Dear Parents and Caregivers,

NAIDOC WEEK
The school is celebrating NAIDOC Week throughout this week and next week through our assemblies and associated activities. We have a great deal of Aboriginal art created by the students displayed in the hall for all to see. Next week following our Education Week assembly and open day we will be having a Koori games tabloid.

Miss Barry has been busy organising this tabloid for Friday, Week 3, where children are in mixed groups of 10 and they move around different traditional Aboriginal games to get a greater appreciation of the games Aboriginal children played and the purpose of those games. The tabloid will be held on Friday, 31st July from 1.40pm - 2.55pm. Parents are more than welcome to come to the school to spectate and watch their child participate.

Children are encouraged to wear the colours yellow, black and red to get into the spirit of the celebration.

AUSTRALIAN EARLY DEVELOPMENT CENSUS (AEDC)
This week (Thursday & Friday) our school will be taking part in the Australian Early Development Census. This is an Australian Government Initiative and occurs every 3 years. It will involve Miss Barry filling out questionnaires about her Kindergarten students but will not require the students to be present. For the children it will be a normal school day.

Its purpose is to gather information which helps our school and community understand how children are developing before they start school, what is being done well, and what can be improved. This data can then be used to improve programmes and policies for young children.

Any data that is collected is de-identified in that it will not show, or include, any children's names, ages, addresses or schools. The attached letter further explains the census for Kindergarten parents.
The AEDC is voluntary and if parents do not wish their child's information to be included as part of the census they can contact the school and inform us so. If we do not receive any written (attached opt out slip) or verbal notification of your child's exclusion from the census then we will assume their information can be included in the census. If you do wish to opt out of the census please contact the school by this Thursday, 23rd July, at the latest.

EDUCATION WEEK
The theme for this year's Education Week is ‘Celebrating Local Heroes’. We will be looking for our very own local heroes at our school by awarding those children in our classes with a special certificate because they consistently apply themselves to all their school work, activities and lead by good example.

We will celebrate Education Week by holding an assembly where each class will present an item along with our usual awards. The assembly will be on Friday, 31st July from 11.30am-12.30pm. This will then be followed by open classrooms where parents are invited to come into the classroom and see their children's work and what they do in the classroom. At 1.00pm the parents are invited to stay and bring lunch or purchase a pie (order required) to share with their child. Parents are also welcome to stay and watch the Koori tabloid that all the K-6 children will be involved in. We hope to see you there.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS
Parents, please note that the award recipients whose names appear in this week's newsletter will be receiving their certificates at this week's assembly. We are hoping if parents are aware that their child is receiving an award then they can attend the assembly, if they wish.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Happy Birthday and best wishes to Lauren Hales who celebrates her birthday this week.

P & C MEETING
The July P & C Meeting will be held tonight, Tuesday, 21st July at 7.00pm in the school library. All families are welcome.

YEAR 6 LEADERSHIP DAY
Today, all Year 6 students are going to Huskisson to participate in a Leadership day with students from the other Small Schools. We look forward to a positive report from them in next week's newsletter.

GYMNASTICS
Gymnastics will commence this Thursday through the Sporting Schools Program. We have qualified gym instructors coming to the school to guide the children in the skills involved in doing gymnastics. Children are encouraged to wear their sports uniform so that they are comfortable and able to move freely. Thank you to all families that have paid their money so promptly. If you have not, please ensure your child has brought in their note (on back of newsletter) and money by this Thursday at the latest to ensure their participation.

PSSA DISTRICT ATHLETICS
It is unfortunate that the Shoalhaven Athletics Complex at Shoalhaven High School is not available to be used for this year's District Athletics Carnival. The carnival will now be held at the Croome Rd Complex at Albion Park on Monday, 3rd August (Week 4). To ensure that all athletes are able to access the complex we are organising a bus to transport all the Small Schools children together. A note will be coming home with competitors next week with further details.

The half day high jump carnival will still be held at Nowra High School on Wednesday, 29th July (Week 3) from 9.30am-12.30pm.
ST. JOHN’S FIRST AID IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM
This Friday, 24th July, all the Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 students will be participating in the St. John’s First Aid in Schools Program. The children are shown the basics of CPR and first aid during a one hour presentation workshop by a qualified St John’s presenter. The Year 3/4 children have participated in this program for the last 2 years and this is the first year that a program will be implemented for Year 5/6 children.

It is hoped that gaining this initial knowledge in first aid will inspire many of our students to build on this knowledge base and do CPR and first aid training when they get to high school. These are definitely very important skills to learn and nurture.

WEEKLY ASSEMBLY TIMES
We are still fine tuning our assembly times to make sure that we do not go over time. With this mind we will commence Friday assemblies at 2.00pm as of this week.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS
At last week’s assembly we handed out 100% attendance awards to children who were at school every day during Terms 1 & 2. It is not easy to be at school every day, especially when there is illness and family matters that may affect a child’s attendance. However, we applaud these children who have managed to come each day and thereby have demonstrated their commitment to learning.


MERIT AWARDS FOR WEEK 2
Kindergarten - Riley Gough and Lily Sproule
Class 1/2 - Olivia Oke, Kyah Schell and Rylan Nichols
Class 2/3 - Dylan Stockley, Lindsay Muller and Natalie Barrett
Class 3/4 - Jack Lunn and Mitchell Downey
Class 5/6 - Cooper Atkinson, Toby Adams and Litia Schell

PRINCIPALS AWARDS FOR WEEK 2
Kindergarten - Heidi Lovell
Class 1/2 - Thomas Manwaring
Class 2/3 - Leigha Barrett
Class 3/4 - Matthew Higham
Class 5/6 - Charley Shipton

NOWRA HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL
GYMNASTICS—COST - $20.00 per student

I give permission for my child/ren ____________________________ in class __________________ to participate in the school gymnastic program each Thursday for 8 weeks commencing in Week 2.

I enclose $__________________

Signed: ______________________________ Dated: _______________