Working bee success— We were very busy on Sunday with dads, mums, grandparents, ex students and students helping install additional fence panels in the car park; install new soccer goals; weed and tidy the vegetable garden; remove rubbish; and establish the Far Far Away Garden. We were treated to a much needed sausage sizzle and powered on to achieve most of the jobs on our long list. The school looks fabulous and the new garden is a big hit with all the students. Donations of gnomes, etc and some 'bling' to add to the garden would be very welcome. A huge thank you to all our helpers for their time on Sunday and willingness to bring tools and equipment from home.

Parent / teacher interviews— Parent / teacher interviews will be held in Term 1 to enable parents and teachers to exchange information earlier in the year. Notes will be sent home shortly with available times and days. Please avail yourself of this wonderful opportunity. Reports will go home towards the end of Term 2. Best Start interviews are currently being held for parents of Kindergarten students.

Maths— The next Learning Walk will take place on Monday 18 March. Four teachers will observe the other four teachers deliver a maths lesson and then they will swap after recess. Casual teachers will be teaching the programmed Literacy lessons in the alternate sessions. Mr Phil Jones visited our school on Tuesday and was very impressed with the wonderful work happening in classrooms. He noted the learning goals and the high level of student engagement K-6.

Homework Policy and Anti bullying Plan -
Both the policy and plan are at the consultation phase and parents are invited to make submissions and or comments for the rest of this term. Copies have been distributed at P&C and School Council meetings. Please contact the school office if you would like a copy and one will be printed and sent home. Both will be published on the school website when they have been ratified.

Boys and girls cricket— Congratulations to both the boys and girls cricket teams for their recent successes. Our girls will now play in the next round. We are very lucky to have Mr Brown and Mr Graham organising and coaching PSSA cricket teams this year and thank them for their efforts to ensure our students have these opportunities. Good luck in your next match.

Afternoon pick up and bus duty— We have been trialling a more structured approach to the organisation of afternoon pick up and bus duty. A warning bell is sounded at 3.15 to give students time to gather their belongings and walk in an orderly manner to the canteen COLA with their teachers by 3.20. Students then line up in either bus lines or the pick up line. The messages from the bus board will be read out so that students know if there is a change to how they are going home. Once the messages are read out, the pick up students will move up to the hall COLA. Parents may collect their children as they move to the hall. The students in the early buses will also move up to the hall. A teacher will remain on duty with the pick up and early bus students until they are collected or board the buses. Students attending Active After Schools will move to the basketball court and students waiting for sport practice will move to the Year 6 chairs. The late bus students will remain with a teacher until their bus arrives.

We endeavour to ensure that this system is efficient but with nearly 200 students to 'muster', unavoidable delays can occur. With our earlier finishing time, the early bus usually gets away on time now and students being picked up are usually collected and on their way before 3.30. Where possible we ask that students remain with teachers until the bus board is read out. If in a hurry, let the teacher with the bus board know so he or she can arrange for your child or children to leave with you straight away. As with any change, we will find little glitches and make refinements to what we do to ensure everyone's safety. We always appreciate your support and patience.

Kerrel Haire
Principal
Well done Year 4 on a wonderful assembly item. In H.S.I.E this term we have been studying the topic, Being Australian. The song Black Fella White Fella by the Warumpi Band ticked all the boxes about multicultural Australia.

Our unit based around the book My Place by Nadia Wheatley is drawing to a close. We have had a great time discussing the different time periods in Australian history.

This week we have begun our Literature Circles. Each group has chosen a different Roald Dahl novel to study. Groups meet twice a week and each member of the group has a different role these include Discussion Director, Vocabulary Enricher, Literary Luminary, Artist and Checker. Roles change each time the group meets. The children have enthusiastically taken responsibility for running these groups and reading their chosen novels.

On the 1st March the Premiers Reading Challenge for 2013 began. Between now and September children need to read 20 books. 15 from the Premiers List and 5 free choice. Our Roald Dahl novels will count towards this. A list of the Premiers Challenge books is in our classroom and can also be viewed online on the Premiers Reading Challenge Website. By recording nightly reading in reading diaries we will be able to add books to the online record.

During Week 11, we will have parent teacher interviews to discuss your child’s progress this year. If at any time you wish to meet with me to discuss your child please contact the office to make an appointment.

Amanda Price

AWARDS

Congratulations to the “You Can Do It “ award winners from Assembly Thursday 8th March.

K  Georgia Poore, Jade Brown
K-1  Tessa Thomson, Liam Wells
Y1-2  Arjay Bruce, Breannah Fogarty
Y2  Ethan Dawson, Jessica Jeffrey
Y3  Evelyn Murdoch, Andrew Macinas
Y4  Deni Baker, Stephanie Breeze
Y5  Joseph Sanbrook, Jamie Upton
Y6  Cale Bruce, Kate Murphy

Congratulations also to Patrick Turner who received his 2nd Service Award.

NOTELINK

Notes sent home in the last fortnight were:
PSSA Boys Cricket Knockout Competition Amendment  Staff Development Days T2
Expression of interest CAPERS
Kindergarten Best Start interviews
Year 6 Gift to the school fundraising
Year 6 Shirts
Tamworth High School Small School Transition Day
PSSA Boys Basketball Trials
PSSA Girls Basketball Trials
PSSA Girls Cricket Knockout
Winter Netball competition
Scholastic Book Club.

ANZAC DAY

Nemingha Public School will be participating in the ANZAC Day march at Kootingal on Thursday 25th April. The start time for the march is 8.00am with students assembling in front of Kootingal Public School by 7.45 am sharp.
Students are to wear their full winter uniform

FOUND

A black digital camera USB was found in the school car park on Wednesday 27th February. Please ask at the office if you think it is yours.
What’s Cooking in the Canteen
Wow what a great Meal Deal on Monday. Thank you so much for the generous supply of cupcakes and jelly cups that were donated, all students had full tummies, big smiles and wide eyes.

Our Term 1 Canteen Meeting will combine with the Clothing Pool again, meeting to be held Wednesday 20th March at 9.30 am in the staff room. All are welcome and an interesting chat on our “yoghurt sticks” is on the agenda of topics this term.

Volunteers for the next fortnight are:
Friday 15th March
  Karlie Tongue, Toni Petty
Monday 18th March
  Olly McCormack, Angela Murphy
Friday 22nd March
  Jacinta Shumack, Olly McCormack, Bronwyn Stewart
Monday 25th
  Bronwyn Stewart, Angela Rizzi.

Marion Woods
Canteen Manager

ADMINISTRATION

CHANGE OF FAMILY DETAILS
It is a departmental requirement that if you change your address, phone number or emergency contact numbers at any time during the year, you inform the office so that records can be kept up to date.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS/WORKBOOKS
Thank you to those families who have paid their school contributions and payments for workbooks. Could all payments for workbooks be made as soon as possible so that the children can begin to use them.

PSSA
Well done to the Girls Cricket Team who had a convincing win against Armidale City on Monday 11th March, the girls will now progress to round 3.
The Boys Cricket Team played very well but were beaten by a very strong South Tamworth on Wednesday last week.

Congratulations to John Sainsbury and Izack Fuller for being selected in the Tamworth Zone Basketball team on Thursday 7th March they will now trial for a position in the Regional team.

Congratulations to Mitchell Henderson and Lara Graham who were successful in the 50m butterfly at the Regional Swimming Carnival at Armidale on Tuesday 5th March and will compete at Homebush in the near future.

Issie - Peel Street Markets
Nemingha mother, Mel Gallagher, will be at this Sunday’s Peel Street Markets (17 March) from 8am just near Gloria Jeans with her "Issie" stall selling her handmade giftware including travel pillows (in time for the school holidays), heat packs, doorstops, coat hangers, kids’ clothing and other giftware. Mention this ad for 10% of your sale to be donated back to the Nemingha Fundraising Committee.

JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club will be holding a sign-on day this Sunday 17 March at the Tamworth Golf Club from 3-5 p.m.
The club is also keenly seeking coaches. After the sign-on there will be a get together and BBQ for Coaches and Managers only, from 5 p.m., to help plan the season.

Paul Austin
Publicity Officer
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**Parent/Teacher Interviews**