**Sydney Excursion**
Last week the students from Year 3 and 4 visited some excellent places in Sydney. Some recounts have been attached to this newsletter.

**Snow Day Procedures**
The following procedures are in place in case of snow:
- the school will remain open unless teaching staff are unable to attend due to road closures. All teaching staff come from Bathurst;
- bus runs will operate at the discretion of the bus driver after assessing the local road conditions;
- parents to contact the bus driver to see if your bus will be operating (Sue Brooking – 02 6359 5525)
- listen to the local radio for any announcements (2BS and 2LT);
- Please contact the school at 8.30am to ensure that there is adequate supervision if parents choose to transport their child/ren to school on a snow day;
- the Principal’s mobile number is at the bottom of this newsletter;
- parents who deliver children to school must leave an emergency contact and procedure so children can be picked up if staff need to evacuate due to the threat of a road closure.

**Cross Country and Athletics Results**
Congratulations to Kye for his first place performance at the Athletics Carnival and to Isabel for qualifying to compete at the Cross Country competition at Homebush. Isabel came first at the Regional competition at Wellington.

**Lost Property**
A size 8 school polar fleece has been lost with Ryan Goldie’s name on it. Please check to see if it has been taken home by mistake.

**P and C Donation**
The P and C have donated some tables for the infants class students to use to eat their lunches at. They are environmentally friendly as they have been made from recycled plastics. Thank you to our very active P and C members for your hard work organising the fundraisers and making this donation possible.
Restoring Hope

This week is Refugee Week. The students have been learning about the refugees. The theme reminds us that, while a refugee’s journey begins with danger, it also begins with hope. The theme also calls attention to the role of countries which, through offering protection to refugees and providing them an opportunity to rebuild their lives, restore hope for a future free from fear, persecution, violence and insecurity. The theme aims to highlight the situation of refugees whose hopes have not been fulfilled.

Media Release: Public Service Medal honours mirror local educators’ devotion to excellence

Awarding two Public Service Medals in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List to educational leaders from Western NSW public schools highlights the high calibre of leadership available to students in local public schools.

Congratulations Jane Cavanagh of Dubbo and Kathleen Compton of Lithgow on their honour, Regional Director, Carole McDiarmid said many young people had benefited from their leadership, dedication and passion for excellence.

“Only a handful of educational leaders are recognised with Public Service Medals and to have two from Western NSW named in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List is truly exceptional,” Mrs McDiarmid said.

“A Public Service Medal acknowledges those who have consistently performed demanding jobs to the highest standards and have made a major contribution to the Australian community.

“Through their work as teachers and educational leaders, both Mrs Cavanagh and Mrs Compton have had an immense input into the lives of countless young people who in turn have contributed in their own way to the lives of others.

“Mrs Cavanagh and Mrs Compton are fine examples of the devoted educators working in public schools across Western NSW who are committed to improving life outcomes for their students and fostering the communities they live in.

“We should all be honoured that the contribution of educators is recognised in this way.”

Mrs McDiarmid said Mrs Cavanagh had been “a strong advocate for student learning” as a School Education Director in Dubbo and Bourke, Chief Education Officer, School Improvement Officer, Principal of Tottenham Central School, Head Teacher and teacher.

“With the goal of ‘raising the bar and closing the gap’, Mrs Cavanagh has had a profound influence on many aspects of education across Western NSW, and particularly for Aboriginal students and their communities.

“She is held in high professional esteem and has built positive and strong relationships in the communities in which she worked.”

While Mrs Compton’s service was focussed on the eastern part of the Western NSW Region, Mrs McDiarmid said her sphere of leadership extended further, especially through engaging her peers in professional development opportunities to strengthen quality teaching.

“Her work in this area was recognised with a Director-General’s award in 2009,” Mrs McDiarmid said.

“She was the inaugural principal of Denison College uniting the Bathurst High and Kelso High campuses to fully deliver combined teacher expertise and over 90 courses of study to senior students.

“Students are now taking advantage of Mrs Compton’s sound background in curriculum delivery, her innovative vision and experience as principal of the Sydney Distance Education High School to gain unparalleled access to programs that best suit their talents and aspirations.

“The effectiveness of Mrs Compton’s vision can be measured in the student enrolment growth in public secondary education in Bathurst and the quality partnerships between public education and Charles Sturt University and the Western Institute of TAFE.”

Mrs McDiarmid said that while Mrs Cavanagh and Mrs Compton have both recently retired from education, there are many following in their footsteps who are equally devoted to maintaining the impeccable standards both educational
leaders demonstrated in striving to achieve the best for all students.

“They will be inspired and motivated by their success,” Mrs McDiarmid said.

“And it will be our students in every public school across Western NSW Region who will continue to benefit.”

**Sydney Recounts**

Last week Year Three and Four went to Sydney. We got to go to The Rocks and learnt about the First Fleet. We got to dress up as convicts. We went up Sydney Tower and saw a 4D show. It was cool. The next day we went to the Aquarium and walked on glass. There were a lot of fish. We got to feel a starfish. At the Maritime Museum we got to go on two ships. I love Sydney and I want to go again with my family. By Maya, Year 4.

Smiling Convicts on Goat Island

We went to The Rocks, Goat Island, Sydney Aquarium and the Sydney Tower. At The Rocks we got to dress up as convicts and learnt about convicts. We took a ferry to Goat Island and I was put on trial. At the Sydney Aquarium we saw lots of sharks and fish. We went up high in the Sydney Tower and saw lots of things. At the Maritime Museum we went on two ships and learnt more about Captain Cook. We went on the ANZAC Bridge on our way into Sydney. We got to stay at the Youth Hostel. We got to look through a telescope at the Sydney Tower. By Molly, Year 3.

Last Thursday Years Three and Four went to Sydney on a Small Schools Excursion. One day we went to Goat Island where we learnt about the convicts and Aboriginals. We also did The Rocks Walking Tour where I dressed up as Governor Phillip. Right on sunset we went up the Sydney Tower. There were great views. Then we had dinner at The Rocks YHA (Youth Hostel Australia). On day two we went to the Sydney Aquarium and the Maritime Museum. At the Maritime Museum we saw the fastest boat in the world. It went up to 317 mph and we went on the HMAS Vampire. It was an old destroyer. It is no longer in service. I would like to go back and best of all, I was with my friends. By Lachlan, Year 4.

On Thursday we went on an overnight excursion. First we went to Goat Island. We all dressed up as convicts. We went to court and got sent away to NSW for seven years. I was sent away because the judge and Mary were having tea and Mary dropped her tea bag. When she bent down to pick it up she split her pants! And I laughed! Then we went to The Rocks Walking Tour. I had to dress up as a convict again. After that we went to the Sydney Tower and the view was spectacular.
For bed we went to the Sydney Harbour YHA. The next day we went to the Sydney Aquarium and Maritime Museum. By Peter, Year 3.

Last Thursday Year Three and Four went to Sydney. We saw The Rocks, Sydney Tower, Goat Island, Maritime Museum and the Sydney Aquarium. At The Rocks we dressed up as convicts. We got sent away. At Goat Island there was an Aboriginal. He threw a spear. By Jenna, Year 3.

Last week we went to Sydney. We first went to Goat Island. We dressed up as convicts. I stole bread and I was sentenced to seven years transportation. Second, we went on The Rocks Walking Tour and I was a convict named Mary. Third, we went to the Sydney Tower and watched a 4D movie. We saw the views and the people looked like ants. Then we went to our hotel. I was in a room with Maya, Adrienne and Abbey. The next day we went to the Sydney Aquarium. We saw lots of fish. I saw Nemo there and Dori. Next we went to the Maritime Museum and saw The Endeavour. We went onto some ships. I told my mum and my dad that it was so much fun. By Orlagh, Year 3.

**Dates for Students**

**Term 2 2012** – June
- Friday 29th – Last Day of Term 2

**Term 3 2012** – July
- Tuesday 17th – Students Return for term
- Wednesday 25th – Opportunity Class placement test

**August**
- Wednesday 1st – District Athletics High Jump
- Thursday 2nd – Book Parade
- Monday 6th – P and C Meeting
- Friday 10th – District athletics
- Friday 17th – District athletics (backup date)
- Wednesday 22nd – iExplore/iLearn (Year 6)
- Friday 31st – Regional Athletics, Dubbo

**September**
- Monday 3rd – P and C Meeting
- Friday 21st – Mini-feast and talent quest
- Friday 21st – Last Day of term

**P and C Catering**

I am able to assist in the following way:

My name: ____________________________

____ Cakes/slice ______ Salad
____ Quiche _______ Lasagna
____ Donation of a dessert

Other: ______________________________

Phone Number: _______________