REMINDER

Monday 18th has been gazetted as a half day Public Holiday for the running of the Armidale Cup. Therefore, this school will be non-operational from 12 noon. Parents are asked to make arrangements to collect their children from the school by 12.00. All buses will run as normal but at the earlier time to ensure all children have left the school by 12.00. Students who do not attend school in the morning will be required to supply an absentee note on Tuesday.

Fete Meeting
I would like to invite all parents and friends to come along to tonight’s planning session for this year’s school fete. The meeting is tonight at 7.30pm in the Library. The fete is held on the Mother’s Day weekend which is the 11 May. A lot of work goes into the fete by parents, staff and community members. Some planning has already taken place as a result of last year’s Fete and some of the early planning such as asking for donations from local businesses is well under way. The fete is a great opportunity to meet new people and work with a fabulous committee to raise money for our school. Some stalls will be looking for helpers and some may be looking for people to organise them. Every offer of help is welcome.

Major Excursions
This week Stages 2 and 3 sent home ‘Expression of Interest’ notes for their Term 4 excursions. These notes are to gauge the level of support for each of these activities. Year 4 is planning an excursion to Lake Keepit and Stage 3 would again like to visit Canberra. All planned excursions are based on curriculum outcomes and support the development of each child’s personal skills. We understand that these excursions are a major cost to families –especially families with more than one child. I urge parents to contact either myself, the class teacher or stage supervisor to discuss support available if the cost if not manageable. Should the excursions go ahead, parents have the opportunity to pay off the cost over the next two and half terms. The school and P&C have planned regular fundraising events to raise funds which will enable us to offer a reduction in the final cost of these excursions.

Harmony Day celebrations will take place on Wednesday 20 March. On this day we celebrate the cultural diversity of our school and indeed the Armidale community that we live in. We endeavour to give all our children the skills and attitudes necessary for them to live in peace and harmony by fostering a culture of respect, understanding and kindness towards others. Students are asked to try and wear something orange as a symbol of peace and harmony. If any student wishes to wear their traditional national dress we encourage them to do so. All classes are planning to hold a multicultural food tasting event for the students, and would appreciate it if families could send along a labelled dish of finger food in the morning to share at lunch. After lunch the students will be doing a variety of art activities relating to Harmony Day and its importance. I would like to thank Mrs Cornall for her work in organising the
special events for the day and for her work in supporting our ESL students and their families within the school. I encourage all students to bring along some food from their culture to share but I would also remind parents that they need to contact class teachers if your children have any food related allergies.

Congratulations to all our competitors in this week’s round of sporting events. We were successful in having 7 boys & girls through to the next round of the Basketball, 3 boys in the soccer and 4 boys through to the next round in Rugby League. A great result for our school. Well done to the girls’ cricket team who played magnificently but were unfortunately defeated by a stronger team. Thank you to the staff who continue to support our sporting activities this week - Mrs Schultz, Mrs Docksey and Mr Townsend.

**Road Safety**

Student safety is a topic I have written about almost weekly since school resumed but unfortunately it continues to be a huge concern for staff. Last week I spoke to all students and parents at assembly about the importance of Road Safety. That very afternoon we had several children run across the road and being urged across the road by parents in very dangerous places. Despite speaking to parents individually at the time many parents have continued to ignore the warnings and accept that they are putting the safety of their children at risk. As adults we must ensure we model **correct safety for our children** and follow the road rules which have been put in place to keep our children safe. I urge parents to think about the safety of your children and the devastating impact an accident involving a child has on families and friends.

**Reminders**

I am looking forward to walking with lots of our families this Saturday at the Autumn Festival. A permission note was sent home earlier this week. I encourage all families to take part and support the Autumn Festival and Public Schools. Please return permission notes to school by Friday if your child is attending. The school will assembly outside the TAFE college at 11.45am. Good luck to the students sitting for the Selective Schools testing tomorrow at AHS.

**SPORT NEWS**

Move over Lawrie Lawrence as the king of motivators. Armidale City parents have moved in. The cheers for our swimmers last Tuesday at the North West Swimming Carnival were deafening. There were many magic moments from our swimmers and they are all to be congratulated for their fantastic efforts. The following children will now represent the North West at the State PSSA Championships which will be held at Homebush in April.

**Jesse Streeting**: 200m IM, 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, 50m Breaststroke, 50m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly and Snr Boys Relay  
**Henry Sindel**: Snr Boys Relay  
**Sam Watson**: Snr Boys Relay  
**Clancy Roberts**: Snr Boys Relay

Zone trials have been held for several sports over the last fortnight. The following children have been successful and we wish them every success at the next level.

**Boys’ & Girls’ Basketball**: Henry Sindel, Toby Cooper, Ethan Kirkwood, Ely Sisson, Alyssa Armstrong, Rachelle Waters, Chloe Kirkwood  
**Rugby League**: Marvin Palad, Kymani Quaife, Ethan Kirkwood and Isaac Tanikomave  
**Soccer**: Toby Cooper, Henry Sindel and Kymani Quaife

After 10 years in hibernation, girls’ cricket is back on the front burner at ACPS. Last Monday, the ACPS team played Nemingha Public School in Round 1 of the PSSA Knockout. Nemingha proved too strong on the day taking out the match convincingly. It was the first time most of our girls had played the sport competitively and they are keen to build on this in the future. Mr Townsend was very proud of the effort and sportsmanship of the team. Well done girls.

**FESTIVAL OF THE FAMOUS**

Next week, during Library lessons, all students in Stage 2 and Stage 3 will be presenting their Festival of the Famous in their class Library time.

3/4BT and 3/4T on **Monday**  
5/6R on **Tuesday**  
3/4J, 3/4R and 5/6K on **Wednesday**  
5/6Mac, 5/6J and 5/6B on **Thursday**

Around 25 students will be selected for the night Festival of the Famous on **Wednesday 27 March**.

Please note the change of date due to travel arrangements for those attending the Young Leaders Day in Sydney.

**BOOK CLUB**

Book orders are due back to the Front Office before **Thursday 21 March**.
P&C
The P&C constitution allows only financial members to vote or nominate/be nominated for elected positions. Membership is $1. Parents can pay their membership fee to Lindsay Brash at the Fete meeting tonight or to the School Office. Fee must be paid by Tuesday 19 March to confer voting rights for the AGM on Wednesday 3 April. Lindsay Brash 0423 769 949.

Lindsay Brash
P&C Treasurer

Ex-Services Westside
Soccer Club
Registration Day
23rd March 2013, 3pm at the Ex-Services Club
or register online at myfootballclub.com.au
Contact Tony Drozdowski on 0428721985 for more details

Demon Knights football club inc
All registration to be completed online:
Go to myfootballclub.com.au and follow the prompts.
You must print your invoice after completing online registration.
Bring your invoice to one of the DKFC payment days:
16/3/2013- Wicklow Hotel Courtyard
23/3/2013- Wicklow Hotel Courtyard
(Inside if the weather is bad)
10am- 1pm

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD
- Family Relationship Centre
- Exchange Students Families needed
- NERAM
- Tennis Lessons
- NECOM
- Montessori Preschool Information
- Bridge Education Support Services
- OzSports – Hockey
- Soccer Development
- HipHop

If you would like more information on these events please call into our office and check out our Community Noticeboard.
Harmony Day March 20th 2013

On Harmony Day we celebrate living in a community that strives to live in peace and harmony by showing respect, understanding and kindness towards others.

On Wednesday 20th of March, 2013 students are asked to try and wear something orange as a symbol of peace and harmony. If any student wishes to wear their traditional national dress we encourage them to do so.

We are planning to hold a multicultural food tasting event for the students in each classroom at 1:00pm, and would appreciate it if families could send along a labelled dish of finger food in the morning to share at lunch. If you do wish to make a hot dish, please assist by bringing it up to your child’s classroom by 12:30pm as we have limited heating facilities. Children are asked to bring a plastic/paper dish or plate and spoon to use on the day. Parent helpers to assist with sharing lunch on the day would be appreciated. If you can help, please indicate below.

After lunch the students will be doing a variety of art activities relating to Harmony Day and its importance.

We hope you will help us to celebrate Harmony Day and promote peace!

Please indicate below, if your child can bring a dish to share with his or her class members for lunch on Harmony Day. Notes are to be given to class teachers, thank you.

My child will / will not be able to bring a dish to share on Harmony Day.

I can/ cannot help with serving lunch between 1pm and 1:45pm on the day (Parent/carer’s name) _________________________________

Yours sincerely,

Alison Cornall (ESL Teacher)
Who do I talk to and how do I organise it?

A parent’s guide for seeking information and expressing concerns

It is important to work on problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results usually flow from working together.

These guidelines aim to:

- Provide a guide in order that concerns are dealt with in an open and fair manner.
- Ensure that the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected and upheld.
- Support sensitivity and confidentiality.
- Help reach an agreed solution.

On occasions, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

Teachers, parents and community working together for success at school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONCERN</th>
<th>APPROPRIATE ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The academic progress of my own child</td>
<td>&gt; Directly contact the child’s teacher either by note, by phone, email at <a href="mailto:armidalec-p.admin@det.nsw.edu.au">armidalec-p.admin@det.nsw.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The welfare of own child</td>
<td>&gt; Directly contact your child’s teacher to clarify information. &gt; Principal are available to discuss complex or ongoing issues. Contact the office so a mutually suitable appointment time can be made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change of personal details</td>
<td>&gt; Please contact the office to inform change of address, telephone number, emergency contact, custody details, health issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions of other students</td>
<td>&gt; Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem. &gt; Contact the Assistant Principal for your child’s stage or Principal for playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School policy or practice</td>
<td>&gt; Contact Office. State nature of concern. The appropriate member of staff will contact you to discuss further.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions of a staff member</td>
<td>&gt; Contact the Principal. An appointment will be made if necessary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In very rare cases, where people wishing to express concerns, do so in an aggressive, threatening or violent manner, the Principal (or nominee) has the legal authority under the 'Enclosed Lands Act' to:

- Direct the person to immediately leave the grounds.
- Call the police to remove the person should he/she refuse.
- Withdraw future permission (by letter) for the person to enter the grounds without the permission of the Principal.
**Armidale City Parents**

Do you love to sing? Would you like to meet other parents? Support your school through song!

The ACPS Rock Choir is for teachers, parents and members of the school community to get together and sing in a fun and non-threatening environment. No experience necessary. Please complete the form below and return to Front Office by 22 March. Rehearsals starting soon.

For enquiries, contact Tina Long
(m) 0404 854 296
tinalouiselong@hotmail.com

---

**ACPS ROCK CHOIR**

I’m interested in joining the ACPS Rock Choir.

Name: ________________________________

Contact phone: ________________________________

Preferred Rehearsal day/time:

☐ Thursday 7:30pm

☐ Sunday 3pm

Please return this form to your Front Office by Fri 22/3/13.