Our Great School

Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to all the students who participated at our Swimming Carnival last Friday. It was a fabulous carnival with some of our students achieving outstanding swimming results and times. It was wonderful seeing our students enjoying themselves so much and encouraging their team mates. Each team received lots of bonus points for their team spirit. Congratulations to Cookson house for winning the house championship for the day. A big thank you goes to all the parents who came along to support the students and to those who helped during the day, and to the volunteers from Inverell High school who also assisted with timekeeping. A very special thank you goes to Mr Migheli for his great organisation of the carnival. A squad of 37 Ross Hill swimmers will represent their school at the zone carnival to be held next Friday. We wish them the very best!

School Music
Congratulations also to all of our school musicians who have commenced their music tutoring and band practice over the last week. It is wonderful to see so many students enthusiastic about learning music. There is ample research to suggest that learning a musical instrument stimulates the brain and children who do learn music often do better in other academic pursuits. Thank you to Mr Croft for his wonderful organisation and leadership of our school music programs.

We Welcome You At School
Children love to see their parents and carers at their school, whether helping out in the classroom, canteen or being involved in other ways. Research shows that students perform better at school when their parents or carers take an active interest in their school work. Your contribution to the school is needed and valued.

Ways you might get involved:
• help in the classroom
• listen to children read
• help children on computers
• help with school excursions
• prepare food and serve children at the canteen
• helping with a sporting team

Making Reading a Priority
This year our major area for improvement within the school is improving our students reading skills. We encourage all of our parents and carers to read to your children every day. This has been proven in research, together with school programs to significantly improve children’s reading levels. Children aren’t born with an innate knowledge that text is read from left to right, or that the words on a page are separate from the images. Essential pre-reading skills like these are among the major benefits of early reading. Together we can make a difference for our children.

P&C Thank You
Thank you to all of the parents who attended our P&C Meeting last Wednesday night. Being part of parent groups not only makes a difference for your children but it is also a way of making new friends and having fun yourself. The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th March, at 7.00pm in our staffroom. All parents and carers are invited to attend.

Have a great week
Mrs D Baker

Focus Area: Being Successful
Road Safety Around the School
The safety of all of our students is paramount. Inverell Highway Patrol Police Officers regularly patrol around the school in the mornings as parents are dropping off their children and in the afternoons when parents are picking up children to ensure our children are safe on the roads. Unfortunately some parents have not been abiding by the road rules, this means that our students are unsafe and those particular people may face heavy fines.

We remind all parents to park in the correct sign-posted areas and travel around the school at 40km speed in a safe manner. Students are to use the designated crossings if they need to cross the road.

Parents should not be parking in Andrew Street where the school buses arrive or in the staff car park located next to our school hall on Brown Street. This car park has no turning circle and is designated for emergency vehicles, staff parking and for truck deliveries. There are ample safe parking spaces on Brown Street that have been specifically built for parents to drop off and pick up their children.

We have included a copy of the RTA Information sheet for safe drop off and pick up of students from schools, with this week’s newsletter. It explains the road rules, the safest strategies to care for students in cars and the cost of fines for not being safe in a school zone. We encourage all parents to read this brochure to prevent any accidents to our children.

Weekly Focus Award
KA H Robinson  Z Fraider
KB R Forrester  C De Brabander
KK B Greenaway  D Albinus
KC C Stiles  J O’Brien
KW G Leonard  A White
IS S Williamson  M Worsley
1W A Forbes  D Youman
1J R Banks Muhs  M Taylor
1D B Halloran J Leadbeatter
1/2P L Davis  T Henley
2K M Dawson S O’Shea-Arcuri
2W J Iskov J Cathie
2B T McKinnon C Goman
3H I Richardson L Scott
3B A Legge R Worsley
3C A Imber-Garrett J Worsley
4K R Coote J Scott
4B E Brabant B George
4A Brown C Baxter
5R A Gerrie W McLachlan
5C W Withers M Kent
5/6L R Walker M Williams
6G G Campbell S John
6S J Kerrigan T Laidlaw

Accident Insurance
To insure your child against any medical costs of accidents arising at school you are strongly advised to take out private health insurance. Parents are reminded that the department does not provide accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools. The only cover provided by the state government is through the Supplementary Sporting Injuries Benefits Scheme, which covers all students permanently injured or killed while participating in authorised school sporting or athletic activities. The scheme does not cover dental injuries, reimbursement of medical expenses, legal expenses or costs. For more information go to http://www.sportinginjuries.nsw.gov.au/ or call 02 4321 5392.

School Contributions
The yearly contributions for 2012 of $40 per child are due now. The maximum per family is $120, with every family only required to pay for the first three children.

In 2013 we are once again offering every family the chance to win a cash prize of $200 if you pay your child’s contributions in full by the end of Week 10- Friday 5th April

Cake Days 2013
Years 5/6 28th February
Years 3/4 23rd May
Years 1/2 15th August
Kindergarten 7th November

Next Thursday the 28th February is the Yr 5/6 cake day. Big cakes will be $1.00 and small cakes are 50c.

STUDENT JEWELLERY
We remind all students that our uniform policy does state that students may only wear jewellery of either sleepers or a stud in their ears and a watch. It is unsafe and unnecessary to wear any other forms of jewellery at school. If you have any queries about the uniform policy, please collect a copy from the office.

Head Lice
Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools and we have had a parent inform us about their child having head lice over the past week. We encourage all parents to check their children’s hair on a regular basis and prevent spreading to other students. Some facts about head lice:

- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person’s head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments
- daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)
Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice:
- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.

As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS
Congratulations to all the students that went to the annual swimming carnival last Friday. The carnival was a great success due to the participation of all students on the day. I would like to thank all the parents, Inverell High students that made the day run so smoothly.

Our age winners and runners up were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Champions</th>
<th>Runner Up</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Girl</td>
<td>Georgia Ditchfield</td>
<td>Chloe De Gunst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boy</td>
<td>Angus Storie</td>
<td>Lachlan Hampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Girl</td>
<td>Camilla Storie</td>
<td>Chelsea Schwark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Boy</td>
<td>Jayden Williamson</td>
<td>Nicholas Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girl</td>
<td>Lara Worsley/Gianna Migheli</td>
<td>Emma Storie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boy</td>
<td>James Ditchfield</td>
<td>Mackenzie Bailey</td>
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The Champion House was - Cookson, with Avern second and Gilchrist and O'Connor equal third.

Congratulations to the record breakers
- Georgia Ditchfield - Junior 200m IM
- Angus Storie - Junior 200m IM
- Emma Storie - 13 years Girls 50m Freestyle
- Emma Storie, Lara Worsley, Gianna Migheli, Chloe Myler - Cookson Senior Girl Relay

This Friday a team of 37 swimmers will compete at the Inverell Zone Swimming Carnival. We wish all our students the best of luck for the day.

Mr Mick Migheli.

LOST
1 Pair of reading glasses, blue floral frame with tinted lenses in a red case
Please contact the office if you have seen these glasses

CANTEEN NEWS

Thurs 21 Feb: Jenny Turner Judith Murray
Fri 22 Feb: Judith Murray Lorraine Halliday
Mon 25 Feb: Amanda Bental
Tue 26 Feb: Leah Taylor Julie Moore
Wed 27 Feb: HELP NEEDED
Thurs 28 Feb: Rachel Meszaros Sherrie Staader
Fri 1 Mar: Lorraine Halliday Alison Koukides
Mon 4 Mar: Jenny Campbell

The Canteen is looking wonderful and hopefully we will be in by the end of February.

Iced Coffee milk is no longer available.
A new menu will go out the middle of March.
Canteen Monitors will start work when we shift into the new canteen

Helpers are needed for the canteen. We do have a fun day. If you can assist please ring Jenny via the office phone on 67 222 475.
**Being Successful – Beating the Blockers**

If you want to be successful, you need to use positive thinking to get rid of the excuses that stop you from moving forward.

Think about :-

- List all the things you have to do to complete an assignment or project. Work on one thing at a time until you have completed all of them.
- Whenever you remember forgetting to do something, do at least some of it immediately.
- Select some activity you really enjoy doing. Use this as a reward to yourself. Do not allow yourself to participate in the activity until you’ve finished your work.

Don’t allow excuses to stop you being the best you can be!

**SCHOOL BANKING**

Just a reminder that school banking has started again for 2013, It is every Tuesday morning.

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**Inverell Hockey**

Inverell Hockey Association would like to invite all children between the ages of 5 to 14 to come and play hockey.

Registration for junior hockey will be held on Saturday 2nd March in the Ritchies IGA complex from 9am - 12 midday and two registration evenings on Wednesday 6th and 13th March from 5.30pm - 7pm at the Inverell Hockey Complex.

**Riding Lessons**

Horse Training

Rug Repairs

Mid week adult gatherings

Camps

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**SHARON HALL**

Ph: 0413 134 474

Find us on Facebook

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**Having fun in Kindy 2013**