Dear Parents & Carers,

**GOODBYE and THANK YOU**
I would like to thank all the students, staff and parents who have made me feel so welcome. I have enjoyed my time at North Arm and perhaps one day in the future, I will be back to enjoy this wonderful community.

**ON-LINE PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEW BOOKINGS**
Parent/Teacher interviews will be held from Monday 24th March through to Thursday 3rd April from 7.20am – 8.40am and 3.20pm to 7.00pm. You can now book interviews at times that suit YOUR FAMILY BEST. BOOKINGS CLOSE FRIDAY 21st MARCH at 5pm

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow the simple instructions. Enter THIS school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps. If you have any problems, contact the office. Prep parents do not need to register for these current interviews. Prep teachers hold parent/teacher interview at the end of Term 2.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
School Photo order envelopes went home with every student last week. Please return these envelopes before next Thursday to enable the administration of the orders to take place. We have set aside two days for the photos to be completed, but we anticipate that sibling photos will be taken on Thursday. Please ensure your children are in full school uniform (not sport shirts) on both days.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Whole School Parades</td>
<td>Each Wed 2:30-3.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Shop Open 2014</td>
<td>Wed 8-11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Banking</td>
<td>Each Thu</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOMADS Playgroup</td>
<td>Mon 9-10.45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Celebrating 130 years at North Arm’</td>
<td>Wed Mar 19 3:30pm in Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS</td>
<td>Thu Mar 27 &amp; Fri Mar 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BANKING VISIT</td>
<td>Thu Mar 27 8:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome Back BBQ &amp; Disco</td>
<td>Fri Mar 28 5:30-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parent/Teacher Interviews</td>
<td>Weeks 9 &amp; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; C AGM and monthly meeting</td>
<td>Tue Apr 1 from 6:30pm</td>
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ON-LINE PARENT NEWSLETTER

Newsletters are available from the school website each Wednesday. All parents who have provided us with a current email address, receive an automatic reminder each Wednesday with a link to the newsletter. However, if you are unable to access a digital copy of the Parent newsletter, please collect a hard copy from the notice board out the front of the After School Care building. Thankyou.

MAZ LAM AWAY UNTIL END OF TERM 1 & TERM 2

Congratulations to Ms Maz Lam who has been appointed a new temporary position in Brisbane working for the Queensland Studies Authority involving the “Curriculum into the Classroom” documents. Best wishes Ms Lam on this new appointment and we look forward to seeing you back at North Arm in Term 3. Mrs Gemma Wellman will be taking Ms Lam’s position while she is away. Gemma is a well-respected teacher who has done a lot of work at North Arm in all year levels. I know that you will all make Gemma feel welcome and appreciate her dedication to the job and ability to ensure all students work to the best of their potential.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the Student of the Week Award for their classes today on Parade:

PREP: Samuel, Kirrilly, Charlotte, Mykal, Charlee Eshua
YEAR 1: Maia, Makenzee, Millie, Ethan
YEAR 2: Tane, Lucy, Luke, Charli
YEAR 3: Victoria, Charlotte, Zoe, Justice, April
YEAR 4: Nina, Molly, Leni, Coden
YEAR 5: Isabel, Jaiden
YEAR 6: Porsha, Archie
YEAR 7: Sophie, India

P & C NEWS

Meetings: P & C Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:30pm in the Library, except during school holidays. The Annual AGM will be held on Tuesday April 1 at which time all executive positions are up for re-election. The regular monthly meeting will follow the AGM. The first P & C Meeting for Term 2 will take place on Tuesday, May 13. All members of the school community are welcome to attend these meetings and join the P & C.

WELCOME BACK BBQ & DISCO

Please remember to put next Friday, 28th March on your calendar as the evening for our welcome back BBQ and disco. It will be a great night of fun, laughter and catching up with new and old friends.

THANK YOU TO YANDINA ART FRAMING

The GENAS art class has been so fortunate to have Marcus from the Yandina Art and Picture Framing shop supplying us with coloured card, frames and white card to use for our paintings, drawings and sketches and to use as backing for our art pieces. Every couple of weeks I drop into his shop and he has bundled together a selection of wonderful materials for the children to use. He has taken a keen interest in our art work and some of the children last year had a few pieces of their art work framed by Marcus and they look spectacular. If you are after someone to frame your photos or art work head into Yandina and talk to Marcus.

Margaret Killip

GET INVOLVED IN THE SCHOOL BANKING PROGRAM

Don’t forget that THURSDAY is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their continued savings behaviour. This year’s rewards include a handball, scented pencils, penguin or shark push toy keyring, whale shark pencil case, Dollarmites money box, swimming cap, projector cup and sea streamers.

Remember our school earns 5% commission on every deposit (made to a maximum of $10 per individual deposit). You can get involved in the School Banking program by opening a Commonwealth Bank Youthaver account at any Commonwealth Bank branch or at one of the account sessions below:

Thursday 27th March 2014 at 8.15 am - At front school gate
- Parents will need to bring photo identification such as a valid driver’s license or passport.
- No identification is required for your child as the school will confirm their identity.
- Younger siblings may participate however you will need to bring your birth certificate or passport.

You will receive a Dollarmites wallet and deposit booklet that your child will use to participate in the program. When your child makes their first deposit at school they will earn their first Dollarmites token and our school will also receive $5 commission.

Thank you for supporting our school and helping to teach your child the benefits of saving regularly.

North Arm State School will be celebrating their 130 Year Anniversary in 2015 and a sub-committee has been formed to discuss what type of celebrations we will hold. Please come along to our meeting today at 3:30pm in the Library.
Positive Parent Involvement - you make a difference

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school.

Parental withdrawal from children’s education is a big problem these days as increasingly parents are worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. By the time you get home from work or doing other activities you are spent.

But the message for parents is clear – become involved in as many aspects as practical in your child’s education. The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Many primary schools offer parents classroom jobs such as hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Parent participation is much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple ways to assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child. These include: hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and with plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

✓ **Find out** what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child’s school apart from others.

✓ **Support a broad, balanced curriculum** that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3 R’s.

✓ **Direct constructive criticism through the correct channels** such as your child’s teacher, the principal or the school’s governing body. Gossip or thoughtless criticism within the general community can easily tarnish a school’s reputation.

✓ **Become an advocate** for your child’s school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.

✓ **Attend school activities** such as open days, concerts, sports events and celebrations. Invite other members of the community along as well.

✓ **Consult with your child’s teacher** about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven criterion for student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school-life.