Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 2.

What a dramatic and frightening start to this term. The floods and winds that devastated our region put many families in disastrous conditions and many were isolated and lost their homes. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to everyone that has been affected by this natural disaster.

School Flood Update
Firstly I would to thank everyone for your understanding and cooperation when the school was closed. It was unsafe for students and staff to be on site when there were power outages. I realise that the extra week “holiday” put extra pressure on families and I appreciate that “no internet” was extremely difficult for many of our students.

As you are all aware, Hunter River Community School sustained water damage in several buildings. At this stage Rooms 5 and 6 are not operational. Students from Room 5 are now in the BER (P&C room), and Room 6 students have integrated with several rooms.

The foyer, staffroom and teacher preparation area are also affected and staff are presently using the hall for a staffroom. The wet carpets have been removed and the blowers have dried the cement floors. It is hoped that classes will return to normal routine by the end of next week.

A huge thankyou to my fabulous staff who have worked exceptionally hard to ensure that school is as routine as possible for all students.

Anzac Day
Our postponed Anzac Day Ceremony that was held last Friday was a very moving and commemorative experience for all members of our school community. Students enjoyed the live rendition of the Last Post played expertly by Jack Maddison and were excited to see a soldier in uniform. Special thanks to Eric Modderman who gave the official address and who kindly posed with every student for a photo. Well done everyone.

ADHC Assessments:
ADHC Assessments for our 2015 Year 12 Students have commenced. These assessments are essential as they determine the band or amount of funding that will be attached to each student from 2016. Family and carer input into these assessments are critical to ensure that all relevant information is collected. If you have any questions regarding this process please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Winter
Summer has unfortunately left us and the mornings are becoming very chilly whilst the days can still be warm. Can I ask parents and carers to mark students clothes with names. Jumpers are often removed in the playground and it is very difficult to match clothes with students without names. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Mother's Day Stall
I would like to wish all the mums, step mums, carers, aunts, grandmothers, sisters, friends and family members that fulfil the role of mum a happy day on Sunday.

Our Mother’s Day Stall is being held tomorrow, Friday 8th May. Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation and they can select a present from the table.

Thank you to who donated gifts for the stall. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Have a great weekend

Tracey
Student of Month

Our March Kiwanis Student of the Month recipients are; Senior Dylan F
Middle: Billy H       Junior Connah N

Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to Kiwanis for being such loyal supporters of our students and school!!

Sport Update

Hunter River Community School would like to welcome back Justin Ryder who has returned to engage our students in sport. Last term our students enjoyed the interactive program that Justin provides. The variation of activities allows for all students to participate in the program and achieve at their level. We would like to thank parents/caregivers for their continued support of this program as it is extremely worthwhile for all students.
Recycled Art

The Students of Hunter River Community School will be taking part in a recycled art program starting next term. From this term we will be collecting various items to help in the creation of the artwork. Items that we will be looking for are: old CD's, plastic bottles (various sizes), plates, bottle tops, paper straws, buttons, old lamps, old socks, scrap material, denim jeans, wooden frames, canvases, corks, etc…

We would also be interested in small furniture such as old coffee tables, bedside tables, stools and chairs.

Please contact your child’s teacher prior to sending in any furniture. Small items can be sent in ASAP. Thank you in advance for your participation in this program.

Special Days Calendar

8-5-15  Mother’s Day Stall
19-5-15  Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle (To raise money for senior camp)
26-5-15  National Sorry Day
23-6-15  Pasta & Milkshake Day (To raise money for senior camp)
26-6-15  Red Nose day
Autism Awareness Day!

On the 2nd of April the students and staff celebrated Autism Awareness Day, donning ourselves and the school, in blue!
Last Friday our school held our Anzac Day ceremony. Soldier Eric talked to us about Anzac Day. Each class made a poppy and put it on the wreath. I put the poppy on for Room 2.

Room 7 News
Room 7 are currently making a rainbow inspired patchwork quilt as part of Textiles Technology. We have investigated all the equipment needed, experimented with colours and pattern designs, practiced using the sewing machine, and am now in the process of joining our squares together in rows. Students are enjoying pressing the foot switch to sew their squares together. Progress to be shown in future newsletters.
Drop In Service - Community Conversations
New South Wales – Hunter

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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>East Maitland Library</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May 2015</td>
<td>1.30pm – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Maitland Library</td>
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<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May 2015</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 3pm</td>
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**Come along and**
- Find out more about the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Ask us about entering the Scheme
- Meet local National Disability Insurance Agency staff members
- Have an opportunity to ask your own questions.

**So please drop by**

If you need any more information you can email community.hunter@ndis.gov.au
Or call 02 4942 9200 and ask to speak to The Community Local Area Coordinator.
Please take time to visit our website ndis.gov.au for all the latest information.

**Venue: East Maitland Library**
Garnett Road
Green Hills NSW 2323