Good afternoon Parents,

It is half way through the term and I need to have a grumble. I have three issues that I wish to bring up.

1. **There are many children who are arriving at school way too early.** No teachers are on duty until 8:30am and if your child arrives earlier than that THEY ARE UNSUPERVISED. We ensure that an Out Of School Hours (OOSH) is provided for your convenience if you are working parents. As of next week I am going to start handing notes to children arriving at school before 8:00. It will be suggesting to parents that you should be using the school’s OOSH facility. I will include an OOSH pamphlet with the letter.

2. **Lollipop Sue is a legend.** Her smiling face brightens up all the students who use the crossing. Unfortunately when executive teachers or myself are on afternoon duty, we are appalled when we see older siblings or parents calling their children across a busy road at places other than the crossing. Please make sure that ALL children use the crossing and are kept safe. I would hate to see a fatality outside the school.

3. Some drivers outside of our school are not respecting road rules. Double parking, parking in driveways, parking in “no parking” zones and letting children alight the car on a pedestrian crossing, just to name a few. I have it on good authority that there will be a police and ranger presence outside schools during March. Think about the road rules and don’t let yourself be caught. They will fine and those fines are not cheap.

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**Term 1 Week 5**

Some Dates for your diary:

- 28.02.13 5/6C Assembly
- 07.03.13 2D Assembly
- 07.03.13 Blacktown Zone Swimming Carnival
- 11.03.13 Stage 3 Tony Lockett Shield AFL
- 13.03.13 School Photos
- 14.03.13 4S Assembly
- 21.03.13 1/2H Assembly
- 21.03.13 Harmony Day
- 26.03.13 Stage 3 Paul Kelly Cup AFL
- 28.03.13 3G Assembly
- 29.03.13 Good Friday
- 01.04.13 Easter Monday
- 04.04.13 2R Assembly
- 11.04.13 6K Assembly
- 12.04.13 Last day Term 1

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Now to match those grumbles I will talk about three interesting things happening at the school.

1. With the amazing support of some of our parents I have managed to put together a new uniform code for our school prefects. Our leaders look very smart in the school blazers but in the past the bottom half has certainly not been of that standard. New guidelines will be a tartan skirt and black shoes for the girls and long black trousers and black shoes for the boys.
   I am sure that they will all look very smart at the upcoming events which will be school photos and the Young Leaders Day in the city.

2. I know that Mr Bragg has been very appreciative of parents in the past few weeks. Last Monday we had a team of 16 students who went to Emerton Pool to participate in our Competitive Swimming Carnival. Parents were very helpful in transporting the children to the pool and also Mr Hancock and Mr Beetson held a stopwatch and timed during the carnival. We are all very appreciative of the support of parents that in turn provide extra opportunities for all children.

3. It was satisfying to see a Rugby League presence in the school this week. We were visited by Penrith’s School Liaison Officer as well as three Penrith players. They were at the school to promote an anti bullying message. It is amazing how powerful a message can be sent from celebrities. I am sure that the kids loved the prizes and the autographs too.

I look forward to another exciting fortnight.

Mr Terry Dauw
Acting Principal.

MESSAGES FROM THE DEC

All about apostrophes
Not knowing where to place apostrophes can haunt people for their entire lives. Here’s an easy guide to help your child understand what they mean, how to use them and get them right, now.

When older kids struggle with reading
Should you let your reluctant teen reader choose magazines over books? If your child is still struggling to read and write, and they’re heading into high school, there are ways to get them on the right page.

Multiplication times tables
Does your child need encouragement? Explain to them that learning times tables = instant, painless recall in exams. Here’s School A to Z’s help sheet:

Sorting fact from fiction
Help your child develop their “dodgy website” antennae when doing homework. Here are ways your child can tell a good website – or any document – from a bad one.
NAPLAN INFORMATION SESSION
All parents/caregivers are invited to attend a NAPLAN information session. This session will give you information about the structure of NAPLAN, how you can help your child and what we do at school in preparation for NAPLAN. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions.
Where: HB7 - Mrs Devlin's class
When: Wednesday 6th March
Time: 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Many thanks Sue Devlin

SCHOOL PHOTOS – ADVANCE NOTICE
School Photos will be held on WEDNESDAY, 13TH MARCH. Envelopes for Individual packs will be handed out today. Individual photo packs vary in cost from $15 - $55
Family photo envelopes are available from the office. Family packs cost either $15 or $20.

STUDENT BANKING
Thank you to all the parents who are supporting their children by teaching them about saving. It would be appreciated if when sending in banking, the deposit slip is completely filled out.
Thank you.

PLUMPTON SWIMMING TRIALS
Plumpton P.S’s competitive swimming trials were held last week at Emerton Pool. Sixteen students from Years 3 - 6 travelled with their parents to the pool and joined students from William Dean P.S for a fun day of swimming.
Mr Bragg, Ms Katon and Mr Dauw were extremely impressed with the pride in which all of the students represented the school and had a try at almost all events.

Congratulations to Jessica Friesendorff, Ebony Hancock, Mikayla Cleasby, Summer Brown, Kelly Gentles, Shaneel Kumar, Luke Harrison, Jack Hancock and Ryan Wilson who all met qualifying times and will represent Plumpton at the upcoming Zone Swimming Carnival on March 7th.

Thank you also to all parents who provided transport for children on the day, and especially those who offered their services to time keep and record.
Mr Bragg

PENRITH PANTHERS ANTI-BULLYING VISIT
Plumpton was visited by three of the Penrith Panthers players on Monday to talk to our students about the negative effects of bullying, and to teach them strategies to make school a friendly and accepting place for everyone.
Brad Tighe, Jeremy Latimore and Dane Weston shared their own experiences with bullies and offered advice to all students from K-6 about positively dealing with bullies and the benefits of leading an active and healthy lifestyle.
All students benefited from these important messages and we wish the Panthers luck for the 2013 season.
Mr Bragg

THANKYOU
A huge thank you to Mrs Byron for covering books for the kindergarten children.
ES1 Teachers
The Snail Trail is the first SRC fundraiser for 2013!

**When:** Tuesday, 9th April - Week 11

**What to do:** START COLLECTING SILVER COINS!! Collect as many silver coins as you can AT HOME! On the day of the Snail trail you can bring them in and give them to your teacher!

**How it works:** At the Snail Trail your SRC representatives will line up all your coins and measure them to see how long your trail is!

**Prize:** The class with the longest snail trail will win a Pizza Party! The winner will be announced on Wednesday after Recess!

So Start Collecting Coins And Good Luck!!

The SRC

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**SCHOOL PROCEDURES & REMINDERS**

**SCHOOL CAR PARK**
Parents are reminded that the school car park is for **STAFF PARKING ONLY**.
Parents are asked not to drop children off in the car park, park in or walk through the car park. The car park is out of bounds for students. This is for their safety.

**EARLY LEAVERS**
When signing children out early of an afternoon, for appointments etc, parents are asked to do so before 2.45pm. Students will not be signed out after this time.

**MESSAGES REGARDING LATE COLLECTION OF STUDENT**
Please phone **before 2.30pm** with any messages for your child. We do our best to get messages to children but it would be appreciated if you could ensure there are alternative procedures in place.

**PAYMENTS**
All payments for excursions, camp, activities etc must be paid by the advised closing date and given to the class teacher. Please ensure you have enclosed the correct money (**no change will be given**) in an envelope clearly marked with child’s name, class, activity and amount. Sorry we do not supply envelopes.

Have you changed any of your contact details? If yes, please contact the office immediately. It is very distressing for students and staff when parents cannot be contacted when needed. Thank you.

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**P&C NEWS**
It was nice to see some new faces at our last meeting. It’s always good to have some fresh ideas and extra help at our events.

Our next meeting is our AGM where a new committee will be voted in (If there are enough people to fill the positions) 18th March at 6pm in the staff room. Hope to see you there.

**Uniform shop**
The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday and Thursday 8.30-9am and 2.30-2.55pm. CASH ONLY.
DONNA JEAN’S DANCEFORCE

‘New for 2013! - Enrol Now!’

- Hip Hop - Contemporary - Jazz/Funk - Tap
- Classical Ballet (Cecchetti & R.A.D.) - Acrobatics
- Performance - SINGING - Boyz Breakdancing

“FUN, FRIENDLY, FAMILY Studio” for kids from 2 yrs

- Air-Cond.
- Studios
- First
- Lesson
- “FREE!”
- Lessons
- from ONLY
- $9.00

“WINNERS!” - South Pacific Dance Championships, Western Sydney Dance Challenge 2012

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2/24 Eddie Road, Minchinbury

PRINCIPAL: DONNA JEAN HOLMES (A.Dip.CBA., C.I.C.B.CertIV, A.Dip.ISTD) EST. 29 yrs