Charlie Carr

Our school community is heart broken at the news that our much loved Charlie lost her brave battle with cancer. Staff and students attended the celebration of her life on Friday. This was an extremely heart wrenching service but one that further endorsed what a unique and special child Charlie was. We as a school community were extremely proud of Charlie’s young friends who found the courage to speak to the thousands who attended the service of their special friendships and love of her.

Today, class teachers have spoken to their classes about Charlie’s passing.

Charlie Carr was a bright, intelligent and very caring student who despite all that she had to endure was a good and kind friend to others. She was an inspiration to our school community in so many ways and the courage and resilience she displayed stole our hearts.

We plan to have a special school memorial service for Charlie and will extend an invitation to her family. Charlie and her family will continue to be in our hearts and thoughts.

Our whole staff will work together to support our students through this very sad and difficult time.

We will always remember our beautiful Charlie.

School Strategic Directions 2015

- Consistent, high quality student learning.
- Consistent, high quality teaching and leadership.
- Cultivate consistent, high quality collaborative processes within the Whitebridge Community of Schools to enhance the quality of teaching, learning & leadership.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to Dudley Primary school a week later than we expected. Our school was not operational from Tuesday through to Friday due to the storm that resulted in many trees being uprooted, water damage to classrooms and loss of power.

School Clean Up

Last Thursday our entire staff, our school crossing supervisor and many parent volunteers worked amazingly hard to clean up our school grounds. The school was transformed from looking like a disaster area back to the beautiful school grounds we are accustomed to. Large branches and a lot of debris were moved from the large tree near the fixed equipment. Pathways, the hardcourt and in
were cleared of countless wheelbarrows full of debris. The canteen cleared out their freezers and refrigerators of all the spoiled food. You will notice that some areas have been cordoned off where we have other trees down that don’t impinge on our playground. These fallen trees will be removed as soon as we can arrange it.

What’s Happening This Week
Week 2
Mon 27 April - Creative Arts Groups
Tue 28 April - Staff Meeting
- Scripture & Ethics Classes
- WCOS Principals Meet 3.30
Wed 29 April - Executive Meeting
- Staff training
- CANTEEN RE-OPENS!
Thurs 30 April - Zone Cross Country
- Learning Support Team
Fri 1 May - School ANZAC Service 10AM
- Chess Tournament
- Assembly Item Junior Choir
- School Plan uploaded to School Website.

ANZAC SERVICES

Dudley ANZAC Service
On Saturday our school participated in the Dudley ANZAC Service which was held at the Dudley memorial at 6.30am. This was strongly attended by the Dudley community, with approximately 1,000 braving the elements. The service had a very unique feel to it this year and our students, who represented our school proudly, laid poppies at the monument. Following the service a breakfast run by the Dudley Board Riders and some of our P&C was served under our COLA. It was a welcomed opportunity for the community to gather together again and support each other after the immense sadness of Charlie’s funeral.

The Dudley War Memorial group are already planning for a bigger and more involved ANZAC service for 2016. Congratulations must go to this group for organizing such a successful event, especially with all that the community has endured over the last few weeks.

Combined Schools ANZAC Service - Rescheduled
This service has been rescheduled for Wednesday 6 May, 2015. Our Year 6 students will attend this Combined Schools ANZAC Service and will travel by bus to the Civic Theatre in Newcastle departing at 9.10am. This special service is organised by a committee of Year 11 & 12 students and provides students with a greater understanding of the meaning of ANZAC Day. A revised permission note will be sent home this week.

School ANZAC Service
This Friday Karen Murphy and Year 3/4M will present an ANZAC school service in the Fairleigh school hall from 10am. This school service is to explain the meaning of ANZAC Day at a level our students can relate to from Kinder to Year 6 classes. This will combine a clever powerpoint presentation and ANZAC song to reinforce the meaning behind this special day. Karen hoped that some of our students’ grandparents who are returned veterans might attend. Please contact our school office if you are aware of someone who is willing to attend. A highlight of the service will be the catafalque party of returned soldiers at the service.

ANZAC Murals
The two ANZAC murals of our Victory Cross winners - William Currey & Clarence Jeffries were installed to the apex of the Fairleigh Hall during the school holidays. They look amazing and we wish to thank Rachel Murray & Simon Winter for their excellent work. An ANZAC garden area was also developed last week below the murals. These special ANZAC features have been funded by an ANZAC Centenary Grant by our Federal Government.

From Our School Library…..
With the 100 year ANZAC celebrations, our school proudly remembers and recognizes the courageous efforts during WW1 by two former students. The two students - Private William Matthew Currey and Captain Clarence Smith Jeffries - were both awarded the Victoria Cross for their bravery and heroic efforts. Our school Library, as well as two of our sport houses, bear their names as a symbol of ever-lasting homage, respect and remembrance.

When you visit our Library, you will see in the foyer, photos of Currey and Jeffries as well as an honour board, dedicated to the brave ex students of Dudley School who served during the World War 2 campaign.

For those interested there is a lot of information available online and even a site that displays our honour board (google: Dudley Public School Roll of Honour).
Congratulations to Chris McNair who received his Principal’s Award for his excellent efforts with classwork & great leadership skills.

Zone Cross Country—Rescheduled
Our Zone Team will head off to Barton Oval in Belmont this Thursday 30 April to compete in the Zone Cross Country. Our competitors, who have been training in order to complete the grueling 2km or 3km event are listed below.

8/9’s - 2km  Toby Winter, Brodie Wright, Wes Matthews, Kaman Pappas, Matisse Murray, Emma O’Hagan, Hannah Snow and Layney Wilkins.
11’s - 3km  Joseph Gillard, Jonah Finlay, Saij Carson, Louis Snow, Ella Osborne, Bailee Pappas, Jade Andrews and Grace Baker

They will travel by parent cars and be supported on the day by Kate Sullivan & Larissa Tweed. We wish them luck on Thursday!

Long Service  Terina Parmenter and Rosalie Clements are on 2 weeks leave and will return to school on Monday. Larissa Tweed has been capably filling in for Terina.

Easter Raffle
A special thank you to Sally Wade & Jill Coram-Parker for their wonderful efforts organizing the Easter raffle. 116 prizes were presented at the Easter assembly. Thank you also to families for donating the Easter eggs.

Chess Tournament
Our school will be participating in the Interschool Chess Challenge this Friday 1 May. This will be held at Hunter School of Performing Arts in Broadmeadow and students will be travelling by parent cars with Jason Horadam supporting our students on the day. Students interested received a permission note at the end of last term, however, to participate they must be able to play independently and understand the rules of chess. They will be leaving school at 8.30am as round 1 commences at 9.20am. The day will conclude with prize giving at 2.00pm.

Congratulations to Elsie Croal who received her Principal’s Award for great organisation, getting along skills and attitude to classwork.

Friday Assemblies
Our Friday assemblies will recommence this week at the special time of 10.00am with our School ANZAC Service in Fairleigh Hall. Next week our Friday assemblies will revert to their normal time of 10.35am, and this assembly will be our Mothers Day assembly with class 1H providing the entertainment.

IMPORTANT CANTEEN INFORMATION!
Thank you to Sally Jukes and Leanne Clark who have worked tirelessly to get our Canteen back up and running. Canteen will resume trading THIS WEDNESDAY and will now operate as a full canteen every day of the week, one of the few schools in the area to be able to do so. Yet more proof of what a wonderful supportive community Dudley is!
**Principal's Award - Week 10**

Congratulations to Jordan Byrne who received her Principal’s Award for making excellent efforts with her learning, beautiful manners and great getting along skills.

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**Annual School Report**
The Dudley Annual School Report for 2014 will be completed and placed on our school website shortly for parents to access. This report provides our community with factual information regarding how our school operates, outlining our philosophy, beliefs and values, together with details of programs and management plans used as we strive to provide a quality learning environment.

The report outlines our school achievements in various programs and performance in NAPLAN tests, our key evaluations as well as our Strategic Directions for the 2015 year.

Under the National Education Agreement the Commonwealth requires that the main method of distribution of the Annual School Report is to be by the internet, via the school website. Parents who can not access the information via the internet can collect a paper copy from our school office.

I would like to thank our school committee who assisted me with this report: Parent reps - Lucy Rees & Ruth Clipperton and staff reps—Stevie Adams & Kate Sullivan

This is a very extensive and important report that I would urge all parents to peruse.

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**Bronze & Silver Awards**

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**Mother’s Day Stall**

Our Mother’s Day stall will be held next Wednesday 6 May. Families are asked to please send in donations of gifts eg; chocolates, coffee mugs, plants etc. All donations are to be left in a box provided in the school foyer. We ask that all donations are into the school by next Tuesday to give the ladies time for sorting, wrapping and pricing. For our new parents to the school, students bring in money (approx. $5) on the Wednesday and their class will be given the opportunity to go shopping at the P&C stall.
to buy mum a present for Mother’s Day.

**Year 5 Opportunity Class 2016**

Opportunity classes cater for high academically gifted students. Applications for the OC class placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. This test will be held on Wednesday 22 July, 2015. Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 27 April 2015 in a printable booklet at www.schools.new.edu.au/ocplacement. Please note that the application website opens on 27 April and closes on 15 May 2015. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE DONE ON-LINE.**

**Creative Arts Day Preparations**

At the end of last term a note was sent home to those parents who are volunteering in the classrooms for the upcoming Creative Arts Day on Tuesday 26 May. This note explained what will happen on the day and also requested information from these volunteers. I fully appreciate that the return to school this term has not been easy, however, I need these notes returned as soon as possible to assist me in the planning for the very busy day that Creative Arts Day is. If you no longer have the note, please contact the school office and they can give you another copy.

Thank you
Maureen Piper

**Further Canteen News**

Please find attached to this newsletter a revised Canteen menu and a copy of the revised roster for this term. Thank you again to our wonderful group of volunteers which have enabled us to be open for lunch orders every day of the school week! I am sure the ladies in the front office will be very pleased!

**Canberra Excursion Permission Note**

This permission note was sent out at the end of the school term and it is vital for costing purposes that these notes are returned as soon as possible. If you have misplaced this note, please see our school office staff to obtain another copy.

**Outstanding Book Pack Fees**

We still have a number of families that have not paid any money off their book pack fees. As has been stated on many occasions, these amounts can be paid off over a period of time, however, please notify the school office if you are experiencing difficulties and a payment plan can be set up for you.

**School Photos**

Our school photos have been delivered and will be sent home with your children some time this week. As I am sure you will appreciate, our office staff have been extremely busy with the very hectic and emotional return to school, so I ask that you give them time to get this organised which I am sure they will do as soon as possible.

**School Readiness Night Invitation**

Come and meet with other parents, pre-school staff and public school staff and have your questions answered…….legal requirements, age, milestones in development, social skills, speech and language!

Guest speakers—Dorte Bladt—Chiropractor
Michekle Batey—Speech Therapist
Rachel Elliott—Occupational Therapist

**WHEN:** MONDAY 11 MAY 2015
**TIME:** 7.00PM TO 8.45PM
**PLACE:** CHARLESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL
**RSVP:** YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL OR PRE-SCHOOL BY THURSDAY 7 MAY

Refreshments will be provided. Hope to see you there!

**Dudley After School Care**

Our Dudley After School is now operating every afternoon in our old school hall. This is being run by the community arm of the C3 Church Victory. If you require any additional information please contact the school office or the organisers at the church on 4922 6800 or mobile 0400 722 582.

**Welcome back Candace Woods**

Dudley Public School is happy to welcome back, Candace Woods, our school counsellor, who will be working at our school every Thursday. Candace is an exceptional counsellor and we are very fortunate to have her with us again.