



► **CURRICULUM & TRAINING**
Mr. Reardon and Mr. Nethercott undertake Moodle Training.



► **SPORT**
High Jump event run off.



► **INNOVATION**
Techno Café books out!



► **COMMUNITY**
P&C Meeting next Tuesday, 12th June 7pm in the library.

Ulmarra Public School

Excellence Innovation Opportunity Success

NEWSLETTER 2012

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Principal ~ Sandra Armstrong

Check us out at

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

Term 2 Week 7 8th June 2012

OUR MOWING POET

Mr. Sullivan our General Assistant, is featured in the Department of Education and Communities June issue of Side By Side.

Below is an excerpt.

"Not every school has a poet on their grounds.

Especially when the poet is a general assistant who composes while driving the school's ride-on mower.

John Sullivan has been employed at Ulmarra Public School for 20 years.

"On our second meeting John came into my office early one morning and said he had something to read to me," Ulmarra principal Sandra Armstrong said.

"He then took a piece of neatly folded paper from his top pocket. My first thought was that he was tendering his resignation!"

Luckily Mrs. Armstrong was wrong.

What her employee gave her was a poem he had written about the staff at Ulmarra as a welcoming gift.

"Since that morning, John has removed a neatly folded poem from his top pocket on many occasions," Mrs. Armstrong said."

To read the whole story go to:

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/news/sbs/primaryschool/yr2012/jun/clarence.htm>

I have included some wonderful parenting tips from Michael Grose. Have a good read and see what resonates with you and your family.

Sincerely,

Sandra Armstrong

Principal
Ulmarra Public School

WELCOME

Welcome to new students Lachlan and Lauren Ferry, Emily Fotherington and Jai Casey. We look forward to getting to know you and we are sure you will love school life at Ulmarra!

TECHNO CAFÉ BOOKED OUT!

Those of you lucky enough to secure a seat will join us next Wednesday for this exciting event in the Ulmarra Techno Café (aka the library) at 10am. Babysitting will be available in the Transition Room. For safety reasons, no children are allowed in the Café where there will be hot drinks. Whilst enjoying the infotainment provided by students, you will snack on delicious home baked treats from the

Ulmarra Cookbook and freshly brewed tea and coffee. Copies of the Cookbook will be on sale at the Café for those of you who have not yet purchased a copy.

DRUMMING GROUP

Congratulations to those children who were successful in the Drumming Group auditions. Mrs. Hollingworth announced the group at this week's assembly and rehearsals began yesterday. All drummers have been given a contract to read, sign, have parents sign, then return to school pledging their commitment to the group. Many thanks to Mrs. Hollingworth, Mr. Reardon and Mr. Pashkevich for their expertise, time and effort in working with the drummers.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Mrs. McIlveen and Mr. Russell have been busy running off the High Jump Event for our annual Ulmarra Athletics Carnival which will be held on Friday, 22nd June. Helpers are needed on the day so please contact the office on 66445266 if you are available. No experience required. Mr. Reardon will be returning to Ulmarra on the day to run the carnival.

WELCOME

Welcome to Mr. Russell who is replacing Mr. Reardon on 3/4R until the end of this term. Mr. Reardon is currently Acting Principal at Cowper P.S. whilst Mrs. Chapple is on leave.

EX STUDENT RETURNS

It has been a delight to have ex student, Courtney Thomson back at UPS as a SGHS Work Experience student. Courtney has been assisting in all classrooms and is enjoying the time back at her old school. It has been interesting talking to Courtney and hearing her recollections of our school. So much has changed at UPS in the four years since she was here—new library, new gardens, new Transition Room, new playground equipment, Interactive Whiteboards and the list goes on. We had not realised that so much had happened in such a short time!

ART GALLERY GOES TO SCHOOL

The Gallery Goes To School is a Grafton Regional Gallery Education Outreach Program. Last Monday, Project Officer, Min Austin, brought a selection of the gallery's great artworks to our school. The artworks were from the JADA collection and featured Ken Done, and local Grafton artists. Min gave an excellent insight into the various techniques and stories behind the art works. Students enjoyed viewing art close up in a familiar environment.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land we work on; the Yaegl and Gumbaynggirr people.

PARENTS DO YOU KNOW DEAN WIDDERS?

- Dean Widders, Indigenous Australian, former professional rugby league player is visiting the Clarence Valley on the 20 & 21 June.
- Dean and NI TV presenter Paul Sinclair are running 4 workshops for Aboriginal parents.
- Dean will be sharing his life story and talking to parents about : - what you can do to get kids on the right track at school - the types of things young people need to get a job & - how parents can really make a BIG difference.

THE WORKSHOPS ARE FREE – tell your friends about this special opportunity.

Come along and help your kids reach for the stars.

- Wednesday, 20 June Yamba Public School 10am – 12noon
- Wednesday, 20 June Maclean High School 1.30pm – 3.30pm
- Thursday, 21 June South Grafton High School 9.30am – 11.30am
- Thursday, 21 June Baryulgil Public School 1.30pm – 3pm



The workshops are being made possible with a grant from the Grafton District Services Club, Maclean & District Bowling Club, Yamba Golf & Country Club and Yamba Bowling & Recreation Club.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/ Sunday
11th June QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY	12th June Student Banking Transition Canteen Bookmobile P&C Meeting 7pm Library	13th June Techno Café 10am— 11am in the Library (This event is booked out)	14th June CAPA Groups Canteen	15th June	16th/17th June
18th June	19th June Student Banking Transition Canteen Ulmarra Newspapers in Education published in DEX	20th June GABC \$20 payment due for those on an installment plan.	21st June CAPA Groups Canteen	22nd June Ulmarra Athletics Carnival	23rd/24th June
25th June Parent Teacher Interviews this week	26th June Interviews this week Student Banking Bookmobile Transition Canteen	27th June Interviews this week Picton HS Band performance at UPS 10am	28th June Interviews this week CAPA Groups Canteen	29th June Interviews this week Last day of Term	30th June/1st July
16th July Staff Development Day for Teachers PUPIL FREE DAY Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery	17th July FIRST DAY BACK FOR STUDENTS Student Banking Transition Canteen Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery	18th July Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery	19th July CAPA Groups Canteen Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery	20th July Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery	21st/22nd July Small Schools Art Exhibition at Grafton Regional Gallery

Around the School



Most parents want their kids to become responsible for their behaviours and their relationships.

One way to do this is to allow children to experience the outcomes of their choices, whether smart or less than smart. That's not to say we let kids just make mistakes willy-nilly. They benefit from guidance and mentoring. They also need to be protected when their choices impact long-term on their health or when their safety is at risk.

Let common sense prevail.

But there are many times when experience is a child's or teenager's best teacher, and your best friend as a parent. A child who leaves his jumper home may get cold; a child who spends her week's pocket money on Monday will have nothing for the week; a child who oversleeps and misses the bus must walk to school; a sibling who annoys his sister risks being ostracised; and a teenager who doesn't train for his sport risks being dropped. These are all natural consequences. They don't require too much from us as parents, apart from standing back or not taking an "I told you so" attitude, which will often undo the impact of the consequence.

Make their problem, their problem

Often as adults we take on children's concerns and make them our own. If something doesn't bother them and there is no risk or infringement of other people's rights, let them be. If they leave their school lunch at home, it shouldn't bother you.

Some children are good at getting parents to take responsibility for their problems. "It's your fault that I left my lunch at home" says a young responsibility deflector.

"Well no, it's not!" There is a difference between taking responsibility away and making it easy for kids to remember. Remind kids to do take lunch/don't annoy their sister/ put dirty sports clothes in the washing basket, but don't become responsible for these actions.

Resist saving kids from themselves

The temptation to save kids from the outcome of their poor choice is difficult to resist. Kids will put pressure on us all the time to save them. "Mummmmm! Can you phone the school and tell my teacher I was too sick to do my homework?" Saving kids from the outcomes of their choices is loving them helplessly.

Link behaviour to outcomes

Sometimes the lessons kids should learn need some explaining. So be prepared to reinforce life's lessons if they don't understand the outcome of their behaviour: "The reason your friends don't go to the cinema with you is you talk all the way through the film."

Allowing kids to absorb life's lessons is a tough gig for parents. But for some kids and some situations, it's the only option. You just have to get out of the way and let nature take its teaching course.

SAFETY INFORMATION

DOGS IN SCHOOLS

The NSW Consolidated Act pertaining to dogs states that dogs are prohibited in some public places. Section (e) of the Act specifically refers to schools and states that this applies to dogs whether they are leashed or unleashed. The exceptions are Assistance dogs that are specifically trained to assist those who are sight or hearing impaired. I thank you for your anticipated co-operation in this matter.

Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 No 87 - "Dogs are prohibited in the following places:

(e) School grounds (meaning any property occupied or used for the purpose connected with the conduct of a government school or non government school under the Education Act 1990.) "

Section 14 of the Act particularly states that dogs are prohibited in SCHOOL GROUNDS (whether or not they are leashed or otherwise controlled). Any visitor to the school is not able to bring their dog into the school grounds but may remain with their leashed dog on the footpath at the front of the school, which is a public area.