Aldavilla Swimming Carnival
It was another great day at the swimming carnival, more students than ever competing in a variety of events and strokes. Since last year there has been even more improvement with the ability of our swimming overall. More students are entering races and less are relying on the novelty events.

Kempsey HS students assisted with timekeeping on the day and it was great to catch up with 6 of our former students. They even asked to enter a team in the staff/student/parent relay and nearly won.

Mr Fuller organised and ran a very smooth carnival and was well supported by the staff and several parents who helped out on the day.

A highlight of the school year is the staff/students/parents relay and this year the undoubted winners were the PARENTS!!!! Well done to all of the competitors it was a very close finish and not decided until the final lap.

Mr Fuller has a full report on all of the results later in the newsletter.

Permission to Publish
We like to promote the achievements of our students and the school to our local community. We do this in a variety of ways including the school App, newsletter and website. We also feature regular items in the local radio, print and TV media.

However at the moment we are still trying to get media permission information returned, this enables us to publish live information during events onto the school app.

Whilst we respect your wishes if you do not want your child’s photo published on the internet, it is helpful to school staff to have an accurate list of students whose photo we can use. Please return this information or request a new form from the office.

Parent Interviews
Thank you to the parents that attended the parent/teacher interviews. The staff certainly appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and discuss what the year might bring for your child.

If you were unable to schedule an appointment please don’t hesitate to call the staff and organise a mutually convenient time.

Our school reports formally towards the end of Term 2 and Term 4 each year. Formal interviews are held in Term 1 and at other times throughout the year upon request.

AECG Meetings
Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group meetings are held twice a term at the elders building in South Kempsey in Week 3 and Week 8. The dates will be advised in the newsletter throughout the year.

The meeting is a forum for Aboriginal parents and community members to work in partnership with schools to improve outcomes for Aboriginal students. Membership is $2 per year and forms are available from the school office.

If you would like more information please call either David Munday, Karen Kemsley or Jeremy Taylor.

Staff Introduction
Over the next few newsletters we will be adding a staff profile section which will identify our staff and provide some information about their role in the school. We will be starting with some information from our school counsellor – Mrs Marianne Curtis. Mrs Curtis will also be developing some resources for parents and families which will be available on the website and in the newsletter.

Coming Events for Term 1 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19/02/14</td>
<td>Macleay Swimming carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/02/14</td>
<td>Assembly HB12 12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21/02/14</td>
<td>APS v’s FPS cricket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/02/14</td>
<td>LNC Swimming carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/03/14</td>
<td>Assembly HB11 12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/03/14</td>
<td>P &amp; C AGM 7.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/03/14</td>
<td>NC Swimming carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/03/14</td>
<td>School photos</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Book Fees/School Fees
Every family should have received a Class note regarding school and book fees. Book fees for Kinder, Yrs 1, 2 & 3 are $15-00 and for Yrs 4-6 $10-00. School
fees, which are voluntary, are $20-00 per child or $40-00 for a family of 3 or more. Please send into the office in the envelope attached to your child’s class note. EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available. Prompt payment of these fees would be appreciated.

Code of Conduct Required of Parent
And Other Persons On School Grounds

Schools should be places where students, staff, parents and visitors to the school should feel safe and happy. Ensuring that our school remains a pleasant and safe place for all is the responsibility of all who enter the school grounds.

Parents and visitors to the school are expected to:
1. Treat all persons associated with the school with respect and courtesy
2. Keep clear of all buildings and entrances
3. Ensure their child/children are punctual to class
4. Make appointments in advance rather than expecting to obtain an interview immediately
5. Leave the grounds when requested
6. Allow staff to supervise, investigate and manage students without interference
7. Make complaints about the school, staff or students through the correct procedures
8. Request permission to attend the school when they have lawful excuse
9. Follow school procedures governing entry and behaviour on school grounds, including any restrictions that may be imposed.

This Code of Conduct is intended to ensure that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to behaviours that wound feelings, arouse anger, resentment, disgust or outrage. Failure to abide by this Code of Conduct will lead to the provisions of the inclosed Land Protection Act (1901) and its Amendments being followed when any of following occur:

- Actual physical assaults or threatened physical assaults on students, staff, parents or community members at school or during the course of school activities;
- Behaviour in a manner in the presence of students, staff, parents or other visitors to the school that causes alarm or concern to the students, staff, parents or other visitors;
- Use of offensive language (ie. Swearing) in the presence of students;
- Persistent interruptions to the learning environment of the school such as entering classrooms without permission;
- Persistent entry to the school site without permission or legitimate reason.

APS Swimming Carnival
On Wednesday 12th February Aldavilla students 8 years and up participated in the school swimming carnival. It was a great day where all students were well behaved. Students participated in a full schedule of events as well as novelty races. Congratulations to Yarzi house who were the champion house on the day. The following students were overall age champions for 2014. Heidi L (Senior Girls), Isaiah T (Senior Boys), Lucinda W (11’s Girls), Nic H and Fergus H (tied 11’s boys), Kiara S (Junior Girls) and Jake W (Junior Boys).

Overall age champions

Best of luck to the following students who will represent Aldavilla School at the Macleay Swimming Trials on Wednesday 19th February.

Canteen Roster for Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 17/02-21/02</td>
<td>Nat Lorraine</td>
<td>Meaghan Nat</td>
<td>Nat Kelly</td>
<td>Trish Meaghan</td>
<td>Nat Lorraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5 24/02-28/02</td>
<td>Nat Lorraine</td>
<td>Trish Nat</td>
<td>Nat</td>
<td>Nat</td>
<td>Nat Lorraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6 3/03-7/03</td>
<td>Nat Lorraine</td>
<td>Trish Nat</td>
<td>Nat Kelly</td>
<td>Nat</td>
<td>Natalie Lorraine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canteen Chatterbox

Keep your eyes out for the new canteen menu coming home soon with the student’s, some price rises are inevitable.
This week’s Blackboard special is Super Sushi! Vegetarian - $3, Chicken, tomato, salmon - $3.50 With avocado, cucumber, carrot, cream cheese or sweet chilli.

Applications for Year 7 entry to the virtual selective class provision are now available for gifted and talented students at this school. Students successful for entry to this virtual class will be enrolled at a local class for the majority of their subjects but will be taught English, mathematics and science in a virtual environment together with other gifted and talented students in rural and remote areas through the creative use of communications technologies. This means that they can access a challenging academic program without leaving home and friends to do so. Further details are available on the following web sites:
If you wish to apply for this provision on behalf of your child you will need to complete an online application at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement) urgently. Although the web site indicates that these are late applications they will not be considered late by the selection committees if you apply before 28 February 2014.

All candidates for the virtual selective class provision must take the Selective High School Placement Test on 13 March 2014 and you will be advised directly by the High Performing Students Unit about the test centre you will have to take your child to.

If you have already applied for a selective high school on behalf of your child and now wish to change one of your choices to the virtual selective class provision, please do not complete another application but write directly to the Unit to make that change.

If you do not have access to the Internet please contact Aldavilla school for assistance.

### Community Partnerships

First day of Kindergarten

More kindergarten photos will be published on the school website. Don't forget to check out our website as it is being updated regularly.

Anyone having trouble downloading the school App please phone or ask for me next time you are at school.

Judy Wright
Community Partnership Officer
Judith.wright7@det.nsw.edu.au

### Parenting Tip by Michael Grose

**Easy ways to develop independence in kids**

A major challenge for parents is to find ways of safely moving children from being reliant on adults to a position of independence. This can be tough because your natural instinct is to nurture them. Training for independence starts from a young age and continues into adolescence and beyond. Developing independence is one of the best ways to promote self-confidence.

When you teach children to do jobs for themselves, you send a powerful message that you believe that they are capable. Your actions speak louder than words. Developing independence in kids can be tricky these days. Recently I heard a brilliant, yet deceptively simple idea that all parents can use to develop independence in their kids of any age.

I attended an advanced presentation skills seminar, conducted by Australian professional speaker Glenn Capelli. Glenn said that many speakers complicated matters for audiences, making things too complex. One way of making it easy for audiences to learn is to create a JUNIOR VERSION of whatever we are talking about. He likened this to the way that many sporting bodies have now developed modified versions of adult sports, so kids can learn the basic skills of the sport in fun, enjoyable ways.

I had one of those light bulb moments as I listened, and realised that effective parents create JUNIOR VERSIONS of the GAME all the time to help kids develop the skills of self-sufficiency and independence from a very early age.

**Here are some examples:**

1. We get toddlers to smooth the doonas and arrange their teddies on their beds – that's a JUNIOR VERSION of making a bed.
2. We encourage early primary school kids to make snacks, prepare breakfasts and help prepare a meal. That's a JUNIOR VERSION of cooking an evening meal.
3. We drive primary school kids half way to school and let them walk the rest. That's a JUNIOR VERSION of walking to school.
4. We let an early teen go to a local cinema with friends. That's a JUNIOR VERSION of going out without adult supervision.

There are plenty of ways to create JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living every day so kids can become more self-sufficient.

### Volunteers wanted for the kitchen garden program

The success of this unique and exciting program relies on the support of volunteers to work with small groups. There is nothing more satisfying than sharing a delicious meal created with fresh produce that you have grown from seed to harvest. Every week over 190 school children share in this experience as part of the Kitchen Garden Program at Aldavilla Primary School.

You don't have to be a green thumb or master chef, you just have to love growing food, cooking, contributing to sustainability, or passing on knowledge to the children of our community.

If you would like to volunteer in the kitchen and/or garden, whether for one hour or more a fortnight, we would love to hear from you.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who have contributed so much to our students learning – without you it just wouldn’t happen!

The Program runs Monday to Thursday
Kitchen 11.30am – 1pm                 Garden 2pm - 3pm

**Volunteer Induction Workshop**

Fri 21st Feb 9.15am & 2.15pm
School office: 6563 1141
Gaye Dufty: 0427 625156
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Kel Wright & Co
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