This term has started out very strong (not just in terms of the weather!) with a fantastic ANZAC ceremony last Friday. I believe that the quality of our commemoration is due to the contributions of many, our staff, students, parents, family and community members. I would like to especially thank our special guests Mr Phil Carrett, Lieutenant Carina Cvejic, Mr Ron Sheldon and Mr Tony Weston, our other guests and parents for participating in our ceremony. I extend my congratulations to our school leaders, school choir, student ‘sound engineers’ and all our extremely well behaved and respectful students for showing pride in our school and our history as a nation. I would also like to thank all students who participated in the Culburra ANZAC Day march on Saturday, you did a fabulous job marching as did our school choir and school captains – well done!

Our school receives significant support from local community and business groups, this week we gratefully accepted donations from the Culburra Anglican Co-Op and the Culburra RSL. These funds will be used to purchase new readers for use by students in the K-2 classes as well as student awards and prize giving. We are proud to accession the new readers donated by the RSL to our school library as a resource for studying our ANZACs. On behalf of our school community I would like to say thank you for your support it is greatly appreciated.

This week students in 5/6W will participate in an in-class workshop on public speaking with Miss Pam Barling. Some of our students have already worked with Pam in developing their debating skills, this workshop is for all students in the class and is a great opportunity to coach our students in specific public speaking skills. Further public speaking workshops for students in the primary classes will be scheduled throughout the year.

Teachers are learners to, last week the K-2 and support teachers utilised the staff development day to work on their English and Mathematics curriculum whilst the 3-6 teachers, Clarrice Gibbs and I attended module training in Accelerated Literacy at Callala Public School. As a staff we are planning to meet on a weekend this term to further develop our English and Mathematics units of work and assessment in lieu of a staff development day at the end of term 4. Yesterday K-2 staff met with teachers from Callala Public School for training in TEN (Targeting Early Numeracy) and staff from the 3-6 met with teachers from Callala Public School for TOWN (Taking Off With Numeracy) training. Our teachers are extremely committed to developing their teaching knowledge and skills and as a community of educators we learn from other teachers within our community of schools.

Our school reports are currently being updated in both formatting and content to ensure that we meet our assessment and reporting curriculum requirements that reflect the introduction of new NSW syllabi. This year we are implementing the new NSW History and Science & Technology for the first time as part of the nationalisation of our school curriculum and our new reports will reflect this. We will have three-way reporting this term, more details will be provided in a few weeks time.

I am very pleased to advise that this term we will be participating as a whole school in a combined Reconciliation and Sorry Day March on Friday 29th May, after the march we will have activities, an official acknowledgement ceremony, a school show and a BBQ for all members of our school community. Students will be completing workshops prior to the day with Uncle Daryl and Louise from Angilcare. More details about the organisation and logistics will be provided shortly.

A reminder that the staff car park is to be used by members of the school staff only, as well as members of the public who are infirm. Please use the public car park at all times even on inclement weather days to ensure the safety of our students.

All students will be attending the ‘Jolly hops’ science program organised by Clarrice Gibbs on Thursday 7th May – this is an in-school excursion, the cost of which will be covered by the school – many thanks Clarrie for organising a fun educational day for all our students.

Kind Regards
Melissa Day

**No School Assembly on Friday 22nd May**

**No School Assembly on Friday 29th May**
OPPORTUNITY ‘C’ CLASS for 2016
(for academically gifted children)
Parents of gifted and talented children
in the Shoalhaven district currently in Year 4 are invited to attend an
INFORMATION EVENING
6.00pm, Tuesday 28 April 2015
at Illaroo Road Public School
A Year 5 Opportunity ‘C’ class will be formed in 2016 for gifted and talented students in Year 4 in 2015.
Contact Bob Lowe, Deputy Principal, on 4421 0422 for more information.

CULBURRA BEACH PRESCHOOL
4447 3838
Ages 2 to 6 years Sunshine Street
Culburra Beach 8am-4.30pm
Families can receive CCB (Child Care Benefit) PLUS the 50% Child Care Cash Rebate
- Families that have a Health Care Card or receive "Family Tax Benefit Part A" will pay as little as $12.85 per day after receipt of 100% CCB plus the 50% cash rebate
- Awarded "High Quality" rating on six out of six occasions by the National Child care Council
- Qualified staff working in a happy environment
- Individualised early childhood learning program preparing your child for Kindergarten
- Morning & afternoon tea are provided FREE
- Open 48 weeks of the year
- No charge for Public Holidays and No fundraising
- Enquires & visits welcome
- Please call in to see “Maureen”

CULBURRA & Districts Preschool
20 Otway St Orient Point
Ph: 4447 2505
Community Managed Not-for-Profit Preschool
Catering for 2-6 year old children
Early Childhood + School Readiness Program run daily
Occasional Care Available
Open Mon-Fri 8am to 4pm
8 hours care for all children
Come and visit our preschool and meet our qualified, caring staff.
ENROL NOW!!

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
Thank you to the parents who have paid voluntary contributions. If you have not paid your voluntary contributions they are now being accepted. The cost is $25 per child or $40 per family.

LIBRARY NEWS
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is on again, and we recommend all students participate in this long-running initiative over the next two terms. Classroom teachers will be handing out personal reading records to primary students this week, while infants students will be reading some great PRC titles as a whole class. For more information on the Premier’s Reading Challenge, visit our website.

Happy Reading,
Mrs Robertson.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL
Culburra Public School
P & C Association
will be holding a Mother’s Day Stall on
Thursday 7th May &
Friday 8th May
There are lots of great gifts, prices range from $1.00 – $5.00

CANTEEN NEWS
Please note the canteen is open
Thursdays & Fridays
A menu can be found on our school app.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY
TUESDAY 26TH MAY
Envelopes were sent home last week. Please return your envelopes to the school prior to
tuesday 26th May with the correct money as change cannot be given. Late orders will incur a charge. Family envelopes are available from the front office.

CBOOSH – Out of School Hours Care
Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm during the school term
Monday – Friday 8am – 6pm during the school holidays and pupil free days.
Contact Jacinta on 4447 3069 and leave a message.
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the national Statements of Learning for English and mathematics, which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: [www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass–or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 15 May 2015.

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2015 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading</td>
<td>numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40 minutes writing</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
<td>45 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading</td>
<td>numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>40 minutes writing</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
<td>50 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading</td>
<td>numeracy calculator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 minutes writing</td>
<td>65 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes non-calculator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions</td>
<td>reading</td>
<td>numeracy calculator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45 minutes writing</td>
<td>65 minutes</td>
<td>40 minutes non-calculator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.