Due to enrolled children’s’ life threatening Anaphylactic allergic reaction to all nuts and peanut products, we would like to encourage families not to send these products to school with their children. These include peanut butter, nutella, sesame seeds, loose nuts, muesli, nut or chocolate bars or any products containing any type of nuts.
The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 16 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 13 March**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Jennifer Parke

**Deputy Principal Report**

**Attendance**

The focus for attendance has been on students who arrive after the morning bell. Congratulations Edgeworth as there has been a decrease in students presenting to the office after 9.10am and students, parents and carers need to be congratulated for this improvement. It’s critical students arrive prior to the morning bell so they are settled and ready with their class for the explicit morning session.

**Positive Behaviour for Learning Rewards Day**

Last week a very successful PBL rewards day was held with students enjoying slippers in their class, out of uniform day, ice blocks and more. Students throughout the term have been collecting their Ronaldo cards for demonstrating weekly focuses involving respect, responsibility and learning.

Many students have decided to hold onto their cards for the last rewards day which will occur in Week 10. Students were reminded at the whole school assembly that they are to spend their purple cards this term as new coloured cards and a new rewards menu will be in place for Tem 2.

I will be watching students this week who are able to:

- Walk safely and quietly.
- Keep to the left on stairs and walkways.
- Follow the blue canteen line.

4M students in out of uniform and slippers day as part of PBL rewards.
Easter Hat Making Afternoon
This year Kindergarten students will be making their Easter hats in their class-rooms. This is a fun and creative afternoon in which parents and grandparents are invited to attend. To help this afternoon be successful we ask parents to send in a few things that we can use to make our hats amazing. Here are a few examples.
- Pom poms
- Cardboard
- Stickers
- chicks
- Ribbon
- Feathers
- Plastic eggs and any other crafty items.
Classroom teachers will send a note home with more information about the Easter Hat Parade.

Monday 30th March- 12pm Fairy Tale Parade

Stage 1 continues to be extremely busy in classrooms, working hard in reading and mathematics. They are enjoying learning about the past and talking to older people in their families. Please encourage these discussions as much as possible, it’s lovely to pass on family stories. **Upcoming events:** School Disco 12 March and our exciting gymnastics program starts next term.

2M Class Report
2M have settled in well to the new year and we are all looking forward to a fun and educational year ahead. Reading Groups started in Week 4 and these will be held on a Tuesday at 2:10 pm and Wednesday and Thursdays at 10:10 am. We have been learning many new things in mathematics this term and have already covered whole numbers, addition, subtraction, measurement and chance. We had a lot of fun measuring different things around the classroom and comparing their lengths. Everyone has also been very busy collecting their Ronowldo Cards, with lots of students ‘purchasing’ a slipper day reward or out of uniform voucher. We also have a number of students holding on to their cards so that they might buy a bigger, better reward in Week 10. On a personal note, I’m excited to spend this year working with the students of 2M and I look forward to meeting as many parents as I can in the coming weeks and during Parent/Teacher interviews.                           Mr Morton

Stage 2
Stage 2 students proudly recited all six stanzas of Dorothea Mackellar’s poem ‘My Country’ as our special item at last Friday’s School Assembly. An inspirational idea and direction of Ms Martin’s, students received many positive comments regarding their memorisation as part of our unit of work ‘Being Australian’.
Stage 2 staff are generally pleased with the routines that have been established in the classrooms. Homework is assigned each Monday for return on Friday. Parent involvement is encouraged and, at least to discuss achievements prior to handing in on Fridays.

Importantly, hats are part of our school uniform and are encouraged to be worn from the moment of your child’s departure from home. If not already done so, a reminder to parents that classes would appreciate you sending in a box of tissues and handwash to support their germ-free environments.

6H – This week I had the pleasure of sending home a number of positive letters to parents to commend their child for their application to achieving excellence in classroom learning activities. It is certainly a very positive experience to watch students engage and gain valuable knowledge.

High school teachers will be visiting us shortly to make arrangements for transition activities for Year 7 students 2016.

Canberra
Wow!! It’s only 2 weeks until we are boarding the bus to Canberra. Final preparations are being done this week, including room allocations and lunch orders. Students will be receiving a final information package, which includes a gear checklist and the itinerary. Thank you to all of the students and parents who have returned the student information sheets. These have been invaluable in our preparations.

Please remember ALL payments must be finalised by Monday March 9. If you are unable to meet this timeframe, please contact the school ASAP.

We are looking forward to an excellent 3 days in our nation’s capital.

Year 5 Excursion
Information and permission notes have been distributed to Year 5 students for our Newcastle Excursion on March 19. The excursion links in with our studies in HSIE. As noted on the permission note, parent helpers are required for the excursion. If you are available to assist, can you please express your interest on the returned permission note.

Playground Games
Congratulations to our House Captains, Vice Captains and Playground Games leaders from Stage 3. Their work so far has been outstanding, providing lots of opportunities for students across the school to participate in a variety of lunch time games and activities. We are very proud of you- keep it up!

Term 1 Speeches
A reminder that Term 1 speeches are due this week. We are looking forward to listening to some engaging and entertaining speeches from our Stage 3 students.

Don’t forget our canteen daily specials!!!
Monday Recess: Mini Pizzas 40 cents each of 3 for $1.00
Monday Lunch: Nachos $1.00.
Tuesday Recess: Zucchini Slice 40 cents a piece
Cheese Toasted Triangles 50 cents each
Tuesday Lunch: Bacon & Egg Rolls $3.00 each
Wednesday Recess: Wheat Bix Choc Slice 40 cents each or 3 for $1.00
Pikelet with sprinkles 50 cents each
Wednesday Lunch: Wedges plain $1.20, Wedges with sour cream & sweet chilli sauce $1.40
Lasagne $3.00 each
Thursday Recess: Has Brown Triangles 30 cents each
Banana Bread 50 cents & $1.00 per slice
Thursday Lunch: Hot Dogs $3.00 each
Friday Recess: Garlic or Garlic & Cheese Bread 80 cents or $1.50 per slice
Friday Lunch: Fried Rice $3.00
2015 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS
(icas)

Edgeworth Public School will be offering students in Years 2-6 the opportunity to participate in the ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) tests. These tests are strictly optional and students may opt to participate in specific tests or all of them. Students in Year 2 are ONLY eligible to participate in the Science, English and Mathematics ICAS tests. Students in Years 3-6 are eligible to participate in ALL ICAS tests.

This year, we are issuing one note to cover the entry form and payment slip for all six competitions: Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics – see competition details below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Competition</th>
<th>Closing Date for Application</th>
<th>Date of ICAS Competition</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Years Eligible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 May</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Wednesday 3 June</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Monday 15 June</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 June</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
<td>Years 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Tuesday 28 July</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Years 2-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Monday 30 March</td>
<td>Tuesday 11 August</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Year 2-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All students in Years 2-6 have received an ICAS permission note. Additional copies of the permission note can be found on the Skoolbag app or the school website.

Permission notes and money MUST be returned by Monday 30 March (Week 10). No late orders can or will be accepted.

Please note: No refunds can be made due to student absence on competition dates.

Kristy Kellert – Organising Teacher

WHOOPING COUGH ALERT

More cases of whooping cough have been reported to the school. Please refer to the letter sent home last week from Hunter New England Local Health District. Please ask at the office if you would like another copy of this.

Update of student information

Last week all families will receive a copy of their current information including home address, phone numbers and emergency contacts which are currently on our data base. Please amend any information and return it with or without changes to your child’s class teacher ASAP. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated to ensure all student contact details are accurate.
Meet the 2015 Tech Team

Congratulations to Edgeworth Public School’s 2015 Tech Team who were presented with their badges at the Whole School Assembly last week. The tech team are responsible for all the technical support and running of assemblies and other school events. Well done on a great start to the year!

Members of the 2015 Tech Team are:
Computer Tech: Daniel Mackinnon, Liam Mistelbauer, Rachael Filewood and Lulani Herivel.

Sound Tech: Jack Hillier, Larry Quinn, Ella Harrison-Virag and Tayla Collins.

SRC

Congratulations to our class SRC representatives who were presented with their badges last week at the Whole School Assembly.

The SRC had their second meeting yesterday and working extremely well in their committees – see committee reports written by the students below.

Sport/Health Committee
The Sport/Health SRC Committee have been hosting playground games for the past couple of weeks for the rest of the school. It has been great to see so many children getting active and having a good time trying new sports. We are really enjoying this leadership role and look forward to continuing play-

Late Arrival & Early Pick Up of Students

Parents/carers are advised that children who arrive late to school need to come to the office to get a “Late Arrival” note, regardless of whether they are accompanied by an adult.

If you are picking up your child early from school, parents/carers or a designated person MUST come to the office to get an “Early Leaver” note before collecting their child. Teachers will not allow your child to accompany you unless you provide them with the Early Leaver note.

Student Safety Around Staff Carpark & Roads

The 3:10 pm pick-up time is a “heavy traffic” period of the day when we need to take extra care for the safety of students leaving the school grounds. The school carpark is an OUT OF BOUNDS area for students and parents between the hours of 8.00am and 3.30pm. The carpark is used for STAFF PARKING ONLY.

The new disabled parking area is for the safe drop-off and pick-up of students and parents with special needs only.

Please keep in mind these very important safety procedures:

• Use the pathways and gates when entering and leaving - don’t walk your children through the carpark or use the driveways as an entry or exit.
• Use the pedestrian crossing - don’t walk your children across the street, and never call them from across the street.
• Park on the street - do not enter the carpark unless you or your child have special needs.
ground games throughout the year.

Environmental Committee
Last Friday, the SRC Environmental Committee organised a Clean Up Australia Day event for the students of Edgeworth Public School. We collected all the rubbish from each class and judged the class who collected the most rubbish. We would like to congratulate 1P and Mrs Parsons on their efforts for collecting the most rubbish. We would also like to congratulate all students for participating and helping make our school a better place.

Fundraising/Charities Committee
The Fundraising/Charities Committee has started to discuss ideas on how to raise money for the school and local charities. We have organised a Cupcake Day fundraiser which will take place on 6 days throughout the year. All Stage 2 and Stage 3 classes will be involved in hosting a cupcake stall. Please see the timetable below. We are also asking all school community members to collect ring pulls and send them into school to raise money for charity. The ring pulls will be cashed in to raise money for the Newcastle Ronald McDonald House which will use to buy much needed items such as linen, crockery, toys and groceries. Please start sending in your ring pulls as soon as possible; we will come and collect them from classrooms once a fortnight.

SRC - Cupcake Day Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 – Week 7</th>
<th>Primary COLA</th>
<th>Infants COLA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 March</td>
<td>4/5N</td>
<td>5/6K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 – Week 3</td>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>6G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6 May</td>
<td>4M</td>
<td>6H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 – Week 7</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3 June</td>
<td>3P</td>
<td>5S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 – Week 3</td>
<td>2/3E</td>
<td>5W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26 August</td>
<td>2/3E</td>
<td>5W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4 – Week 3</td>
<td>2/3E</td>
<td>5W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 October</td>
<td>2/3E</td>
<td>5W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the P&C..................

With the new school year well and truly underway the P&C held the first committee meeting for the year on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} of February. Much of this meeting was closing out work from 2014 and beginning to look forward to events in this first term.

**Annual General Meeting**

The next meeting to be held is the Annual General Meeting on Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} of March @ 6:30pm in the library. If you have a child attending Edgeworth Public School you are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting and all P&C meetings. To be eligible to stand for a position or have a casting vote, a $2 membership fee is required to be paid prior to the meeting; arrive early and this can be paid prior to the meeting commencing. Please come along and support the school and our children’s education.

**Fundraising**

There will be a school disco held on the 12\textsuperscript{th} March. There are a number of changes being made to the format of the disco to ensure the safety of the children on the night. As part of this, parents are asked to remain outside the hall should you stay and wait for your child. We ask that you also respect any requests made by the teachers supervising on the night; this is not something they are required to do, they are there as volunteers and we rely on them to continue to hold these events in the future.

Recent contributions that have been made to the school have funded the new school Blazers. These will be worn by school leaders and representatives when attending official events both at and outside of the school. There are white shirts to be worn under the blazers and the P&C have allocated funds for these to be embroidered with the school emblem. In addition to this, we have funded various extra classroom resources requested by the teachers of each stage.

**Canteen**

Please update your child’s class and other details if you are using ouronline-canteen.com.au, or go and check it out if you are not using it yet.

We also have a pizza day coming up on the 25\textsuperscript{th} March and would welcome any volunteers to help on the day.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

We are always looking for helpers in the canteen or if you would like to help out on an as needed basis for any event please send me an email to edge-worth.pandc@gmail.com. We can then contact you as opportunities arise.

**Feedback**

As the P&C we are here to give the parents a voice within the school and work constructively to support the school and our children’s education. If you have feedback, suggestions or would like to offer support please contact me via email edge-worth.pandc@gmail.com.

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**Edgeworth Public School Parents and Citizens’ Association Annual General Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Edgeworth Public School P&C will be held on **Monday 16\textsuperscript{th} March 2015 at 6.30pm** in the School Library. At this meeting all positions will be declared vacant, and nominations will be called for the following positions for 2015:

- **P&C Committee**
  - President
  - Two Vice-Presidents
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Canteen Committee
  - Convenor
  - Scribe
  - Sub-committee members
  - Two School Council Representatives

All parents, caregivers, grandparents and community members are welcome and encouraged to attend the AGM and can nominate for the above positions if interested. If you wish to vote or be nominated for a position you must be a financial member; there is a $2 joining fee which can be paid on the night.

*Why not bring a friend along and find out who we are and what we do.*

*This is a great way to be involved in your child’s school and their education.*

*We hope to see lots of new faces at the meeting!*
SPORT

Zone Swimming Carnival Champions!!

Congratulations to all 42 students who represented Edgeworth PS at the Crossroads Zone Swimming Carnival at Speers Point Pool on February 21. Their combined efforts saw Edgeworth PS crowned overall champions for the first time in many years!

The day saw a large number of successes, including 44 places for students across the day. All of the students tried their hardest, and were brilliant ambassadors for the school. On an individual level, Sam Jones was awarded Junior Boy Champion, after placing first in the 10 years 50m freestyle, Junior boys 50m backstroke, Junior boys 50m butterfly, and second in the Junior boys 50m breaststroke. Emily Jones stole the show, taking out Senior Girl Champion, including a host of broken records after she came first in the 12 years 50m freestyle, Open girls 100m freestyle, Open girls 200m IM, Senior girls 50m backstroke, Senior girls 50m butterfly and Senior girls 50m breaststroke. Emily and Sam will now represent Edgeworth PS at the Regional PSSA Swimming Carnival this Thursday, March 5, at Maitland Pool.

Congratulations again to all the students, and a huge thank you to all of the parents and family members who came along and cheered on all of the Edgeworth PS students.

Winter Sports Trials

Over the past fortnight, the Senior and Junior Netball and Senior Rugby League and Rugby Union teams have been selected, and the Soccer trials have also begun. Congratulations to all of the students who tried out, and to the students who were successful in gaining selection.

We ask that students remember that whilst we are very fortunate and grateful we have such a large number of students try out, unfortunately we are restricted in the number of players we are able to select, and that missing out, whilst disappointing, is not a reflection on their ability or efforts. Edgeworth PS has developed a reputation of having extremely strong sporting teams, with players of a very high ability and skill level. We hope that these students are not discouraged, and that they keep playing sport.

Crossroads Zone Trials

Over the coming fortnight, a number of students will be representing Edgeworth PS at the Crossroads Zone trials for Rugby League, Netball and Soccer. Good luck to these students.

Mr Gray and Miss McGrath
NMJHA

Modified Hockey Competition
2015 Information Day

Saturday 21st March
8.30 – 9.30am

Come along and join us for an hour of fun at the Hockey Centre.

You will be able to meet other players and club officials.

All players in the Modified Competition and any new players wishing to “have a go” are welcome to come along for an hour session on the field with some great coaches.

During the fun, parents and club officials will be receiving some important information about the upcoming 2015 season.

International Women’s Day

Film Night

Friday
6 March 2015
7pm

Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre
Lake Street, Warners Bay

Join us for award winning films from the 20th World of Women Film Festival, celebrating the achievements of women around Australia.

Drinks and supper provided
RSVP: 4921 0333 or council@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

what’s on

at Lake Mac Libraries

March 2015

Language development in the early years: free parent information session

Would you like to give your child the best start to their language and speech development before they start school? Come along and learn why language development is so important in your child’s early years. This free information session is presented by Early Start Speech Pathology. To book call now on 4964 4515. Bookings are essential.

When: Wednesday 4 March, 11am
Where: Carrington Library

Photographic exhibition

Discover the world of photography at the exhibition from the State Library of NSW. The display questions the role of photography in different ways, questioning the use of photographs to fulfill historical narratives without understanding the story behind the image.

When: Friday 6 March
Where: Sanding Library

Yoga tales


When: Wednesday 4 March, 11:30am
Where: Sanding Library

A date with Lisa Hoidie

Join Lisa at Film Night. Or and discover the story behind her latest film. Talk about a film, a humorous, surprising and thought-provoking insight into the contemporary dating world. Bookings will be available for purchase and viewing. To book call now on 4964 0591.

When: Friday 6 March, 5:30-7:30pm
Where: Carrington Library

Individual speech screening appointments

Are you concerned about your child’s speech, understanding or development? Are you worried your child isn’t speaking as well as your other children or the kids they play with? Book your child’s consult at our speech screening appointments with our local speech pathologists from Early Start Speech Pathology. To book call now on 4964 0591. Bookings are essential.

When: Tuesday 17 March, 7am (on appointment)
Where: Belmont Library

Bookings for all events are essential.
Bookings available online at library.lakemac.com.au/events
How do I communicate with my school?