Principal’s Report

What an amazing week we had last week. On Tuesday we travelled to St. Francis Xavier Primary School in Lake Cargelligo to visit the Taronga Zoomobile. This was an amazing experience for all the students. We were treated to a musical story-telling of various Aboriginal Dreaming stories accompanied by a hands-on experience with the animals the Dreaming stories were about. Students were able to pat a snake (non-venomous), bog-eye lizard, ring-tail possum and an echidna. This fabulous experience combined with Aboriginal Dreaming stories was an excellent learning experience for the students and teachers. Thank you to Ang for driving us over to Lake Cargelligo in the bus.

Our parent and community helpers began coming to school in the afternoons last week to read with students, helping in the facilitation of our MULTILit Reading Tutor Program. I would like to thank all those people who have undertaken the training and are willing to give up their time and come to help and enhance the education of our students.

Coming up this week, Brooke will be travelling in to Griffith on Tuesday afternoon to take part in the Griffith Zone Netball team trials. We wish Brooke all the best of luck during the trials.

On Wednesday and Thursday this week I will be attending HOW2Learn training in Griffith. HOW2Learn is a Riverina regional initiative that will provide me with training regarding developing 21st Century learning skills within the students of Rankin’s Springs Public School. Following the training that I will be undertaking throughout the year, I will pass on to staff all the information and implementation strategies learnt throughout the training. Mrs Ros Munro will be teaching the K-2 class on Wednesday and Miss Gray will take the students all day on Thursday.

On Wednesday evening we have a P&C meeting at 7:00pm. I look forward to seeing many parents and community members at this meeting. If there are any parents who have not been to a meeting this year I encourage you to come. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the fundraising efforts that the P&C have planned for 2013 and also learning more about the programs that are running within the school this year to enhance our students’ learning outcomes.

Thursday afternoon I will be running our second session of staff training for the new NSW Syllabus for the National Curriculum. Staff from Euabalong West, Naradhan, Beckom, Matong and Binya Public Schools will be joining us for this training via video conference.
Week 7 Awards

Student of the Week
Jack Banfield - for displaying an outstanding attitude towards his learning and always giving everything a go.

Achievement Awards
Cade Anderson - For excellent sportsmanship in our game of tee-ball on Friday afternoon.

Max O'Reilly - For an excellent ANZAC acrostic poem which highlighted the features of the first world war.

Newsletter Distribution
Would you prefer to have the School newsletter emailed directly to you on a Monday afternoon? We are currently putting together an email distribution list for the School newsletter.

If parents and/or community members would prefer to have the newsletter emailed to you, please send an email to Michele in the office at rankinspr-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au to request this service.

We would appreciate anyone who would be willing to have the newsletter emailed to them, to reduce our printing costs. It also means you would receive the newsletter with colour photos. The file format of the newsletter file will be a PDF file, readable using Adobe Acrobat.

K-2 Class News

Our sound focus letters for Kindergarten this week are ‘m’ and ‘d’. Students in Years 1 & 2 are learning spelling words focussed on their individual learning needs. Our spelling activities throughout the week are followed up with Home Learning activities as well as sight word games and a range of other activities within the classroom.

Our Maths program for the week is focussed around counting forwards and backwards to 20 for Kindergarten students and using fractions as a whole class focus. Students in Years 1 & 2 will be learning about quarters and comparing these to halves while Kindergarten students will begin folding shapes in halves, recognising that when an object is divided in half, both the halves are of equal size.

In Science this week we are continuing to look at growth and change. We will be learning more about how things change as they grow including people, plants and animals.

In HSIE this week we will be looking at how toys have changed from the past in comparison to toys of today. I would like to ask all students to bring a toy to school on Wednesday to use in our HSIE lesson on Wednesday afternoon.

Please don’t forget that each week every student in our class has an opportunity to bring something to school for ‘Show and Tell’. Following are the days for each student’s ‘Show and Tell’.

Monday: Cade, Jack, Angus
Tuesday: Tahlia, Torrence, Dallas
Wednesday: Hugh, Ryan, Seamus

Year 3-6 Class News

Students have been working really hard in class this week writing poems and short stories for the ANZAC writing competition that we entered. There are some samples of some students writing for the competition on the following pages.

We recently began work in the Vegetable Garden. Students have been working really hard getting plots ready for planting. Last week we planted a variety of vegetables including carrots, broccoli, beans, strawberries, shallots, beetroot, silver beet, lettuce and watermelon. We are looking forward to watching our vegetables grow.

On Tuesday we visited St Francis Xavier Primary School in Lake Cargelligo to participate in the Zoo Mobile performance. This was a great day and linked in really well with our science unit Mini Beasts. Students were able to pat a snake, frog, possum, echidna and a bog eye. Students learnt what these animals ate which assisted students when completing their food chains.

Last week Miss Payne and I booked a virtual excursion to Hyde Park called ‘A Convict Story’. A virtual excursion is a video conference with a tourist guide. This will give students the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of convicts within Australia during colonisation.

Before the virtual excursion we will be looking at different convicts and why they were shipped to Australia. I look forward to another great week with 3/4/5/6!

Miss Cindi Gray
Harmony Day—Thursday 21st March
This Thursday 21st March is National Harmony Day. The theme for Harmony Day 2013 is Many Stories: One Australia. Miss Gray will be doing a range of activities with students at school this Thursday 21st March to celebrate Harmony Day.

Young Leader’s Conference—Sydney
This Sunday 24th March Brooke Anderson and Miss Payne will be traveling to Sydney to attend the National Young Leader’s Conference. This will be an excellent opportunity for Brooke to hear other leaders in our nation speak about their experiences in being a leader. This year the speakers for the event are:
Creel Price - Entrepreneur / Founder of Club Kidpreneur
Brett Lee - International Safety and Cyber Bullying expert
Nathan Hindmarsh - Former captain of the Parramatta Eels
Jessica Fox - Olympian and London 2012 Silver Medalist
There will be a detailed report of the event for the Week 10 newsletter.

Easter Hat Parade & Easter Activities
On Thursday 28th March school will be holding an annual Easter Hat Parade and Easter Activity afternoon. The assembly and hat parade will begin at 2:00pm followed by an Easter Egg hunt for all children.
Families are invited to join us for lunch prior to the parade and egg hunt. Any preschool or younger children who would like to participate in the Easter Hat Parade and Egg Hunt are very welcome.
I look forward to seeing many parents and community members join us for this Easter celebration on Thursday 28th March.
Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. Students at Rankin’s Springs Public School have been part of the Challenge for many years. Last year Lynette O'Reilly received a platinum award for her 7 years of participation in the Premier’s Reading Challenge. You can see Lynette’s name on the PRC website at https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/news/platinumHonourRoll.html#top

Hopefully we can have many more students join the Platinum Honour Roll by beginning or continuing with the Challenge this year. A book list is available on the PRC website (https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html) however if you would like a condensed copy printed to have at home, please contact the school.

A reading log entry will be sent home with each child from Library lessons this week. If you would like to enter your own students’ reading log online, instructions will be on the Reading Log sheet. Otherwise you can fill in the Reading Log and return it to school no later than Friday 23rd August.

For further information about the challenge please contact Miss Payne at school or visit the Premier’s Reading Challenge website as mentioned above.

Facts About Fractions

If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets. Find out more: https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/eppcontent/glossary/app/resource/factsheet/4013.pdf

Amazing Art

Autumn’s the perfect season to take a trip to a gallery. The popular ArtExpress exhibition connects us to the inner lives and self-expression of high school students. Amazing works are on show throughout NSW. Check out the calendar. Find out more: http://artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/

Sounding Out Aloud


Fitness for the Family

Michelle Bridges talks about how to make fitness a priority for the whole family - and the start of a lifetime habit for your kids. Try out tips to keep your kids healthy, active and out of the pantry. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/fitness/fitness-for-the-whole-family

Canteen News

Next Monday 25th March, Melinda is on duty.

P & C News

Next meeting is this Wednesday 20th March 2013 (Week 8) at 7pm. Enquiries - Richard, Tammy or Deb.

Uniform Price List

Sports Shirts - $33  Jumpers - $22
Hats - $10  P & C Shirts - $33
Sports Shorts - $12  School Bags - $60
Library Bags - $10
CWA News

Thank you all who attended our recent meeting, it was wonderful to have so much support, smiling faces and new ideas being put forward. A few things for your calendars: CWA International Day will be on Monday 8th April, 2013 from 11.30 am. There will be a working bee on Sunday 7th April, from 5.00pm if anyone would like to pop in to help set up. There will be a quick meeting from 10am at the hall before the International Day and to make sure all is set up for the luncheon. Also a reminder that at Group Conference in Weethalle during October, we would like to have some entries from our Branch with knitting an ‘adult beanie’ and making a “tote bag” out of anything you would like. We know there is wonderful talent in our community so here is your starting nudge, get to it girls!!! Anymore queries or info contact Val Bell or Kaylene Hudson.

Yoga

Expressions of interest from people in the Rankin’s Springs district that would like to participate in a weekly Yoga class are being sought. The class would run for an hour and time and cost would be decided according to numbers. Yoga helps people stay fit and healthy. It is gentle exercise that is tailored to suit the individual's ability and is suitable for men and women of all ages including pre and post natal women. If you are interested please ring Jenny Caughey 6965 3384

Rankin’s Branch of ICPA – Catering fundraiser

Firstly thank you to those people who have replied to offer food or money donations for the catering for Dennis & Lindy’s clearing sale on Saturday 23rd March, 2013. I know that everyone is busy but we still have a few people who have not volunteered to help in any way and we feel that instead of it being left up to the same people that we ask for a $20 donation to make it fair if you are unable to donate food. I have included the Rankin’s Springs ICPA account details for any money donations to help with the purchasing of food supplies. BSB: 062548 Account Number: 10025787.

Please contact me if you are able to donate food. Also for food pick ups if you are not helping on the day I will be at the Weethalle canteen on the Friday 22nd if you wanted to drop it off to me at the Weethalle School and for Rankin’s Springs donations of food, pickup arrangements can be made with Andrea. Where would we all be without ICPA for our children’s needs. We need all members to contribute to the success of these days, but mainly to the continuation of our Branch for future generations (we’re all busy – communities getting smaller – we need to share the load!).

Monia Gap School Bus Meeting

The AGM will be held at Jenny & Jim Caughey’s place on Wednesday 21st March at 8 pm. For further information please ring Ellen or Geoff Walker 6966 1270

For Sale

Student/office computer desk. Perfect for desktop computer with storage for tower, keyboard and printer. $30.00. Heidi Papatodori - 69 756 051

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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19th March</td>
<td>Zone Netball Trials</td>
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<td>Wednesday 20th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>Thursday 21st March</td>
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<td>24-25th March</td>
<td>Young Leaders</td>
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<td>Thursday 28th March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1st April</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 6th April</td>
<td>P &amp; C Bingo Night</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9th April</td>
<td>Hemlock the Acrobat</td>
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<td>Tuesday 19th March</td>
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Notice of Thanks
Thank you to all the Rankin’s Springs community from Irene Prince and the Cemetery committee for all your continuing help which is very much needed. These people know who I mean and are always willing to help at the end of one phone call from myself. Thanks once again. Also thanks to the Rankin’s Springs Craft ladies for a kind donation to our Cemetery to help with our improvements at the Cemetery. Once again a great thanks to all.

A general meeting of the Rankin’s Springs Cemetery will be held on Tuesday 9th April 2013, at the Rankin’s Springs Hall at 7pm. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Wishing you all the best for 2013.

Enquiries - Irene Prince, 6966 1324.

80th Birthday
Barb Parslow is turning 80 this week and to help her celebrate we will be having afternoon tea/coffee at the Rankin’s Springs Supper Room this Sunday 24th March from 2pm to about 4 pm. We would love you to come and say hello, there is no need to bring anything along. Jeanne Parslow ph 6966 1338

Rankin’s Springs Golf Club
There will be a meeting to be held on 21st March, 2013 at 7:30pm. Owing to age and family duties the present committee are tendering their resignations. This meeting is an invitation to members of the community to attend and make a decision for the members of the community to form a committee to control the Land and Buildings. If the Land Rates are not paid annually the Lands Department can take the Land and the Buildings. I suggest that a committee of three consisting of a President, Treasurer and Secretary be formed to pay rates and handle bookings. If this is done the facilities may be used for various events plus golf tournaments by any organisation, the course will still be there. Andy O’Keeffe.

Chickenpox—Awareness
There has recently been an incident of chickenpox at school. Please be aware that this is a contagious infection and be mindful to keep on the lookout for symptoms in your own children.

Worm Drowners Yabby Races
The annual Yabby Races is on again this year on Friday 29th March starting at 6pm. Please see flyer attached. It would also be appreciated if members could please bring a salad for tea. Enquiries to Rocky, Kelly or Michele.

Congratulations
Congratulations to Richard Argent-Smith for finishing the 3.8km swim, 180km bike ride and 42.2km run in 11:54:39 in 411th place in Lake Taupao, NZ. Well Done!!

Rankin’s Springs Progress Association
We would like to let those know that attended the Water Meeting with Steven Joyce on 25.2.13 that a copy of the Minutes are now available. A copy has been sent to those few email addresses Andrea had, however there are quite a few that she didn’t have. So if you need a copy or you were unable to come and would like to read a guide of what went on please contact Andrea 6966 1220 and she will get them to you. Thanks
Good Friday Yabby Races

Friday 29th March, 2013
Tea Starting at 6:30pm!

Thank you to our sponsors:
Midstate Trading, Donovan’s, Hudson Shearing

Weigh-in between 5-6pm (strictly no entries after 6pm)
Biggest Bag & Biggest Yabby
Prizes for Sub-Junior (0-13yrs), Junior (13-17yrs) & Senior
There will be Male & Female prizes for all sections

YABBY AUCTION & CALCUTTER

Cost $25 family (2 adults & 3 children), $8 single, $5 pensioner/student
Fish, yabbies, chips, salads (fish fingers for kids) and desserts
BYO Drinks - Tea & Coffee available

Chocolate Wheel / Raffles / Lucky Door
Easter Bunny Hunt / Lolly Guessing Comp
Membership Draw (must be present on the night)
Membership is only $5

Bring the whole family for a fun filled night that is unique to Rankin’s Springs!!

Enquiries: Rocky Hudson 69661376, Kelly Irvine 69674178, Michele Prince 69661368
RANKINS SPRINGS P & C
PRESENTS

BINGO!

AT THE HALL
SATURDAY 6TH APRIL 2013
Doors Open at 6:30PM
First Number will be called at 7:30PM

EVERYONE WELCOME
School age children are able to participate under adult supervision
BYO nibbles and drinks
Kids $10, Adults $15 (Cost includes Bingo Texta & Game Cards)
Lots of prizes to be won!

Please book your seat with Tammy on 69661321
Rankin’s Springs Branch of Country Women’s Association
Cordially Invite

Community members
To our annual luncheon on the 8th April, 2013 commencing At 11.30am
Followed by our International Afternoon featuring Morocco

Venue: Rankin’s Springs Hall
Cost: $10 Includes, lunch, afternoon tea & raffle ticket
RSVP ASAP Kaylene Hudson 02 69661376
Or Email kajghudson@bigpond.com
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| Schools Clean Up Australia Day  
Junior Tennis |         |           |           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| 8         | 9         | 10        | 11        | 12        | 13        | 14        |
| Junior Tennis |         | Uniting Church Service 10am  
Catholic Church 11:15am |           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| 15        | 16        | 17        | 18        | 19        | 20        | 21        |
| Junior Tennis |         | Anglican Church 5pm |           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| 22        | 23        | 24        | 25        | 26        | 27        | 28        |
| Junior Tennis |         | Barb Parslow 80th @ Hall 2pm  
Uniting Church Service 10am  
Catholic Church 5pm  
Young Leaders Conference |           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| 29        | 30        | 31        |           |           |           |           |
| Good Friday  
Worm Drowners Yabby Races |         | Easter Sunday |           |           |           |           |
|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |

**Rankin’s Springs Community Calendar**