We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which Coledale Public School is situated. We pay our respects to the Dharawal people and to elders past, present and the future.

Important Dates

These are our upcoming events for the next couple of weeks. Be sure to check out our website for more events.

**Coming Events**

**Term 1 Week 6**
- Friday 6/3 Gysmports

**Term 1 Week 7**
- Monday 9/3 Assembly 9.00am
- Wednesday 11/3 School Banking
- Thursday 12/3 Selective HS Test
- Thursday 12/3 Band 8am + Chimes
- Friday 13/3 Gysmports

**Term 1 Week 8**
- Monday 16/3 District Trials - Rugby League and Netball. Assembly 9am
- Tuesday 17/3 P&C Meeting 7pm
- Wednesday 18/3 School Banking
- Thursday 19/3 Band 8am + Chimes
- Friday 20/3 Gysmports

**Advanced Notice of 2015 Dates**

- Thursday 2/4 Hat Parade 2pm

**Things requiring your attention**

- Classroom Resources payments to be paid
- Students in Years 2-6 ICAS Competition entries and payment by 20/3
- Voluntary Contributions

IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU WILL SEE ARTICLES ABOUT:

**What’s Been Happening**
- Sports Report
- Clean Up Australia
- P&C Events

**Coming Events**
- Cross Country / Harmony Day
- School Attendance
- Earth Hour

**General Notices**
- Voluntary Contributions
- Premier’s Reading Challenge
- Transition to High School
Principal’s Report
In the middle of our first school term for 2015 the school is buzzing with activity. Each class is into their units of work and learning. Many families enjoyed the Interrelate sessions last week, they were very well attended and will not occur again until 2017, as this is a biannual event for our school. Thank you to the parents that responded to the expression of interest to attend our workshops on literacy and numeracy. We are just finalising the workshops from your interest and I will be in contact shortly to those that replied.

Last Wednesday Mrs Stone went on a road tour with members of the P&C looking at school kitchen designs. Over the next few months we will be finalising our design and inviting our community members to contribute to this exciting project. It is exciting times and is a project we hope the community embraces.

On Monday the traffic lights were turned on by Mr Lee Evans under the watchful eye of all our students. It was an exciting event for the community and hopefully the lights will keep us safe as we cross the busy Lawrence Hargrave Drive. Remember though to still use stop, look and listen. We have taught the students to walk in between the broken lines. We will have an afternoon tea this afternoon for Wensday who has completed service as our crossing supervisor for the past seven years. We would like to show our appreciation for her dedication and concern for the safety of our school community over the many years. We hope many parents can attend the afternoon tea.

I do hope you all received your invitations for our Harmony/Cross Country/Grandparent’s and Special Friends event on Monday 23rd March. Mr Galvin would like some helpers for the Cross Country section at 9am, please make contact with him if you can help out. We look forward to you all joining us on this special day.

Kind regards
Tanya Potter
Principal

WHAT’S BEEN HAPPENING........

Sports Report
There have been quite a few trials in individual sports so far this year. In South Coast School Sport, Regional sides are selected from either District Trials or Zone Trials. Coledale PS is part of 13 schools that form the North Wollongong District Primary School Sport Association (PSSA). Our District is one of five that comprise the North Illawarra Zone PSSA. The other Districts are Brokers, Central Wollongong, Dapto and South Wollongong. In basketball, Kylan, Luke, Charlotte and Lilly tried out for the District basketball side. Charlotte was successful in gaining selection and yesterday attended the Regional trials. She was unsuccessful in advancing to the next level. Well done everyone.

In tennis, Mr Metcalfe organised a round robin to select children to represent our District at the Regional Trials. Daniel tried out and although he enjoyed the opportunity he was unsuccessful in making the team.

In soccer we had to have our own selection trials to determine who had the opportunity to be selected to attend the District trials. On Monday 2nd Ben, Max, Matt, Kylan, Charlotte, Summer and Ella tried out for the soccer. All the children came back happy to be given the opportunity to try out. Charlotte was successful and will now attend the Zone Soccer trials. Good luck Charlotte!

Over the coming weeks we will have students attending the District Rugby League and netball trials. Our School swimming team also attended the District Swimming Carnival last Friday. Mr Galvin and Mrs Pemberton accompanied our team who were very well behaved and gave their best in their events. Thanks to the many parents that attended and cheered our squad on, creating a really community spirit. Although they swam well no students will progress to the Regional carnival this year. It was a good day had by all.

Mr Whitaker has also been busy attending trials for his chosen sport of Touch Football. He has been selected in the NSW Country team to compete at the National Touch Elite 8 series. He will travel to Coffs
Harbour for the tournament from 11-14 March. We wish him well as he tries to gain selection in the Australian team and also the NSW State of Origin team.

Clean Up Australia
Last Friday the students made a wonderful effort cleaning up our school and surrounding areas. K-2 focused on cleaning up the school fence line and also the park to the north of the school. While the 3-6 students had a big clean up in our permaculture garden. They should all be proud of the result. Well done boys, girls and teachers. Thanks to Simone Pearsall for joining students in the clean-up of the garden.

P&C
The P&C had a busy day last Friday preparing the muffin packages that many families ordered. We do hope you enjoyed eating them over the weekend. The next markets to be held on our school grounds will be on Sunday 29th March with the elections being held on Saturday 28th. The P&C plan on holding a BBQ on both days to support the school. They are looking for support so if you can help please contact Jane and she will notify the coordinator. The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th March at 7pm, we look forward to lots of parents attending.

COMING EVENTS

Cross Country / Harmony Day / Grandparents Day – Monday 23rd March 2015
Schools are busy places and hence the combination of a few events. Our annual school cross country carnival will be held on Monday 23rd March at 9am. This will be followed by a picnic lunch and then activities to celebrate Harmony Day. The day promises to be a fun day with activities for all. This year our country is celebrating the 15th anniversary of Harmony Day. A day where we encourage the motto that, ‘Everyone belongs’. Our nation’s cultural diversity remains one of our greatest strengths and it’s at the heart of who we are.

We hope that Grandparents, special friends and parents can join us for our events on this special day.

School Attendance
Did you know that if your child misses as few as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a whole year of education? By law, you are required to send your child to school every day. If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, please send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence, as soon as possible. Emails and phone calls explaining the absence are also acceptable.

If your child arrives at school late, or needs to leave early, parents need to come to the office to sign their child in or out. It is imperative that students arrive at school ready for the start of lessons at 9.00am. In all classes, lessons begin promptly and late students may miss out on vital instructions and teaching.

Further information is available on our website under the News tab.

We’re an Earth Hour School!
On Saturday the 28th March at 8.30 pm we are all encouraged to turn off our lights and non-essential electrical appliances to show our support for Earth Hour. If you would like to share a picture of your family send it to https://earthhour.org.au/wall/

This year, Earth Hour is about celebrating Australian food and farming and reminding us of the need to tackle global warming for the sake of our rural communities and the supply of fresh, healthy and homegrown food to our door. A cookbook has been released as part of fundraising for the Earth Hour Projects. Planet to Plate: The Earth Hour Cookbook is a collection of 52 amazing recipes from Australia’s biggest culinary names. Matt Preston, Neil Perry, Luke Mangan, Kylie Kwong, Guy Grossi, Darren Robertson, Luke Mangan, Colin Fassnidge, Ben Shewry, James Viles, Jill Dupleix, Miguel Maestre, Margaret Fulton, Dan Hong and Sarah
Wilson are just some of the Aussie chefs and food personalities who have contributed to the cookbook, providing a selection of recipes using seasonally fresh produce for mouth-watering appetisers, main dishes and desserts. In an Australian publishing first, Planet to Plate uniquely and beautifully incorporates first-hand stories from Australian farmers highlighting the impact global warming is having on their farms and the nation’s availability of fresh, homegrown food. 


For the first time, schools can participate in “lights out” events the day before Earth Hour on Friday 27th March. Our students will be encouraged to turn off nonessential lighting for the whole day at school and hold Earth Hour discussions as to how we can minimise our global footprint.

**GENERAL NOTICES………..**

**General School Voluntary Contributions**

Each year our school seeks the support of families through a General School Voluntary Contribution. This contribution will be used to supplement educational resources and programs. It is vital for the ongoing day to day needs of the school that we continue to have the support of parents in this way.

The payment of the General School Contribution is a matter for decision by individual parents and families and is voluntary. The funds generated by the General School Voluntary Contribution will be used to support quality educational programs and may be supplemented by other school activities and funds raised by the P & C. These funds are used for things such as literacy and numeracy resources, and essential items for everyday use in the classroom.

Finally, I will take this opportunity to stress the importance of your contribution in the context of our school’s overall finances but I assure all parents that no embarrassment or discrimination will occur in our school as a result of non-payment of the contribution. Should you wish, I will be pleased to discuss options for payment by instalments.

The General School Voluntary Contribution for **2015** is **$40.00 per child** or **$70.00 per family**.

**Premier Reading Challenge**

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) aims to encourage in students a love of reading for enjoyment, enrichment and to enable students to experience quality literature. The Challenge is open to all NSW students. Participation by schools and students is voluntary.

**Important dates for 2015 are:** 2 **March** - Challenge opens and 21 **August** - Challenge closes for students.

Mrs Bartlett is coordinating this event this year for our school. Students in K-2 will participate with their class and the teachers will read the books to the children. Some Year 2 students may choose to complete the Stage 2 challenge as individuals. Students in Stage 2 and 3 will need to read the required number of books themselves individually. These books can be read as part of the Home Reading program. Reading nights need to be recorded in their home reading logs or diaries. This will allow all students to gain reading awards for each 25 nights as part of our school based Cool Coledale Kids Program.

For more information: [www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au](http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au)

**FREE TO A GOOD HOME**

One W**ynandote rooster, very docile with children. Please see Mrs Pemberton.

**EDUCATIONAL TIPS**

**Good number sense**

Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don't add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.

Reading with your child at home

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.


Removing head lice and nits

Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.


LIBRARY NEWS………

Bookclub

Bookclub is due back on Friday 13\textsuperscript{th} March at 9.00am sharp.

LOOP

Scholastic Book Club has introduced a new system for parents wishing to order from Book Club. The new system is known as LOOP (Linked Online Ordering & Payments). You are now able to place your order and pay for it through this system if you prefer. The system is easy to use and orders will be delivered to the school with all other class orders. For more information see the library. Please note that the original hard copy order forms can still be sent to school with cash or cheque payments if this is your preferred option. The link below explains the process.


CANTEEN NEWS………

Many thanks to Annie Mc Namara who cooked up a storm with the delicious garden frittata special last week from a great harvest of potatoes, spring onions, tomatoes and herbs from the school garden. Huge thanks to the Pearsall family who continue to supply us with donations of eggs- so appreciated.

Many thanks to our trusty band of other volunteers who have also been helping run canteen over the past 2 weeks including Annie, Lavender Lily, Alex Fuller, Donna and Allan Shingler. We love having a Dad on board and encourage others to consider if time allows- we are gender neutral in our kitchen, it’s great for the children to be reminded of this, and they love having any parent or carer help out!

Thank you to Ali Mercieca who has volunteered her time over the past 2 weeks to tally and also help in canteen.

Sadly Vesna Baric will be leaving her role as canteen coordinator this term as she moves to Melbourne with her family- we will miss her enormously (and taste tester Joey)! Exciting times ahead for those guys as they embark on the delicious delights of Melbourne and lucky Joey begins at a "Stephanie Alexander" school. Vesna has given so much time, energy and expertise in steering the canteen forward over the past 3 terms to link us in with the Illawarra canteen network, and continue to embrace whole foods philosophy with garden & local produce, greening up the menu and promoting waste free and greener packaging. We are so grateful for the energy and passion you invested in our canteen and you now leave very big shoes to fill! Thank you Vesna and we will miss you, Joey and Andrew.

I will step into those large shoes with rather small feet. A call will be going out shortly to gather some troupes to help canteen continue in Term 2 and beyond.

Ang Clough
COMMUNITY NEWS

**COLEDALE HOUSE FOR RENT**
Located in a quiet cul-de-sac near Sharkey’s Beach, the house has escarpment and sea views. Offering three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a study and private deck. Available 11th April. Please contact Vesna M: 0404 626 651, E: vesnakatebaric@gmail.com

**Furnished House for Rent in Coledale - Short Term (2 to 3 months from March)**
Fully furnished four bedroom house available in Coledale for two to three months from mid March 2015 (some flexibility with dates). Low rent in exchange for feeding and taking care of our cat (very low maintenance pet!), and watering our garden. Modern home with two bathrooms, two living areas, and double garage. Lovely garden for alfresco dining. If you’re interested please email me - elizabethcoledale@outlook.com

We would like to thank IGA Thirroul for their ongoing donations of food/drinks which are greatly appreciated.
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“Staying Connected When Emotions Run High”

This FREE workshop will be extremely relevant if you support
someone who:

• Has relationship difficulties
• Demonstrates changing emotions & strong, overwhelming
  feelings
• Displays impulsive & destructive behaviour e.g. cutting
• Has a diagnosis of Personality Disorder

Date & Time: Venue
Friday, 13 March
9:15 registration
9:30am – 3:30pm
TBC in Wollongong

Morning tea and lunch will be provided by:
Illawarra Shoalhaven Partners In Recovery

RSVP essential to: Janice Samways
janice.samways@ssos.health.nsw.gov.au
Currently working as a SAPS employee 1 day per week and will contact
you on my return.
Or phone 4220 7920 to leave message