From the Principal

Volunteer Morning Tea
Last week we held our annual volunteer morning tea. It was wonderful to be able to recognise the significant efforts of our volunteers, who generously donate their time and skills to support our students. Unfortunately many of our helpers were unable to attend so I’d like to thank you in print. We have over 150 people who assist us in a variety of ways; as classroom support, library helper, member of committees, gardener, fundraiser, literacy tutor, canteen helper, banker, sports coach and the list continues. Thankyou. You make a huge contribution to our school and are wonderful models of citizenship for our students. We value the support of everyone who has assisted and look forward to welcoming volunteers again in 2014.

End of Year Reports
Student reports and Kinder learning portfolios will be sent home this Thursday 12 December for all classes except for Kinder Lawes who will receive theirs on Friday 13 December.

Our staffing has yet to be finalised. Your child’s class and teacher will be advised on Monday 16 December, subject to confirmation of staffing from HR. Teachers and senior staff have met on a number of occasions to consider class placements. These processes are very complex. Balance has to be maintained across class sizes, sibling placements, male/female numbers, ability, behaviour issues, friendships, social/emotion issues and any parent information provided. Therefore no class changes can be made. We appreciate your support. Students will visit their new classrooms next Wednesday afternoon and in most circumstances meet their 2014 teacher/teachers.

Big Day Out and End of Year Assembly
It’s hard to believe our 2013 school year is nearly over and within the next week there are two significant events for our twenty nine Grade 6 students. On Thursday they attend the Big Day Out in Launceston and on Tuesday we say farewell at our final assembly. The assembly will begin at 11.15am and conclude around 12.30pm. We will be reserving some front seating for the parents of our grade 6 students. The multi-purpose room will not be open until 10.45am. As this is a public event, photos and videos may be taken. However, a message from our legal services area; these can only be used for private and domestic purpose, not posted on social media sites such as Facebook and You Tube. Thankyou.

Grade 6 Final Assembly Light Lunch
All grade 6 parents should have received an invitation to the grade 6 final assembly and light lunch to be held afterwards. All grade 6 parents welcome. Hope to see you there!

School Picnic
We will celebrate the end of the school year with our picnic at the Latrobe Pool on Thursday 19 December from 10am - 2pm (weather permitting). Students will need: suitable casual clothes including a hat, a rash shirt or t-shirt that covers their shoulders, bathers, towel and a plastic bag for wet items, snacks, drink bottle and lunch – if not already ordered. Please ensure all personal items are clearly named. Class sunscreen will be available for students to use. However if you prefer, you may provide your own sunscreen. Parents are welcome to join us at the pool for this end of year event. Please note: If parents wish to take students home from the pool, they must be signed through the class teacher. Alternate arrangement will be made if there is inclement weather.

Mandy Beard

School Levies/Book Sales Day
Levies have been set for 2014 at $130 for kindergarten and $165 for prep to grade 6 students. Book sales are scheduled for Thursday 30 January from 8am to 4pm. Book packs will not be available any earlier. If you are unable to pick up packs on this day, a later time can be negotiated. On book sales day, a book pack will be given to each student. Full payment of levies is encouraged on the day, but payment instalments may be negotiated. Parents may organise this prior to this date.

All levy paying families will receive an invoice in the mail per child. This invoice MUST be bought in on book sales day. This year levies can be paid by cash, cheque, eftpos, BPay or at Service Tas. Thank you.

Term Dates ~ 2014

Term 1: 5 February - 17 April
Easter: 18 April - 22 April
Term 2: 5 May - 4 July
Term 3: 21 July - 26 September
Term 4: 13 October - 18 December

Professional Learning Days:
*Monday, 3 February, *Monday, 21 July, *Friday, 24 October
Moderation Day:
*Thursday, 17 April
Launching Little Learners
Tomorrow (11 Dec) Little Learners will be held at The Bluff from 9:15am. We will meet at the bluff carpark with bikes, scooters and helmets and then have a walk/ride together. Following this we will have a play at the park. If it is raining we will have LLL at Miandetta Primary School.

Next week (18 Dec) we will be heading to The Bluff at 9:15 for a Christmas party “Aussie style”. Don’t forget hats, drinks and suncream!

Launching Little Learners for 2014
In 2014 Little Learners will be held on Wednesday mornings in Kinder Chilcott from 9 am.

Christmas Raffle - DRAWN THIS FRIDAY
Thank you to all families who donated items for our Christmas Raffle. All Raffle books must to be returned (sold or unsold) by TOMORROW.

The raffle will be drawn THIS Friday 13 December. Also have you seen the big block of Toblerone in the office that can be won as part of the Christmas raffle? We also have a skateboard kindly donated by Canoe n Surf valued at $130. Wow!

Move Well Eat Well

T20 Big Bash League - Win Tickets
Would you like to win yourself 2x Adult and 2x Children tickets to the T20 Big Bash League in Hobart on Wednesday, 1 January at 1:45pm?

To be in the draw, you must share with us your best move well eat well tip by writing this on paper with your name and class. All entries must be received by Tuesday 17 December. Good Luck!

By: Bridie Smith and Melekai Woolley 3/4 Enniss
On Friday 6 December, 3/4 E had the privilege to meet and work with the Devonport Mayor, Mr Steve Martin. First we listened to Mr Phil Murray talk about how important it was for us to care for our rivers, creeks and oceans. The drains lead out to sea and the oceans are filling up with plastics, rubbish and poisons from oils and paint that people put into the drains. Mr Murray and the Mayor showed us what to do with the paint and stencil. We talked about doing the job safely and we went all around the school spray painting the reminder, The Drain is Just For Rain near the drains. If you look you may see one of our reminder signs. Thanks to the adults who kept us safe near the roads.
School Banking - Reminder
The last school banking for the year will be tomorrow, Wednesday 11 December. Please use any tokens for rewards before this date. The rule of one money box per child per year has been removed. If students would like to redeem an additional money box and have enough tokens, we encourage them to do so as the current set of money boxes will be unavailable in 2014. Thank you to all the students who have banked.

Congratulations to 1/2 Rippon for winning term 4’s class school banking certificate for the most number of deposits being 87. Their class has won a $50 school class voucher. 2nd with 76 deposits was 5/6 Reeves and 3rd with 75 was Kinder Lawes.

Congratulations to these students who have received Gold certificates for their incredible efforts in making 30 deposits through the School Banking program: Keelan Billing, Nikita Frost, Izobel Woodberry, Zade Patman, Georgia Smith, Dylan Frost and Lachlan Smith.

Congratulations to the following student who received a School Banking bronze certificate for her great efforts in making 10 deposits: Ow-Anne Rush

Sport’s Uniforms - Reminder
With Spring rosters finishing in the coming week, all sports uniforms need to be returned to the office and in good condition. If uniforms are returned in good condition $5 will be refunded. Uniforms which remain outstanding will be invoice to the parent at $45.

Stepping Stones School Holiday Program
If you would like a copy of the Stepping Stones School Holiday program, please see the school office. For further information or to make a booking, please call 6425 3499.

Devonport Athletic Carnival Beep Test
You’re invited to take up the challenge! Survival of the fittest- Will it be you? This will be held on Monday 30 December (time to be confirmed) at Devonport Oval. Entry cost is carnival admission price. Enter by emailing name and age to devbeepertest@gmail.com

Devonport Carols By Candlelight
The Devonport Carols By Candlelight will be held on 15 December at Roundhouse Park Mersey Foreshore, Devonport at 8pm. To find out more, please call 6424 0511.

The Wait Is Almost Over - Splash Opening Soon
Join in the excitement as we set to open the biggest aquatic and recreation facility in the northern region of Tasmania. Choose from our 2 outdoor pools, 2 indoor pools, warm water exercise pool, waterslide, 2 splash zones, extensive gym, group fitness classes, cycle studio, or just relax in the café, BBQ and parklands. A range of memberships are available from $7 per week - so don’t miss your opportunity to get involved for a fantastic price. If you have already joined, for a little extra per week you can now add your children to a family membership. A range of gift certificates will also be available next month.

Learn to Swim Classes
Our Aquatic Education Program provides children from 6 months through to adults with a solid foundation in swimming and water safety following the RLSSA Swim & Survive program. Our program offers a range of levels to suit individual development and confidence. Our fully qualified and experienced instructors make learning to swim fun and students are rewarded with regular progress certificates. We run classes run six days a week and are now accepting enrolments for both our weekly program and school holiday intensives.

Disclaimer: Parents should note that advertisements for educational services, companies, activities or similar events are published as ‘community service’. Miandetta Primary School is in no way liable for the quality, supervision or integrity of the provider and strongly suggests that parents make their own enquiries before engaging with the advertised event.

Dates to Remember
December 11   Last Day of School Banking
December 12   Grade 6 Big Day Out
December 13   Christmas Raffle drawn
December 17   Grade 6 Final Assembly
December 18   Students Visit New Classes
December 19   School Picnic / Last Day of School
January 30    Book Sales Day
By: Isaac Woolley
Yesterday 1/2 R and 2A went to watch the performance of the Ruby Slippers. It was played at the Princess Theatre in Launceston. It was the story of the Wizard of Oz. Dorothy lived on a farm with her dog Toto. A big gust of wind took her to a place over the rainbow. Her house squashed the Wicked Witch of the East. Dorothy put on the witches ruby red slippers. She went down the yellow brick road and met a scarecrow, a tinman and the lion. My favourite character was the Tinman. I liked the show because it was good.

By: Brea Cunningham
On Tuesday we went to Launceston. It took one and a half hours to get there. After half an hour we stopped at Andy’s Bakery to have recess. We then got back on the bus. When we got to Launceston we went into the Princess Theatre to watch the Ruby Slippers. It was a retelling of the story of the Wizard of Oz. A tornado swept Dorothy’s house up into the air and then it landed on the Wicked Witch of the East. Dorothy landed over the rainbow where she saw tiny people and a beautiful witch she was the good witch. But she wanted to go home so she was told to go along the yellow brick road to a big green castle called The Emerald City to see the Wizard of Oz. On the way she met a scarecrow a lion and a tinman. When she got there she asked the Wizard of Oz if she could go home. The scarecrow asked for a brain, the tinman wanted a heart and the lion wanted some courage. The wizard told Dorothy that she had to kill the witch. They were able to melt her with water and told to get on a hot air balloon to take them home but the balloon went without them. Dorothy was then told to tap her shoes together three times and say “there’s no place like home”. She did and her and Toto arrived home. I thought it was very interesting and I enjoyed it a lot.
Throughout the year two teams have been doing a CELO program called Smart Bots. We have been set challenges and quizzes using Lego Mindstorms sets. Our challenges have varied from making a robot cockroach that roves around in the night but goes bonkers in the daylight to making a dancing robot that moonwalks. We also made our ultimate robo pets. In team 2 a.k.a. Justice League we decided to make a pet turtle called Justice Justin. Justice Justin tries to chase its own tail (but fails at it) when it’s bored. Our turtle also wags its rear end left to right with happiness when you pat it and comes to your feet when you call out its name Team 1 made a bilby and called him Bill. Bill has the same features as Justice Justin and because he is nocturnal he is also scared of the light. These characteristics were achieved using different sensors e.g. ultraviolet, sound, touch, infrared, etc. and the Lego Mindstorms programming software. The Justice League are Lachlan, Anthony and Liam. In team 1 are Max and Ben. It has been a challenging but fun experience for us all.

This year Esther, Izabella, Tahli, Trinity and Eliza have been very busy blogging. We’ve communicated with Dunalley Primary School and found out more about the fires. We made our own individual mind maps which included interesting information about ourselves so other schools could get to know us. Recently we competed in the 2013 Student Blogging Challenge which got us involved with many activities with schools around the world. We even adopted a pet pig named Freckles who is very cheeky and lovable. Check him out at: [http://eschoolblogs.org.au/mps/](http://eschoolblogs.org.au/mps/). Anyone can leave a comment on any of our great posts, you just need an email address.

On Friday 3/4EM went to the mall to present our Christmas panel. Toby and Sahanna were called up to present the panel the Mayor who asked a few questions about our panel. Then we went back and sat in our row to watch other schools presenting their panels. At the end of the presentation, the host Shayne sang a Christmas song and out of nowhere Santa arrived in the mall. He was hiding in Passport Surf! Santa said he was on a diet as he was a very thin looking Santa. Then he talked to all of the school children before he and the Mayor handed out some lollies. After we got our lollies we walked back to school.