Last week, Mrs Jerrett attended the Senior Citizens’ Luncheon with our School Captains and Vice Captains. Those at the lunch commented on our students’ wonderful behaviour and their manners. My sincere thanks to both Mrs Jerrett and our leaders.

Last Friday, members of the Junior Red Cross executive received their badges of office. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to a meeting in Armidale. All members of our leadership group now have their badges and they certainly wear them with great pride.

We are in the process of upgrading the gardens around the school. The first of these is the memorial garden near the flagpoles. This garden in particular has seen a number of important ceremonies - many conducted on ANZAC Day as the wreaths are laid at these flagpoles. The new section of the garden will be known as ‘The Gallipoli Garden’ and will feature some special mementos. I would particularly like to thank Gordon Taylor and the RSL for their continued support towards our school and our students. Congratulations also to Ms Mercer and S3RM for the work they have done for this garden. The mural they’ve created is living history and already has become a very special part of our school’s cultural heritage.

As part of an agreed liaison program between the Department of Education and the NSW Police force, members of the local force visit the school from time to time. On one of these visits the police will talk to students about safety and appropriate behaviour and language. We hope this visit will be before the end of the term.

Congratulations to Caroline Chappell who was re-elected President of the P&C at last week’s AGM. I commend the parent body of the school on their supportive and active interest.

Judi Toms
Principal (A)

School News
‘Paws On’
This year our school is running “Paws On”, a hands-on program that uses companion dogs to support academic and behavioural needs. The dog involved is called ‘Raffy’ (pictured), and is vet checked.

‘Raffy’ is currently working in Kindergarten - Year 2 allowing the students to share a book, play, pet and care for him. The program will also run in Year 3 - Year 6 with students being taught tricks, behaviour training and general animal care.

Students will be instructed on cleanliness and hygiene when working with animals.

Should you have any other queries, do not hesitate to contact me.

Nicole McKean
Student Welfare Teacher

Notification of Chicken Pox
Please be aware that there has been a reported case of Chicken Pox in our school. The time of exposure to illness is two weeks. Symptoms are a slight fever, runny nose and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab. Students need to stay at home for five days after the first rash appears and until the blisters have all scabbed over. For further information go to: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Chickenpox.aspx
School Mobile App
As some parents have had some difficulties with the School Mobile App, mainly in the push notifications area, we have been in contact with the developer and they have provided us with the following advice:

If: You sent a push notification to iOS devices, but didn’t receive it on your iPhone/iPad.

- Verify that both push notifications and location services are enabled for this app under your device's settings.
- Go to Settings > Notifications and scroll through the list to locate the app.
- Once located, you’ll see the types of notifications that are currently enabled listed below the name.
- Click on the app to view its notification settings.
- Make sure Allow Notifications and Show on Lock Screen are enabled, as well as any other notification types you’d like. (Badge App Icon is the red notifier that appears on the app icon when a push notification is received. Banners appear briefly at the top of your screen when your device is in use. Alerts pop up on the home screen and require you to click View or Dismiss.)
- Go to Settings > Privacy > Location Services, and scroll through the list to locate the app.
- Make sure it says Always next to the app. If it says Never, click on the app and change it to Always.
- Return to your home screen.
- Lock your home screen, and attempt to send your push notification once more.

OR
- Refresh the app with a force-close, so the server can re-register your device’s location.
- Launch the app on your device.
- Leave it open until the location arrow at the top right of the screen disappears.
- Double-click your home button and swipe upward over the app so it disappears from the screen.
- Lock your home screen, and attempt to send your push notification once more.
- If it still fails to come through, we suggest repeating this process once more.

Year 6 Students Moving into Year 7 in 2016
Completed Expression of Interest forms should be returned to the school office as soon as possible as they are now overdue.

School Parking Zone Change
In the next few weeks, the disabled bus zone at the front of the school will be re-designated as a general disabled zone. Only cars displaying the appropriate disabled sticker are allowed to use these zones and they are monitored on a regular basis.

Taylor Street Arrivals
A reminder to parents that children can be dropped off at the school in the mornings at the Taylor Street entrance. The gate remains shut for security reasons but is not locked. Younger students may need an adult to help them open the gate.

Parents are reminded that there are no formal supervision arrangements at school before 8:40am each morning. Any students who do arrive early must sit quietly in the area near the bike racks until the 8:40am hooter has sounded.

Visitors to School
All parents/carers and visitors to the school, for whatever reason, are asked to come to the office, sign in and collect a “Visitor” badge. Visitors are then asked to sign out as they leave and return their badge.

Parents/carers needing to bring anything to students throughout the day eg. lunches, jumpers, hats, etc. may leave these items at the office for delivery.

Lunch Centre
Cross Country ‘Lunch Centre’
The P&C will be taking the Lunch Centre to Martin’s Lookout for the School Cross Country this Friday 27th March. Please be advised that there will not be a sausage sizzle as mentioned in last week’s newsletter. More information can be found in the accompanying note.

Please note that only students 8 years and older will be competing at Martin’s Lookout and that the Lunch Centre will be open as normal on this day for those students remaining in the school grounds.

Jane Sanderson
Lunch Centre Supervisor

P&C News
Discos
The Term 1 discos take place in Week 10 at the times on page 1 of this newsletter.

Location: New school hall
Entry cost: $3.00
Theme: Super Heroes

Sweets and pizza will be on sale during the evening. Cordial drinks are complimentary.

Parents are welcome to stay and help on the P&C stall.

Easter Raffle
All Easter Raffle tickets with or without money are to be returned to school THIS FRIDAY.

The raffle will be drawn on Monday 30th March. Good luck!

Thank you to all those who have supported this fundraiser by selling/buying raffle tickets and donating items to be used as prizes.

Caroline Chappell
P&C President

Community Notices
Family Red Cross Car Rally
To be held on Sunday, 12th April 2015 departing West Avenue opposite New England Club at 10:30am and concluding at a destination to be revealed at the end of the drive. Prizes for the best dressed vehicle and Rally winner. Hamburgers and sausages will be available for sale or you can bring your own family picnic lunch.

RSVP by 7th April 2015 to:
1. Margaret Lamph - 6732 1760 (or email m.lamph@bigpond.com)
2. Val Lennan - 6732 6735 (or email garval6@bigpond.com)

Notes Accompanying this Newsletter
- P&C Cross Country Menu (Eldest in the family)
- Lunch Centre Winter Menu (Eldest in the family)
- Combined Schools Celtic Choir Rehearsal (Selected students)

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THANKS FOR VISITING ALL THE STUDENTS AT GIPS

I WONDER... ONE CUP OR TWO!

4DG have had a very busy term! Here are just a few of the things we have been up to.

THIS IS GOING TO TASTE GREAT!

WE ALL ENJOY WORKING IN A SMALL GROUP
Throughout this term we have enjoyed the kitchen garden, completed art work using oil pastels and water colours, been cooking in the kitchen and worked hard with friends in small groups. We have learnt about Wales and the Anzacs and have studied about night and day. We wish everyone a happy Easter from 4DG!

These are great! Would you like one?

Everyone took a photo in the playground to write a descriptive piece of writing.