From Sharon’s Desk

Congratulations to the outstanding group of Year 6 students who were involved in the Science and Engineering Challenge last Friday. Our school took out the winning trophy on the day. I couldn’t be more proud of the 40 students who represented our school and pushed themselves to earn the most points for each challenging activity on the day. Great team effort! Thank you to Miss Pengilly and Mrs Hoskings for your support.

Work, Safety Checks require schools to be practised in the correct procedures of evacuation and Lockdown. We organised a run through of the evacuation procedures a fortnight ago. This week we will run through Lockdown procedures so that if we need to follow the practices all children understand the requirements and are safe. This is a practise only.

Anti-Bullying Day will be acknowledged this Friday across NSW. Our updated policy has been uploaded onto our school website and is available for your perusal. Interrelate ran a “Say No To Bullying” competition and congratulations to Tharusha Abayawickrama who took out a Highly Commended Certificate out of 6000 entries. Tharusha and his family have been invited to attend the awards ceremony with his Excellence General The Honourable David Hurley, Governor of NSW in Sydney. Interrelate operate a great Bullying Awareness program which aims to reduce bullying and enhance children’s emotional and social wellbeing offering strategies in regards to online safety. Refer to website http://www.interrelate.org.au/resources.

Congratulations to Amelia Raidaveta, Kimmy Trappett, Eva Laird and Niesha Crawford who were selected for the Western Area Basketball girls team and Julian Morrison-Zhou who was selected for the Western Area Boys team.

Homework: There has been much debate in the news lately regarding homework. Is it meaningful or indeed necessary at primary school age. The school supplies homework - revision of taught concepts; Rubrix Scale to provide choice for learning activities. I have had a number of conversations with parents informing me over the years, of the frustration they face at home with homework. It shouldn’t cause extra stress on yourself as a parent or family. Students reading each night and reciting Maths tables, spelling words is satisfactory. It is an individual families decision. The school’s expectation is we will provide quality activities to all and report on that for homework.

Suggestions, Concerns and Complaints: Please make a time to discuss any issue or make suggestions. It is important at all times to keep communication open. Schools work well when proactive conversations are being had by parents, carers and school staff.

Have a great week. Happy St Patricks Day!
Sharon Murray

Moorambilla Workshop

Students who are members of the school choir will be participating in a workshop with Michelle Leonard, a well known Australian choral conductor. Students will participate in fun singing and body percussion activities tomorrow. The Moorambilla Concert will be held in Dubbo this year and children who show a talent for singing and moving will be selected and will have the opportunity to participate.

Stage 3 Excursion to Sydney

A note was issued to all Stage 3 students regarding the excursion to Sydney. A deposit of $70 is required by Thursday 30th April to secure your child’s place on this excursion. Numbers are restricted to 130 students. A waiting list will be compiled if required.

Harmony Day

Children are encouraged to wear the colour orange to school this Friday to celebrate Harmony Day which acknowledges Australia’s cultural diversity. It’s about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. A gold coin donation will be collected. Stage activities will be held throughout the week.

Uniform Shop Opening Hours

Tuesdays 8.30am-9.30am and Thursdays 8.30am-9.30am.
Order forms are available from the school office or website. New and used clothing available.
Canteen—ordering online!
Online orders are now up and running. You need to register at www.flexischools.com.au
Lunch orders will be delivered as normal however recess orders will need to be collected from the canteen by students.

Library News
FREE WORLD BOOK online @ home! - All Dubbo South students and their families have free access to World Book Online Student and Kids edition. Just visit www.worldbookonline.com
Username: south1 Password: library
Book Club Issue 2 Orders were sent away on Friday. Students will be notified when they are ready to pick up. Orders will be sent home with your child. A big thank you to our P&C Book Club Mums Jacqui Gravitis & Emma Marchant.

ICAS Competitions
Letters were issued last week for all students in Years 2 to 6 for the International Competitions and Assessments for School competitions (ICAS). Please enclose the entry with money in an envelope clearly marked with your child’s name. Payment can be given to your child’s teacher or to the school office. All entries must be returned to school by Tuesday 31st March.

Science and Engineering Challenge
Last Friday two teams of students from Stage 3 went to the racecourse to compete in the 2015 Science and Engineering challenge which is run by Newcastle University and the Rotary Club. They were competing against 6 other teams from schools in our area. Throughout the day students worked in small groups to complete a variety of challenges and earn points for their team. All students displayed excellent problem solving skills and cooperation. At the end of the day Team B came in fourth and Team A were awarded the champions trophy coming in first place. Mrs Hosking and Miss Pengilly were very proud of the outstanding behaviour shown by the students who attended. Well done to all!

Be Brave and Shave
We now have eight people undertaking the “Big Shave”. Thank you to those parents, students and teachers who have all volunteered. Our current total is just over $1000 so we are half way to our target of $2000. Donations would be appreciated and can be made at the top office or online. When making donations online please make sure you choose ‘Dubbo South Public School Baldies’ or select the ‘team leader’.

Your invited!!!
Throughout the Term Stage 2 have been working on projects based around the conservation of endangered plants and animals. As a way of sharing the students amazing work we will be holding an Expo on Tuesday the 31st March in the School Hall starting at 10.30. Everyone is invited to come along to see the variety of projects that have been created. Hope to see you there!

PSSA Term 2
Stage 2 and 3 students have made their sport choices. The lists are being collated at the moment and will be on display on the sports noticeboard on Friday next week.
Term 2 PSSA Sports are as follows:
BOYS: Rugby League, Soccer, Hockey depending on numbers.
GIRLS: Netball, League Tag, Soccer and Hockey depending on numbers.
Lawn Bowls will be limited to Year 6 students only. Children need to bring their own equipment for their selected sport.
Soccer and Hockey: shin pads and mouthguard
Rugby League: Mouthguard and head gear
Appropriate footwear and a hat are to be worn by all students.
All jewellery needs to stay at home on Fridays. If you have any enquiries or require information please contact Mrs Fistr.

P&C News
Easter Raffle: Please keep those tickets coming in!!! We are still looking for donations which can be left at the school office. Raffle will be drawn on April 1st—only 2 weeks to go!

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