RESPECT:
“Manners are a sensitive awareness of the feelings of others. If you have that awareness, you have good manners, no matter what fork you use”.
Emily Post

A WORD FROM THE RELIEVING PRINCIPAL
Our Easter Hat Parade was a great celebration for our school community. It was wonderful to see so many parents, carers, grandparents and friends enjoying our students showing off their creativity and sense of fun in the parade. I haven’t experienced an Easter Hat parade for many years, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Our wonderful teachers ensured that our students had the opportunity to participate by devoting class time to making hats and completing Easter activities to enhance their learning.

The end of EDST:
This weekend sees the conclusion of Daylight Saving for the eastern states of Australia. When you turn the clocks back, remember to take the opportunity to change your batteries in your smoke alarm, as well as do a test to make sure they are working correctly. This is a very important family safety routine.

Happy Holidays Everyone:
This term has been a long one with much change taking place. All our staff at Metford Public School have been committed to positive teaching and learning for all our students. As parents and carers, you may not realise this, but I can assure you that we are working very hard to promote good learning and recognise those students that are achieving great learning and also those that are really trying hard to make changes to their attitudes to learning. Our profession loves seeing our students grow, change and take risks with their learning. The joy of achievement for the students in our care is beautiful to see and gives us so much motivation to continue to grow in our own learning and improve our teaching.

I wish you all a happy and safe holiday, returning to school on Wednesday 1st May, 2013.

Regards
Cathy Watt
Principal
FROM THE P & C PRESIDENT
I am not much of a public speaker, so if you missed my thank you at the Easter Hat parade, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you again to all of you who donated to the Easter raffles and to all who bought tickets.
I also would like to say a big ‘thank you’ to all the P&C volunteers on the day, without you giving up your free time none of our events would be possible. The kids looked great and they looked like they had a ball.
Money raised from this day will go into purchasing a bike enclosure and cabling to support Wi-Fi throughout the school.
P&C are having a trivia night. It will be held on the 26th of July and the theme is ‘Christmas in July’. Tickets are $10 per person and there is 10 to a table. You can bring nibbles for your own table. We are still talking about last year’s trivia night so don’t miss your chance to be part of a great night.
Tickets can be purchased starting next term and there will be reminders in every newsletter until the night.
Lisa Malone

P & C NEWS
We had 17 gifts raffled at the Easter hat parade. Thank you to all those who donated Easter eggs, craft items and baskets, you put a smile on the faces of students, parent and community winners.

Easter Raffle Winners
Katie Shaunessy, Jackson Wood, Sinead Mullaly, Paris Morris, Riley Thompson, Julie Fudge, Sue Shaunessy, Kathy Van Der Voort, Hayley Prentice, Jasmin Miller, Kim Bridge, Hayden Hackney, Julie Webb, Tina Lambert, Cobi Jones. Congratulations to all our winners.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the BBQ, selling raffle tickets and wrapping the gifts for the Easter Hat Parade.

Mothers Day
A big thank you to Karen Gudelj for donating a box of gifts for Mothers’ Day. We are so grateful for your generosity.

Friday 3rd May we will be wrapping gifts for Mother’s Day, Friday 10th May will be the Mother’s Day stall from 9am in the demountables. If you are free to help on either of these days it would be great.
Raffle tickets are included in this newsletter and are due in by 8th May. 1st prize spa set, 2nd jewellery set, 3rd sewing kit.

Disco 11th April 5pm - 7pm $3.00. Permission slips are being sent home this week.

JOT DOWN THIS DAY ON YOUR CALENDAR
PBL LAUNCH 29th MAY 1PM
We are inviting all parents and community members to be a part of Metford Public School PBL LAUNCH so come along for a FUN AFTERNOON. Students and staff are EXCITED about this day as we are organising a FETE for our Launch Day. We will have:

Novelty Stores Cold Rock Ice-Cream
Coffee Shop Dragon Boat Race
Face Painting Mini Golf Course
Crazy Hair Footy Target
Sausage Sizzle

An information session will be held on the positive benefits of PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning). There will be a representative for each Core Value COMMITMENT, RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY.

Don’t know what PBL is?
Ask your children, look around our school and in the newsletter for more information.
PBL Team Member
Kathy Gillies

COMING EVENTS FOR TERM 1 & 2 2013

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>Mon, Tues, Wed</td>
<td>Breakfast club</td>
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<td>Every Monday</td>
<td>9-10.30 Playgroup in hall</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2nd April  Canteen meeting</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>3rd April  Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10th April 6pm P &amp; C meeting</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11th April  Disco 5-7pm $3</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>12th April  Last day Term 1</td>
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<td>TERM 2</td>
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<td>Mon/Tues</td>
<td>29/30 April  Staff development days</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>1st May  1st day back for students Anzac Ceremony</td>
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<td>3rd May  P &amp; C wrap Mothers’ Day gifts</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8th May  AASC croquet starts K-3</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>10th May  P&amp;C Mothers’ Day stall 9am</td>
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<td>Last day for Stewart House envelopes</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
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<td>Tues-Thurs</td>
<td>14-16 May  Naplan</td>
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Naplan
JELLY BEAN GUESSING COMPETITION
Congratulations go to Ruth Winchester for guessing the closest number of jelly beans in the jar. Her guess was 1250, and there was 1293.

STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE 2013
Each year Stewart House hold a donation drive to raise funds for 1,800 children to attend this holiday opportunity from public schools across NSW and ACT. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Envelopes are being sent home with your eldest child today. Please return your envelope by 10th May, to the office.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS
These books will be available again this year for purchase through our school. The books are filled with hundreds of discount vouchers for parents and families to use, and will be on sale for $60. If you would like to purchase one of these books please enquire at the office. Please pay cash to the office, or complete the eftpos slip on the form.

PURPLE DAY FOR EPILEPSY
Tuesday 26th March was Purple Day. This day raised awareness for people that live with epilepsy. Merchandise can be purchased at the office. There is a variety of merchandise, ranging from ribbons to pens and key chains with prices ranging from $3 to $8. Please support people living with epilepsy by making a purchase, as all money goes to Epilepsy Action Australia. Thank you.
Robyn Dunn

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN
This annual promotion is about to commence again this year on 8th April, and will run until 9th June. You can collect stickers earned from your shopping at Woolworths, pick up a sheet/card to attach stickers to, and when you have a completed card, put it in the box in the school foyer, or the school’s box at the supermarket. Last year the points earned by our school families collecting the sticker cards gained many valuable resources for our classrooms.
Developing friendship skills in children

Research into children’s friendships shows that those children who are able to form friendships at school are far happier and also learn better. More significantly, a positive beginning to friendships has long-term implications for social and academic success.

Studies also indicate that children can be taught friendships skills. The strategies are simple and revolve around teaching children a range of friendship behaviours, such as:

- talking with others while playing,
- showing an interest in others,
- smiling,
- offering help and encouragement when needed,
- a willingness to share, and
- learning how to enter a game or social situation.

It is also useful to teach children alternatives to fighting and arguing when there is disagreement and conflict within groups.

Gender impacts on the ability to make friends. Recent research has found that girls are further advanced along the stages of friendship than boys.

Gated children are further advanced along the continuum of friendship behaviours than their peers. They look for more intimate friendships at a far younger age than their peers. This challenges the perception that gifted children have poor social skills. It seems that they have a different concept of friendships than those around them.

Try This...

To promote friendship skills in children try the following four strategies:

1. Help them start up a conversation. Give them some good conversation starters. Make sure they don’t talk about themselves but focus on what interests others.

2. Play games with children and make sure they learn to be gracious winners and good losers.

3. Have one friend at a time over to your home so that they can form friendships one at a time.

4. Show children how to resolve conflict with others by compromising rather than refusing to give some ground.

Action Plan

First Step....

Next Step....

For more ideas about developing friendships skills in your children visit www.parentingideas.com.au

What’s your child like?

Does your child behave like a good friend?

**Does he**

1. Usually holds confidence that others may give? Yes 2 No 0
2. Move on easily if conflict occurs rather than sulk or hold grudges? Yes 2 No 0
3. Usually have a positive outlook and show enthusiasm about most things? Yes 2 No 0

**SCORE**

10: A friendly child. Probably very popular with peers.
6-9: Knows how good friends act but may need to work on skills or attitude.
0-5: Maybe a little self-centred. May need more exposure to a variety of social situations and help with basic friendship skills.

4. Know how to share his time, space and possessions with others? Yes 2 No 0
5. Give and receive compliments easily? Yes 2 No 0

Quote

‘Do not protect yourself by a fence, but rather by your friends.’

Czech proverb

parentingideas.com.au
Project: HUNTER RIVER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Previous Month Construction Works

Works have continued to the concrete slabs on Blocks B, C and D with all three and the detention tank base due for completion at the end of next week 5th April. The offsite manufacture of Steel Frame and Trusses and Structural Steel has progressed very well. The good period of weather has helped maintain the programme for the next critical work activity, the erection of steel frames.

Up Coming Works for the Month

Steel frame and truss will commence the first week in April, commencing on Block B and continuing onto Blocks C and D. The metal roofer will commence mid April on Block B with Brickwork following close behind.

Photo #1 – General Site Overview looking east

Reporting Period – March ’13
Photo #2 – Block B slab complete

Photo #3 – Final Checks for Block D concrete pour

Reporting Period – March ’13
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER’S NEWS

CLO NEWS – What a busy two weeks we have had, with some highlights being Harmony Day, the Easter Hat Parade and the Athletics Carnival! With that we have had tremendous support from our parents, carers, grandparents and friends who came along to make these events memorable. Thank you to everyone. It has been fantastic to see our parent helpers who are part of the Canteen and P & C, come together so well at such events, providing lunches and sausage sizzles (and many other things). Your dedication is appreciated and you are all “awesome”! Your children enjoy seeing you at school either by attending events or helping out. It shows them that what they are doing at school is important.

A few weeks ago a survey was sent out to gain some feedback on what may be of interest to you to assist with your child’s learning, and also to see if you are interested in helping out at school. Thank you to those of you who have returned these, and there is still time to get them in. Please look for your purple note or ask for another at the office.

With the end of Term 1 fast approaching I hope you have the time to relax and enjoy some family time throughout the holidays. See you next term.

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<th>CLASSROOM BLURB – WEEK 10/11</th>
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<td>KP</td>
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<td>S1O Rachael O’Neile S1F Blaire Freund S1P Stephen Petersen</td>
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<td>S1/2K Belinda Crouch</td>
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<td>S3M Fiona Kirk</td>
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<td>RFF Mrs Zoneff</td>
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EASTER HAT PARADE
2013
## Canteen Roster Term 1 Weeks 10 and 11

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<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>Monday 1/4</th>
<th>Tuesday 2/4</th>
<th>Wed 3/4</th>
<th>Thurs 4/4</th>
<th>Fri 5/4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Easter Monday Public Holiday</td>
<td>Kathy Erika <strong>Volunteer needed</strong></td>
<td>Kathy,Kylie <em>Athletics Carnival</em></td>
<td>Kathy, Erika <strong>Volunteer needed</strong> <em>PRINCIPAL'S LUNCHON</em></td>
<td>Kathy Paul April Angie</td>
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<td>1.30-2.30</td>
<td>Kathy Grant</td>
<td>Kathy Kylie Teresa</td>
<td>Kathy Katrina</td>
<td>Kathy Paul April</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>Monday 8/4</th>
<th>Tuesday 9/4</th>
<th>Wed 10/4</th>
<th>Thurs 11/4</th>
<th>Fri 12/4</th>
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<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Kathy Lurinda Melissa</td>
<td>Kathy Erika <strong>Volunteer needed</strong></td>
<td>Kathy Paul Kylie</td>
<td>Kathy Erika <strong>Volunteer needed</strong> <em>PRINCIPAL'S LUNCHON</em></td>
<td>Kathy Paul April</td>
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<td>1.30-2.30</td>
<td>Kathy Hazel</td>
<td>Kathy Grant</td>
<td>Kathy Paul Kylie Tracie</td>
<td>Kathy <strong>Volunteer needed</strong></td>
<td>Kathy Paul April</td>
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## Canteen Roster Week 1 Term 2

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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday 29/4</th>
<th>Tuesday 30/4</th>
<th>Wed 1/5</th>
<th>Thurs 2/5</th>
<th>Fri 3/5</th>
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<tr>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>Kathy</td>
<td>Kathy, Erika <strong>Volunteer needed</strong> <em>PRINCIPAL'S LUNCHON</em></td>
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Maitland Grossmann High School is seeking to employ a casual tutor to work four days a week for the remainder of the 2013 school year. The successful candidate will be involved in tutoring, mentoring and leading programs for MGHS Aboriginal students as well as participating in the transition of Stage 3 students from Primary to High School.

This position would ideally be filled by an Aboriginal person who identifies strongly with their culture and the local community.

Maitland Grossmann High School (enrolment 1320, 55 Aboriginal students) is a high achieving comprehensive high school that enjoys a high community profile. It is renowned for its traditions in academic, the creative and performing arts, and cultural and sporting pursuits. There is a very strong commitment to enhancing learning through the digital revolution in education.

Applications including a cover letter and resume should be addressed to Chris Bice at either of the following addresses by WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2013;

christopher.bice@det.nsw.edu.au or Mr C Bice
Maitland Grossmann High School
Cumberland St
East Maitland
NSW 2230

Applicants that do not hold current standing with NSW DEC will be required to complete Declaration and Employment Screening forms.
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