I believe one of the most valuable learning tools in a small school is the student demographic. In one happy, noisy learning bunch we have ideas and experiences from age five to 13, a great cross-section for evaluation. In Science, the paired research task linked to the topic “Natural disasters: how to be prepared” was presented to the whole school and evaluated. The learning occurs in all areas for both the researchers and presenters, and the audience. Our Years 2-6 students did extremely well and the younger group was suitably impressed.

Grandparents Day tomorrow will be a wonderful learning occasion for our students as they interact with generations of ideas, opinions and experiences. Our future is rooted in the past, and the conduit of history brings us together in present shared experiences. We are beginning to collate information to prepare our major assessment project for next year, a book detailing all we have learned and what it means for us. I welcome any input—thanks for the material already passed on to me—and I know it will be a valuable experience for our students.
Every Monday morning our school week begins with Assembly. We proudly sing the National Anthem and recite the School Creed and the School Pledge. Classroom achievement is recognised: left, Kayden, Jarrod, William and Dean; and P.B.L. Awards are presented: below, Jack, Shiane, Aylah and Jarrod. Assembly is conducted by our School Leaders and this is an important part of their leadership role. School Leaders also remind other students of the P.B.L. values by demonstrating appropriate behaviour in all areas of the school.
**Years 2–6**

Making Connections

As the term draws to a close ideas about our school year become polarised: some have had a great year and others are still struggling with the routines of becoming independent learners. In the next couple of weeks we will be analysing our learning skills and how we can internalise the routines and techniques we have learned. This is good “life skill” training and can equip children for ongoing learning success. Please encourage your children if they decide to practise higher order thinking and analysis at home; it will be worth it!

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**K/1 Corner**

The whole school participated in an informative and exciting trip to Wambo Homestead yesterday. Our students were able to go through the old homestead and view the old structural systems. The students were able to explore many of the building and had a great time! We are continuing with our assessments and our work samples for portfolios this week and I have seen some fantastic work from our K-1 people, particularly in Maths! Grandparents day is tomorrow and we look forward to sharing morning tea with you!

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**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.

Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

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**Friday Cake Raffle…**

50 cents a ticket to support our Leadership Team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, October 23rd</th>
<th>Friday, October 30th</th>
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<tr>
<td>Congratulations, Gracie</td>
<td>Codie Gee</td>
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<tr>
<th>Friday, December 4th</th>
<th>Friday, December 11th</th>
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<td>Jenni Bos</td>
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**Canteen!!**

Please have orders and payment at School by Tuesday each week.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Friday, October 30th</th>
<th>Friday, November 6th</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Williams</td>
<td>Kylie Peel</td>
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<th>Friday, November 13th</th>
<th>Friday, November 20th</th>
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<tr>
<td>Natalie Young</td>
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Facts about the Dairy Industry

Did you know;

You can lead a cow upstairs, but not downstairs.

Cows knees cant bend properly to walk downstairs.

Sponsored by the Gee Partnership. Local family proudly producing quality milk.

Are you able to volunteer?

Ourcare Services, Singleton are looking for people with spare time, and who would be willing to volunteer for Social Support, Community Transport, Food Services and The Active Life Style Centre.

This not-for-profit organisation provides services so that people can remain independent in their own homes.

Interested people should call into the office and pick up an information pack.

Help us help the people in our community.

Ourcare Services Ltd
Phone 6571 2300

Grandparents’ Day

Tomorrow Friday, October 30th
10.00am—11.30am

Come and celebrate with us!

Junior Sports Day & Indoor Sports Enrolment

SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2015
Singleton Heights Sports Centre
11am — 2pm
Free Entry • Futsal, Basketball, Squash & Racquetball Taster Drills & Comps • Gymnastics Skills • Kinder Tots/Learn to Play Cafe
• Jumping Castle • Sausage Sizzle

All funds raised will donated to YMCA benevolent programs

Skoolbag

Smartphone school to parent communication

Online job seeker support at your Library

Book into a session of this program if you are having issues applying for a job online. Numbers will be kept low to allow library staff to offer personalised assistance.

First Thursday of each month | 10am to 12pm
Bookings Essential

Principal Contact: Phone: 6576 4018 Mobile: 0488106697
regina.stoltenberg@det.nsw.edu.au