As this will be our last newsletter for 2014, may I wish everybody a safe and happy holiday and I look forward to working with you in 2015.

Over the coming week we will have some special events to attend:

**Today** is our K-6 assembly whereby special awards will be presented to students across K-6.

**Tomorrow** unfortunately our Carols have been cancelled due to the imminent thunderstorms.

**Tomorrow** we will have our last regular Thursday assembly.

**Friday** all students will receive their 2nd semester reports.

**Friday** our choir is performing at Greenhills.

**Friday** the students are having a small get together so that they can perform their choral items for each other, as they have been practicing so hard for this.

**Monday** is Party Day.

**Tuesday** is the Year 6 Farewell.

**Wednesday** is the last day of the school year for students and we will have our Yr6 Clap Out.

**Thursday and Friday** the staff will be participating in Staff Development activities.

As is my usual tradition I have included my 2014 Presentation Day Report below, please read this in the context of last Friday's event.

Presentation Day - 2014

Special guests, ladies and gentleman, boys and girls, fellow staff of East Maitland Public School, it is my great pleasure to present my report for 2014. I would also like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay my respects to the Elders both past, present and future.

2014 has a wonderful year for East Maitland Public School. Our students have been giving their best and our school has had marvellous successes. Each year when I sit to write my presentation day speech I come up with the same thoughts. I must take the time to acknowledge each child, each teacher, every staff member and the wonderful parents and community who have built our school. And again this has not changed, for while we need the bricks and mortar to provide us with the facilities, it is the people that make a school. An Old African Saying recites that it takes a village to raise a child, likewise the education of your child is the responsibility of us all. By the time a child leaves us in year 6 it is the tenure of so many people at East Maitland that determines their future success, and I can assure you that we take this seriously. I am reluctant to individually name students, teachers or parents as we have had so many of them achieve extraordinary things this year and they have been duly recognised for these achievements. It is not that I want to dismiss their achievements and efforts, but it is because if I did so I would be ignoring the diligence, achievements and efforts of so many others who each day go quietly about their way – sometimes unrecognised but definitely not unnoticed. So I shall keep the acknowledgements to a minimum, but please note that I value the contribution every single person makes to our school.

I would like to pay tribute to every student of East Maitland Public, for while today we only have the opportunity to recognise a minority of our total student population, we acknowledge that there are many others that have also worked hard this year and achieved fantastic results. Each and every student at East Maitland has helped us to remain a strong and vibrant school, where the love of learning and struggle for excellence abounds from each child’s thoughts and actions. At East Maitland our motto is truth and endeavour, which may sometimes seem a little old fashioned – but it is not irrelevant as it clearly explains that we do our best, and do it in a manner that we can hold our heads up with pride. In essence this is what makes us great – and certainly the best school in the land. At times we know that we might not succeed and that things can be really tough, yet we have a go and ensure that we do our best.
This morning we were fortunate to listen to the inaugural presentation day performance from our school band. The items presented today demonstrate the strength of the arts at East Maitland. The school band led by Mr Howard Ward, have had a wonderful first year. The band will continue to offer marvellous opportunities for students. Mrs Hookway has done a wonderful job initiating and supporting the band, which is deeply appreciated.

I would like to make special mention of our school leadership team, who have received special commendation from the powers that be for the initiative, dedication and diligence in helping move into a fluid distributed model. Mr Black, Mrs Mather, Mrs Linnane, Mrs Newton, Mrs Coleman, Mr Payne, Mrs King, Miss Roe, Miss Hallett, Miss McKinnon and Miss Duffield. Their dedication and commitment is acknowledged and appreciated. The executive gives freely and willingly of their time - of which a considerable amount is outside of school hours - to ensure our school runs smoothly.

To our Year 6 students you have been an outstanding group with a range of individuals who have contributed to the school in different ways. Your maturity, sense of fun and perspective have made you a credit to your families and your school. I hope that you take away happy memories and a significant repertoire of skills, knowledge and values as you move to secondary school. A special mention for our school captains and prefects who have contributed much to the school this year. Congratulations and best wishes and I wish you every success.

I would also like to thank Mrs Mather & Mrs Linnane who are the principal organisers of today's event and our school leaders for compeering today's proceedings.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the individuals, families and businesses that have supported our school during 2014. From my family to you and your family, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I would like to acknowledge every teacher, and every support & administration person who all make a difference to your children. 2014 has been another challenging and demanding year. Every challenge has been met with enthusiasm and commitment. The excellent outcomes achieved by our students are a credit to the staff of East Maitland Public School. This staff, that I am so fortunate to work with, are extremely dedicated to your children and they provide the foundation for the pedestal that East Maitland stands upon. School is a bit like a turnstile as we see teachers arrive and depart as they pass through East Maitland on their journey, and rarely do they get to see the fruits of their labour for they are invisible and often remain so for 20 years. Yet each and every staff member can be content in the knowledge that even if they can inspire one child then it has all been worthwhile.

Today may be the last presentation day for a number of our staff and we sincerely wish Miss Hallett, Miss McKinnon and Mr & Mrs Spring good luck as they continue their careers elsewhere, we also will farewell Mrs Harkness and wish her good health in her retirement.

We have so many wonderful parents, friends and family of East Maitland who work tirelessly away in the background, providing the backbone of our school. I would like to thank all parents for their support whether this is your first year or your final year. This year, like so many before, we see some long time friends leave us. I would like to pass on my special thanks and best wishes to anybody who is moving on at the end of 2014.

Can I take this opportunity to thank the P&C for their support of the school in 2014. Our President, Ange Manson is well supported by her fellow executive, who are the engine room of P&C working behind the scenes to keep the organization running. We are also lucky to have plenty of volunteers to help when needed. Thank you for your support and generous contribution that exceeded $30000 in 2014.

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**Monday**
8th December

**Tuesday**
9th December

**Wednesday**
10th December

**Thursday**
11th December

**Friday**
12th December

**WEEK 10**

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<thead>
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<td>9th December</td>
<td>10th December</td>
<td>11th December</td>
<td>12th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Skills Market</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly</td>
<td>Reports go home</td>
<td>Choir perform at Greenhills</td>
<td>Special Unit Excursion</td>
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</tbody>
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**Monday**
15th December

**Tuesday**
16th December

**Wednesday**
17th December

**Thursday**
18th December

**Friday**
19th December

**WEEK 11**

<table>
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<td>18th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Party Day</td>
<td>Yr6 Farewell</td>
<td>Last Day of the year</td>
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School News

School Leaders 2015
Jack Brown  Lucinda Burgess,
Zane Estatho  Imogen Pickard-Ling
Jonah Dowde  Charli McNab
Jackson McNamee  Claire Williams

SPiNS
Tomorrow will be our SPiNS team last day at our school. Over the last semester, Thizbe, Jodie, Sophie, Madeleine and Gemma have worked extremely hard to increase students' speech and language skills through small group and individual sessions. I am sure you will agree this has been a valuable program and their expertise has been outstanding. Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm towards our students!

Choir Performance
This Friday the Stage 1 and Stage 2 Choir will be travelling to Greenhills Shopping Centre to perform. Tomorrow will be the last day to bring notes and money in. The students will be performing outside Gloria Jeans from about 11:15am, please come and support our fabulous singers.

THANK YOU & GOODBYE
What a surprise Jennifer & I got last week when we were honoured with P & C Life Membership! I would like to think we were acknowledged at Presentation Day on behalf of all the volunteers at EMPS. Thank you to the P & C for this honour.
I participated in my first Mothers Day Stall in 1996 when Lucy started kindergarten and can still remember it clearly. I also began Canteen & Reading that year. Since then I have participated/volunteered in most school/P & C activities. In 2000 when Jack started Kindergarten, the Sydney Olympics were being celebrated. It was around that time I began attending P & C meetings. When Henry started Kindergarten in 2008, I assisted Dimity in compiling EMPS history for the 150 year celebrations. I have had the opportunity to participate in many excursions and watch more than a few sporting events over the years with much pleasure.
Thank you to EMPS for giving the Edwards Family many great memories and my children an education at 'The Best School in the Land'!
Joy Edwards
PS I promise this is my last entry in the EMPS Newsletter.

Banner Winners
Congratulations Denver Ross, Georgia Green & Jeremy Boardman.

School Banking
Today is the last day for school banking. Please make sure you do not send any banking next week.

Donations
If you have children leaving the school please feel free to donate old school uniforms. These are always helpful to the school or even other families.
Life Membership is the highest Award available to recognise the exceptional contribution of individuals to the East Maitland Public School Parents and Citizens Association. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

Both of these ladies have provided in excess of 6 years’ service to the P&C. Both have been instrumental in the development of the P&C in regards to financial reporting, development of the constitution and ensuring the good name of the P&C and strong relationship between the P&C and the school. The P&C maintains the same core values as the School in regards to Respect, Participation, Learning, Responsibility and Cooperation these ladies are examples of each of these core values in the time and effort they have given to the school in their roles on the P&C. It is for this reason Joy and Jen are awarded with P&C Life Membership of EMPS P&C. Both Joy and Jen move on from East Maitland Public this year as their youngest children move to high school. As Life Members of East Maitland Public P&C their dedication and support of the school will be forever recognized and appreciated.

Thank you both.

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**P&C News**

Congratulations
Jen Davis and Joy Edwards
Awards Life Members
of EMPS P&C

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**Canteen News**

Last day for lunch orders is **Friday 12th December**.
Party Day **15th December** will only be open at lunchtime.
Last day of canteen is **Tuesday 16th December**.
The canteen will NOT be open on **Wednesday 17th October**.

Thank You
I would like to thank all the volunteers that have helped this year and I wish everyone a merry Christmas.

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**Sick Bay Linen Roster**

12/12/14-Courtney Earsman
19/12/14-Joy Edwards

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**This Week’s EMPS Award Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KG</th>
<th>Kianna Web</th>
<th>Cameron Mulquiney</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conor Neil</td>
<td>Kyeisha Schumacher</td>
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<td>KN</td>
<td>Heath Moore</td>
<td>Harry Fairley</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Isabelle Poole</td>
<td>Aaliyah Price</td>
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<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Tullie Robertson</td>
<td>Ebony Johnston</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Samuel Pratt</td>
<td>Brandon Waqa</td>
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<td>Keisha Atkins</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zarah Williams</td>
<td>Max Carter</td>
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<td>Ethan Bradley</td>
<td>Mia Chapman</td>
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<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2NJ</td>
<td>Ryder Lawrie-ison</td>
<td>Cejay Rolsh</td>
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<td>Jonah Fletcher</td>
<td>Harrison Prowse</td>
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<tr>
<td>5M</td>
<td>Georgia DeFiddes</td>
<td>Ashton Proctor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jasmine Farmer</td>
<td>Jesika Young</td>
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<td>Harvey Wilks</td>
<td>Ethan Mennie</td>
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<td>Brandon Giford</td>
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<td>5S</td>
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<tr>
<td>6T</td>
<td>Rico Vile</td>
<td>Toby Ralston</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daniel Taylor</td>
<td>Molly Ryan</td>
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<td>Josh Magann</td>
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<td>Henry Edwards</td>
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<td>SCJ</td>
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<td>SCO</td>
<td>Aleisha Cedergren</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cooper McKinnon</td>
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<td>Lockie Fittler-Bailey</td>
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<td>Blake Twaddell</td>
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**UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE ON TUESDAY 27TH JANUARY**

To ensure you are prepared for the return to the 2015 school year the Uniform Shop will be open on **Tuesday 27th January from 10am till 12noon**.

Please ensure you have cash or cheque on the day only as we do not have eftpos facilities.

Volunteers required to assist on the day – please email the P&C if you can assist.

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P&C End of Year Meeting and Lunch
Thursday 11th December
12:30pm till 2:30pm – Hunter River Hotel
Please RSVP by email.
DUX
Jeremy Boardman 6D

CITIZENSHIP
Isabella Armstrong 6D
Jason Kuszelyk SCJ

KG
Zakk Neumann Diligence in Literacy
Preston Willett Diligence in Numeracy
Harry Brown Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Jorja Lorenz Excellent Progress
Jordan Willis Creative Active Thinker
Karly Biffin Excellent Progress

KL
Dakota Faddy Diligence in Literacy
Cameron Mulquiney Diligence in Numeracy
Emily Bowman Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Cooper Ebrill Excellent Progress
Lilly Bradley Creative Active Thinker
Jarrod Nimmo Quiet Achiever

KN
Emily West Diligence in Literacy
Cooper Bell Diligence in Numeracy
Holly Proctor Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Heath Moore Excellent Progress
Flynn Bennett Creative Active Thinker
Talulah Elborn Improved results through persistent effort

KR
Noah Hawke Diligence in Literacy
Lachlan Hanna Diligence in Numeracy
Millie Atherton Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Chloe Moore Excellent Progress
Jarvis Blackmore Creative Active Thinker
Lily Collis Strive for excellence

1A
Mackenzie Kirk Diligence in Literacy
Brandan Farley Diligence in Numeracy
Macey Streeter Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Matthew Sanderson Excellent Progress
William Hall Creative Active Thinker
Abbie Jenkins A motivated student who always strives to do her best

1H
Mia Adams Diligence in Literacy
Lauren Kime Diligence in Numeracy
Benjamin Collins Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Rylie Berthold Excellent Progress
Jacobie Irvine Creative Active Thinker
Cora Hodder Consistent Effort and Enthusiasm in all areas of Learning

1L
Llewella Brooks Diligence in Literacy
Chester Lightfoot Diligence in Numeracy
Zarah Williams Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Kyle Eslick Creative Active Thinker
Faith Shephard Dedication to Learning
Millie Janson Dedication and Commitment to Learning

1S
Mia Stothard Diligence in Literacy
Owen Cox Diligence in Numeracy
Ryka Sonneveld Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Jake Angelovici Creative Active Thinker
Max Carter Excellent Progress
Tyler Caddy Consistent and Improved Effort

2A
Damien Trappel Diligence in Literacy
Oshay Betteridge Diligence in Numeracy
Sophie Roy Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Malaki Reis Creative Active Thinker
Talia Waqatevuya Excellent Progress
Lachlan Meredith Displays a positive attitude and strong commitment to learning

2B
Isabehlla Threlfo Diligence in Literacy
Finn Schumacher Diligence in Numeracy
Regan Dodd Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Mackinley McNab Creative Active Thinker
Koby Chadban Excellent Progress
Bailey Catt Positive attitude towards learning

2N
Arabella Lane Diligence in Literacy
Jack York Diligence in Numeracy
Travis Caddy Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Harrison Smythe Excellent Progress
Katie Slater Creative Active Thinker
Coen Morgan Placing value on learning and working towards set goals

2NJ
Christian Ebrill Diligence in Literacy
Connor Clague Diligence in Numeracy
Bailey Hackett Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Jonah Fletcher Creative Active Thinker
Tamiam Johnson Excellent Progress
Dallas Adams Consistent effort and enthusiasm in all areas of his learning
3S
Rowan Connell
Stephen Newberry
Tygerilly Eliourn
Gabriel Valenzuela Salas
Cooper Prowse
Jackson Whyte-Southcombe
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
Consistent Effort and Enthusiasm in all areas of Learning

3T
Aki Newberry
Hayden Grainger
Joseph Proctor
Lillian O’Brien
Jasper Vile
Alexander Corning
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
Academic Achievement

3/4P
Ellie Hill
Issac Hutchison
Kirra Chadban
Marni Redding
Sadie Hawke
Kaisler Janssen
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
Demonstrating the values that make her a role model for her peers

4E
Jasmin Johnson
Natalie Williams
Jacinta Fussell
Matt Duchka
Riley King-Saunders
Paige Andonovski
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
For application and diligence across all areas

4W
Edward Horner
Callum Hawley
Alexander Murphy
Kasey Wilson-Roper
Ella Stashinsky
Miah Threlfo
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
actively participating in her learning

5S
Lorcan Atkinson
Samantha Taylor
Claire Williams
Ella Regter
Cameron Gray
Charli McNab
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
An enthusiastic and committed approach to aspects of school life

5M
Zane Estathoe
William Rowling
Jonah Dowde
Lucinda Burgess
Brandon Gifford
Meghan Woods
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
Enthusiastic involvement in all aspects of school life

5B
Amity Petersen
Kailan Broderick
Angus Taylor
Cassidy Stuart
Jack Brown
Jennifer Van Tol
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
For her positive attitude and mature and dedicated approach to all aspects of school life

6D
Chantel Tuivaiti
Lauren Turner
Logan Richardson
Taylah Darcey
Charley Hill
Jorja Dickson
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Creative Active Thinker
Conscientious worker who is caring and considerate towards peers

6T
Samuel Whale
Samuel Madge
Babbette Horner
Jason Kuszelyk
Cooper McKinnon
Blake Twaddell
Diligence in Literacy
Diligence in Numeracy
Dedication and Commitment to Learning
Excellent Progress
Excellent Progress
Excellent Progress

Ronald McKinnon Encouragement Award
Scott Cervey-Jordan
Josha Magann
Jack Williams
Emily West
Josie Morley
KN
2NJ
4E
5B

Sportsperson of the Year
Josha Magann
6T
Josie Morley
5B

Application to Literacy
Emly West
Kn
Jack Williams
2NJ
Jacinta Fussell
4E
Pheobe Walsh
5B