Well here we are again. Christmas rushing at us before the majority of us are prepared for it. Thanks to Leon and Mal who shared our new reward system with the P&C last Wednesday and were pleased with the questions and support it received. There will be another opportunity this afternoon if you feel like it. Failing that there is an overview on the back of this newsletter that you can hang on the fridge and use as a reference point throughout the year. When next year gets going talk to your kids about it.

The special assembly was a terrific event. The support that students and teachers received from family and friends was wonderful. Congratulations to all the hard working award winners on the day and to all the other students who have gained rewards throughout the year. The County Fair run by the Stage 3 in the afternoon was a great success with cooperative and positive interaction right across the school, the kids had a ball and I did eventually dry out!!!

Our volunteer’s lunch yesterday was attended by a wide array of people. (I forgot to do a head count) We see these guys all the time however usually only in ones and twos, when you see them all together you realise how many there are and what an important role they play in the everyday successful life of the school and the students they support. I couldn’t imagine what we’d do with them so a HUGE thanks to all who willingly give their time; we do appreciate you very much and look forward to seeing you again next year. We do have a wonderful school community.

Lunch was followed by the whole school performing a variety of Christmas carols down in the hall. More parents joined us for this and the event was enjoyed by all. Apparently today will conclude in a Year 6 water fight, I have my water pistol and change of clothes ready.

Staff will have two more Professional Learning days to finish their year.

On a final and personal note I’d like to thank the students, staff and parents, indeed our whole school community, for making me feel so welcome and for the energy, time thoughtfulness you extend to everyone involved with Kyogle Public School.

Have a really great time over Christmas and I look forward to working with you all again for the benefit of our important charges.

Merry Christmas.
Drew

**A Christmas Reflection**

Be fully present in everything you do this holiday. When you are with your family be with them in mind and body. When you are relaxing be fully present. In these frantic, highly-schedule times the need to refresh your spirits, recharge your batteries and reconnect to the people we cherish is more important than ever.

**A Christmas Thought**

An interesting piece in Fairfax newspapers last Sunday about the parents that cancelled Christmas due to children’s poor behaviour and children wanting the world and giving nothing in return. I thought they handled the situation with smarts and respect. And the action had the desired impact in that kids actually ‘got’ their parents’ message of ‘smarten up, behave better and give as well as receive’.

It was a reminder that we often use Christmas as the ultimate bribe to get cooperative behaviour……and we can’t carry out the threats.

**Recommendation #1** : Focus on your children’s and young people’s cooperative behaviours and ramp up your patience levels. It’s a hard time for us all!!!!

**Recommendation #2** : Make sure your kids show their gratitude to gift-givers (apart from Santa) this year with a face-to-face thank you, a phone call or even a written message. Kids who received a great deal need to give something in return.

**Term 1**

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<th>Week 1</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29/1</td>
<td>Year 1 to Year 6 Students start back at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 29/1</td>
<td>Best Start Interviews for Kindy students</td>
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<td>Thur 30/1</td>
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<td>Fri 31/1</td>
<td>Best Start Interviews for Kindy students</td>
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**Term 2**

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<th>Week 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 5/2</td>
<td>KPS Swimming Carnival</td>
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The canteen will be operating first day back of Term 1, Wednesday, 29 January. The roster will be in Week 1’s Newsletter for 2014

**Term Ends Wednesday, 18 December 2013**

School Resumes for Year 1- Year 6 Students Wednesday, 29 January 2014
As a result of feedback from parents, children and staff we have altered the positive behaviour school wide rewards system so that it is fairer and achievable for all who deserve recognition. The PBL team have designed the new system with feedback from the P and C. Please find below an explanation of how the system will work. All teachers are ready to start using this system at the beginning of next term.

**Rewards System –**

Each week on Friday every class will program time for reflection of behaviours. Each child will have the possibility to earn 2 stars. The first star will be awarded for good behaviour in the classroom. The second star will be awarded for good behaviour in the playground. Two bonus stars will be pre-determined at the start of each term by the principal based on needs of the school at the time.

As the child’s stars add up they will receive the following awards:

- **Bronze Award –** If the child reaches 5 stars in a term

- **Silver Award –** If the child reaches 10 stars in a term

- **Gold Award –** If the child reaches 15 stars in a term

- **Platinum Award –** At the end of year if the child has received 4 Gold awards. The child will receive medallion and certificate (3 golds will still receive a certificate for good behaviours)

Each term the children will start again and any gold awards they have received will be noted. Children will be given certificates as they reach the award levels and then acknowledged on assembly. Gold award recipients will have their photo, on a star, displayed in the galaxy of fame near the office. At the conclusion of each term, Gold Award recipients will attend a special function. PBL awards for playground observations will be drawn at each assembly for each stage.