Dear Parents,

For Semester One 2014 the school distributed Meadow Matters fortnightly. I thank those families that have provided feedback on this decision and have decided to return to weekly newsletters. So, the following is the first Meadow Matters for Semester Two.

Busy start

As is always the way, we hit the ground running at Fairy Meadow Dem. This is the 8th day of term and we have:

- held a Teacher Professional Learning Day where we looked closely at both the new Mathematics and Science syllabus and made valuable decisions on the data the school would collect consistently from K-6 to further ensure educational progress for every student,
- had many representatives at the Brokers Athletics Carnival,
- congratulated Aleks Selins for his remarkable 7th place in the NSW State Cross Country at Eastern Creek,
- taken Stage 2 students to an educational excursion along Wollongong Beaches and rock platform,
- had four staff representatives at Homebush Bay to listen to the latest information from the University of Missouri regarding Positive Behaviours for Success,
- welcomed two education students from Hong Kong to work with students at our school for a week,
- farewelled Sue Thorley who is taking some well-earned long service leave and welcomed Pip Fenwick who will take the class full-time until 4 September,
- held Dental Talks, provided by guest presenters, for kids from preschool to Year 2 (Years 3-6 next week)
- sent the school’s two choirs off to Wollongong Town Hall for rehearsal s ahead of performances tonight, and
- Held assemblies for Years 3-6 and Years P-2.

This list omits the all-important core business of the school… teaching and learning in classrooms.

An Invitation to Parents and Carers,

Next week is Education Week. We have an exciting program happening across the week. We would very much like your company to share in these events.

Tuesday & Wednesday @ 9am – the choirs will each perform at the morning assembly. Tuesday – Junior Choir; Wednesday Senior Choir.

**Wednesday 30th** July will be **open classrooms** where you are invited to come and see your child and share in the activities and their learning environment. The **Pre School and Years 3-6 classrooms will be open for visits from 10.30am to 11am. Kindergarten and Years 1-2 classrooms will be open for visits from 11.30am to 12noon.**

**Recess Picnic** 11am to 11.30am in the morning quad. See Canteen news for treats available.

Please stay and enjoy recess with your child. The canteen will have cakes for sale and a coffee van will also be here. During recess Mrs Toll and Miss Pinkster’s dance group will perform for you in the hall.
School Uniforms

I took the opportunity earlier in the term to address students on the importance the community places on the wearing of our ‘team uniform’ to school every day. Our ‘team uniform’ is the Fairy Meadow Dem school uniform. Next week, I will redistribute the make-up of the uniform to every family. Today, I would like to address the reasons behind the community’s call for a consistent uniform. I quote from the School’s Uniform Policy:

Fairy Meadow Demonstration School uniform aims to define an identity for the school within our community and to develop a student’s sense of belonging to the school community.

The wearing of our uniform provides an opportunity to build school spirit and enhance the health and safety of students when involved in school activities. It promotes a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity while reinforcing the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment.

The wearing of a uniform increases the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier recognition of visitors and potential intruders in the school.

It aims at promoting positive community perceptions of public education.

The wearing of a uniform eliminates the risk of peer pressure to wear transiently fashionable and expensive clothes and creates a unified dress code accessible to all.

Please encourage your children to wear the Fairy Meadow School Uniform every day.

ICAS COMPETITIONS 2014

We have recently received the achievements for the students who have participated in Computer Skills and Science Competitions earlier this year.

Computer Skills: Eleven students entered the competition from Years 3 to Year 6. Some of our best results were:

- Tyler Wade – High Distinction
- Riley Checklin – Distinction
- Joel trotter – Credit

Aiden Checklin – Distinction
Kali Ismail – Distinction
Adil Shaikh – Distinction
Jessica Butterworth – Credit
Annabella Mckinnon – Credit

Science: Ten students entered the competition from Year 2 to Year 6. Some of our best results were:

- Riley Checklin – Distinction
- Joel trotter – Distinction
- Aleks Selins – Credit

Adil Shaikh – Credit
Aiden Checklin – Credit

Congratulations to these winners and to the other students that gave it their best effort.

John Thorne
Principal

Some pictures from around the school

LT 4 have begun their swimming program this term with enthusiasm and excitement. Mrs Whalan and Mrs McRimmon seem to have nearly as much fun as the students with splashing, blowing bubbles and floating in the water. The children are learning the important skills of water safety at the indoor pool at Thirroul Hospital. This is an invaluable opportunity that is already showing positive results. Well done LT4!

On the very last day of term two I was lucky enough to go to the movies in the Fairy Meadow School Hall. Great FUN was had by all. Congratulations to the P&C fund raising committee for a very enjoyable evening.
Stage Two excursion was a great success. We walked along the “Blue Mile” from the lagoon to the lighthouse to learn about our local environment. We found Aboriginal artefacts and tools. We looked at the Old Court House and had lunch at Belmore Basin.

The staff from Confident Health Care came to our school today (Tuesday) to talk to the students in Pre-School, Kindergarten and Years One and Two about the importance of looking after our teeth and gums. We all know now the importance of eating well, keeping our teeth clean and regular visits to the dentist. All the students received a special pack to take home. Stage Two and Three will have a similar presentation next Tuesday.

LIBRARY NEWS
Book Week is fast approaching and to celebrate we will be having our annual Book Parade. The Book Parade is an opportunity for students, teachers (and parents) to dress up as their favourite book characters and have a fun day celebrating books and reading.
This year’s Book Week theme is “Connect to Reading” which gives us a very open slather for interpretations and ideas for Book Parade costumes.
The Book Parade will be held on Tuesday 19th August at 9.30am in the Western Quad and parents and family are very welcome to join us.
On another note, I’d like to thank all of those families who participated in the Scholastic Book Club. Our trial run was quite successful and so we will continue to run the Book Club. Students should have received new Book Club notes already. Order forms and payments must be returned to the office in a sealed envelope by Friday 25th July.

UNIFORM SHOP – Opening hours are 2.45 – 3.30pm on Tuesdays and Fridays
Next Friday, 1st August, will be the last Friday afternoon for the Uniform Shop. After that date, the Uniform Shop will be open Tuesdays 2.45-3.30pm and Wednesdays 8.45-9.15am.
Our winter sale continues with jumpers only $12.00 each for size 4 or adult long sleeve polo shirts, and only $25.00 for size 4 black and yellow jackets.
Dry & Cosy jackets are fabulous in the cold. They are thicker than the standard jackets, and the hood folded into the collar makes them handy for rainy weather, too. Rain ponchos are also excellent in the rain and keep backpacks dry – they come in S, M and L sizes. Try them on during opening hours.
Cath Chisholm
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

NEWS from the P&C Committee
We hope everyone has been enjoying their Pie Drive purchases! Thank you to everyone who bought some of the yummy pies or other treats – especially those families who took orders from people outside the school community.
The Movie Night at the end of Term 2 was a great night – everyone looked warm and snuggly in their pj’s, and we all had a lot of fun. A very big thank you to Joel Trotter and his friends for keeping us entertained while we waited for pizza to arrive, and for showing the movie.
This term, the Fundraising Committee has more planned. A Disco will be held on Friday 29th August. There will be two sessions: K-2 at 5.30-6.30pm, and 3-6 at 7.00-8.30pm. A BBQ will be running between the two sessions. Tickets will be available soon. A Walk-a-thon will be held at the end of term – more details to come. We will also be running the Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 12th September (more information at bottom of this newsletter).
Volunteers will be needed to help run these events – please note the dates in your diary as we will be asking for helpers!
The July P&C meeting was held last Wednesday. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 13th August, at 7pm in the staff room.
Please come along! It would be great to have people representing a broader cross section of the school community – parents and carers of Kindergarten students and other new families to the school are very welcome. If there is anything you’d like discussed, but you can’t make it to the meeting in person, let us know by emailing fmdspandc@gmail.com
The Entertainment Book fundraiser is winding down, and we still have books that haven’t been paid for or returned. Soon we will be sending letters home to families whose books are not accounted for. It’s not too late to buy one and start using the great discounts available! For those who have decided not to buy a book, they can be returned directly to the school office. If you’re not sure if you’ve returned yours, you can also email to the above email address to find out.

**Canteen**

Its Education Week open day next Wednesday 30th July. As a special treat the canteen will be selling slices of hot apple turnover and custard and slices of cake for $1.00 each at recess.

Of course, all our usual items will be available. Those of you wanting cheese on toast or scrolls, please order these in the morning before school. Due to the high demand for these items and the limited numbers we are able to supply, from now on over the counter sales will be capped at 4 slices per person.

Our wonder helpers are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 28/7</th>
<th>Mon 4/8</th>
<th>Gabe Skinner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue 29/7</td>
<td>Tue 5/8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 30/7</td>
<td>Wed 6/8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 31/7</td>
<td>Thur 7/8</td>
<td>Nancy DeMasi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frid 1/8</td>
<td>Frid 8/8</td>
<td>Lisa Springett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bunnings BBQ**

The great fundraising BBQ at Wollongong Bunnings is on again. Join us for a great day and help make some money for our school. Free sausage sandwich and drink provided. We need helpers on the day to help set up, pack down, cook and sell.

If you can help please fill out the slip below and return it to the canteen ASAP.

---

**BUNNINGS BBQ ROSTER**

Saturday 13th September 2014

Name: ........................................ Phone: ................. Childs name & class: .............................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>8.00am – 10.00am</th>
<th>10.00am – 12 noon</th>
<th>12noon – 2.00pm</th>
<th>2.00pm - 4.00pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please circle the best time that suits you.
Return to the canteen ASAP.
Thanks for your support.