Dear families,

It is with such great sadness that I write to inform you of the sudden passing of Uncle Les Elvin, a local Aboriginal elder. Recently Uncle Les has been working here at our school with our Aboriginal students every Wednesday. Sharing his incredible artistic talent and knowledge with our young students. He will be sorely missed.

This week we are holding our Annual Spelling Bee competition. Classes have been determining their finalists in class in preparation for Thursday's competition. Parents of the finalists involved will be contacted by their children's class teacher.

Next Wednesday is the first of our Teddy Bear's Picnics as part of the Kindergarten orientation for 2016. If you have a child attending Kinder next year we look forward to seeing you with your child. If you know of a family with Kinder children for 2016 please remind them to come up to the school office to start the enrolment process.

Thank you to families who have already made payments at the office for upcoming excursions. We have tried really hard to keep costs low by paying for the buses. The excursions planned are all great experiences for the students and link really well to the lessons being studied.

Speech Tip
While shopping for groceries, discuss what you will buy, how many you need, and what you will make. Discuss the size (large or small), shape (long, round, square), and weight (heavy or light) of the packages.

Power Sentences
Our sentences this week come from class 3/4B
Tikeira ……
“In the bright early morning the beautiful white swan was swimming like a turtle.”
Riley ……
“In the morning, the giant is slowly catching fish like a snail catching a mouse.”

Have a good week & as always please contact either the school staff or myself if you have any concerns.

Kind regards,
Jenny Rozynski
Principal

PBL Corner – Week 6
This week in our PBL lesson, students discussed the differences between BULLYING and UNFRIENDLY BEHAVIOUR. While both bullying and unfriendly behaviour are unacceptable and are not examples of going for safety, learning and respect, it is important for students to realise that random, one-off negative comments are not by definition bullying behaviours. According to the current DEC policy, bullying is “repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons”. Due to Principal’s Award assemblies, PBL awards were not handed out this week.

Jarrod Mullen Cup
Last Thursday, the CPS senior rugby league team travelled to Valentine to take part in the Jarrod Mullen Cup, an invitational tournament for the top rugby league schools in the Hunter Region. This is the first time that Cessnock PS has been invited to this tournament, and while our day unfortunately ended in the group stage (after a hard fought 12-4 loss to Wiripadang PS, an unlucky 20-20 draw with Seaham PS and a bruising 20-4 loss to eventual tournament champions Metford PS), the boys represented themselves, their school and their region with pride and distinction. Thus ends an entertaining and successful year of rugby league at Cessnock PS.
Thank you to the boys for their commitment and hard work, and to all parents who have supported and transported your children. Your support is appreciated by both myself and the team.

**Hunter Inter-Schools Public Speaking Competition**
Well done Lexi and Zoe, Noah and Mayghan, Georgia-Rose and Kayla, Lennox and Savannah. You represented your school well at the Inter-Schools Public Speaking last week.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**
You are reminded that the PRC closes this Friday, August 21 at 11.59 p.m. You will need to log on to the PRC website by that date and enter online the books your child has read.

**Book Week**
Book Week runs from this Friday (August 21), when the winning books are announced, to Friday of the following week (August 28) when we will hold our Book Character Parade, Book Reading and Book Sale. These festivities will begin at 10.30 a.m. under the COLA before moving to Cooinda and the School Library.

**Woolworths Eam and Learn**
Once again this year, the school is collecting Woolworths Eam and Learn points. The more points we collect, the more great free resources we can get for our school! Make sure you collect you stickers and hand in your completed cards. Completed cards can be placed in the box in the front office, or in the bin labelled “Cessnock Public School” (beautifully decorated by 3-6T) located outside Cessnock Woolworths.

**Cessnock Public School P&C**
Our August P&C meeting will be held on Monday 18th starting at 5.30pm in the main auditorium of the E.C.B.C. The focus will cover the progress of current projects and the upcoming Father’s Day Stall and activities. Everyone is welcome with snacks, tea and coffee provided and children may attend, so meetings are a non-alcohol event. Bring a friend and bring your thoughts and ideas ready for open floor discussion.

**Administering Medication at School**
School staff can only administer medication at school which is prescribed by a doctor. The medication bought in must have a pharmacy label attached which identifies the student, the dosage and time of day to be administered. Parents/carers will need to bring the medication to the office and complete the forms required for administering of medication.

**Breakfast Club**
From 8.15 am to 9.15 am located in the building opposite Cooinda, students can have a healthy breakfast for a coin donation. Cereals, scrambled eggs, yoghurt and toast are served by volunteers each weekday. Students also experience social interaction with their peers, use of table manners and develop domestic independence. If you are interested in volunteering in Breakfast club please see the front desk for more information.

**School Contributions**
Our school keeps this cost as low as possible and so this year they are set at $40.00 for all students. This amount covers school resources to continue valuable programs and innovations, especially around technology. Please pay at the office as soon as possible, by cash or cheque.

New and quality Father’s Day stall gift donations can be handed in and deposited in the P&C basket located in the school foyer. These are very much appreciated and donating is an easy way to help your school P&C.

Thank you to all who have supported the P&C Pie Drive, you asked for it, we did it! All orders should have been placed and paid last Friday. A note will go home soon as a reminder for pick up details. More information and updates on school news is available on the awesome Cessnock Public P&C Facebook page.

**Kindergarten Enrolments 2016**
Kindergarten enrolments for next year are open and are filling fast. If you or someone you know plans to enroll a child at Cessnock Perfect for 2016, please come in and see our wonderful office staff as soon as possible to obtain the necessary paperwork.
**Teddy Bears Picnic Kindergarten 2016**

Let the adventure of Kindergarten start here, enjoying a fun morning of activities for the whole family. Bring along your favourite Teddy Bear or cuddly toy and meet our friendly staff in the school grounds. Morning tea of fruit and water will be supplied.

*When:* Wednesday 26th August and Wednesday 2nd September.

*Where:* Cessnock Public School Infants playground

*Time:* 9.45am – 11am

Don’t forget your Teddy Bear or cuddly toy.

**Term Reminders**

**Week 6**
- Monday 17th August – Principal Assemblies
- Thursday 20th August – CPS Spelling Bee Competition

**Week 7**
- Wednesday 26th August – 1st Teddy Bears Picnic for Kindergarten students 2016
- Thursday 27th August – “To Federation & Beyond” an Australian History presentation at 10:00am for all students
- Friday 28th August – Book Week Parade – 10:30am under the Cola.

**Week 8**
- Wednesday 2nd Sept – Teddy Bears Picnic for Kindergarten students 2016
- Thursday 3rd Sept – Multi-Sports Day

**Week 9**
- Wednesday 9th Sept – Stage 1 Excursion to Fighter World – payment due Friday 28th August
- Friday 11th Sept – Kinder excursion to Oakvale Farm – payment due Friday 4th September
- Friday 11th Sept – Stage 2 Excursion to Sydney

**Week 10**
- Thursday 17th Sept – Stage 3 Excursion to Sydney

Community News Flyers are available for viewing on the school website.

**Thought for the week**

Always remember to take your vitamins: Take your vitamin A for ACTION, vitamin B for BELIEF, vitamin C for CONFIDENCE, vitamin D for DISCIPLINE and vitamin E for ENTHUSIASM.  By Pablo