Shaun Tan Exhibition
This week, students visited Newcastle Library’s Lovatt Gallery to see an exhibition of the original illustrations from this award-winning book, *The Lost Thing*. Their thoughts:

*It was really great to see the original paintings for this book. It was cool to see how he had experienced so many “fails” in the drafts, but kept going to work up to the final improved book. We had fun making our own textured prints, using materials like Shaun Tan, paints, fabric, paper and metal. But it was not fun when we got messy stuff all over our fingers! You should see this exhibition!*

*By Lili-Anne and Harper*

Live Radio Broadcast from NEPS
Following our student Maddie’s win in a KO-FM competition, our school will host a live radio program from the school forecourt, from 6am till 9 am this Thursday. Some of our students and staff will be interviewed live, and there will be a free sausage sizzle, flavoured milks, for anyone who can turn up during that time. Everyone is invited! Maddie won $2000 for our school, and we are very grateful. A teacher will have the opportunity to win another $1000 in a one minute quiz.

Colonial Fair Help Needed
It’s not till October, but our Fair is our biggest fund-raising event and we need your help. With this Newsletter there is a letter asking for your help. If you can offer assistance in any way, or if you have special skills which might aid us, please contact Claire via claire.m.fitzgerald@det.nsw.edu.au or see your child’s class teacher. Donations are now welcome and will be accepted at the office.

ICAS Computer Skills Test Today
Twenty five NEPS students, from Grade Three to Grade Five, sat for this international test this morning, answering questions relating to all areas of technology. Students are quizzed on all aspects, including the role of the Tab key, how to interpret a spreadsheet, and which part of a URL indicates the nationality. Good luck to all who sat.

Family Play Date Message
Some families who have children attending NEPS in kindergarten in 2015 will be meeting at King Edward Park near the rotunda on Friday 23rd May 2014 around 9am. Bring some morning tea and the kids can have a play and get to know each other. Anyone is welcome. Feel free to bring younger siblings.
Science Club – Lots of Hot Air
Lots of inquisitive fun at Science Club this week building paper boats, and investigating their “sailability” when powered by our own lungs. Our experiments don’t always succeed, but we are learning the principles of scientific inquiry and enjoying ourselves, and students are enthusiastic.

Playground Re-opens After Trees Made Safe
Just one more dangerous tree to be removed, from an out-of-bounds area, and the major job of getting rid of any “risky’ trees will be completed. With our asbestos problem and the tree situation, our students have not had full access to our lower playground for some time. The path from the COLA to the senior classes remains closed to students until stump-grinding is completed, and that may be several weeks.

French Film Festival
This Festival begins this Friday 23rd, but for children there is an excellent movie on Saturday May 24, at 11 am. It’s rated PG, and is *Belle and Sebastien*, a beautiful story about the love between a young boy and a “wild” and very shaggy dog named Belle, set against the background of the German occupation during World War Two. You can view the trailer here:- [http://newcastlefrenchfilmfestival.weebly.com/belle-and-sebastien.html](http://newcastlefrenchfilmfestival.weebly.com/belle-and-sebastien.html) The film has subtitles, but is equally suitable for children studying French at NEPS, and general public.

School Gossip
**Staffing changes** - I welcome Mr Richard Hutchison, who has stepped in as class teacher for 2M, formerly Miss Monaghan’s class. Mr Hutchison will be with us for the full school year, and brings lots of energy and enthusiasm to the class.

**Athletics Carnival** is coming up Friday 30th, and parents may need some notice to arrange their commitments to be there for the day. All families’ members are very welcome, and we even have a toddlers’ race and a parents’ race. With our children having enjoyed some serious training in the field events, I expect the Carnival to be busy and popular.

**Recital Night** is planned for Monday evening last week of this term – June 23rd, and students are invited to present any musical items they have been learning. Our School Band and Senior Choir will also perform. Please see me if you would like to perform.

The Quiz
Excellent mathematical skills by some students, who correctly identified the mystery shape as a tetrahedron. Congratulations to Aren, Zane and Saba, who all picked up a prize this week. This week no previous winners please!:

This Thursday we will host Radio station KO-FM. What do the letters KO stand for?

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea
Thank you to Ms Van Dam we have two gorgeous tea cosies to raffle to raise money for cancer research and awareness as part of our staff Biggest Morning Tea this Thursday 22nd May. Parents and friends of the school are welcome to enter the draw and tickets are available for $2 at the front office.
Premier’s Sporting Challenge
All our students are part of this fitness and exercise program, which encourages them to do more active play, and to keep an accurate record of their actions. Teachers will guide students and manage their records, but parents can help keep our kids fit and active by introducing more fun, physically-exertive games etc. at home. More at: - https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/psc/primary/home.html

The Term Ahead
The Planner attached to this Newsletter contains details of key events during this very short term, which include: –
- Week Five – School photos and Athletics Carnival
- Week Eight – Senior School Canberra/Government Excursion
- Week Nine – Recital Night

Canteen
Volunteer Roster
Volunteers are needed to help out at the athletics carnival canteen next Friday 30th May. If you are coming along as a spectator please consider sparing some time to volunteer in the canteen, every little bit helps. If you can offer some help please contact Ziva on 0418 418 807.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>19th May</th>
<th>21st May</th>
<th>23rd May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Lott</td>
<td>Gillian Zavos</td>
<td>Ziva Westley</td>
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<td>Catherine Carmichael</td>
<td>Pip Strachan</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>26th May</td>
<td>28th May</td>
<td>30th May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matt Zdenkowski</td>
<td>Katrina Kana</td>
<td>Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>Lisa Marshall, Helen</td>
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Donations – **Tinned Pineapple Rings**
Families on the donation roster for this week are: Gomez-Morris, Mitchell, Grimshaw, Robins, Guihot, Hall, Hampson, Handley, Harris, Beattie, Jennings, Parker, and Kauter

School Photos
A reminder that school photos will be taken next Monday 26th May. If you have not yet filled in an order form or would like a family package we have spare envelopes at the office.

In Your Palm – Newcastle
Join the Newcastle community tonight 5pm at Newcastle Beach to take a stand against the use of Palm Oil. “Bring your torch to shine a light on Palm Oil. They’ll be drawing a line in the sand as well as #inyourpalm raising awareness for consumers and to make a stand by demanding mandatory labelling and pressuring companies to source palm oil sustainably or ditch it all together. Meet some wonderful people who share in your passion for the cause. Please wear a beanie, preferably red or orange, but any will do!” More information can be found at the events Facebook page.
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<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28 School Development Day</td>
<td>29 Lessons resume</td>
<td>30 12:30 ANZAC Service</td>
<td>1 Colonial Fair Meeting 14:45</td>
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<td>3/4</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>7 17:30 iPad info evening parents</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9 Mothers’ Day Stall Regional Cross Country</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13 NAPLAN Language/Writing</td>
<td>14 NAPLAN Reading</td>
<td>15 NAPLAN Maths</td>
<td>16 Free fruit for all students</td>
<td>17/18</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>19 Shaun Tan exhibition P&amp;C Meeting School Council</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21 National Simultaneous Reading Day</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23 Gala Day Foreshore Park Yr. 4/5</td>
<td>24/25</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>26 School Photos</td>
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<td>30 Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>9 Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
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<td>16 P&amp;C Meeting School Council</td>
<td>17 Stage 3 Canberra</td>
<td>18 Stage 3 Canberra</td>
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<td>20 Stage 3 Canberra</td>
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<td>23 Recital Night</td>
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<td>25 Disco</td>
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<td>28/29</td>
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Donations Needed

It’s that time again when we call for donations to support our

Colonial Fair
Saturday October 18th 2014

Items needed include:

- Baskets
- Small gifts and prizes
- 2nd Hand Books
- 2nd Hand Clothes
- Plants, seedlings
- Plant pots
- 2nd Hand Toys
- Gourmet Cakes
- Lemons
- Wine
- Homemade Preserves
- Jams

NEPS P&C need the help of the whole community to ensure the fair is a success.

All donations will be accepted at the Office.