) As part of the fund raising activities a coin line will be taking place in the play ground. Parents are invited to watch and donate too!

All money raised will be donated to the Leukemia Foundation. If you would like to make an online donation go to - http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/becwaddell

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**YOU CAN DO IT– CONFIDENCE**

Confidence means knowing you will be successful at many things you attempt. It means not being afraid to make mistakes or to try something new. Examples of confidence, raising your hand in class to answer a hard question, doing hard work without asking for help, sharing a new idea with a teacher or the class, or saying “hello” to someone new. Positive HOMs that help develop student confidence include:

- Accepting Myself (Self-Acceptance)- not thinking badly about yourself when you make a mistake.
- Taking Risks (Risk Taking)- thinking that it’s good to try something new even though you might not be able to do it.
- Being Independent (Independence) - thinking that it’s important to try new activities and to speak up even if your classmates think you’re silly.

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**Inverell Autism and Aspergers Support Group**

For Parents & Carers of Children and Adults with an Autism Spectrum Disorder Inverell Area

The Inverell Autism & Aspergers Parents Support group meets Bi-Monthly with social get togethers in between. Our aim is to support each other and find opportunities to socialise and share ideas with other parents and carers in similar situations.

Why not bring the family along to our next get together for a BBQ at Victoria Park, Inverell 10 March 2013 11.30am to 1.30pm Sausage Sizzle will be provided Please bring your own refreshments

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

We encourage all parents and carers of Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder including Aspergers to attend.

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**INVERELL PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Please join us and have your say and help in the decision making partnership with the school, so it can be the best place it can be for our kids.

**Where:** IPS Staffroom  **When:** Thursday 21st, 2013 at 6.30pm