

# NEWSLETTER

Metella Road Public School

Metella Road Toongabbie 2146 T: 9636 1922 F: 9896 3201

Web: [www.metellard-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.metellard-p.schools.nsw.edu.au) E-mail: [metellard-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:metellard-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



GROWING AND DEVELOPING TO OUR FULL POTENTIAL

Term 4 Week 4

Tuesday, 30 October, 2012



## DIARY DATES:

31 Oct	Kindergarten Orientation Day 2
6 Nov	SRC Hat Day
8 Nov	Kindergarten Orientation Day 3
11 Nov	Remembrance Day
13 Nov	P & C Meeting @ 7.30pm
21 Nov	Parents Auxiliary Meeting @ 2.00pm
27 Nov	K-6 Assembly

## PRINCIPAL'S DISTINCTION AWARD

Faryal H	6B	Thomas H	2-3B
Zoe R	4M		

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 4 Week 4.

### Smartphone App Update - now for Android phones



The new smartphone app has been very well received by our community. Thank you to the many parents who have provided great feedback. We now have our app for android phones! You can find it at [www.google.com.au](http://www.google.com.au) and click on the "PLAY" menu at the top. If you search for Metella Road you will find the link.

The application provides instant notifications, photos and a calendar. For members of the community who do not have a smartphone, there is also a website link: <http://metellardps.myauschools.com/authentication/login>

The username is **community** and the password is **metellard**.

### Road Crossing Change of Hours—Cornelia Road

As of 12 November 2012, the Road Crossing Supervisor will begin at **8.00am until 9.00am** at the pedestrian crossing on Cornelia Road. This change will ensure students are able to cross the pedestrian crossing safely of a morning. The morning times for the Road Crossing Supervisor at the pedestrian crossing on Metella Road will remain the same.

### Teachers And Parents Working Together Better

I have always advocated the importance of parental involvement in a child's education. Many parents ask me what can they do to help and I always answer "read with and read to your child", also "just spend time with your child". Here is an interesting article I thought you would like to read.

In recent years, we have heard lots about how we need better teachers in our schools. There's no question that a great teacher can make a huge difference in a student's achievement, and we need to recruit, train and reward more such teachers. But here's what some new studies are also showing. Teachers cannot do it alone. We also need to work better with parents. Parents focused on their children's education also make a huge difference in a student's achievement.

How do we know? Every three years, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) conducts exams as part of the Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, which tests 15-year-olds in the world's leading industrialised nations on their reading comprehension and ability to use what they've learned in maths and science to solve real problems — the most important academic skills for succeeding in college and life. To better understand why some students thrive and others do not, the PISA

team interviewed parents about how they raised their children and then compared that with the test results for each of those years.

#### THE FINDINGS

**Fifteen-year-old students whose parents often read books with them during their first year of primary school show markedly higher scores than students whose parents read with them infrequently or not at all.**

Even when comparing students of similar socio-economic backgrounds, those students whose parents regularly read books to them when they were in the first year of primary school score higher than students whose parents did not.

**Parents' engagement with their 15-year-olds is strongly associated with better performance.** Just asking your child how was their school day and showing genuine interest in the learning that they are doing can have the same impact as hours of private tutoring. It is something every parent can do, no matter what their education level or social background.

**The kind of parental involvement matters.** For example, the score point difference in reading that is associated with parental involvement is largest when parents read a book with their child, when they talk about things they have done during the day and when they tell stories to their children. The score point difference is smallest when parental involvement takes the form of simply playing with their children.

**Parental actions that support children's learning at home are most likely to have an impact on academic achievement at school.** Monitoring homework; making sure children get to school; rewarding their efforts and talking up the idea of going on to further education and training; these parent actions are linked to better attendance, grades, test scores, and preparation for further education.

Of course there is no substitute for a good teacher. There is nothing more valuable than great classroom teaching. But teachers cannot shoulder the whole burden. We also need parents because parents can make every teacher more effective and improve the educational outcomes for every child.

Acknowledgement: Thomas I. Friedman 19 November 2011; Patte Barthe, The American School Board Journal.

Enjoy the rest of your week!

.....Mr P. D'Ermilio,  
Principal

#### PSSA NEWS

The summer PSSA competition games will be played as follows:

Friday, 2 November

AFL vs Girraween PS @ Binalong Oval

Softball vs Girraween PS @ Parramatta Park

T-Ball - Bye

Newcombe Ball vs Beresford Rd PS @ Metella Rd

Cricket vs Pendle Hill PS @ Daniel Street

.....Mr Calnan  
PSSA Co ordinator

#### STEWART HOUSE AND SMITH FAMILY CLOTHING APPEAL

Stewart House clothing bags have been sent home. We are asking for donations of good quality wearable clothing and shoes, also we will gratefully accept blankets. Your donation helps both organisations raise much needed funds to continue this important support for disadvantaged children in our communities. Please return these bags to the Library **before Friday, 2 November.**

#### SRC UPDATE

Yes it's that time again. If you can sing, dance or have another talent why not sign up for our annual **Talent Quest**. We will be taking names this week. Don't forget our "hat" day next Tuesday. Notes will be coming home today.

**Year 6 Disco:** Thank you to everyone who supported our recent disco. Money raised will be going towards our farewell. You all looked amazing!

**Pizza Orders:** Don't forget to put in your pizza orders. Orders close tomorrow Wednesday, 31 October. No late orders will be accepted.

.....Mrs Holburn

#### P & C NEWS

Our **next meeting** will be held on Tuesday, 13 November at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

#### PARENTS AUXILIARY NEWS

Our **next meeting** will be Wednesday, 21 November at 2pm. Please note the meeting will be held in the **Connected Classroom**. Everyone welcome.

**Sunscreen Order:** Thank you to the families who purchased sunscreen through our recent fundraiser. We expect delivery in two weeks time.

If you are interested in attending the Toy Warehouse Shopping Trip please place your money in an envelope with your child's name and child's class, your name, and contact numbers in the P & C box in the office. Any queries please contact Michelle on 0413 584 437. Tickets are \$3.00.

.....Parents Auxiliary Committee

## Band News



The **School Band** is now taking enrolments from current years 2-5 students to **start band in 2013**. Learning an instrument in an ensemble is a great way to experience the social, educational and personal benefits that music and the arts have to offer.

Students will have attended a **Demonstration Concert** by the band and **Teaching Services Australia (TSA)** teachers, where they receive a 'Gold' **Band Program Introductions (Expressions of Interest)**. This tear-off slip **must be returned within 5 days to the school office** if interested. Students who have done so will have the opportunity to try out instruments they wish to play in the band. A comprehensive **Enrolment Pack**, with the results of their instrument test, will then be sent home with them.

TSA is committed to providing a quality concert band program, with full band rehearsals, great value group tuition and rent-to-buy instrument hire.

If further information is required, please email your requests to [info@teachingservices.com.au](mailto:info@teachingservices.com.au)



Sara Lee

## FACTORY OUTLET

Windsor Rd & Campbell St  
Northmead 9630 0075

### Let Sara Lee help with Dinner tonight

Special Offer for all school families and friends  
Mention the school newsletter to receive this offer

2.3 kg Beef Lasagne  
And  
Twin Pack Garlic Bread

Save \$6.69 off  
Recommended Retail  
Price



\$  
**9.99**

valid till 15<sup>th</sup> November