Dear Parents,

As I sit at my desk writing my last newsletter I would like to reflect upon some of the highlights of the last 14 years. I recall when I arrived at Padstow North we had to make an outside line phone call to establish contact with the southern end of the school. Now we have state of the art wireless communication systems with interactive whiteboards and mobile devices for the children to use.

We used to have 2 small covered areas which were replaced by the COLAS we now have; an assembly hall which houses all the children again with state of the art sound and lighting, replacing the old double classroom with the tiny stage which only held about 100 children with no space for parents to sit.

The 50th birthday celebrations saw the school get a mini makeover with the new infants toilets erected, painting done and the path from north to south fully resurfaced.

At one stage the school had 8 classes and 211 students compared to the current cohort of 349 children across 14 classes. Even though the numbers in the school have increased over the years the school, I believe, has maintained that ‘country school in the middle of the city’ feel.

This is in large part due to the excellent community spirit which has always been displayed over the years; the 50th birthday celebrations, 3 amazing fetes, a parent run canteen and uniform shop, a myriad of fundraising activities which have provided the air-conditioning, the new notice boards and the 2 newcombe ball courts. Always keeping in mind the fact that whatever was raised was for the benefit of the children.

Technology has played a great role in the changing of the way the teachers now go about their business. No more blackboards and chalk it is now done utilising the internet and interactive whiteboards. But throughout all this change the one thing that remains constant and I can confidently say, is that ALL the teachers at Padstow North care about your children and want them to be the best that they can be. Every staff member works tirelessly to achieve that aim each time they come to work.

I have been fortunate to have had a great 14 years at this school and I thank you all for all the support you have provided me throughout my time as principal of this great school. I am sure you will afford the same loyalty and support to Miss Armstrong as the school moves forward to a new era.

Goodbye and thankyou.

KJ BOWDEN
Principal
5c Friday

This term’s winning classes were K Silver and 3-4 Amber. Overall the school raised a creditable $140.40 just by saving those 5c pieces.

UNSW Competitions

Another High Distinction this time in the Science Competition – it went to Zain Haque of Year 4. Well done on this fine achievement.

Gold! Gold! Gold!

Daniel Lin, Jasmine Nanda, Katie Boatwright, Antonia Scionti, Giorgio Varlokostas and Jenna Tsakirakis have all qualified for a gold award and will be presented with their award at next week’s assembly.

Library

This term as part of celebrating Children’s Book Week we will be having:

- author visit (Stage 2) on Monday 18th August – there is no cost involved
- Book Week Parade – on Monday 18th August. Students are asked to come dressed as a book character. Older students may prefer to parade with a poster containing an inspirational quote about reading, or a drawing of the cover of their favourite book.
- Book Week Raffle – an in-school raffle. $1 per ticket or 3 tickets for $2. To be drawn on Monday 18th August after the Book Week Parade.
- Book Fair – Wednesday 20th August (3pm-4pm) and Thursday 21st August (8am -11.15am) in the school library. There will be a selection of books which may be purchased or donated to the library. Each child who purchases a book from the Book Fair will enter a Lucky Door draw, with the winner receiving a book selected from the Book Fair.

Congratulations to the following students who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge – Phoebe Allsopp-Guest, Hannah Bailey, Gabrielle Bulmer, Riley Bulmer, Ethan Casacchia, Helena Cazouris, Jennifer Cazouris, Yuhan Jiang, Preston Nguyen, Rewa Patwardham, Aditi Salgaonkar, Tanika Stewart-Riley, Josephine Xi. A reminder to all other students, the last day for completing the challenge is the 22nd August.

Students with overdue library books received a notice this week. Please make time to return these books as often other children are waiting to read them.

Susan Harris
Teacher-Librarian
This is a reminder of how students can access their DEC student KIDSPACE/Student Portal.

KIDSPACE/STUDENT PORTAL
For years K – 2 the account is known as the KIDSPACE PORTAL; for years 3-6 the account is known as the STUDENT PORTAL and one is provided for all public school students in NSW. Students are able to access their own E-mail account, as well as links to various useful and fun sites. Students can login to their portal by typing: NSW DEC (formerly DET) Portal into a search engine, such as Google or Safari. They then enter their USERNAME + PASSWORD (these can be supplied by the classroom teacher). Type in the Username as given (no spaces plus a full stop between first and surnames, any numerals are added after the surname). It is a challenge for our new students, especially Kindergarten to LOGIN to their accounts, so if students have access to a computer at home, it would be worthwhile for them to practise typing their names.

EMAIL
All students (K-6) have a DEC email account attached to their PORTAL account. Several teachers on staff use this as a method of communicating information, reminders, homework etc. Students, (especially 3-6) should check their emails regularly.

COMPUTER LAB
If a student does not have access to the internet at home, the Computer LAB is open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at recess.

WebCom
Many students enjoy practising our school assembly music via the school WebCom (a link can be found on the 2nd tab/page of the Padstow North School website. I have placed the link on this page as well. Students can place it in their FAVOURITES/BOOKMARKS for easier access.

http://padstownorthwebcom.jimdo.com/

Canberra
Stage 3 students have recently undertaken an education tour of Canberra. Students were given an opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. We visited many significant places including Parliament House, Old Parliament House and the Australian War memorial.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government contributed to the cost of the excursion providing $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs.

Wendie Davies is Retiring

You are invited to an afternoon tea to farewell Wendie

Wednesday 3rd September 2014
4.00 – 5.30pm
Padstow North School library

Cost: $10 for afternoon tea

RSVP: Friday 29th August to Cheryl Mandell or Phill Allsop-Guest
Cultural Diversity Day 2014
2014 SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

A beautiful sunny winter day appeared for the annual Athletics Carnival. Excellent participation made for another successful carnival. Many close races and great sportsmanship demonstrated by all participants. It was wonderful to see all the supporters, the students really enjoy having you there. A huge thanks to the canteen people and parents who volunteered on the day. Greatly appreciated by both staff and students.

A TEAM of over 45 STUDENTS will REPRESENT OUR SCHOOL AT THE 2014 East hills District Carnival being held on Wednesday, 20th August. At the Crest Athletics Track

KOOKAS - HOUSE CHAMPION

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES
Padstow North has had several students selected in East Hills District teams. Congratulations to those students.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations
Jasdeep, Mahsen, Damian, Daniel
All being selected in Met South West Teams
P & C President’s Report

As you are aware Mr Bowden retires this week and I would like to wish him all the very best for the future. Mr Bowden has not just been Padstow North’s Principal but also a great friend and I would personally like to thank him for the support he has given me during my involvement with the P&C at Padstow North. Mr Bowden has guided me when I looked to him for advice and supported my vision for FUNdraising, particularly when I wanted to bring back the Spring Fair which we are now heading to our fourth one in 2015. Leading up to the Spring Fairs and Trivia nights Mr Bowden accompanied me when walking into every shop in Revesby and Padstow to ask for prizes for our chocolate wheel. His office door has always been open and he always made time for a chat. He even made me the odd coffee and I do mean odd coffee (in total 1)!! Thank you Mr Bowden, and on behalf of the P&C, we wish you all the very best to you and your family. May you have a long and happy retirement on the golf course.

At our last P&C Meeting we reviewed samples of long grey pants for the boys’ winter uniform. We agreed that they look much neater and smarter than the current track pants, and are great value for money. A survey will be sent to parents soon so that we can receive your input before making a final decision on introducing them into our uniform for boys. The P&C finalised the cost to refurbish the multicourt in the northern end of the school. We also paid the deposit for next year’s swimming carnival at Canterbury pool - just one example of the way the P&C helps to fund programs at the school.

As we get closer to the end of our P&C year please consider taking up a position on the P&C for 2015. All positions will become vacant, including President, Vice President, Uniform Shop Coordinator, Treasurer, Canteen Convenor, FUNdraising Coordinator, Secretary, Book Club and School Banking coordinators. If you are interested in taking a position, please let me know.

Our next P & C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th August 7pm in the library. Why not come along and meet our new principal Ms Armstrong. All welcome.

Phill Allsop-Guest
P&C President 2014
0401 503 017
pnspnceanvents@y7mail.com

Our School Banking Day is every Tuesday

Last year those students who did school banking earned the school just over $944.00 So far this year school banking has raised a total of $744.17 in just 2 terms, that’s a great effort. Well done to all our savers. It’s still not too late to start saving, application forms are available from both offices.

REMEMBER:
Please make sure that your child’s name, student ID Number and amount being deposited is on the deposit slip (no need for account number). If this information is incomplete in your child’s deposit book we will be returning the book and money to you. Unfortunately volunteers are not allowed to complete these details for you.

Due to the new ordering system gifts are taking a little longer to be delivered, as soon as they arrive they will be sent to your class, please make sure that you put your name, student I.D and class on the redemption card. If you have lost your card please pop a note in with your book and another card will be given that week. New deposit books will automatically be given if you are down to your last few pages. New deposit cases will also be replaced if they are worn.

We are looking for new parents to train on school banking for next year. If you are interested please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Padstow North Public School.

Phill Allsop-Guest
School Banking Coordinator
### Term 3 – Week 4

**FOR YOUR DIARY**

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<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<td>11 KATTTS</td>
<td>12 UNSW Maths Test Milo cricket P &amp; C meeting 7pm Parent/teacher interviews</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15 Gold Assembly</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>18 Mind Marathon Author Visit Book Week parade</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20 District Athletics Carnival Book Fair 3-4pm</td>
<td>21 Stage 2 excursion Book fair 8 – 11:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>25 KATTTS</td>
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<td>27 Music Festival</td>
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<td>1 September</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>5 PSSA Rd 1 Season 3</td>
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**CHRUCH**

Sundays 9:30am

All are welcome

Padstow North Primary School

Halcyon Ave, Padstow

iShine.org.au

Call Ps. Paul 0409 980 903