Easter Hat Eggcitement - Naturally

What an amazing turn out of hats both natural and unnatural. Our annual Easter Hat Parade was a great success with excellent participation from students, staff and community. We had watermelon heads, egg-heads, as well as vines and flowers and leaves flowing from many other hats and heads. It was a spectacle and a whole lot of fun.

At the parade we had a visit from the Crocodile Hunters (thanks Mr Gray & Mrs Duffield) and a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny. There was lots of colour and lots of creativity on display. Some of our teachers and community looked pretty special with their hats on.

During the morning we enjoyed expert commentary from Mrs Clarke. There were plenty of prize winners, who got their paws on massive baskets of chocolate eggs. Thanks to our P&C and our community who donated eggs and sold raffle tickets. The result was a lot of happy students and parents and the P&C were able to raise over $800 to support our school.

Our school barbecue was also a great success with many students and families pre-ordering or purchasing sausages on rolls with cans of drink to make lunchtime a special event for all.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone for their participation and a special thanks to our P&C, Mr & Mrs White, Miss Page and Mrs Clarke for their outstanding efforts in organising the day and barbecue. Also thanks to Mrs Potter and Mrs Sullivan for displaying great judging skills during the parade.

If you want to see more great pictures of the parade why not check out our school website at: www.ambarvale-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Staffing Changes – Farewell but Congratulations to Mr Verey

As of next term Mr Verey will no longer be on KT or at Ambarvale Public School. Mr Verey has been working at Ambarvale for 2 years in a temporary position and in that time he has proven to be an effective teacher and a valuable contributor to our school community in a range of areas, both inside and outside the classroom.

Mr Verey has been successful in gaining a permanent teaching position at Marsden Road Public School. Mr Verey will be missed but his new appointment will set him on a long, secure and successful career. This appointment for Mr Verey is well deserved and on behalf of the school I would like to congratulate him and wish him every success for the future.

We would like to welcome Miss King who comes to us with good recommendations from her previous schools. Miss King will take over KT starting next term. I am sure she will be warmly welcomed.

MMMM… I can taste those Paddle Pops for Great Attendance Tabloids too

Attendance has remained strong this term and to celebrate we will be receiving a visit from the Paddle Pop Lion on Friday, the last day of term. So boys and girls make sure you’re here to catch the King of the Ice creams (not jungle in this case) and to get your Paddle Pop. Also on this day there will be a series of fun tabloid events for those students who have been doing the right thing consistently and have adhered to our school’s behaviour policy for the term.

Cross Country…. On your marks… get set… ohhh … you’ve gone?

Today was our Cross Country Carnival. Well done to all of you who competed, and did your best. This year the carnival was held within the school grounds – which made it easier to keep an eye on our enthusiastic runners and to enjoy the action. Thanks to Miss Bray for organizing this event and thanks Mr White for marking out our new course. The Zone carnival will be held on 30th May.

Mother’s Day Donations – Look after mum and the school. Now that’s a WIN WIN.

Please donate gifts to our P&C Mothers’ Day Stall. Mothers’ Day is on the 9.5.13 (The end of Week 2). Please send your donations for the stall to your child’s class where it will be collected by our P&C. More information will come early next term.
Last Day of Term 1 & First Day of Term 2
Have a fun and safe school holiday

This Friday the 12.4.13 will be our last day of term. Following this will be two weeks of school holidays. During the break stay safe and have fun. I’d encourage you all to keep reading. Read for fun of course, but as I’ve said before, reading regularly will improve your learning and understanding in many areas of your life.

Staff and teachers will return to school on Monday 29.4.13 where we will be getting organised for Term 2 and undertaking professional learning on changes in education and the new Australian Curriculum for NSW.

Students return to school on Wednesday 1.5.13. We look forward to your safe return.

Thank you to all the staff for their excellent efforts this term. Your commitment to our students and their learning and welfare is terrific.

Please return all long term permission notes by the end of term. We need these for permission for various events and learning experiences and we also need to update personal information such as contact information and new phone numbers.

NAPLAN for Year 3 & 5

The national tests for NAPLAN are approaching for students in Year 3,5,7 and 9. These will be held on the 14.5.13 through to the 17.5.13. Parents who require more information may contact Mr Pope. If you wish to withdraw your child from some or all of the exams please contact Mr Pope also. Forms are available for exemption. For more information for Year 3 and 5 students please refer to the note sent home with this newsletter.

University Competitions – Notes and money due by the end of this week.

Why not have a go at these tests and see how you go

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Entry fee</th>
<th>Entry fee due by</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wed 10th April 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wed 10th April 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>Wed 10th April 2013</td>
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P&C Our next meeting will be on Thursday 16.5.13 at 1pm. All welcome to come and support the school and our new P&C for 2013.

Resilience is the Key

Last week our PBIS goal/lesson for the week was resilience. This means having the ability to cope with problems and being able to bounce back when things go wrong. Life is full of highs and lows. It’s important to be positive and enjoy life as often as possible but sometimes problems can arise. It’s important to teach your children to bounce back. Michael Grosse is a well respected Child Psychologist and here are some of his ideas on resilience from his Parenting Ideas website.

“Resilience is a 21st Century parenting concept that every parent needs to understand. Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn’t faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience. The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids. Resilient kids share four basic skill sets- independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.
**Building Resilience**

From a resilience perspective, parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them. You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your kids by:

1. **Having a positive attitude yourself.** Your attitude as a parent impacts on their ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a ‘you can do it’ attitude for your child when he meets some of life’s curve balls.

2. **Look for teachable moments.** Many kids’ learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.

3. **Make kids active participants in the family.** Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of kids that are necessary for resilience.

4. **Build kids coping skills.** There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn’t go their way, including acceptance, getting away for awhile, and normalisation. Promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don’t go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in yourself, and your child’s ability to cope. “


Pope’s Practical Tips – This school holiday try and have as much safe fun as you can. Enjoy your days, spend quality time with family and friends and rest and relax.

Check out the great student work from this term on the next page …

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**Term 2 Assembly Roster**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Lead by</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 13th May (Wk 3)</td>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>KV Ms Vest</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>School Captains/Leaders</td>
<td>Class Merit Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27th May (Wk 5)</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>School Captains/Leaders</td>
<td>Presentation of bronze, silver, gold, platinum awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 10th June (Wk 7) (PUBLIC HOLIDAY)</td>
<td>NO ASSEMBLY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 24th June (Wk 9)</td>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>School Captains/Leaders</td>
<td>Presentation of bronze, silver, gold, platinum awards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The trapped soul perished away in the dark and lifeless night. She was a phantom, appearing to me at the darkest moments when there was nowhere to turn. She was deep in her black hole, destined to be alone, her envy and hatred had turned her against the light. This nightmare was trapped in my horrifying everlasting dream. This soul was calling to me, through the forceful and harsh rain, seeping into my heart and crushing all hope with a click of a finger!

Neha Y6

The cursed soul, has finally disappeared into the shadow. Darkness fills the air with depression. Sentenced to a lonely mist, it's heart falls and rottens. Haunting living things with it's music, depression overcomes the soul with the shadows of the unspeakable.

Journee Y5

On one eerie, sub-zero night, the moon shone frightfully. There was one man, one mission, to conquer his destiny -to find his long lost brother... “I shall.”

Yoshua Y6

One peaceful day, a calm butterfly fluttered upon a lovely flower. The beautiful creature flew to the cupcake, wrapping itself in its pink flower petals. Kaeli Y5
Stage 3 Camp Deposit  
Due Date: Friday 3rd May (Week 1 Term 2)

Our Stage 3 camp this year will be held at ‘The Great Aussie Bush Camp’, which is a curriculum-centred, outdoor education and recreation camp, located near the beaches of Port Stephens and Myall Lakes. The camp will include 2 nights and 3 days accommodation, meals and all activities. The cost of the camp includes transport to and from Tea Gardens by coach. The dates for camp for 2013 are Wednesday 13th November – Friday 15th November (Week 6 Term 4). The cost for camp will be $230. A payment plan will be available to make it easier for families to afford. Parents may choose to pay for the camp by making 1 payment in full or by a deposit and 4 instalments. Students who miss a payment or miss the payment dates may not be eligible to attend the camp. Should any family require financial assistance with the payments it is essential that you contact Mr Pope (Principal) at the school prior to the first instalment date to make these arrangements.

The first instalment payment of $50 is due by Friday 3rd May (Week 1 Term 2). An additional note outlining the payment plan will be sent home this week. If you have already paid a deposit with your child's expression of interest, your next payment will be due later in Term 2. Please be aware that attendance at this excursion is a privilege given only to Stage 3 students. As such, only students who maintain appropriate behaviour will be permitted to attend. Any inappropriate behaviour may prevent your child from being allowed to attend. Please discuss this expectation with your child.

Please speak with Miss Page or the Year 6 teachers if you have any questions or queries.

Library Chat

Many children have brought back their Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) notes. This gives permission for me to register the child on the PRC site, and children who complete the Challenge successfully will have their names published in the newspaper at the end of the year. If you wish your child to be registered ask for another note or call in and see me in the library. I can register children right up until the end of August. The important thing for now is to get reading. K-2 classes are completing the challenge in class, and all children will be eligible for a certificate of completion, so long as I have permission to register them. Primary children need to keep a record of their own reading. Children are keeping a record of borrowing, but all other books they read will need to be recorded.

There are two ways to find out which books are on the PRC reading lists. The first is to go to the Premier’s Reading Challenge site and to look for booklists for your child’s year level. The second way is through the student portal: there is a link called ‘My library’ which allows children to look up our library catalogue. From there you can look at Reading lists, and look through the list of PRC books in our library or you can use the search tool. Any book you look up will have a note if it is on the PRC lists.

Use the holidays to enjoy some good books.  
Mrs Sullivan
**PBIS Focus**

This week (Week 11), our PBIS focus is, “Speaking positively”
The rule is: Be Respectful, Be Kind, Be a Learner

*Students are participating in explicit lessons focused on using positive language.*

Using positive language means:
- Not saying something that is hurtful or disrespectful
- No swearing
- You will be following school expectations
- You are being supportive and encouraging
- You are not threatening others

At Ambarvale PS we expect people to speak positively to others at all times.

To all Parents & Community,

A "HUGE" congratulations to all our Easter Raffle Winners. A big thank you to the children who sold the tickets and to everyone who purchased them. We are very happy to advise that we made a little over $800.00. These funds will defiantly be put to good use for our school.

As President, I would also like to take the opportunity to thank our Executive Committee, for taking on their roles with this fundraiser, and I am very sure we will have a great year working together for our school.

Our Meetings will now be held twice a Term: Week 3 Thursday, 16th May, at 1pm in the Breakfast Club room, and Week 8, Tuesday, 18th June, at 7pm, venue to be advised. All are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you there.

Also a reminder for the up coming Mothers’ Day Stall, which will be held on the 9th May 2013. Donations are required, eg candles, toiletries & all those things mummies like. In return, the children will be able to purchase a pre wrapped gift for mum or carer from $2 -$5.

Thanking you

P&C President
Michelle Kotsou

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Ambarvale PS is taking part in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program again this year. Just collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Points when you shop at Woolworths between Monday 8 April and Sunday 9 June 2013. We will then redeem these for educational resources for your child. For every $10 spent at Woolworths you will receive a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point.

Place them onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet and, once it's completed, just bring it back to school and place in the green Earn & Learn box near the office.

Start collecting NOW!
Ambarvale Public School is seeking an expression of interest from Aboriginal community members to fulfil a Norta Norta casual tutor position during Term 2 and Term 3, 2013. The Norta Norta Program provides individualised support to targeted Aboriginal students through a tutor approach. The focus of the program is to provide learning assistance in the key areas of literacy and numeracy to improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal students. A tutor is employed to work in-class to support the teacher’s work program.

**Position Details**

The tasks that a tutor may be expected to undertake include:

- Provide support to targeted Aboriginal students to improve their literacy and/or numeracy achievements.
- Assist students to develop skills and understandings that enable them to independently participate in class activities.
- Follow the teacher’s set program and ensure that the tuition provided is aligned with the student’s Personalised Learning Plan.
- Maintain a structured timetable in negotiation with teachers to ensure all eligible students receive tutor support.
- Keep a record to communicate observations and information about each student to the class teacher.
- On request, assist teachers to communicate and provide feedback to parents, caregivers and community members.
- Attend, where possible, professional learning activities to develop effective strategies in providing tutorial support to Aboriginal students.

**Rate of pay:** $29.73 per hour  
**Hours per week:** 4 hours  
**Number of weeks of employment:** 15 (starting date to be negotiated)

**Application Details:**

- 1-2 page application, outlining your suitability for the position.
- At least 1 referee should be included in your application.

**Additional Information:**

- For additional information about the position please contact:  
  **Mellissa Page (Assistant Principal)**  
  Ambarvale Public School  
  46261485

The employment of tutors must be in accordance with NSW Department of Education and Communities policies and procedures. The Department’s risk management procedures, child protection measures and the Working with Children Check are essential for the safety and welfare of students. All applicants must be willing to undertake a 'Working with Children' check prior to employment and the commencement of duty.

**Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people have priority for employment as tutors for the Norta Norta Program.**