School Priority Areas 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 7, Term 3
Mon 24 Aug - P & C Meeting
- Creative Arts Groups
- Newcastle Permanent Maths Test
Tues 25 Aug - Scripture & Ethics Classes
- Yr 5/6 Canberra Excursion Departs
- Staff Meeting
Wed 26 Aug - Yr 5/6 Excursion Day 2
- K-1-2 Soccer Coaching
Thurs 27 Aug - Yr 5/6 Excursion Day 3
- Executive Meeting
- Learning Support Team
Fri 28 Aug - Assembly Item - Stage 2 Choir
- Daffodil Day
- Yr 5/6 Excursion Returns

P & C Meeting
Our P & C group will hold their next meeting tonight, Monday 24 August in the Library commencing at 7.00pm.

The agenda for this meeting will include:
- Father’s Day Breakfast
- Spring Fete Planning
- Upgrading Fixed Equipment
- Committee reports

Our P & C are very keen to gain the support and input of new parents as well as our continuing parents. Please come along and help support your children’s school through the fantastic efforts of our P & C.

Parent Survey
Last week parents were invited to participate in the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey designed for parents and carers.

Congratulations to Mia Hanson who received her Principal’s Award for her excellent efforts with class learning and developing self-confidence.

This survey complements the TTFM student and teacher surveys, which focus on student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices. This online survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. It is anonymous and voluntary.

You can access the survey in your own time, between 17 August and 16 October 2015. Follow the link below on your computer or tablet whilst viewing this newsletter on the Dudley App or school website.

Your feedback on these important areas will help us greatly to improve student engagement and welfare.

Ella Osborne competed in the Regional Para Athletics on Friday 21 August. She placed first in Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus, 100 metres and 200 metres and will now compete in the State Para Athletics Carnival in Homebush, Sydney on 14 & 15 October. Congratulations on your wonderful effort Ella.
Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition
We have entered all Year 5 & 6 students in the Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Hunter Primary Schools Competition. This will be held this Monday 24 August. This involves 35 multiple choice questions to be completed in the 45 minute session. This will be the final competition for 2015.

Year 5/6 Excursion
Our Year 5/6 students departed on their 4 day excursion to Canberra and the snow this Tuesday at 6.30am. They have an exciting and busy itinerary as follows:
Tuesday 25 August
- 6.30am Depart Dudley Primary
- 1.00pm Parliament House
- 2.00pm Guided Tour of House of Reps & Senate
- 3.00pm Hospitality
- 4.00pm Regatta Point
Wednesday 26 August
- In two groups
- 9.00am CSIRO / National Museum
- 11.00am Museum of Democracy/ CSIRO
- 1.00 Electoral Education / Museum
- 3.00pm War Memorial Program / D Zone
- 4.00pm DZone / War Memorial Program
- 7.00pm Questacon
Thursday 27 August
- 8.30am Snowy Hydro
Friday 28 August
- 8.30am AIS - Sports Experience
- 10.30am National Museum / Electoral Education
- 12.30pm Depart Canberra
- 6.30/7.00pm Arrive Dudley PS
Our Year 5 & 6 will be supported by Jason Horadam, Kate Sullivan, Rachel Murray & Katrina Rich (Intern Teacher). We wish students and teachers a fantastic excursion.

Thank You
- To the group of parents who helped with the Zone Athletics canteen. Special thanks to Kathy Sloss, Indra Deamer and Helen and Peter Hamilton who worked both days.
- International DJ Algorithm (aka Jason Horadam) for another amazing disco.
- Sally Newton & Leanne Clark for your great canteen fruit promotion.
- Felicity Bloomfield for your wonder coaching of our debaters.
- Narelle Warren for organizing the Premier’s Reading Challenge and completing awards for over 200 students.

Principal’s Award - Week 4
Congratulations to Monet Murray who received her Principal’s Award for amazing public speaking, excellent debating, incredible spelling & leadership.

K-1-2 Soccer Coaching
All our K-1-2 students will complete the second week of a special soccer coaching program this Wednesday. We received a funding grant through “Sporting Schools” to provide 4 weeks of soccer skills by Football Federation Australia for 45 minute lessons for our K-2 classes.

Unload Writing
Unload is a creative-play based writing and language program for Years 3-6 students. It encourages student’s natural creativity through writing games and activities which harness their imagination in a fun, relaxed and non-competitive environment.
A taster session workshop will run at Dudley PS on Wednesday 9 September at 3.15pm. (no cost for this session) parents are asked to list their Yr 3-6 child’s name at the office. If we have at least 10 students who would like to continue with the program it would run for 10 weeks (3.15 - 4.15) at a cost of $135.

Daffodil Day
This Friday 28 August all students are asked to come dressed in “yellow” and donate a $2 coin towards cancer research and programs to prevent the risk of cancer.
From the Library…

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Can you believe the PRC is over for this year? Last week was the last week for students to access the student portal and add to their reading log. Proudly, Dudley has 198 students who will receive an official Premier’s Reading Challenge Certificate toward the end of Term 4, with quite a few of these receiving a Gold Certificate for four years participation, or a Platinum Certificate for seven years participation.

Well done to all involved – you should be very proud of your commitment to the Challenge.

Last week our students were inspired by two very talented ladies who shared their expertise during our author and illustrator workshops.

Jess Black gave students an insight into being an author and led our senior students through the process of plot construction and characterization, while the younger students enjoyed Jess’s craft of storytelling with all its imagination and mystery.

Jess has signed copies of four of her books – two from The Kaboom Kid series and two from the Keeper of the Crystal series.

Jess Black’s books will be available for purchase at $15 each, or 2 for $25.

For those students wishing to purchase books please fill out order form below and return to the school office with correct money by Friday 28 August.

Liz Anelli, the illustrator, captivated each group with her skillful sketches and drawings, as well as audience participation. Liz also generously donated a drawing of Newcastle Harbour to our school.

Thankyou to the P & C for subsidizing the cost of these workshops.

Jess Black Book Stock

The Kaboom Kid (9-12 years)
$15 Playing Up
$15 Hit for Six
Special offer – buy two Kaboom Kid books for only $25

Keeper of the Crystals (7-10 years)
$15 Eve and the Runaway Unicorn (Keeper of the Crystals Book 1)
$15 Eve and the Fiery Phoenix (Keeper of the Crystals Book 2)
Special Offer – buy two of the Keeper of the Crystal books for only $25

ORDER FORM—JESS BLACK BOOKS
I wish to purchase 1 or 2 books from the Kaboom Kid series.
Playing Up or Hit for Six (circle which book you wish to purchase.
Enclosed is $.........................

I wish to purchase 1 or 2 books from the Keeper of the Crystals Books. Eve and the Runaway Unicorn or Eve and the Fiery Phoenix (circle which book you wish to purchase.
Enclosed is $.........................
**What’s Happening Next Week**

**Week 8**

**Mon 31 Aug**  
Creative Arts Groups  
High School Visit

**Tue 1 Aug**  
Staff Meeting  
Scripture & Ethics Groups

**Wed 2 Aug**  
**Staff Anaphylaxis Training**  
K-1-2 Soccer Coaching Clinic  
Yr 5 GATs Drama WHS

**Thurs 3 Aug**  
**Kinder Blackbutt Excursion**  
Learning Support Team  
Yr 6 Literacy & Numeracy HS Day

**Fri 4 Aug**  
Assembly Ukulele Group  
Father’s Day Breakfast  
Yr 5/6 Milo Cup Cricket Day

**Sat 5 Aug**  
Dudley Sustainable Neighbourhood  
Nature Play Afternoon

**Spring Fair**
Our P & C is considering having another Spring Fair Saturday event for Term 4. They are looking for interested parents that could join a small committee to begin planning the fair. Please phone our school office if you can assist.

**Year 6 Numeracy/Literacy Day**
Next Thursday 3 September our Year 6 students will join other WCoS Yr 6 students in a special Numeracy & Literacy day at Whitebridge High School. Throughout the day students will work with students from partner primary schools to solve problems and participate in physical activities based on literacy and numeracy activities. They will be supported on the day by Jason Horadam. A further information and permission note will sent home shortly.

**Kinder Excursion**
Our two Kinder classes will travel by bus to Blackbutt next Thursday 3 September. This day excursion will further develop their knowledge and understanding of our local environment and how living things grow and change. They will depart by bus at 9.30am and return by 3.00pm and will be supported by Sonja Wild & Jackie Winter for this exciting adventure.

**Jump Rope**
We commenced Jump Rope for Heart last week. All classes K - 6 will be skipping to improve their skills and increase their active life style, as well as have lots of fun. Classes will teach new skipping skills in PE lessons as well as at recess & lunch breaks.

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**Congratulations to our public speakers above.**

Jacob Gonzales won the stage 2 zone final and will compete in the Regional final. Monet & Matisse Murray and Lachlan Gonzales achieved highly commended awards.

**Father’s Day Breakfast**
Just because Dads are very important people, our school will have a Father’s Day breakfast for our dads next Friday 4 September. This will be held on the landing near the school canteen from 7.00 - 9.00am. Dads, step dads and grand dads are invited to come to school and enjoy a breakfast of bacon & egg sandwiches as well as tea, coffee or juice.

We will have our school assembly in the Fairleigh Hall at 9.15am this day following the breakfast and hope our dads and granddads can stay and join us. We ask students to have their breakfast at home, as this breakfast is just for our dads to celebrate this special day.

Thank you to our Dads committee who have planned and will cook the breakfast.
Regional Athletics
This Friday we have 5 students representing our district at the Regional Athletics Carnival at the Hunter Sports Centre Glendale. Congratulations and good luck to: Toby Winter & Matisse Murray in 100m, Zac Hamilton in 100m & 200m Gemma Pollard in long jump, Jake Pappas in High Jump & Finn Todhunter in 800m races.

Milo Cup Cricket
Next Friday 4 September we have a senior boys & girls team participating in the Milo T20 Blast Cup Cricket competition. This will be held at the Kahibah oval in Kahibah with parent cars transporting students. They will play up to 4 games in this modified game, which aims to develop their cricketing skills. Jason Horadam will support students on the day and parents have received a permission note last week.

Dudley Sustainable Neighbourhood
This group is having an afternoon of adventure for children and adults in Awabakal Nature Reserve next Saturday 5 September from 2.00 - 5.00pm. There will be climbing, creating, imagining, building, investigating, thinking, engaging and more! So come along and experience the fun. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Wear enclosed shoes, long pants and sleeves and bring wet weather gear and/or sun protection as the day requires. Light afternoon tea will be provided.

Any queries: Kate Newman (Chairperson DSNG)

Gold Award
Gold Award

Mathletics & Reading Eggs Awards
Mathletics & Reading Eggs Awards
EASTLAKES ATHLETICS CENTRE Inc.

Interested in athletics?
Yes, then join a fun family club this 2015-2016 season celebrating 40 years!!!!!!

Saturday morning competition starting
5 September at 8.30am

ALL NEW ATHLETES may come along and try for FREE before 31 October
(New athletes only are entitled to 2 free weeks before registering!)

CAN'T GET ENOUGH CRICKET?
Join Your Mates And Satisfy Your Appetite For Cricket These Holidays!

ULTIMATE CRICKET SCHOOL - 10 NIGHTS PACKAGE

Get Ready For Fun, Swing and Spin Bowling Sessions
Put Your Mark Down and Head Up For昵称 Bats and Defend Your Bats
Shez Of Your Elbow Bowling and Catching Skills
Whichever you wish, Train Yourself to Catch and Snapping!!
Take Your Mark At Exhibition Games, The Return, and The 7s Cup

Became Born With Players Who Are 11-18 Year Olds

You Will Become A Better Player

21-30 September, 9am-3pm

BOOK YOUR SEATS EARLY AND BOOKING RATES
AND ENJOY THE DRAW TO WIN FREE BIG BASH LEAGUE TICKETS

Players That Register In Groups Are Set To Save $10 OFF EACH CAMPS IN 4 DAY

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Participating In Programs Such As:

- obstacle courses
- craft
- gymnastic skills
- cooking
- zoo
- trampolining
- science
- tumbling
- athletics - just to name a few

VACATION CARE IS AVAILABLE FROM
MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER - TUESDAY 19TH OCTOBER
7.30AM-6PM, MEALS INCLUDED

The Hunter Sports Centre also runs gymnastics holiday programs and skills classes each day. For further information visit our website www.hsc.org.au

AIA Vitality MiniRoos Kick-Off for Girls
AIA Vitality MiniRoos Kick-Off for Girls is an introductory football program for girls aged 5-11 starting October 2015. Visit the website to find a location nearest you.


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Hunter Sports Centre
Build up Frequent Father points

Michael Grose looks at the importance of topping up Frequent Father points, and the benefits for both dads and for kids.

A good friend enthusiastically told me how he was looking forward to spending a few days away on his own with his two kids, aged 10 and 13. He was feeling quite choked.

He was having some ‘dad time’ with his kids.

Good on him!

He was doing some memory building & relationship building, as well as having some fun.

He told me that he was aware that his kids were getting older and he knew such opportunities were diminishing.

Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their kids was through their wife. She would explain to the kids (‘Your dad’s very busy but he would love to see you play sport but he can’t make it.’) As well, she’d keep him up-to-date with the children’s lives.

Blokes, it seems, are valuing the time they spend with their kids on their own.

Or at least the dads I mix with are. Spending time alone with kids is a great way to build confidence in dads.

And the kids usually just love it.

Mothers can play a role here by not getting in the way if their husband or partner wants a little time alone with kids. (Most mums I meet welcome this!)

Children usually associate their fathers with activity. When I ask children to tell me about their dads they usually talk about the things that they like to do together with their dads. Playing, walking, fishing, wrestling....the list goes on.

It’s through shared activity and involvement in kids’ lives that dads build up frequent father points. It’s hard to build good connections with kids when you are not there!

Don’t wait until adolescence

These relationships are best built in childhood, when kids just love their dads to bits and want to be around him. It gets trickier in adolescence, but having shared interests developed in childhood gives you a connection point during these sometimes-turbulent times.

Dads also benefit from spending time with their kids. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men. I’m not sure where the health benefits come from, but I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing about getting into a child’s space. There is a big kid inside most men just busting to get out.

These days we take parenting pretty seriously and it’s easy to forget that one of the fundamentals of raising kids well is to spend some time in your child’s space, doing stuff, or not doing stuff, whatever the case maybe.

So how are your (or your partner’s) Frequent Father points going? If they need some topping up then you can start by doing something together that the kids enjoy. Having a bit of fun together is the best place to start.

Author’s note: Sole mums can take these ideas on-board to have a NO RULES weekend with your kids, where you have a change of routine and activity that can give kids the chance to see you in a different way.