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.

What’s Happening This Week
Week 3

Mon 18 May - Creative Arts Groups
- PSSA Girls Soccer Day
Tue 19 May - Staff Meeting
- Scripture & Ethics Classes
- Computer Competition
Wed 20 May - Executive Meeting
- Staff training
- School Disco
- Star Struck Cup Cake Day
Thurs 21 May - Knights Knockout
- Learning Support Team
- Regional Principal’s Conference
Fri 22 May - Assembly Item 2B
- Regional Principal’s Conference

P & C News
At our P & C meeting recently, we discussed clarifying and finalizing our school uniform policy. To complete this we will be sending out a brief survey today to gain parent input for sock colour and girls wearing check shorts or black skorts.

Please complete this survey sheet and return to our school office by Friday 29 May.

P & C also discussed fund raising events for this year and gaining parent thoughts on a family levy for fundraising. This will be sent out next term through the Dudley App as a short survey.

P & C also agreed to assist The Stage 1 classes by donating $3,000 for class readers and $200 to assist with Star Struck costumes.

Congratulations to Fletcher Foggo who received his principal’s award for making excellent efforts with his learning and being organized.

Digital Technologies Competition
This Tuesday 19 May we have 7 students who will compete in this competition (previously called Computer Skills). They will complete 30 or 35 multiple choice questions in a 30 or 35 minute session depending on the year level. Good luck to Tristan Clinton-Muehr, Annie Croal, Oscar Deamer, Ethan Thompson, Oscar McGill, Will Reid and Eli Thompson.

Knights Knockout
This Thursday 21 May we have a senior team competing in the Newcastle Knights All Schools Knockout competition. This will be held at Waratah Oval 3 and students will be travelling by parent cars and being supported by Kate Sullivan. Good luck to: Jayden Wright, Nelson Anderson, Riley Gibson, Marlow Tattersall, Noah Law, Egan Carlisle, Fletcher Foggo, Cian O’Hagan, Chris McNair, Bryce Stace, Brayden Park, Ethan Thompson, Zac Hamilton, Jessie Wilkins, Seth Stewart, Billy Klaas Petersen, Cody Geary, Tristan Clinton-Muehr and Brandon Mansfield and Shelby Newton.
Monday 1 June, Maureen will commence long service leave through to term 4 and then transition into retirement. This means next Friday 29 May is Maureen’s final day at Dudley Public School.

Maureen commenced at Dudley in 1992 following teaching experience in a variety of schools throughout Newcastle.

She gathered vast expertise in teaching primary students, and applied that to the enormous benefit of our students. Maureen has taught on all class levels K - 6 whilst at Dudley, completing her career on Kindergarten.

Her leadership in creative and performing arts has had a major impact at Dudley. Her wonderful talent in the visual arts area led to the creation of Creative Arts Day, which she is coordinating for the final time. She has also led Star Struck dance groups and supported and coordinated whole school productions.

Maureen is an amazing classroom teacher, who provides a stimulating learning environment, where technology is integrated and active learning is a focus.

Student welfare is important to Maureen and she provides a safe and happy classroom environment. Students from Kinder to Year 6 respect and recognize the very caring and supportive manner that Maureen provides all students.

Our school will miss the wonderful talents and expertise that Maureen brought to Dudley, and staff and students wish her a fantastic retirement.

Jackie Winter, who has been teaching on KP class on Thursdays, will continue as KP class teacher for the remainder of 2015.

Congratulations to Annika Ash who received her principal’s award for excellent effort and application with her classwork.

Girls Soccer Gala Day
We have entered a senior girls PSSA soccer team into this competition. They will be competing in a Gala Day event today Monday 18 May at Speers Point Soccer Complex. They are travelling by parent cars and will be supported and coached by Melissa Hunt.

School Disco
Our Term 2 Disco will be held this Wednesday 20 May in the Fairleigh school hall. We have the international presenter “DJ Algorithm” who will run the disco. He was a great sensation in 2014!

Our SRC group have decided that there would be no theme for this disco.

The sessions are as follows:
5.00 - 6.30pm K - 2 students cost $5.00
6.45 - 8.30pm Yr 3 - 6 students cost $5.00

The cost will include a drink and a packet of chips, therefore children won’t require other money on the night. Class teachers will supervise each session and we look forward to another fun evening. Parents are asked to collect their children from under the Fairleigh Hall COLA and sign them-out on the list.

Regional Principal’s Conference
This Thursday 21 and Friday 22 May, I will attend the Regional Principal’s Conference. This is a professional learning conference to support principal’s in their leadership of schools.

Relieving for me as principal on Thursday will be Jason Horadam and Lorraine Blake on the Friday.
What’s Happening Next Week

Week 6

Mon 25 May
- Boys Soccer Gala Day
- Release for Report Writing
- Creative Arts Groups

Tue 26 May
- Creative Arts Day
- No Scripture or Ethics

Wed 27 May
- Star Struck Major Rehearsal
- Learning Support Team
- Maureen creates Art Exhibition

Thurs 28 May
- Learning Support Team
- Maureen creates Art Exhibition

Fri 29 May
- Assembly Item KP
- Art Exhibition Open

Creative Arts Day

Our Creative Arts Day will take place next Tuesday 26 May. This will involve all students in the school, who will complete 3 visual art and craft sessions on the day as follows:

Session 1: 9.20 - 10.50am
Session 2: 11.10 - 12.40pm
Session 3: 1.20 - 2.50pm

Students will rotate through the three activities in their classroom (and outside for some activities) with parents leading each activity, and the class teacher supporting all groups.

At the end of the day all students will have completed 3 artworks, the diversity of which is always outstanding, thanks to the creative talents of our parents and our very talented Maureen Piper.

Maureen has been very busy coordinating this day with her usual excellence, and final preparations will be completed over the next week.

I would like to thank the 95+ parents who have volunteered their time and creative flair to run the art/craft sessions, and also our canteen helpers who are providing recess and lunch for parents and staff on this wonderful day.

A reminder that there is no canteen for students next Tuesday. Students can come in casual clothes (old clothes) on the day. Everyone is looking forward to this day, which is a highlight event in our school calendar.

If you have any buttons, lace, leather thonging, ribbons, beads, wool, bottle tops, plastic ice cream containers, white ice cream lids, surfing magazines, Dolly magazines etc please send in to Maureen Piper for the children to use on the day.

Congratulations to Joseph Gillard who received his principal’s award for outstanding sportsmanship, academic excellence and being a dependable class member.

Boys’ Soccer Gala Day

We have entered a senior boys PSSA soccer team into this competition. They will be competing in a Gala Day event on Monday 25 May at Speers Point Soccer Complex. They are travelling by parent cars and will be supported and coached by Kate Sullivan. Our team will play a minimum of 3 games on this day depending on results.

Report Writing

Our staff will continue to use our computerised system for student reports which utilises the Sentral program.

This week we will release class teachers for one day each to devote to report writing, which is such an important endeavour for the term. During this week we eliminate library, computer and learning assistance to redirect release for each teacher’s report day.

Reports will be sent home to parents in the final week of the term on Wednesday 24 June.

StarStruck Major Rehearsal

Our dance group lead by Sonja Wild have been practicing diligently at school and have attended three rehearsals with other schools. The First Major Rehearsal at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre is next Wednesday 27 May. They will be travelling by parent transport and supervised by Sonja Wild on this day.

The Star Struck performances will be held on Wednesday 10, Thursday 11, Friday 12 and Saturday 13 June.
Creative Arts Exhibition

Following on from our Creative Arts Day there will be an Exhibition at the school next week to display all the wonderful items produced by our students.

Maureen Piper will devote many hours setting up this wonderful display which will be open to our school community next week. The dates and times that the exhibition will be open are:

**Friday 29 May, Monday 1 June & Tuesday 2 June** in the School Library from 8am to 4pm each day.

Our students are always very excited to show their family and friends the items they have created.

Farewell Heather Johnston

Just over a week ago we said goodbye to Heather Johnston who was working as a School Administration Officer (SAO) part time at Dudley PS. Heather will be greatly missed by our staff and students. We would like to thank her for the excellent work she has done in our school office and around the school over the past 5 years.

Sponsored Child

Our school sponsors a young child who lives in Uganda. We have continued to support Jubblee Daphine this year with small donations from our students. Karen Murphy co-ordinates this special program and each of our classes is asked to bring in some silver coins so that we continue our much needed support.

Jubblee lives with her sister, two brothers and her parents in a place called Arua Hill. Although her parents earn a small living ( $1.50 per day ) as farm workers, they struggle to feed Jubblee and her siblings. The support from our school is immensely important to this family and our students value their efforts.

Principal Award - Week 4

Congratulations to Isabella Sullivan who received her principal’s award for demonstrating school citizenship and being a co-operative and caring class member.

Bronze Awards

School hats - Winter months

Please note that hats are not compulsory at school from now until mid-Term 3.

Student are able to wear a plain black beanie during this time if they wish.
Kinder Enrolments

Families with students to commence Kindergarten in 2016 are asked to contact the school office this week. We need to determine the number of Kinders for next year, so that planning can commence.

We will hold interviews with new Kinder parents in Term 3 and commence this important orientation program.

Cupcakes For Sale

On Wednesday 20 May an amazing selection of tasty cupcakes will be on sale to help raise money for costumes for the Dudley Dancers who are taking part in Star Struck this year. Cupcakes will be $1 and $2 each.

EFTPOS Telephone Orders

We have extended our EFTPOS facilities to include: telephone order transactions, where parents can phone in and use their credit card for payments over $15. Also if you prefer, you can send in your credit card details with your child. Hope this will not deter you from coming in to see us occasionally.

Pictured below is Emmy Ormandy and Joseph Lyddiard who are off to the State Cross Country.

Library News

The Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) is well underway with lots of students achieving Merit Awards along the way! During Term 2 it is time to keep your reading on-track by completing the first two stages of the PRC - that means achieving your first two Merit Awards.

Pictured below are the 43 students at Dudley that have completed the PRC.

Pictured below is Class 1H at the Mothers Day Assembly.
Looking for 

Fitness? | Strength? | Discipline? | Self Defence? 
Looking for | Co-ordination? | Self Control? | Confidence?
Looking for 

Flexibility? | Speed? | Respect? | FUN?
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SOUTHERN CROSS TAE KWON DO ACADEMY

For Men | Women | Children

(From 5 yrs +)

Classes at...

CARDIFF
John Young Community Hall
Thoms Street
Mon. 5:30 - 6:30pm

DUDLEY
Dudley Public School Hall
26 Ocean Street
Wed. 5:30 - 6:30pm

THE JUNCTION
St Josephs School Hall
264 Union & Emuick St
Tues. 5:45 - 6:45pm

HAMARTON
Hamilton Public School
Rover Rd
Thurs. 5:45 - 6:45pm

WALLSEND
Catharina College
Cnr. Main & South Main St
Mon. 5:30 – 6:30pm

4934 2806 or 0403 799 981

www.southerncrossld.com.au

KINDYMATES COMMUNITY
PLAYGROUP

Wondering what to do with your pre-school age kids?
Why not come to our playgroup? Parents &

kids (new born to six) welcome!

When: Every Monday during school term

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Where: Church of Christ Hall,
Foxdale Ave, Whitebridge

Cost: $2.00 per family

Enquiries:
Morise 0413886796

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RANGERS at Charlestown Public School

Friday nights 6:45 - 8:15

Kindergarten - Year 2

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Helping to create happy, smart
and confident children.
Ten year-old Elle liked to be active, but one weekend things got out of control. A jazz ballet concert, a game of netball, and a family visit to her cousin’s house meant no time to herself.

And she let her parents know it with constant moaning, as well as a tantrum or two.

Her father held his tongue for most of the weekend, but couldn’t help but give her some fatherly advice on Sunday night. “You’ve spent the whole weekend moaning about how busy you are. Maybe you need to drop one of your activities, if they are stressing you out so much!”

A tantrum followed…from Elle.

Elle’s mum took a different tack. She had a hunch that something was bothering her daughter. “You sound like something is bothering you big-time. What’s up?”

“I’ve got to give a talk at school on Monday in front of the whole school and I haven’t time to prepare. It’ll be awful and everyone will laugh.”

Her mum replied, “You sound like you might be pretty nervous. That makes sense. Giving a talk in front others can be nerve-wracking.”

Elle dropped her shoulders, smiled and said, “You bet!” She was relieved because her mum understood how she felt. In fact, her mum had unlocked the problem for her and reflected back how she felt.

Elle’s dad focused on her behaviour and responded in kind (with well-meaning advice about her future behaviour), while her mother focused on the feelings that acted as a possible driver to her daughter’s behaviour. She took an emotionally smart approach, which turned out to be the right one in this circumstance.

Emotionally intelligent parents don’t dismiss children’s behaviour and allow kids to do as they please. There are times that we need to focus on a child’s behaviour. A child who is rude in public should be reminded in no uncertain terms that poor manners are inappropriate.

However, there are times when smart parents need to look beyond the obvious behaviours to get an good understanding of what’s happening to their child, and to help a child better understand and manage their emotions.

So what does an emotionally intelligent parent look like? And importantly what is the impact on kids, parents and families of this approach?

Emotionally intelligent parents have the following five attributes in common.

They will usually:

1. **Listen more and judge less**

   There is nothing better than being understood. Parents who operate from an emotionally-smart mindset are more likely to listen to their kids when emotions are high, trying to access what may be going on, rather than clamping down their behaviour or closing them down with well-meaning advice.

   **IMPACT:** Better, more open relationships.

2. **Accept strong emotions**

   Anyone who lives with teenagers will know that emotions can run very high. They can say the worst possible things to each other and, at times, to you. Ten minutes after delivering a hateful tirade they can be cuddling up to the person who was the butt of their anger, frustration or anxiety.

   Emotionally intelligent parents know that feelings need to expressed rather than bottled up, and allowed to fester. They also believe there is nothing so bad that a child can’t give voice to in a family, however there are behaviours that are not unacceptable.

   **IMPACT:** A healthy expression of emotions.
... What it means to be an emotionally intelligent parent ...

3 Focus on the present
Most parents are rightfully future-focused. We focus on the homework that needs to be handed in tomorrow; the washing that needs to be done; the meal that needs to be cooked. That’s part of everyday life. Children generally focus on the here and now. That of course can be frustrating to a task-oriented future-focused mother or father. However when we lower our gaze we are more likely to pick up how kids are feeling, and importantly help them understand and manage their moods and emotions.

IMPACT: Happier families and less stress felt at home.

4 Use rules rather than their moods to determine discipline
Some parents discipline according to their moods. If they feel good then they give children plenty of lenience. If they are feel bad then they pick their kids up on every little thing. It’s better to stick to the family and house rules; that makes you more predictable, which kids really crave.

IMPACT: More consistent parenting

5 Develop a language around feelings
A family develops a vocabulary around the things that are important to them. Kids in a sport mad family will inevitably have a rich vocabulary around their chosen sport. The same holds for emotional intelligence. Families that truly value building emotional smarts will develop in kids a rich palette of words that will help them describe how they feel. This vocabulary will inevitably stay with them for life.

IMPACT: Better relationships later in life at work and in their own families.

At a time when anger and anxiety has never been so high in families, there is a massive need for a parenting approach that includes emotional intelligence. Many parents struggle in the area of helping children understand and manage their emotions because we’ve never had any training in it. We didn’t learn it from our parents, and more than likely haven’t learned it at work. Emotional intelligent parenting can be learned. At Parentingideas emotional intelligence is central to the work we do with parents. We know first hand that kids who have parents versed in Emotional Intelligence are more likely to raise kids with the skills to be happier, enjoy better relationships and experience more success at school.