FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK:

Dear Parents and Friends of Cawdor PS

It has been lovely to see some rain over the past two weeks and to have a greener playground once again. We have also had a considerable amount of work done through the school maintenance program—the girls’ and staff toilets were painted and repaired, the roof and guttering on the shelter shed have been replaced, the guttering on the pergola outside the staffroom has been replaced and a ramp to the Possums’ classroom has been constructed. Our school environment is definitely looking attractive and welcoming.

Last week I accompanied the four student leaders to the GRIP leadership conference at the Olympic Park Sports Centre. The conference was very successful with the students learning a lot about being good leaders through fun activities. They also had the opportunity to meet with student leaders from other schools and brought back some interesting ideas for our school.

The news of the young girl who was killed by a falling branch at Pitt Town Public School has shocked and saddened everyone. Following the student’s death, the Department of Education and Communities has directed all principals to employ a qualified arborist to inspect all trees in the school grounds that are near buildings or in areas where students and staff gather. The arborist’s report will be given to the DEC and any action required in terms of tree lopping or removal will be covered by the DEC. At Cawdor an arborist from CPE trees has been regularly employed to check the trees for safety and a considerable amount of clearing of branches was carried out in December 2011. Branches have also been regularly removed since then by the General Assistant. The arborist from CPE trees will be at our school this week to carry out the required inspection.

Many thanks to the parents who came to our class information evening and to the parents who have offered to assist in the classes. The teachers value your support.

Looking forward to seeing you at the P&C meeting tonight.

Kind Regards

Ms Sharon Ihlein
Grandparents’ and Grandfriends’ Day

Calling all grandparents and grandfriends!
You are once again invited to visit Cawdor school on Wednesday 19 March, from 1.00 to 3.00pm.

The schedule for the afternoon is:
1.00 Picnic lunch with the children; visit the grandparents gallery of stories and portraits in the shelter shed. Complimentary tea and coffee will be available in the staffroom.
1.45 Performances by the children
2.15 The traditional heel and toe polka
2.30—3.00 Class visits

Our grandparents and grandfriends day is always very popular. The children love to have their special family members visit the school so we hope to see you there.

Sports News

Congratulations to the following students who are this year’s swimming champions:
Senior Boy—Alex Sitkowski and Grant Taylor
Senior Girl—Sasha Sitkowski
Junior Boy—Troy Sitkowski
Junior Girl—Cassie Nash

The champion medals will be presented at this week’s assembly.

Our swimming team competed well last week at the Razorback Zone carnival with many students improving their times in their events. Many thanks to the parents who assisted with transport to and from the pool.

Gymtastics is going extremely well, with students having completed their third lesson. Everyone is improving each week and enjoying the variety of skills taught in the program.
Clean Up Australia Day

Our school grounds are looking wonderful after the big clean-up last Tuesday. Thank you to the parents and caregivers who also came along to assist, your help is greatly appreciated!

Notice Board

- Mrs Le Good is in need of empty soft drink bottles for fertiliser that the children made last year. Bottles can be left in the wheelbarrow near the office door.
- The Premier’s Reading Challenge begins Monday 3 March and runs until 29 August. All students from K-6 can join, please see Mrs Le Good, Mrs Smilanic or Mrs Hillier for more information.
- There is still a vacancy for one parent/carer on the School Council which meets once a term. If you would like to nominate, please speak to Ms Ihlein or Mrs Hillier.

BILLY CART DERBY

Thank you to the families who have already sent in their volunteer forms. Attached to today's newsletter is a copy of the volunteer sheet—if you haven’t volunteered yet please consider how you can be involved and return the sheet so that the organising committee can contact you.

The Narellan Police are keen to take part in the billy cart races but are in need of a billy cart. Please contact the school if you are able to lend them a billy cart to decorate and use on the day.

The entry form and billy cart specifications are on the school website. Please contact the school if you have any queries about the event.
Attaches: Classroom Buzz, Billy Cart volunteers note, ICAS Competition, carpark note

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Cawdor PS Statement of Purpose:
Child centred, caring
And safe environment
Where staff and parents are
Dedicated to the provision of equal and unique
Opportunities for the individual child in our joint
Role as educators.

What's due
- Gymtastics note due now, payment due by 14 March
- Textbooks overdue

In Terms 1 and 4 our school’s policy is
“No hat, play in the shade.”
Please ensure that your child wears their school hat each day.
As protection from the sun, students without hats will be asked to play under the COLA at recess and lunch time.
Please encourage your child to wear the school hat.

Dates to remember

Week 6
Mon 3 March 7.00 pm P&C meeting
Wed 5 Mar 9.00am Assembly (SRC)

Week 7
Mon 10 March 7.00 pm Billy Cart Derby meeting
Wed 12 Mar Introductory Reports go home
Wed 12 March 7.00 pm School Council meeting

Week 8
Wed 19 Mar 9.00am Assembly (Year 3)
Grandparents & Grandfriends Day