UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 20th March
- Harmony Day—wear orange and bring a gold coin donation

Saturday 23rd March
- MEPS Fundraising BBQ @ Bunnings Kotara 9am to 3pm. Your support is very much appreciated.

Monday 25th March
- Expression of Interest for Year 7 2014 need to be returned to office by today

Tuesday 26th March
- P&C Annual General Meeting 6.30pm

Thursday 28th March
- K-2 Easter Hat Parade @ 2.15pm under the COLA followed by drawing of Easter Raffle

Friday 29th March
- Good Friday Public Holiday—school closed

Monday 1st April
- Easter Monday Public Holiday—school closed

Saturday 6th April
- MEPS Working Bee from 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Tuesday 9th April
- Last payment day for ICAS competitions

Thursday 11th April
- Anzac Day Service @ 10.30am all welcome to attend

Bunnings BBQ this Saturday
Thank you to those school community members who have volunteered to work on Saturday. If you have volunteered, a note has gone home with your child about what time you are working and what to bring. There is also a copy of the roster on the school noticeboard. If you are in the area please stop by to say hello and feel free to buy a sausage or two. Hope to see you on Saturday!

Shave for a Cure
Melissa Cooper and her husband, Andrew (the shearer), undertook the “Great Shave” in front of students last Friday afternoon. We are very proud of Melissa for her efforts and she has followed up with a gold coin hair colouring day today. Well done Melissa!

Stewart House
We have two Year 6 students attending Stewart House this week. They will enjoy their stay at Manly and we look forward to hearing about their fantastic adventures. Thank you to the P&C for sponsoring their transport costs which means the whole experience has been covered for these student’s families.

Trespassers
Last weekend we had a group of young individuals in the school grounds playing basketball. We have had trouble with damage to our gardens and property recently and would appreciate it if community members didn’t access the school without permission. There is also a liability issue and we want to keep people and our school safe. If you see something that you believe is suspicious, please ring Waratah Police on 4926 6599.

Homework Issues
We have had a few small issues with homework content that have been raised by parents. These issues have now been addressed. Homework is part of a child’s education and occurs in all aspects of
education and training. The homework should be developmental and the content appropriate and meaningful. If you are experiencing problems please contact the school on 4968 1495.

Harmony Day
Don’t forget that **tomorrow is out of uniform (wear orange for a gold coin donation)**. Harmony Day is a celebration of Australia’s rich cultural diversity. We invite all students to join thousands of children across Australia in wearing orange as a symbol of cultural understanding. The SRC will be collecting a gold coin donation on the day and hosting a special Harmony Day assembly after recess. Thank you for your support, Origato! Miss Black and Mrs Hipwell.

Easter Raffle
Thank you to all our families who have brought in eggs for our Easter Raffle. Our prizes are looking fantastic! Come into the office to look at just some of the prizes on offer. If you would like some more ticket books, they are available at the office during school hours.

Easter Hat Parade
**Thursday 28th March**
Students will now show their hats to the residents of Fronditha Aged-Care Facility next door after recess at around 2pm. The parade will begin at approximately 2.15pm. **Students are to make their Easter hats at home and bring them to their classrooms on the morning of the parade.** Our Easter Raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the parade. Get your creative skills working and have fun decorating!

Dance2bfit Program
In Term 2 all Year 3 to Year 6 students have received notes concerning participation in this program. It is an energetic, innovative and fun way for our students to get fit and funky learning the latest dance styles to the hottest music tracks. This program has been specifically developed for NSW Primary Schools on the PDHPE syllabus. For your child to participate, you will need to complete the permission note and return to the school office with your money by **no later than Tuesday 9th April**.

Application forms for Hunter Sports High School 2014
Students participating in the Targeted Sports Program undertake specialised development programs in their chosen sport during school time as a school subject. This is integrated with a full academic curriculum which caters for the special needs of the talented sports athlete.

Information and application forms are available at the office if you think your child may be interested in applying to this program.

Bunnings @ Kotara Colouring-In Competition
Bunnings @ Kotara have always been a great supporter of our school. They are running an Easter Colouring-In Competition for school age children. There are 3 x $50 product/gift card prizes on offer. So if your child enjoys colouring-in make sure they get a form at the office to enter. Entries must be returned to the school office no **later than Wednesday 27th March**. Good colouring and good luck!

“**Our s s s snake, came s s s second, in the Scarecrow Competition at the Newcastle Show**”. View our wonderful work on the display board as you enter the classroom block.
**Harmony Day Exhibition Opening @ The Royal**

It was a wonderful Harmony Day Exhibition opening last Thursday 7 March. The hospital staff were excited to see the artwork of the Mayfield East Primary School children and to hear the ‘Harmony Day Singers’.

After Juliet Ackery, the JHH Arts for Health coordinator welcomed everyone and talked about the how the children had really captured the spirit of Harmony Day in their artworks, we listened to the choir sing and also joined in for some choruses which was great fun. The Director of HNEH Multicultural Health, Catherine Norman, officially opened the exhibition and spoke about the firm connection between Mayfield East Primary School and the John Hunter Hospital and the artworks embraced us all.

**Green Team Update**

**Green Team Market Stall**

This Wednesday during the school assembly (from 2pm onwards) members of the Green Team will again be selling seedlings. Bring a few dollars and a plastic bag to purchase some plants for your garden.

Last week we raised $22 to fund our chickens. Our chickens supply the eggs for our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

*The Green Team, Always Keen!* Mr Blyth