Queanbeyan Choral Festival – Wednesday 28 May
Our school choir will be involved in the Queanbeyan Choral Festival this year. We will be singing in the mass choir and also singing two of our own songs, so children will have several opportunities to perform. You may have already heard your child singing our selected songs at home. As this is our first out of school performance for our younger students, the senior students in the choir have helped everyone learn the songs, it sounds great and I’m sure the children will enjoy performing. The concert will be held this year at Llewellyn Hall, ANU Canberra on Wednesday 28 May.

Mrs Kirsty Daisley and Miss Katie Thompson will be conducting the Choir this year.

Tickets
Purchase your ticket to watch the show through Ticketek. Phone number for Ticketek is 132 849. The tickets are $15.00 concession and $20.00 general admission.

NRMA Road Safety Day – Thursday 22 May
On 22 May, our school will be hosting the NRMA Road Safety and Science Day. The day will include Science activities and Road Safety lessons. This program takes a fresh approach to road safety education by using science demonstrations so students can see what happens to objects (humans) in motion (in cars and on bikes) so that key messages such as “use your seatbelt” and “wear your helmet” are easily understood by our students.

This year we want every child who has a bike helmet to bring it to school on Thursday.

Reforms to P&C Federation
The NSW Parliament has introduced legislation to reform the NSW Federation of Parent and Citizens Associations, which has suspended operation pending Supreme Court action. While these reforms will not affect the day-to-day operation of individual school P&Cs, they will introduce a new executive structure which will ensure the Federation operates as a modern and representative body on behalf of school P&C Associations. Each school’s P&C Association will be asked to vote for councillors and delegates who will represent their electorate at the Federation’s Annual General Meeting and councillors who will serve on the Federation’s Board of Management. More information will be available on the Department’s website at


Care and Connect
Queanbeyan West Public School is committed to making a difference in our community. To honour this commitment, we are participating in the Tuggeranong Hyperdome’s ‘Connect & Care’ promotion. This year, Connect & Care is aimed at promoting and supporting Communities@work, a local charity and support group who assists in changing the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged families in the Canberra area.

Families of Queanbeyan West Public School are invited to assist by donating healthy food (sorry, not fresh) and other essential goods that Communities@work need in our school’s drop box in Centre Court at the Hyperdome. To say thank you, the Hyperdome is giving away a share in $6,000 worth of Tech Packs to the 3 schools that contribute the most to Communities@work.

You can also support Communities@work by taking your shopping receipts to the donation zone in centre court and for every receipt; Hyperdome will donate $5 to the Communities@work program of your choice. To say thank you, you’ll also go into the draw to win a personal $1000 Hyperdome gift card!

For more information on the promotion, head to: www.hyperdome.com.au and for more info on Communities@work, head to: www.commsatwork.org

I3 - Language, Literacy and Learning
Language, Learning and Literacy (I3) is a research-based, classroom intervention, targeting text reading and writing. This year Kindergarten is
joined by Year 1 in the implementation of this fantastic program.

L3 has been designed to complement the daily Literacy program for students in the first few years of their formal schooling.

Students receive explicit instruction in reading and writing strategies in small groups of three to four selected students. Students then rotate to independent individual or group tasks. This occurs in the daily Literacy session. Our Kindergarten staff and Year 1 staff are continuing their professional learning in this fantastic program. The Year 1 staff travel to Yass each fortnight and our Kindergarten staff have their training in Queanbeyan once every term.

School Chaplaincy

The National School Chaplaincy Programme is designed to compliment all aspects of school life particularly welfare initiatives and focuses on supporting student wellbeing. The program assists in the provision of pastoral care, general religious and personal advice and comfort to students, staff and parents. Participation in the program is voluntary. The role of the Chaplain is to support the school community in a range of ways including assisting students explore their spirituality, providing guidance on religious values and ethical matters; helping school counselors and staff in offering welfare services and support in cases of bereavement, family breakdown or other crisis and loss situations.

At Queanbeyan West Public School our Chaplain is Pastor Mat Chivers. His responsibilities include:

- Supporting student’s wellbeing
- Available to parents to provide pastoral care
- Response to emergencies bereavement, sickness, injury or hospitalisation
- Visit families, liaise with school counsellor regarding student’s special needs
- Provide pastoral and spiritual counselling in values and ethical matters

We are very pleased to be able to offer this service to our students and staff and the wider school community.

All matters discussed with the Chaplain will be treated with total confidentiality. Access to the Chaplain can be gained by contacting the school office.

Each year I need to evaluate the program. I’d appreciate your letters of support. These letters can be emailed to me by Monday 26 May at: vicki.muscat@det.nsw.edu.au

The Queanbeyan Starting School Expo will be held on Sat 24 May 10am-12pm @ Bicentennial Hall for all families with children starting school in Queanbeyan next year. There will be school information stalls and lots of fun for the whole family – lucky door prizes, face painting, glitter tattoos, craft activities, jumping castle, BBQ and more. For more information ph. 6297 2167.

Under 11 Soccer Players Needed.
The Monaro Panthers soccer club needs a few Under 11 players to complete an Under 11 side. No experience is necessary and we can accept boys who are turning 10 or 11 this year. Training occurs on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm at David Madew oval Jerrabomberra. The games will be at 12:30 pm on Saturday at either David Madew oval or at an oval in the ACT. Please contact Yvette Alcock on her mobile 0413 251 026 if your son would like to participate.

Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

Mental math strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving math questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a math problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental math strategies, here: www.bit.ly/JkIUsY

Does speaking another language at home confuse children?

Are your children fortunate enough to be growing up in a home where two or more languages are spoken? Many parents worry that bilingualism can
cause confusion and even delays in learning for their children, but according to the Raising Children Network, that’s not the case at all. A good knowledge of your native language can actually help your child with learning English. Bilingual children who read books and are spoken to in their native language find it easier to learn to read and write in English when they get to school. More information is at www.bit.ly/1moagnk.

Well it is that time of the year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking! You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- walking with them the whole way to school
- if they catch the bus, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- if you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way.

Remember, active Kids are Healthy Kids so get planning your own Walk Safely to School Day journey for Friday 23 May 2014.

PSSA Netball
Last Friday the Queanbeyan West P.S. Netball team hosted the PSSA Netball Knockout round against a strong Jerrabomberra side.

Our team, made up of Lacey, Emma, Tiarna, Jade, Maheen, Fariyah, Alexandra, Mae and Sanduni put in an excellent effort against a team of talented players. The girls demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, discipline and determination. Leading up to the game, the girls put in hard work and commitment to learn how to play. By the final whistle many spectators commented on a big improvement in each player.

We are very proud of the netballers! We would also like to thank Hayley Rauter of Queanbeyan High School, who generously umpired the game and thanks to all spectators and members of the Jerrabomberra side for a pleasant game.

Have a great week  
Vicki Muscat  
Principal
Dekoda – for excellent effort in his homework.
1/2A: Seth – great effort and focus in reading groups.
Amber – a mature and hard working attitude.
2B: Sophia – working hard in reading groups and always trying her best.
Jordan – making hard to follow school values and being a cheerful and enthusiastic class member.
2D: Madie – great results in reading.
Lucinda – great improvement in reading.
K/6R: Jack – communicating confidently with others.

Senior Assembly Awards
Commences 2.10pm in school hall

3/4S: Vishu – being on task and trying his best.
Sharon – application to writing task.
Mei – trying hard to present work neatly.
3/4T: To be advised.
4B: Mollie – writing a good discussion text.
Ethan – great work in mathematics.
Amy – excellent work in all subjects.
Steven – great work in mathematics.
Logan – always helping others and working hard.
5S: Rayhan – for a great start in a new school.
Ryan – a great attitude towards his school work.
Eve – for always participating in class discussions.
5/6D: Aidan – enthusiastic attitude towards our Global Connections unit of work.
Braeden – conscientious attitude to improving spelling skills.
Lal Nun Pui – excellent work skills and a wonderful role model.
6R: Johnathan – improved effort and focus in all learning areas.
Alexandra – always participating in class discussions.
K/6R: Michael – for always following teacher instructions to make K/6R a happy and safe classroom.

Congratulations
Alexandra Stewart 6R who has completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014.

Happy Reading- take up the challenge!
Mr Lumley

Family Photos
The Portrait Gallery took a number of student family group photos when the school portraits were taken in Term 1. There are some fabulous photos and these are now available at the front office, so feel free to come in and take a look. The photos are $8 and all money collected goes directly into school funds.

Tjupurru-Reconciliation Week
I give permission for my child/ren to attend the Tjupurru performance show – Reconciliation Week on Monday 26 May 2014. If you took the opportunity to pay for all the performances in one payment at the beginning of the year, this performance visit is already covered. Please return note and money by Thursday 22 May. I enclose $4.00 per child. You may also pay by credit card if more convenient.

Name: ______________________________________
Class: _______________
Name: ________________
Class: _______________
Signature:_____________________ Date:__________

Credit Card Authorisation
Please Charge $ _____________ (total amount)
Card Number: ______________________________
Expiry Date: __ / __
Verification No: _________(on back of card)

Alternatively, a credit card authorisation can be given by telephone to the Front Office on 6297 2020

The Westerly - School Web Site: www.queanbeyaw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au