Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to see so many parents with us this morning to celebrate Easter. The Easter Hat Parade is always enjoyed by both students and staff and I would like to thank Kim Wills, coordinator of the Hat Parade for her efforts to bring the event together. Thank you once again for your support.

HAPPY EASTER!

Intensive Swimming
Be prepared for some very tired children by the end of Week 11! We commence our Intensive Swimming program at Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre on Monday 8th April, with the majority of students over eight years of age attending.

I would like to thank school staff in advance for the wonderful job they do during this week. Although it is very tiring attending five days in a row, we certainly see the benefits of the program in skill growth by each and every student.

School Development Day
Public Schools across the state will be holding TWO Staff Development days at the beginning of Term Two. This means that students will not commence until Wednesday 1st May.

The additional staff development day has been identified for schools to engage with the new Australian curriculum that becomes mandatory in 2014. Staff from Hunter River Community School will be joining their colleagues from Newcastle special schools to hear from representatives from the Board of Studies and the Disability Directorate.

Head Lice
The warm humid weather condition appears to be ideal conditions for Head Lice. We have recently found several cases of head lice in the school and would like to ask that all families do a thorough “head check” over the Easter Break, and perform any treatment necessary to avoid the problem becoming an epidemic.

We find that if we can act on this rather persistent problem early we can avoid major outbreaks throughout the school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Parent Surveys
Parents should have recently received a “survey” asking “Would you recommend Hunter River Community School? Why?” Responses from this survey will appear in the Annual School Report which will be published and available after the Easter Break.

It is not too late to return your response! Please return it to school early next week.

Have a safe and Happy Easter Break and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 2nd April!

Cameron and his grandparents enjoying the Coffee Shop

Room 2 Grandparents Day
Room 2 students celebrated Grandparents Day by joining with their grandparents, families and friends in an art activity. It was very messy but lots of fun. The students are still adding to the artwork created on the day. When completed, this will be sent home to all the wonderful, caring grandparents, parents, carers and friends who visited Room 2 on Grandparents Day as a memento.

Dekkard & Poppy

Braith & Popp

Braith & Nan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL

Haylen 12/4 Stuart 17/4 Brodie-Lee 21/4

Mikaila 24/4 Tyrell 28/4
**Grandparents’ Day**

Room 8 was very excited to show grandparents and friends their work during grandparents’ day last Friday.

While some students worked in coffee shop, others showed our visitors what being in the senior school is all about!

**Senior Coffee Shop**

On Friday 22nd March, the senior food technology crew were very excited and proud to host the first coffee shop for 2013.

Students were very excited to put on their waiters uniform and transform Room 8 into a coffee cafe for our grandparents and friends.

There were several new additions to the coffee shop roster, with Katie, Emma, Callum and Leticia working in the coffee shop for the very first time. They all had an amazing time and can’t wait to do it all again.

We would like to thank everyone for support and positive comments.

**Work Experience** — Cameron has commenced a supported work experience program at Maitland Community Men’s Shed every Thursday. Cameron and Ashley have been assisting the men’s shed volunteers build bird and pigeon boxes. Cameron is very excited to learn how to use basic woodwork tools and develop an understanding of “rules of work”.

**Textiles- Room 7**

We have been having lots of fun tie dyeing. We have made tie dye shirts, baby singlets and shopping bags. We even sold some on grandparents’ day.

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**2013 PossABLE IDEAS Expo**

**A Daring Enterprise**

The 2013 PossABLE IDEAS Expo is a two day event to be held at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre on 3 and 4 May. PossABLE embraces the ideals of person centred systems, ability and believing anything is possible in enabling people to achieve an independent and fulfilled life.

**What’s in it for me?**

This expo is the single expo which answers “what’s in it for me?”, ME being a connection to anyone with a lived experience of disability. PossABLE will have the credible, trusted accurate suppliers and providers under one roof in the Hunter for the very first time.

**SEE DETAILS BELOW**

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**PossABLE IDEAS Expo**

- Friday 3 May - 10am to 5pm
- Saturday 4 May - 9:30am to 4pm
- Newcastle Entertainment Centre

**Inclusive Spaces** - Experience the Rave Lounge, Sensory Room, Livable Housing

**120 Exhibitors** - Suppliers, Equipment, Technology

**Workshops** - Choice & Control, The NDIS & Me, Living in the Real World

**Demos & Try Outs** - Sports, Dance, Arts

www.2013possibleideasexpo.com.au
Freecall 1800 029 904
SMS 0458 296 602
FREE ENTRY | FREE PARKING | FREE CHILDCARE
Room 1 Students have had a busy but exciting start to the 2013 school year. Our unit work this term is ‘Parts of the Human Body.’ We have been labelling all of our visible parts on the outside of our bodies and have put together models of inside our body. All students enjoyed playing Mr Potato Head bingo body parts game and learning the bones song.

Of a Friday Room 1 have been doing a cooking program based on celebrations in Australia and around the world. Students have enjoyed participating in the measuring and mixing of ingredients and mostly, trying new and tasty foods.

On Wednesday 20th March, some of our students were lucky to have Year 12 students from Maitland Grossmann High School visit. The MGHS students are studying ‘Exploring Early Childhood’ and have been completing a unit on disability. The Year 12 students, accompanied by their teacher, assisted some of our students in a literacy activity followed by time spent in the playground and classrooms facilitating play and social interaction. All students involved benefited from this enriching experience.
CLASS NEWS

On Fridays, Room 5 enjoy our excursions to Morpeth Park. We have made friends with a horse that we have named “Spirit”. It is a wonderful opportunity to practise using our PODD books. Even Spirit has a turn.

IOTAS Swimming Carnival

On Monday 18th March students headed off to compete in the IOTAS swimming carnival at Lambton Pool. Competition was tough and our swimmers did extremely well placing in all their races. In the junior girls Emma was awarded 2nd in the freestyle and breaststroke. Luke competed in the intermediate section and came fourth in his freestyle heat. In the “old boy” senior section, Cameron received a 2nd in the freestyle event.

During free time, all students had a wonderful time under the big bucket and using the little waterslide. Nick, Katie, Laura, Courtney, Callum, Leticia and Billy had a fabulous time playing with their peers and can’t wait for next year’s carnival.
WHO’S WHO AT HRCS

School Executive
Ian Hughes—Principal
Mandy Worton—Assistant Principal (Junior School)
Ali Landers—Assistant Principal (Middle School)
Tracey Rapson—Assistant Principal (Senior School)

Room 1
Jackie Bright/Kim Wills—Teachers
Amanda Straker—Learning Support Officer

Room 2
Mandy Worton—Teacher/AP
Kim Rigby—Learning Support Officer

Room 3
Jennene Wenban—Teacher
Ruth Stauffer—Learning Support Officer

Room 5
Ali Landers—Teacher
Louise Turnbull—Learning Support Officer

Room 6
Raechelle Linn—Teacher
Shelly Rush-Nichols—Learning Support Officer

Room 7
Olivia Boelens—Teacher
Dave Butler—Learning Support Officer

Room 8
Tracey Rapson—Teacher / AP
Ashley Pobje—Learning Support Officer

Room 9
David Nevins/Terri Walsh—Teachers
Trish Sullivan/Suzanne Brown—Learning Support Officer

Release from Face to Face Teachers
Cate Green (Wed, Thur, Fri)
Debra Paul (Wed, Thur, Fri)

Technology and Curriculum Support
Suzanne Brown - PODD Support (Sem 1)
Trish Sullivan - iPad Support (Sem 2)
Kym Rasmussen—Computer Technician

Administration Staff
John Chatillon—Office Manager
Tracey Hughes—Admin Officer

Support Staff
Dennis Kelleher—General Assistant
Pam Parrey—Cleaner

Contacting the School
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Website: runtrivc.s.schools.nsw.edu.au
MEET OUR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

School Captains

Cameron  Mikaila

School Prefects

Joseph  Billy  Adam R  Adam M

Sport Captains

Belmore  Morpeth

Clay  Janelle