 Wow! Our first school term for 2013 is almost at an end. There are many activities occurring in the last 2 weeks of this term so please keep up to date by reading Grapevine and by also visiting our Facebook page for daily updates.

Another reminder about our **school Bicycle Policy**! Only students aged 10 years or older are allowed to ride their bike to school. Before this happens, a bike permit needs to be returned to school, signed by parents/caregivers. To date, only 4 students have returned bike permit forms to our school office. If you require a school bicycle policy or further information, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly staff in the school office.

A hugely successful **Harmony Day** was held last Thursday. It takes a big team to organise events like this one – and as usual staff, P&C and parents combined to put on a great day! My personal thanks for all the birthday wishes! If you would like to volunteer at school, be part of social events or join the P&C – contact the school and we will help you out! Together everyone achieves more!

Lastly, on behalf of the entire school staff, I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable 4 day Easter break. Take care on the roads and don't forget – ‘Click, clack front and back!’ *School resumes after Easter on Tuesday 2 April.*

**Happy Easter!**

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**MGPS P&C News**

As of the AGM 20.3.2013

The new P&C Executive is as follows:

**President** - Dale Patterson

**Vice President** - Sue LeStrange

**Secretary** - Judy Clarke

**Treasurer** - Amanda Patterson

**Canteen Co-ordinator** - Joanne Clarke

**Year 6 Co-ordinator** - Judy Clarke/Dale Patterson

**Fundraising Co-ordinator** - Amanda Patterson

**Congratulations to everyone!**
How Our school Celebrated Harmony Day!

Last Thursday the 21st of March, 2013, Teachers, Parents and Students celebrated Harmony Day at Manning Gardens P.S. The day was filled with many exciting and wonderful opportunities for students to explore what it means to live in Harmony and belong in a multicultural society. Students sat around a large map of the world with little people that all looked different around it and represented the different cultures within our own school. This was to signify that we are all different and that ‘Everybody Belongs’. Students participated in an assembly, planting of a Lemon Murtle Tree and lots of fun games and activities afterwards that showed how sport is played all over the world. We then enjoyed a fantastic lunch supplied by our wonderful canteen staff! It was a jam packed day with lots of fun had by all that were involved.

Cross Country

On Friday the 22nd of March, students ran in cross country at school. Congratulations to all the runners, it was a very hot day but a successful one! Congratulations to all the support unit students who joined in on races. Very special congratulations to, Makaiden Flores for coming first overall in the juniors race.

Please note the following places from the event which are attached to this newsletter. Some of these students will be attending the Zone Cross Country on the 5th of April at Wingham Sporting Complex. Selected students will be receiving a permission note and information about the zone cross country next week.
What else is happening at Manning Gardens?

Canteen News!
Joanne Clarke has taken over as Canteen co-ordinator, and will conduct training and supervision of new volunteers and general canteen operation. Amanda Patterson will continue stock ordering, and Judy Clarke will continue as Uniform Shop co-ordinator.

Easter Meal Deal Special
From 19-28th March the canteen will be selling special Easter Meal Deals.
1. Fish Cocktails, Chips and LOL drink $4
2. Fish Burger and LOL drink $5
3. Fish & Salad Wrap and LOL drink $6
Order must be placed at the canteen no later than 9.15am on the day required.

SCB Easter Show Excursion
On Tuesday the 26th SCB went to the Royal Easter Show to support their class friend Tara, who was riding her horse Banjo. We had a fantastic time seeing stunt utes and Motocross riders do backflips. We explored the pavilions and brought show bags. We all were very worn out leaving school before the sun rose and getting home after it set.

Students participating in Weekly Drumming Lessons

Dimity and Dylan from Year 6 presenting their first 2BOB radio Show, which is held after school as an extra curricular activity for students.

We drove to Sydney to the Royal Easter Show then watched Tara ride her Horse. The stunt motor bike team were awesome. By Samuel SCB
**Staff Profile: Donna Deehan - Preschool Teacher**

**Family and pets:** Married to John and have two children Saiya, 19 and Sam, 12. We are lucky enough to share our home with Billy (black Labrador), Berri (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel) and Roxy (Tenterfield terrier). We also have chooks.

**On the weekends:** I love to make music and sing, garden and cook. I love camping, music festivals, 4WD driving and the beach. I relax with yoga and meditation.

**My job:** Uncle Ron and I set the preschool up at the end of 2004 and we are still kicking!! I love seeing the kids’ faces when they walk into the room in the morning, always smiling and happy to be there. I feel that this is one of the most important aspects of my role: if they are happy to be at preschool, then they will engage and learn.

**Something you may not know about me:** I have travelled to lots of places in the world and taught and worked with children in the Netherlands, London and Israel. I lived in the Netherlands for many years. I also spent 12 months travelling around Australia in a Kombi (spent many hours fruit picking!!)

**Greatest challenge at the moment:** Making sure our preschool gets a great rating when we are assessed and accredited sometime this year!

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**Year 6 - Year 7 (Mainstream Students)**

If you still haven’t completed and returned your Expression Of Interest Forms to the school, you need to do so ASAP. These are very important forms! Thankyou to those families that have already returned their forms.

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**Lost Property**

There are a number of Lost Property items at the school that need to be collected. If they are not collected by the end of term they will have to be thrown out. Please remember to label your children's clothes at all times so that if they are lost they can find their owners.

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**Our Facebook Page!**

Don’t forget to Like our Facebook Page and check out all of the fantastic things that are being added daily. There are some wonderful photos of the students on here and also lots of announcements that are very important.

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**Do You Like Netball?**

Taree City Netball Club a looking for more 11 year old players to complete their under 11s TC Zebras team. For more information phone Lorraine on 65539605 or 0427832401

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**Taree Auskick Registration Day**

**Contact:** 65533345

**When:** Thursday 28th March, 2013

**Where:** Taree City Centre

**Time:** 4pm - 6pm

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**School Disco - Mufti Day**

There will be a mufti day on our school disco day – Wednesday 3 April.

Gold coin donation for wearing mufti! All funds raised will go towards a P&C charity – Royal Far West.