Thank you also to the students who made it to the marimba performance on Saturday morning at the Art Show. As usual, the marimbas sounded fantastic and were a real crowd-pleaser!

Premier’s Reading Challenge. Congratulations to the following 31 students for completing the challenge this year: Jade, Charlotte, Giselle, Zac, Jesse, Taj, Lucy, Stratton, Kiah, Kyah, Brody, Stanley, Ardyn, Harry S, Rudi, Jaimie, Oliver, Clio, Sam, Jessica, Max, Ryder, Ben, Lara, Trevor, Dhani, Tilly, Harry, Harley, Sally and Ciara.

The P&C party will be held in Week 10. The children who have completed the challenge will definitely not need their lunch on that day. Well done all!

Director of Schools Bryan Campbell, responsible for over 60 schools throughout the Cessnock/Singleton/Maitland area, was our guest on the Art Show Opening Night. He sent the following note to P&C President Veronica and myself:

Thank you for the invitation to attend the Laguna PS P&C Art Show. I thoroughly enjoyed the evening. I thoroughly enjoyed both your addresses to the gathering. The meal, sense of community and the wonderful art works were all marvellous. I trust it was a great success for all the hard working staff and community members.

From my perspective a couple of the truly great things to witness were the tremendous connection between parents and staff and staff completely engaged in the activity, enjoying themselves, willingly doing extra things above the regular teacher/admin stuff and the message I got was they enjoyed it and it all made them feel good. It made me feel good to see it. I know that kids who attend a school where that is the culture are going to do well and be well looked after. The staff team at Laguna PS are a very strong group.

The P&C deserve to be ‘gold medal winners’. Congratulations to all. Wonderful things happen at Laguna PS. - Bryan Campbell

On behalf of all the Laguna staff, I would again like to thank all of our wonderful families for their creativity, enthusiasm and effort in creating a memorable 2014 Art Show and committing themselves so whole-heartedly to the welfare of our students.

Thank you also to the students who made it to the marimba performance on Saturday morning at the Art Show. As usual, the marimbas sounded fantastic and were a real crowd-pleaser! - Mr Howe.

Premier’s Reading Challenge. Congratulations to the following 31 students for completing the challenge this year: Jade, Charlotte, Giselle, Zac, Jesse, Taj, Lucy, Stratton, Kiah, Kyah, Brody, Stanley, Ardyn, Harry S, Rudi, Jaimie, Oliver, Clio, Sam, Jessica, Max, Ryder, Ben, Lara, Trevor, Dhani, Tilly, Harry, Harley, Sally and Ciara.

The P&C party will be held in Week 10. The children who have completed the challenge will definitely not need their lunch on that day. Well done all! - Mrs Baker.

A reminder that the Intensive Swimming Program is scheduled for Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 4. Cost per student is $31.50, and permission notes went home last week. Payments can be made through the payment portal on the school website, or in person at the office. Thank you to the P&C for covering the cost of transport to and from the pool! Students will be departing school at 11.20 a.m. each day, returning at 3.30 p.m. The swimming lessons are about 90 minutes in duration.

Congratulations to Dhani, Sally, Yinaa and Nirikai who competed in the Regional Athletics Carnival last Friday. Simone accompanied the team and reported that they all gave their best against very strong opposition. The girls should be very proud of their achievements!
School Matters

NAPLAN results for Year 3 and Year 5 are due into school in the next week. Teachers will look through the results and invite parents in to school to collect the results and discuss them.

We had a taste of things to come with a very warm day on Monday, and as the sun becomes stronger, all students will need their hats. Parents please make sure hats are clearly labelled so that those hats which are often found ‘floating’ around the school grounds can be returned to their rightful owners.

Our school uniform looks bright and smart, and really stands out when we are out and about in the community. Parents, please ensure your child comes to school in their uniform each day. If you are short an item or two, such as shirts, please ask around as many families would have uniform items in good condition that their children have outgrown. Also, some students have lost jackets from school—please check the labels on your child’s jacket as they sometimes bring home someone else’s.

Year 4-5-6 News

The rain has encouraged the gardening spirit in the classroom and this week students have begun sowing seeds for a variety of vegetables to grow in our school gardens. We hope to plant tomatoes, eggplant, capsicum, pumpkin and silverbeet.

Mrs Baker has sent home the TERM 3 project, which requires the students to make a model or poster that explains a particular method of electricity generation. What a great opportunity for some creative modelling! Please see Mrs Baker or Mr Howe if you need any assistance completing the project.

Students are working in small groups to investigate different countries around the world. The multi-age groups work very well together and the projects combine research, presentation and technology skills.

In maths this week, year 4 students are learning different multiplication strategies, including using place value to multiply two and three digit numbers. For example, students use their mental arithmetic skills in solving 46x5 by multiplying 40 by 5, then multiplying 6 by 5 and adding the results! Year 5 students have continued work on ordering and placing on number-lines numbers to two decimal places. Year 6 students have been working with time-tables and converting between 12 and 24hr times. This week Year 5 and year 6 students sat the Newcastle Permanent Maths Test—results will be distributed early next term.

“Art is not what you see but what you make others see” Edgar Degas
K-1 News from Mrs Shaunessy

What a privilege it is to be able to teach the 17 children that make up the K-1 room. The intrinsic motivation they all show towards their schooling and being the best that they can puts a smile on my face everyday. They should be very proud of themselves.

We are spending the last few weeks of term focusing on our Science and Technology unit- 'Paddock to Plate'. It’s a great way to connect with our food and gain a greater understanding of where our food comes from. We will all be working towards producing a mini project. Next week for Show and Tell, bring in your favourite book.

Year 2-3 News

Our class really enjoyed an afternoon of Russian culture with Polina. We danced and sang, Polina played the piano accordion and read a Russian book that Tully translated! Students also learned to write some Russian letters.

Apologies about the homework - but I am sure that all of my students are reading every night to build upon the hard work they are doing in class! - Ms Sewell

Thank you to Aran Pratt for taking some lovely photos on the Art Show Opening Night. More photos on the next page - for this week only, parents instead of students!
Art Show 2014