Harmony Day

Harmony Day, managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship is celebrated each year in Australia. It coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and, in 2013, it is being celebrated on 21 March. The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. The theme is Many Stories-One Australia.

Since 1999, Harmony Day has been identified as a day to focus on Australia’s diversity and a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners to those who have come from many countries around the world.

According to Australian Government figures, around 7 million people have migrated to Australia since 1945; we identify with approximately three hundred ancestries; and 45% of Australians were either born overseas or have a parent who was; which makes us a very diverse society. It is interesting to note that at our own small school there is considerable cultural diversity- ten different cultural groups are represented by first generation Australians.

Given that all of us, apart from the traditional owners, are here because of migration that has occurred over the past 225 years, it is important to work toward the development of racial harmony.

At Clunes School, we are planning to hold activities to celebrate Harmony day. There are a number of activities that are possible-involving art, music, story, food, sport etc. In order to make the activities as authentic as possible, we would like to invite community members from a variety of cultural backgrounds to be involved in our celebrations. If you are able to help out in any way, please contact the school to register your interest and to obtain further details.

Thank you to all the parents who attended classroom helper training on Monday. Your enthusiasm and involvement is appreciated.

Don’t forget about the P&C barbeque and parent information sessions this evening.

Margaret Porter
Principal

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School Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 5</th>
<th>WEEK 6</th>
<th>Coming Events</th>
<th>WEEKLY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Information sessions for parents</td>
<td>Mon 4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• P &amp; C barbeque</td>
<td>• NC Cricket trials - girls</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 1</td>
<td>Fri 8</td>
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<td>Piano Tuition</td>
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<td>• Year 2-6 swimming</td>
<td>• Year 2-6 Swimming</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
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<td>• Assembly Class 2/3</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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<td>Kids Connexions – Year 6 students – a relationships program run through Interrelate - 13 and 20 March</td>
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<td>Harmony Day – 21 March</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Cross Country – 28 March</td>
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We are an accredited Waste Wise Ways School
Assembly
Due to the cancellation of our assembly last week, our next assembly is tomorrow, Friday 1 March, at 2.15 in the school hall. Class 4/5 will be presenting an item; and SRC badges will be presented to the newly elected representatives. All families are welcome to attend.

Parent information evening
Our parent information sessions this evening will commence at 5:00pm for K/1; at 5:30pm for Year 1/2 and Year 2/3; and at 6:00pm for Year 4/5 and Year 6. The Clunes P & C are providing a barbeque for the evening – see below for details.

Swimming program
Wasn’t it wonderful to see the sun today – I’m sure all of our swimmers will have appreciated it! Our swimming program reverts to Friday next week. Parent helpers can catch the bus (leaving Clunes at 11.00am) or meet the school at Alstonville Pool at 11.30am.

Due to time constraints and pool availability the program has been shortened to three weeks. Those families who have paid for the program in full will receive a credit which can be used against their school/book fees. If you have already paid these then I can organise for a refund via cheque.

School Photos
Our school photo day was a little miserable and although all the class and individual photos were taken, the whole school photo was postponed. Hopefully this will occur in the next couple of weeks.

Kids Connexions
The year 6 students will be involved in an Interrelate run program -Kids Connexions- which aims to empower children to make healthy relationship choices.
Information and permission notes were sent home earlier this term. Students who have not yet returned their notes have been provided with another copy today.
Notes need to be returned by next Monday at the latest. If you do not wish your child to attend could you please return the note indicating so?

School fees and book fees
Thank you to the many families who have paid their school and book fees.
No invoices will be sent out this term so payment at your earliest convenience would be appreciated (by cash, cheque, EFTPOS or over the phone with credit card).
If you are unsure of the amount owing please check the information which was sent out last week, or look on the website under School Notes.

P & C news
- The P & C will be running a BBQ this evening in conjunction with the school’s information sessions for parents. From 5pm, sausage sizzle, drinks and cakes will be available at the canteen. If you could bake a cake or muffins to support the P&C please bring it to the canteen. Canteen helpers will be greatly appreciated.
- Our AGM is next Wednesday 6 March at 6pm sharp followed by the normal meeting. Please see the attached invitation to attend. We would love to see as many people as possible.

COOSH - It’s A Girl!
Tierra Joanne Rose Graham was born on 27/2/2013. She is 4.3 kg and 57cm long. Mum and bub are both happy and healthy. This week at COOSH we made a garden installation with items that we found in our natural environment. The children worked very hard to make this beautiful piece of artwork so please feel free to come and have a look.

Get set for a night of rock’n roll.
The Clunes Hall Fundraising Committee is proudly bringing Rock n Roll and all things 50’s to the Hall on 23rd March 2013 at 6:30p.m. Tickets are available at the Clunes Auto Centre. The $50 ticket price includes nibbles and a 2 course dinner, plus live music from the 1950’s era by Victims of Geography.
Enquiries or dietary concerns please contact Rhonda Taylor 66291097 or Julie Casey 66291751.

Clunes Playgroup
Clunes Playgroup meets each Monday morning during the school term, from 9.30 to 11.00 at the Clunes School hall. All families are welcome to attend. Please bring a plate to share for morning tea. For more information please contact Inga on 66291674.

Lost Property
Our lost property bin is overflowing and needs to be emptied. Please come and check if your child has any belongings hiding in the bottom before we send the remainder off to charity.

Due dates for notes
- Moving into Year 7 (Yr 6 only)  Friday 22 March
- Kids Connexion (Yr 6 only)  Monday 11 March