Dear Parents,

Well, where do I start? The word “busy” doesn’t seem to encapsulate the rate at which we are moving at the moment, but it is a happy, positive kind of busy. Hard to believe that this time next week will be last day for the students for the year.

I would like to thank Mr Barling for his excellent leadership in my absence. It all happened at quite short notice and Mr Barling did not blink as he sat in “the chair”. As usual, the Normanhurst staff pulled together so well to ensure things hummed along at this important time of the year. Maybe I could run the school remotely next year…..

Carols Night last week was a fabulous event. They are such special occasions when the community comes together and spirits are high and happy. You come away with such a positive buzz it is hard to beat. Thanks to the P&C who ran the barbecue and the raffles on the night.

Our Presentation Day was conducted yesterday and congratulations to all the award winners, but these days are really a celebration of all students and the efforts they have made throughout the year. Our bands and choirs were superb. It was also lovely to have our Premier, Mr O’Farrell, attend the 3-6 ceremony. Congratulations too to our incoming school leaders for 2014:

Prefects – Chantel F, Nick W, Abby M and Cameron A.

Vice-Captains – Flynn M and Daniel T.

Captains – Emily T and Edward W.

Our Year Six Farewell will be held on Tuesday, 17th December in our school hall. It is always an exciting night for the students, and occasionally tearful for their parents! Students will receive a Yearbook at this ceremony, and I would like to thank Ms Taylor for her many hours of hard work in compiling this book. It will be something the children will treasure for many years to come. Just another staff member at Normanhurst going the extra mile for the kids.

2014 is shaping up as another great year, but it is with great sadness that we will be losing some wonderful staff in the New Year. Mr Greg Curran has been successful in receiving a transfer to Woy Woy Public School, which is a lot closer to his home. We are currently going through the merit selection process to appoint a new teacher to 1/6C to start at the beginning of 2014. We are also going to farewell Miss Bendeich (for the moment), who is embarking on a trip around Australia and Miss Gray, who is involving herself in other artistic pursuits. We thank you for your hard work and dedication to the students at Normanhurst, and we hope to see you soon.

David Beggs

Striver badges awarded last week:-

Morris W.  Natasha R
Molly V.  Sam T.
Amalie M.  Cody L.
Dakota A.  Lily F.
Lachlan D.  Chloe M.
Congratulations to the following students who received a merit certificate at our last assembly.

Liam T  KIJ  Abbi M  2N  
Zoe H  KIJ  Carl A  2N  
Chloe A  KS  Tayla N  3V  
Charlotte S  KS  Amma F  3V  
Mimi X  KB  Zaree P  3/4G  
Jeremy H  KB  Lauren W  3/4G  
Luke R  1H  Damien Mc  4C  
Yana I  1H  Edward B  4C  
Siena P  1S  Tessa O  4/5J  
Tom L  1S  Bethany H  4/5J  
Amelia M  2P  Chantel F  5/6B  
Alana K  2P  Thomas H  5/6B  
Siena P  Library  Olivia C  6G  
Ava H  Computer  Jack M  6G  
David P  ESL  
Angus K  2N - RTP  
Kai K  2N – RTP  
Lily A  2P – RTP  
Melanie H  2P – RTP  
Carl A  2N - RTP  

NSW PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all students who participated in and completed the 2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge. This year we had 177 students, who completed the Challenge, which is a fantastic result. Thank you to class teachers and students for taking time to read with your buddy classes so all K-2 students could complete the Premier’s Reading Challenge.

A very special congratulations goes to the following students, who achieved a Platinum Award for completing the Reading Challenge seven times or a Gold Award for completing the Challenge four times.

**Platinum Award Recipients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ella A</th>
<th>Amy K</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amy K-H</td>
<td>Charlotte M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas V</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gold Award Recipients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cameron A</th>
<th>Ian A-V</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matthew A-V</td>
<td>Ayden B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paige C</td>
<td>Cate F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma F</td>
<td>Sean G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivienne H</td>
<td>Jade L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam M</td>
<td>Tayla N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zac O</td>
<td>Alex P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua W</td>
<td>James Y</td>
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</tbody>
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**NOOESH NEWS**

The vacation care day on the 21st January 2014 has been changed to craft creations. The movie we are seeing on the 23rd January 2014 is ‘The Greatest Turkey Movie Of All Time’. Bookings close Friday!

We are having our NOOESH Christmas Party on Friday from 4.00pm-5.00pm with a special visit from Santa! All friends and family are welcome.

**CANTEEEN NEWS**

Monday 16th December will be the LAST day of serving lunches at the canteen. We will be doing our stock take and cleaning on the last day of school – 18th December, so please do not send a lunch order with your child on that day.

A big thank you from the P&C to all those parents and friends who have helped out in the canteen this year. Your generous donations of time and baking for regular canteen days and our special food days throughout the year have been deeply appreciated.

Happy Holidays from the Canteen
Alex, Amanda and Emma

**BAND NEWS**

**Important Instrument Information**

We have arranged for all NPS owned instruments to have a full service over the Christmas holidays. Therefore, could all instruments currently being hired out, please be placed in the instrument store room by the 13th December at the latest.

Current hire agreements also need to be updated so if you intend hiring your child’s instrument please contact Alison Binet ASAP to sign the 2014 agreement.

Could new Training Band parents also please contact Alison to discuss instrument availability and hire arrangements if they would like to hire an instrument from NPS.

Contact Alison on aebinet@gmail.com

**LOST PROPERTY – CAROLS NIGHT**

Two fold up camping chairs in covers were left at Carols Night. They can be collected from the school office.

Carolyn Spender
PRC Coordinator