



► **CURRICULUM & TRAINING**
Teachers continue the Focus on Reading modules.



► **SPORT**
Madeline McKeown reaches National Level in Physical Culture!



► **INNOVATION**
Ulmarra film wins "Best Story Adaptation" at the Big River Public Schools Film Festival.



► **COMMUNITY**
Community carols Night

Ulmarra Public School

Excellence Innovation Opportunity Success

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NEWSLETTER 2012

Check us out at

www.ulmarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Term 4, Week 8 Friday 30th November 2012

THE END IS NIGH

As the year creeps closer to the end of term, Ulmarra Public is as busy as ever. Swimming lessons, Assemblies, Presentation Days, Report writing, Year 6 Graduation, class end of year parties, school fete and CAPA sharing time.

There certainly is no excuse to be idle! Enjoy the excitement of the ride to the end of term. There is so much to experience along the way!

Regards,

Sandra Armstrong

Principal, Ulmarra Public School

YEAR 6 FAREWELL

This special occasion will be held on Wednesday, 12th December. Details have been sent home in a note to students. Many thanks to Mrs McMahon and her team of parent helpers for organising such a fabulous day for our senior students. Students have chosen a film and lunch followed by a formal presentation at school and a disco. All the school is invited to the presentation and the disco which will be held at school. The presentation will begin at 6pm sharp and the disco will finish at 8.30pm.

PRESENTATION DAY ASSEMBLY

Next Thursday, 6th December students will be recognised for their effort and achievement at our annual Presentation Day Assembly. The Assembly will begin at 9.15am sharp in the school Library where awards will be presented. We will move to the area under the COLA for the Spring Production, "It Will Be Alright On The Night" from 1/2C. The assembly will close with a performance by our Drumming Group lead by Cassie Hollingworth.

CAROLS NIGHT

The P&C is holding a community carols by candlelight on Friday, 7th December in the school grounds. Carols will be led by students and Cassie Hollingworth's Drummers will perform a song or two. Children have learnt the carols at school and all students have been involved in creating a Christmas themed backdrop for the stage under the guidance of Mrs Conyard. The evening will begin at 6pm. There will be a sausage sizzle, tea, coffee, cakes and cold drinks. The P&C is looking for donations of home baked goodies for the evening. These may be left at the school on Friday or brought along on the night. Thank you to P&C carols organiser, Kylie Dick for coordinating this event.

LIBRARY BOOKS

A reminder that the last week for borrowing books from our school library for 2012 was last week. Please return all library books to school as soon so that Mrs. Connor may undertake the annual library stocktake.

STUDENT REPORTS

Teachers have been busy writing student end of year reports and these are now in the final stages of completion. Reports will be handed out to students on Friday, 14th December. We hope you enjoy sharing with your children their successes and supporting them in endeavours to strengthen any weaknesses.

SWIMMING LESSONS K-6

This Monday, students from all classes began swimming lessons at the Ulmarra Pool with Mrs. Morgan. Please ensure your child has all the necessary gear for this activity at school each day and that all notes and money have been sent to the school.

CANDLE MAKING

Mrs Kowal is running candle making workshops at present on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at our school. All children will have the opportunity to make a candle and for \$2.50, they will be able to take their beautiful creations home. If your child would like to purchase his/her own candle, please send along \$2.50 in an envelope marked with the child's name, amount enclosed and the word CANDLE. This money covers the cost of materials used. Candles not purchased will be on sale at the school fete on Monday, 17th December for \$3 each. Profits made on the \$3 candles will go toward the Year 6 gift to the school.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to Lachlan Ferry, Rachel Rollings, Joey Finlay, Domonic Kennedy, and Dayna Wood who have been accepted into the SGHS Clarence Science Initiative (CSI) as new students in 2013 and to Caleb Ensby who is continuing on in the program. Congratulations to Kyle McIlveen who has been offered a guest position in the selective class at GHS.

CAPA GROUPS END OF TERM SHARING

Please note that due to swimming school, the CAPA groups have ceased for the year. A sharing time where the dance group, drummers, choir and visual arts group will perform for families, will be held under the COLA on Thursday 13th December at 9.30am. All welcome.

WHAT DO YOUR KIDS DO TO ANNOY YOU?

Do they fight?

Do they nag incessantly?

Perhaps, you have a child who continually whines to get what they want? Or does it drive you crazy when kids always leave their toys/clothes/towels lying around despite your constant reminders?

How to bring about a [change in behaviour](#) is a common parenting challenge. Here are four tips that will help bring about a behavioural change, if you are persistent and patient.

These ideas also work gang-busters on adults so if your partner has an annoying habit or behaviour that you'd like to alter then you can practise on them!!

Tip 1: Change your initial response. Think how you normally respond to kids' annoying behaviours, and then do something different. Rather than remind kids to pick up toys, remove them. Move away from whining rather than tell remind them stop. Repetitive behaviours happen because of the pay-off they get so change the pay-off to change the behaviour.

Tip 2: Practise new or better behaviours. There are times when it's useful to practise, role play or rehearse better behaviours. Want a child to stay in bed when they wake in the middle of the night rather than visit you? You'll increase the chance of success dramatically if you role play with your child during the day waking up, turning on the light and reading a book. Do it a number of times and he's more likely to do it at night.

Tip 3: Minimise the attention you give to behaviours you don't want. That means when kids ignore your brilliant suggestions and continue with an old behaviour then, ignore it, sidestep it or implement a consequence but don't nag or harp on it. It takes time to change ingrained behaviours. Even looking away can be great way to minimise attention.

Tip 4: Spotlight the appropriate behaviour. Show your sincere appreciation when kids behave in the desired way. We often take kids for granted, or rather we are hard-wired to give kids NO recognition for doing the right thing, but we give them plenty of B-grade attention when they misbehave. The behaviours you focus EXPAND so set your antennae to pick up the good rather than the annoying behaviours.

Like any process it will work if you stick to it and follow through. Star charts are one option, but I think they are for parents' benefit more than the kids as they act as good reminders for us to focus on their good behaviours. My book [One Step Ahead](#) details attention-seeking behaviours the approaches you should take.

One more thing!

Expect kids' annoying behaviours to get worse before they improve as they are just trying to work out if you really mean it when you change! That's why persistence and patience are your greatest allies in this process.

Above tips courtesy of Australian parenting expert, Michael Grose.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/ Sunday
3rd December K-6 Swimming	4th December Christmas Assembly 9.15am Canteen School Banking K-6 Swimming	5th December K-6 Swimming	6th December Presentation Day Assembly 9.15am Mrs Spring's 1/2C Play K-6 Swimming Canteen	7th December K-6 Swimming Carols Night at school 6pm	8th/9th December
10th December GHS Yr 7 Orientation K-6 Swimming	11th December K-6 Swimming NO BANKING SGHS Presentation night	12th December K-6 Swimming Year 6 Graduation 6pm sharp	13th December CAPA Concert 9.15am under the COLA K-6 Swimming	14th December K-6 Swimming Reports go home	15th/16th December
17th December Fete 1.30-3pm	18th December Class end of year parties	19th December Final day of school for students	20th December Staff Development Day for teachers	21st December Staff Development Day for teachers	22nd/23rd December



All students will be making a beautiful candle with the assistance of expert candle creator, Mrs Kowal. Children may purchase their candle for \$2.50—this is cost recovery only.

Candles not bought by their creator will be sold at the school fete for \$3 each with profits going toward the Year 6 gift to the school.

Please send your child's money in an envelope marked clearly with their name, amount of money inside and the word CANDLE.



**DOLPHIN
MARINE MAGIC!**