McCallums Hill Public School
P&C Meeting 29 August 2014

Principal’s Report

- A team of teachers from our school joined teachers in our Community of Schools to undertake training in the new Maths syllabus. They helped to plan and run the School Development Day for all the schools. During this term they have run two workshops for our teachers. As a result the teachers are feeling quite confident to start teaching from the new syllabus as from the beginning of next year.

- As you are aware I am taking leave after next week. The Director, NSW Public Schools, (Canterbury) ran an Expression of Interest early this term and as a result of this process Mrs Lukas will be the Acting Principal from Week 9 until the end of the year. The Director will then work with staffing, during Term 4, to determine who will be the new Principal of McCallums Hill Public School. It is hoped that this process will be completed this year so that the new Principal can take up their position at the beginning of next year. If the process includes merit selection, a panel will be formed and trained parents, elected by the P&C, will be requested for the panel.

- Book Week was run over two weeks this year. The first week aligned with the Book Fair and our Book Parade was also that week. There were several displays in the Library and special competitions for Book Week. The Lantern Club donated a pack of books to each class winner of the colouring in competition.

- This week we had a special presentation with the Lantern Club. They very kindly donated $15000 worth of books to our school Library. It generally takes us three years to put this amount of books into the Library so we are very grateful. It is an enormous amount of additional new, quality books for our students to read and enjoy.

- Late last term an inspection was carried out of all the trees in the school to determine their safety. Those trees considered dangerous have been removed and others lopped. There remains one tree that needs to still be tested and the results will determine what is done to that tree.

- This year’s Combined Schools Music Festival was on this week. The children attended a day long rehearsal on Tuesday and the Festival was on Tuesday night. It was a great night - our item was impressive and our members of the mass choir not only obviously new the words of all the songs very well, but also displayed an obvious enjoyment in singing.

- The Year 5 students have been learning their ballroom dances for the past two terms. The number of rehearsals has now increased as the Dancesport Challenge is on next Thursday. A new dance has been introduced this year - a progressive samba. The Dancesport Challenge is held at the State Sports Centre and is a terrific night for the students and the audience.
The projector in the hall has been re-positioned and a new motorised, larger screen installed. As well a new sound system and speakers have been purchased and installed in the hall. This has been paid partially by Y6 fundraising from last year and the remainder of the costs will be covered by Y6 fundraising this year.

Mrs Lukas and the executive team will be leading the school community in the development of the school’s vision, strategic directions and the development of the school’s next three year plan. Parents will soon receive an invitation to be involved in the beginning stages of this process.

Review meetings are held each year for all of the students in our special education classes. The meeting includes the teacher, the parent, the Principal and the school counsellor. We discuss the child’s academic progress, their communication skills and their social and behavioural skills. We determine the level of support the child is receiving from outside agencies and consider whether each child is appropriately placed and the most appropriate setting for the following year. Many of these meetings were held during this week. On Monday we will hold our final review meetings for this year.

Upcoming events include:

- 30 August  Bunnings
- 2 September  S3 Soccer Gala day
- 4 September  Dancesport Challenge
- 9 September  S2 Soccer Gala day
- 10 September  Public Speaking competition
- 12 September  Whole school assembly
- 15 September  Responsible Pet Program K-2 & SU
- 16 September  Red day
- 19 September  Last day of Term 3
- 7 October  First day of Term 4
- 14 October  Interest group photos
- 16 October  Multicultural Day
- 21 October  Know Waste Education program
- 23 October  Know Waste Education program
- 28 October  Vaucluse House Y2 excursion
- 29 October  Year 6 Fun Day
- 29 October  P&C meeting
- 30 October  Vaucluse House Y1 excursion

C. Glover
Principal