I am constantly amazed at the wonderful achievements of the students at Nowra Hill Public School. For such a small school, the level of student involvement in a broad range of activities is commendable.

In March, Nowra Hill participated in the World’s Greatest Shave Day. Most students and all of the teachers came to school dressed in colourful clothing with bright and creative hairstyles. Four students and one mum had their heads shaved on the day. The year 6 School Captain and Nayana P, a year 5 Defence student, raised $2000 between them. All together, the school raised approximately $4000, which was an outstanding effort for a small school.

Nowra Hill was proudly represented by eighteen students marching at the ANZAC Day Service in Nowra. A number of students had their parents in uniform marching with them. The school ANZAC service was held on 11 April with visiting speakers, Sub-Lieutenant Michael Lindo from HMAS Albatross and Mr Ken Dawson from the Nowra-Greenwell Point RSL in attendance.

In June, the whole school participated in the Walk Safely to School Program by walking to the Fleet Air Arm Museum before lunch to see the fantastic displays.
The Nowra Hill Friendship Tree has finally been hung in the school hall. Every student has painted a leaf of the tree, and each leaf identifies the name of the student and the date he or she started at the school. As new students join our school community, their painted leaves will be added to the tree.

Last Friday, we farewelled the Perry-Finley family who have returned to America. Good luck Scott, Brenda, Jacob (ex-NHPS), Emma and Cole! Thank you Scott and Brenda for the wonderful support you provided to the school.

I have been working in the Kindergarten class once a week and have thoroughly enjoyed watching them develop..... it’s amazing how quickly they grow!

DEFFENCE COMMUNITY ORGANISATION (DCO) offers a broad range of programs and services to help Defence families manage the military way of life. The DCO website is full of helpful information for Defence families relating to deployment, relocation, education, special needs and emergency and crisis support. The DCO website is: www.defence.gov.au/dco. To access any of DCO’s support services, contact the all-hours Defence Family Helpline on: 1800 624 608.

The Shoalhaven Defence Families Association (SDFA) is a non-profit organisation which brings fun and friendship to Defence families in the Shoalhaven. SDFA is managed by Rachel Birkmyre, Co-ordinator and a Committee of volunteers who come together each week (during school terms), to run activities such as playtime, scrapbooking and craft groups. These activities are run at the SDFA's community house – Kookaburra Retreat, which is located at Flats 1 & 2 Canberra Drive, Nowra Hill. SDFA also publishes the quarterly magazine, Time Out, which contains lots of information about activities being undertaken for Defence families in the Shoalhaven area. If you would like any information about SDFA, or you would like to be placed on their email list, please contact Rachel on phone: 4421 5766; or by email: shoalhaven@ddfa@gmail.com; or visit the SDFA website at: www.shoalhaven@defencefamilies.com.au.

Finally, please remember to advise me of any current or future deployments so that I can support your child at school. I can be contacted by email at: leanne.millard@det.nsw.edu.au or by phoning the school office on 4421 5671.

Have a wonderful and safe mid year holiday!

Leanne Millard
DSTA
Nowra Hill Public School