WELCOME TO WEEK 10—7th to 11th December

Merit Awards
With only two weeks left of school our students are still working hard. Congratulations to our merit award recipients for Week 9. There were also some students who were awarded with their Athletics Ribbons as they were absent earlier in the year when the awards were presented.

Reports and Supply/Program Requirements
Yesterday end of year reports were sent home. I know the teachers at Mayfield East have put a lot of time and effort into writing these reports. As a parent, it is nice to find some time to talk with your child about their report and the progress they have made. This progress may be social, academic, their attitude or commitment to learning. If you have any concerns or queries about your child’s report, please make an appointment to talk to your child’s class teacher.

In your report envelope you would have also found a yellow and blue note. These notes are to assist you in preparing for the 2016 school year. Our school has made changes to the previous book pack system. We are now going to fund all the books your children need. We are asking parents to supply their students with stationary items as per the equipment list. Teachers have noticed that students still bring in additional items to school even though in the past they had been supplied in the book pack. These items also make Christmas gift ideas and stocking fillers. To assist in financial planning, a list of program costs has been included. Families will be invoiced according to what programs their children access in early 2016.

Table Tennis
Mr Melmeth has been coordinating a table tennis competition during lunch time for interested students. Congratulations to the following Stage 2 and Stage 3 winners – Darcy Watt, Scarlett Longman-Cowles, Ezekiel Lombardi, Kaylah Beattie, Bailey Clark and Guillermo Griffiths.

Newcastle Weekly
Last Friday, a group of helpful kitchen and garden students were given the opportunity to meet with Scott Webster, the owner and chef of Carrington Place. He talked about working with produce and how to learn about produce from smelling and tasting it. He used some of the ingredients we had in our garden to develop the recipe ‘Santa’s Festive Fun Feast’. Photos of Scott and our school students will be published in this week’s edition of the Newcastle Weekly. The following recipe makes 4.

Ingredients
1 small eggplant
1 capsicum red – seeds and stems remove
1 Spanish onion – peeled
30ml extra virgin olive oil
pinch Murray River sea salt
1 head lettuce
4 leaves of kale – pre blanched in salted water
100gm rocket salad

Method
Slice eggplant, capsicum and onion into 4 even size pieces. Place on a baking tray and drizzle with extra virgin olive oil. Place in a preheated oven at 180° Celsius for about 10 minutes to soften and colour the vegetables.
Continued from previous page:

Break lettuce into leaves, place in a bowl with sliced kale and rocket leaves, mix with the toppers and dressing. On a plate, arrange roasted soft vegetables and top with the salad mix. Add a little additional dressing if required and serve.

Camp Champ

Last week Year 4 returned after having an exciting time at the Great Aussie Bush Camp. From conversations I have had with children everyone seemed to have a great time. Special congratulations to William Roberts for being awarded the ‘Camp Champ’. He was always listening well and was a great ambassador for our school.

Library Books

Last week I received an amazing phone call from Jana Quinlan who is the program coordinator for Dymocks’s Children’s Charities. This charity has partnered with selected organisations to provide new books to school libraries across Australia. Koppers has partnered with Dymocks Children’s Charities and are going to fund a library regeneration project at our school. Our school is going to be provided with $10,000 to purchase new books to enhance our Premier’s Reading Challenge lists and Children’s Booklist Council of Australia shortlists. We will also be able to purchase current bestsellers and new releases. 2016 is already shaping up to be an exciting time in the library!

Playground

I received official confirmation from Asset Management this week that our playground design has been approved. We are now able to set our minds to the demolition of our existing play structure and replacing the retaining wall. I believe that both these two tasks will be completed by the start of the school year. I am still coordinating dates and cannot confirm at this point if the play equipment can be installed by the beginning of the school year. You can be reassured the playground will be installed as soon as it is humanly possible.

Presentation Evening

Please remember our annual presentation evening will commence at 6pm sharp this evening. It is expected to conclude no later than 7:30pm. It is a busy time of year and we appreciate the changes in routine people have had to make in order to attend. Your attendance at this event is much appreciated as it is a special occasion to celebrate the outstanding successes of our students. All students are to wear full school uniform.

Whooping Cough Alert

We have received a confirmed student case of whooping cough today. Whooping cough is a serious infection that usually causes a long coughing illness. In babies, the infection can be life threatening. Whooping cough starts like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, sneezing, a mild fever and an occasional cough. The cough gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing develop. Coughing bouts can be followed by vomiting. Older children and adults may just have a mild cough that doesn’t go away. In adults the cough commonly lasts 5-7 weeks, sometimes longer. This is why in China it is referred to as the 100 day cough. If you have any of these symptoms, please see your doctor and arrange for a swab to be taken to determine if you may have this respiratory infection.

Allison Thompson
Relieving Principal

URGEST REQUEST from the Library!

As a matter of urgency would students please return all books to the library as soon as possible. We are in the middle of stock take and the number of books yet to be returned by students is quite large. Please make sure that your child returns any books they may have at home either to the library or to the office as soon as possible. Your assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated. Mrs Bayl, Teacher/Librarian.

Donated Callaghan College Waratah Technology Campus Uniforms

We have been donated some ‘as new’ 2nd hand uniforms for Waratah Technology Campus. The items are as follows:-

- 3 x Size 14 shorts
- 1 x Size S polo shirt
- 1 x Size Junior 12 zip jacket
- 2 x Size S track pants

If anyone is interested please come to the office and speak to Mrs Johnston. Please note it is 'first in first served'.