Welcome to Nowra Hill Public School all new Defence families. Nowra Hill is a wonderful school and I’m sure you’ll enjoy becoming part of the community.

In 2014, there are 34 Defence students from 23 families attending Nowra Hill. Five students were farewelled from the school at the end of 2013, and this year, we have welcomed 8 new students - 4 to Kindergarten and 4 students to Years 1, 2 and 3. Two of our new students have returned to the school after moving back to the Nowra area.

This year’s Kindergarten students have made a great start at Nowra Hill with Miss Barry as their teacher. They’ve enjoyed spending time with their Stage 3 buddies.

Kids Club is held in the school library two lunchtimes per week (Thursday for Kindergarten and Stage 1, and Friday for Stages 2 and 3). The Club provides an opportunity for students to have some quiet time in the library playing games or making craft.

Captain Teddy, Sailor Bear and Squadron Leader Brown have all enjoyed a great Summer holiday and are ready for more exciting sleepovers this year. The teddies are looked after by one Defence child each week. If the child wishes to, she/he can document their adventures by drawing, writing or including photos in the accompanying scrapbook.

Swimming awards from the 2014 Swimming Carnival (held in December 2013) were handed out at the first school assembly of the year. Congratulations to the Defence students who received ribbons, particularly Halle who was awarded Junior Champion Girl.
Last night, the whole school enjoyed a **Welcome BBQ** celebrating the start of the school year. It was a terrific way for newcomers to get to know the school community.

I can be contacted by email at **leanne.millard1@det.nsw.edu.au** or by phoning the school office on 4421 5671. Please remember to advise me of any current or future deployments so that I can support your child at school. I look forward to an exciting year ahead.

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**Congratulations** to:
- Braedyn and Jessica who were elected captains of Buru house for 2014 and Jessie who was elected vice-captain of Wirri house; and
- Alex and Charley who received awards for their art and craft at the Nowra Show.

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The **Shoalhaven Defence Families Association (SDFA)** is an organisation established to “bring fun and friendship to Defence families in the Shoalhaven and surrounding areas”. Information relating to SDFA is attached.

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I am at the school two days per week for 36 weeks of the school year (Thursdays and Fridays). During this time, I work with the teachers and students in the classrooms, open the Library at lunchtime for Kids Club and work with those Defence students with a deployed parent, or those who are moving to another school.

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The **Shoalhaven Defence Community Expo**, organised by DCO, Nowra will be held on Saturday 8 March 2014 at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, HMAS Albatross. It promises to be a fun and informative day.

A flyer with more information is attached.