



# Menindee Central School

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cents

Term 2 —Week 1

21st April 2010

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*Sarah and Jenny*



## Principal's Report

Welcome back to term two. The week has started well but with great changes.

Firstly we welcome Sarah Newsome and her partner Nick and also Chau, Chong (Mrs Jenny Callaway). Sarah is an additional staff member (P/D/H/P/E) being paid from additional funds that the school has received from our pilot school status as part of the devolution opportunity. This will release Danielle Fellows to work with teachers in planning and utilising the available technology that we possess. Jenny is replacing Belinda Ndegwa who has been chosen by merit as an Aboriginal Consultant on the North Coast based out of Foster. I say thank you to Belinda for the work that she has done.

On *page 4* this newsletter is a letter explaining the NAPLAN Tests that will occur in Week 4 of this term. NAPLAN Tests have been in the news lately because of a dispute between teacher unions and the Federal Government. The issue relates to the misuse of the My-school Website which allows the creation of league tables. After the publication of results, earlier this year, newspapers and other organisation use them to make unfair comparisons between schools. This was neither helpful and in some cases extremely damaging for schools, their

parents and their communities.

The value of NAPLAN is not a public airing of statistics but: the sharing of information between school and parents through the report card that is provided on each child. This is sent home and can be discussed with teachers.

The information to schools on their performance that is used to set targets for students and the school for the coming year. This information was used last year when we completed a four months intensive study of this information to amend and further extend our management plan.

Because of this our school will administer the NAPLAN tests on the due dates. Staff will make up their position closer to the date but I want to assure parents that the tests will be delivered and our students will not be disadvantaged.

I am excited that our P21 BER project of the delivery of two additional classrooms will commence next Tuesday and a handover of the buildings will occur on 29<sup>th</sup> June at the end of the term. These buildings will replace our current music and art rooms.

*Brian Debus*

## Primary Health and Safety Workshop—Thursday and Friday

- Primary will be holding Health & Safety workshops on Thursday and Friday this week. Students are being asked to bring a bike, skateboard, scooter, rip stick or roller-blades to school to participate in activities. Don't forget your helmet too.
- Jump Rope for Heart Jump-Off Activity Afternoon on Friday from 2 pm.
- Jump Rope for Heart fundraising sponsorship forms due in week 2. Please give them to Mrs Shephard.

### P & C Meeting

There will be a P & C AGM on Tuesday the 27th April, in the School Library at 5.30pm.

Election of officers

Please come and have your say.

All parents, community members urged to attend.

### Active After School Activities

Active After School Activities will recommence next Tuesday (27th April).



## ANZAC Day 2010 Service

Sunday 25th April

Dawn Service 6am

Main Service 11am

at the cenotaph

Assemble at the Post  
Office at 10.30am



## For your Diary

Thursday 22nd April

Health and Safety Workshop

Friday 23rd April

Health and Safety Workshop

Jump Rope for Heart from 2pm

Sunday 25th April

ANZAC Day Services

Monday 26th April

Public Holiday

Tuesday 27th April

P&C Annual General Meeting 5.30pm in the school library

Active After School Activities recommences

Wednesday 28th April

Active After School Activities

Menindee Children's Centre Annual General Meeting 3.30pm

Friday 30th April

Jump Rope for Heart sponsorship forms in.

Tuesday 11th May

NAPLAN Language Conventions and Writing

Wednesday 12th May

NAPLAN Reading

Thursday 13th May

NAPLAN Numeracy

Friday 14th May

NAPLAN catch up day

## Our Kids at a Glance



## National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2010

### Letter to Parents

In May 2010 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 11-13 May 2010.

<b>TUESDAY 11 MAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY 12 MAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY 13 MAY</b>
<b>Language Conventions</b> (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)  <b>Writing</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Numeracy</b> (Number; Algebra, function and pattern; Measurement, chance and data; and Space)

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Friday 14 May** – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or if they have significant intellectual and/or functional disability.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Special provisions which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom will be provided for students by the school. Large print, Braille and Black and White versions of the test are available for students with vision impairment.

Access to special provisions and exemption from the tests must be discussed with your school's Learning Support Team and the school Principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests you must sign a parent or carer consent form. Consent forms are available at your school.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like further information about your child's participation in the National Assessment Program.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at:

<http://www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html>  
<http://www.naplanforparentsns.w.com.au>



**PT Room Statistics Term 1 2010**

Students Who Broke the Safety Code*	Students Who Broke the Respect Code*	Students Who Broke the Learning Code*	Total Suspensions*
11	8	18	20

*\*as of Tuesday 30 March 2010*

## Menindee Children's Centre News

!The annual general meeting for our management committee will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 3.30pm (2<sup>nd</sup> week back at school) at the preschool. Everybody is very welcome and encouraged to come along. Without a full committee the centre cannot operate, so please give a small amount of your time to come along and support your community preschool.

Until Next Week  
Hayley D'Ettorre  
Director

### Canteen News

Zing Frozen Yoghurt fruit bars are  
no longer available.

They are trying to source a similar  
item so will keep you posted.

## Classified Ads

All submissions for the school news are to be in by Tuesday 1pm. A written copy can be left at the school/Post Office addressed to 'SCHOOL NEWS'. Your advert must have your name, address, phone number and signature—this same limit applies to teachers. Every endeavour will be made to print all submitted articles; however, due to a 'space limit' some articles may have to be held over or reduced to suit our requirements.

Advertising costs are: \$4.40 (basic advert), \$11.00 (quarter page), \$22.00 (half page) and \$44.00 (full page) per week.

**Payment is required when placing advert.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER:** IF SELLING A CAR OR MOTORBIKE YOU MUST INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION NUMBER OR ENGINE NUMBER. Adverts without the above information will NOT be included, phone 80 914 409.

**Lucky ball:** Drawn 19/4/2010. Numbers 2-9-15-16-18-19. Jackpot: \$772.00. No winner. Pick 1-19.

and Friday

5pm—8pm

Large \$15.00

2 for \$25.00

## News Tips from the Department of Education

**ANZAC Day public holiday on Monday 26 April, students return on Tuesday 27 April.**

**The NAPLAN 2010 Tests for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held from Tuesday 11 May to Thursday 13 May 2010.** For more information and test samples, see [www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html](http://www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html)

### Education Tax Refund

If you receive the Family Tax Benefit you may be entitled to claim a tax refund of up to 50 per cent off eligible expenses for your child's education for items such as stationery, computers, printers, Internet and educational software.

Find out more at [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)

### Positive Parenting Podcast

Listen to James O'Loughlin interview Professor Matt Sanders with practical tips that parents can use to help their children get on well at school, interact with others, and have the emotional, behavioural, and social skills they need to do well in life. Podcast can be heard at:

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezone/yr2010/issue01/1\\_parenting/index\\_t.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezone/yr2010/issue01/1_parenting/index_t.php)

## Primary school

### Tips for parenting tweens (9 to 14 year olds)

Simple things you can do right now:

- sit together at mealtimes - there is a lot of evidence that shows this is powerfully protective for kids in modelling good behaviour and giving them a sense of belonging.
- know what your kids are up to with their friends and online
- encourage activities outside of school run by trusted adults
- go to school parent open-days, and other events and functions
- provide clear and consistent ground rules for behaviour

undertake a parenting program or read books on parenting this age group.

More advice about tweens at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolparents](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolparents)

## High school

### Digital Citizen tip: Digital communication

There are lots of ways to communicate - but are they equally appropriate every time? For example, your child wants a best mate to come over. Their parents may prefer to be phoned and asked in person (so they can verify it's okay with you) than have your daughter text the invitation to their child. It takes knowledge and judgement to communicate well. As children venture on to chat rooms and social networking sites like Facebook, they'll also have to make decisions about who to communicate with, how much information to share with them and how to interact appropriately with online contacts.

More tips at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click)

# Chong's Completely Useless Facts

## Did you know...

-The @ symbol has become an important part of e-mail culture. It separates the User Name from the Domain Name. All countries throughout the world use the same symbol but it obviously has a different name in other tongues. In English it is simply the 'at' sign.

### Here are just a few of the more endearing terms:

- Italy: 'chiocciolina' - which, in Italian, means 'little snail'
- France: 'petit escargot' - also 'little snail'
- Germany: 'klammeraffe' - which means 'spider monkey'.
- Dutch: 'api' - a shortened version of 'apestaart' or 'monkey's tail'.
- Finland: 'miau' or 'cat's tail'.
- Norway: 'kanel-bolle', a spiral shaped cinnamon cake
- Israel: 'shtrudel' - following the pastry concept
- Denmark: 'snabel', an 'A' with a trunk.
- Spain: 'arroba'. the Spanish symbol for a unit of weight of about 25 pounds



## Did you know...

Pokemon stands for "pocket monster."

Keep your eye out next week for 10 more useless facts!!



## Joke of the week

Some guy bought a new fridge for his house.  
To get rid of his old fridge, he put it in his  
front yard  
and hung a sign on it saying: "Free to good  
home.

You want it, you take it."

For three days the fridge sat there without even  
one

person looking twice at it.

He eventually decided that people were too  
untrusting of  
this deal.

It looked to good to be true, so he changed the  
sign to  
read:

"Fridge for sale \$50."

The next day someone stole it.  
Caution... They walk among  
us!



## This Week's Birthdays

23rd April



Vanessa Hollis

Whittney Philp



25th April



Troy Sloane

27th April

Jasmine Meehan



28th April

Emma Slater







## **CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL**

Constituted 1 May 1959

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **2010 Financial Assistance Grants now available, applications close 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

Central Darling Shire Council recognises the need to assist non-profit community groups and organisations and individuals who are interested in and working towards the enhancement and the well being of its residents and the Shire.

- Programs will not be funded retrospectively.
- Only one application per community group/individual will be considered per year.
- Projects must be completed within 12 months of funding.

#### **Policy – Section 356 Donations**

**Objective:** Encourage equity and fairness in allocation of funds.

**Strategy:** Ensure that all applicants are aware that there are limited funds available.

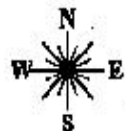
**Eligibility:** Non-profit organisations and individuals within Central Darling Shire.

Applications are available from the Wilcannia and Menindee Customer Service Centres, Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet or via email / fax from the Manager Community and Economic Development.

For more information please call the Manager Community and Economic Development on 08 80838900 or 0429 915919.

**Tim Hazell**

**General Manager**



## **CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL**

Constituted 1 May 1959

### **MAJOR MITCHELL COMMEMORATIVE PROJECT**

Members of the public are invited to attend the unveiling of information panels about Major Mitchell's route taken along the Darling during his Second Expedition 175 years ago.

The organizing group is the Seniors Group of the Institution of Surveyors, NSW Inc., and is sponsored by them, the NSW Staff Surveyors Association, the Surveyor General and the NSW Land and Property Management Authority (formerly the Dept of Lands), the group seeks cooperation from of the local community, schools, Historical Society's and Local Government.

The ceremonies are planned for the following:

**Tilpa** - Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April - following the ANZAC Day 11am service (across from the Tilpa Pub)

**Wilcannia** - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April - late morning (Rest Stop approx 8kms east of Wilcannia on the Barrier Hwy)

**Menindee** - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April - time TBA

The organizers understand this is a busy period but have indicated they would be happy to meet with any interested local historical group representatives.

**Tim Hazell**

**GENERAL MANAGER**





**The NSW Government's Environmental Trust invites applications to the grant programs detailed below.**

Grant programs open 20 March 2010 however closing dates are staggered. See below.

### **Environmental Education**

Two-stage application process – Expression of Interest then application by invitation only

Grants of \$5,000 to \$100,000 available to:

Community organisations and non-profit associations (total program \$500,000)

State and local government organisations (not schools) (total program \$500,000)

**Closing date for Education expressions of interests  
5pm 23 April 2010**

### **Eco Schools**

60 grants of \$2,500 each (total program \$150,000).

Schools who did not receive an Environmental Trust grant in 2009 are eligible to apply.

**Closing date for Eco Schools 5pm 21 May 2010**

### **Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation**

Grants of \$5,000 to \$100,000 available to:

Community organisations and non-profit associations (total program \$1.5 million)

State and local government organisations (total program \$1.5 million)

**Closing date for Restoration and Rehabilitation 5pm 28 May 2010**

### **Protecting our Places**

Grants of \$2,000 to \$35,000

Available to any Aboriginal community group or organisation (total program \$500,000)

**Closing date for Protecting our Places 5pm 4 June 2010**

### **Workshops**

Workshops for the Protecting our Places program are advertised in Indigenous newspapers.

**More information on all workshops being conducted is available on the Trust website.**

### **Application Forms**

Guidelines, application forms and more information is available on the Trust website:

[www.environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au) or by phoning the Trust on (02) 8837 6093.

## **Anzac Biscuits**

### **Ingredients:**

2 cups of rolled oats  
2 cups flour  
2 cups coconut  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
250g butter  
4 tblspns golden syrup  
1 tspn baking soda  
2 tblspn boiling water

### **Method:**

Turn oven to 160°C. Lightly grease oven trays.  
Put oats, flour, coconut, sugar in big mixing bowl. Melt butter and golden syrup in pan. Take off heat.  
Mix baking soda and boiling water in a cup. Add to melted butter in the pan. Quickly add to big mixing bowl. Mix well.  
Roll tablespoonful lots into balls. put on trays 5cm apart. Press lightly with fork.  
Bake for 20 minutes, one tray at a time.



# 2010 Easter Hat Parade Results

<u>Category</u>	<u>Best</u>	<u>Encouragement</u>
<u>K/1/2 Easter Craft</u>	Sarah Williams	Kadum Stephens
<u>3/4 Easter Craft</u>	Stewart Williams	Whittney Philp
<u>5/6 Easter Craft</u>	Joseph Newman	Tevita Newman
<u>Pre-school Easter Mask</u>	Katelayne Barnes	Ethan Doyle
<u>K/1/2 Easter Mask</u>	Will Briar	Apisai Nau
<u>3/4 Easter Mask</u>	Shan-del Studders	Sarah Oates
<u>5/6 Easter Mask</u>	Jade Cicak	Greg Dutton
<u>Open Categories</u>	Best	Encouragement
<u>Best Easter Theme</u>	Shontaye Havili	Nikita Mundy
<u>Australiana Theme</u>	Tori Johnson	Tristan Hindmarsh
<u>Recycled Materials</u>	Pansy Newman	Owen Sloane
<u>Most Colourful</u>	Jasmine Meehan	Montana Johnson-Newman
<u>Grand Champion</u>	Reuben	

