Harmony Day
Can you join us on Wednesday next week, the 25th of March, as we celebrate Harmony Day, a celebration of our diverse school and national cultures? Our special assembly starts at 12 noon, and will include presentations by classes about their “adopted” nation. Students can wear their national costume, if they have one from another nation, or they can wear something distinctively “Aussie”. We are using the day to raise funds for our partner school on Pentecost Island, devastated by the cyclone last week, and to make it even more effective, we will be holding a Rice Lunch. Parents and students can buy a bowl of delicious rice for just a gold coin.

Main points:
- Harmony Day Assembly  12.00 Wednesday 25th, under the COLA
- Everyone is welcome, grandparents too
- Wear a national costume, or orange, the colour of Harmony Day
- See class presentations about different countries
- Hear our students speaking in English and in their native language
- Bring two gold coins, one for out-of-uniform, one for a bowl of rice.
- Bring a bowl and a spoon.

Fence Restoration Project
These are the draft designs for the corner post of our restored fence, on our Tyrrell Street boundary. In the end, the middle design was chosen, and is currently being worked on in Sydney, with the accrual work on site due to start next week. This sandstone column with be placed on the boundary corner of Tyrrell and Brown Streets in time for the Bicentenary.
Parent Teacher Interviews

Interviews will be conducted over the last two weeks of this term, with teachers available at various times, depending on other commitments. Week 9 commences Monday 23rd March and Week 10 30th March. All students will receive an Appointment Slip today to organise a meeting time for you and your child’s teacher. I’ve indicated the times at which each teacher will be available for interview, to assist you in planning. All parents are encouraged to meet teachers for a catch-up and to address any inquiries or problems which might be emerging.

State Election – Democracy Meets Fund-raising for Our Children

The state election on Saturday 28th, just a week and a bit away, is a great opportunity for our P and C to make money for school needs. We plan to conduct a café and barbeque from 7.30 till 2.00, serving some delicious hot food, muffins, cold drinks and good coffee. Can you help with cooking, serving, setting up or packing away? I hope that we might raise over $1500, and hope to be very busy, but we will need lots of helpers. A roster has been placed in the school foyer, so if you could help for even a little while, please add your name in the time slot which best suits you.

Year Six Fund-raising

Donate an egg and receive a free raffle ticket! To launch our fund-raising efforts for 2015, Year Six will host an Easter Raffle. We are asking for donations of eggs to be sent to the School Office by Monday 30th, in turn you will receive a free ticket to be drawn during the Easter Hat Parade on Thursday April 2nd. Please bring eggs to Mrs Audet’s room to receive your free ticket.

Easter Raffle Ticket Prices: $1 @, $2 for 3, $5 for 10
From The P & C Association

Last night our P and C approved funding of $6000 for additional lap-top computers to be placed in learning clusters in our School library. These will make research quicker and easier during Library lessons. Our students appreciate the support given to them by our P & C! Their fund-raising makes a difference.

Canteen

Donations: Pineapple Rings

If you are able to donate during the week you are rostered it would be greatly appreciated as these donations help keep canteen prices low. Families on the donation roster this week are: O’Rourke, Onley, Osborne, Papagni, Devir, Frost, Phillips, Pidcock, Currington, Prickett, Soklaridis, Randall, McGilvray, Rattray, Rees, O’Donohue, Janse Van Rensburg

Volunteer Roster

Volunteering in the canteen is a fun way to be involved in your child’s school. You get a chance to meet their friends and get to know the other children and staff at NEPS. We only need you once per term and if you haven’t volunteered in the canteen before then we will roster you on with another parent for training. Text Cherry on 0409 927 006 if you’re keen.

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<th>Week 8</th>
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<td>Lisa Marshall</td>
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<td>Lesley Marshall</td>
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<td>Pip Strachan</td>
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This Week’s Quiz

Last week’s mathematical quiz stumped most people, but not Hamish McMaster, who quickly worked out that 888+88+8+8+8=1000. This week it’s history, and you’ll need to do some research to find the answer.

Across the road from NEPS is a tall tower, built from stone. When was it built, and what was its purpose?

Design Competition

This is the site proposed for our “history garden project, which will bring together our old school bell, recently restored, and our sun-dial, currently on the front lawn. If you have ideas for how it could look, including some garden features, such as shrubs, paving, etc., you might want to enter our design competition.
Below: NEPS, 1880, during construction of the Reservoir on Brown Street. Note the horse paddock provided for students.

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is on again in 2015. Each year, more and more children from N.E.P.S are completing the challenge. Congratulations to the following children who are well and truly off and running in this year's challenge; Zoe T, Annabelle R, Markus D, Caitlin T, Montana G, Ruby P, Noah H, Asha O. Let’s make 2015 our best year yet!

Here are the steps to follow if you would like to take part in the challenge.
1. Log onto the Premier’s Reading Challenge (P.R.C) website https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html using your school username and password
2. Read the rules for your age group (Years K-2, 3-4 or 5-6)
3. View the reading list for your age group. You may like to print this list out.
4. Start reading! Borrow P.R.C. books from the school or city library. Your classroom may even have many of the listed books.
5. Record each book you read online through the P.R.C website, by clicking on the student reading records tab.

Harmony Day Community Celebrations
Tomorrow Wednesday 18th The University of Newcastle will be hosting a Harmony Day celebration in Civic Park. Parents and kids are encouraged to come on down to Civic Park after school to partake in the event. There will be music, lawn games and food by donation. The keynote will be a Welcome to International Students from the Deputy Lord Mayor at 3:45 pm. Please see attached flyer for more info.
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HARMONY IN THE PARK
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND PROMOTING HARMONY

wed 18 March
3pm - 5:30pm
Civic Park

WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FROM THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
FOOD TASTING • MUSIC • GAMES • BUSH TUCKER BBQ
COME ALONG AND CELEBRATE WITH US ALL WELCOME!

Every year at UON we celebrate Harmony Week. It comes from Harmony Day (21 March) which celebrates Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.
E - international-community@uon.edu.au

newcastle.edu.au/harmonyweek
School Holiday Sailing Camp

The Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club will be conducting a School Holiday Sailing Camp using our Force 24 training boats.

Date: 13th & 14th April
Time: 9.00am - 1.00 pm
Age: 10-14 yrs
Cost: $150.00
Venue: NCYC - 95 Hannell St Wickham
Bookings: Complete Registration Form on the website
Email: info@ncyc.net.au
www.ncyc.net.au
Contact: Phone: 4940 8188
When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years’ experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

Session 1: Where did I come from?
1-hour session: years 3-6

Session 2: Preparing for puberty
1-hour session: years 5-6
Years 3-4 can attend at parent’s discretion

Date: Tuesday, 24th March 2015

Specialty books are available for purchase on the night.
Keep a look out for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.