**Principals Message**

Thank you everybody for contributing to another great term at Newcastle Middle School.

Our students have experienced a wonderful variety of learning experiences and extra curricula activities provided by our dedicated teaching and support staff, aided where possible, with generous help from volunteers and family members.

Friday Week 9 a group of students, staff and volunteers attended a fun sports day at Maitland as Team Costa Rica organised by Hunter River Community School. We all had a fun day and participated to our best. Hayley Quick (Year 8) and Jason Lei (Year 6) won gold and bronze medals respectively, in the final for the wheelchair race. We had several other students make the finals after hotly contested heats in running races. Students conducted themselves with great sportsmanship overall and each received a participation certificate and medal in celebration of their efforts. Well done!

Last Sunday, I had the pleasure of attending a retirement afternoon tea at The Wetlands for Jill Dean, former Principal of Glendon School (now Newcastle Junior School), that many parents may remember from their child’s early schooling years. There were many lovely tributes spoken about Jill and her long teaching and leadership career. Brad Laughlan presented Jill with her special retirement medal on behalf of the DEC. She is very busy and continues to nurture and care for injured and abandoned native animals in her spare time. We wish Jill a happy and relaxing retirement on behalf of the Newcastle Middle School staff and community.

We would also like to thank Grill’d Healthy Burgers - The Junction, for their very generous donation of $100 to our school charity. Sarah Turnbull, one of our Assistant Principals, organised the request and Class 6 students excitedly received the donation on behalf of our school.

Thankyou to our families who assist us by keeping sick students at home when necessary, as this minimises cross infection to others. We appreciate your co-operation and understand that it is sometimes difficult to organise with your usual commitments.

The Annual Golf Day at Merewether Golf Course (November 7th) is well into preparation. A BIG thankyou to all our sponsors and prize donors for their generosity. Flyer and entry form are attached. Hope you can come and enjoy a great day of golf and have fun.

We have had a university intern, Jessica, on Class 3 for the past six weeks under the expert mentoring of Lenore Hanney, one of our Assistant Principals. Jess has involved herself with great enthusiasm in all aspects of class and whole school programs and has achieved to a high standard. We wish Jess well in her final studies and future teaching career.

I wish all staff, students and families a wonderful Term 3 holiday break and look forward to seeing you again when school returns Tuesday October 7th after the October long weekend.

***Regards***

***Judy Mouthaan***

***Principal (Relieving)***

**Diary Dates - Term 4**

**Week 1**

**Tuesday, October 7th**  **First Day - Term 4 (Staff and Students)**

Thursday, October 9th Senior Students Camp - Myuna Bay

Friday, October 10th Senior Students Return from Camp

**Week 2**

Monday, October 13th Year 7 Immunisations

**Friends News**

**Friends Charity Golf Day for Newcastle Middle School at Merewether Golf Club**

**Friday 7th November** - Flyers went home last week to invite our families and friends to our 2nd Charity Golf Day at Merewether Golf Club.

Last year was a great success with 40 players enjoying a day of golf, food and fun.

This year we are fundraising for a web swing for the playground.

We would love to have all golfers or would be golfers to join us again!

Please return the slip to school as soon as possible if you would like to join in on the day.

If you have a team of 4 that is great or if you would like to be on the school team just let us know.

Thanks again for your ongoing support.

***Friends Committee***



FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

****As the NRL comes into finals our school footy tipping competition has come to an end.

Jake (Room 3)

**2nd place**: Bob (GA)

**3rd place**: Ladies in the Office

The class to top the ladder in the tipping was ***CLASS 5***.

Congratulations to all our winners and to all the classes who participated.

A big thank you to Mandy for organising the competition this year, it was a great success!

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