During the recent holidays, I found a very interesting poster at a school highlighting the issue of absenteeism for some students. I photographed the poster, adapted it and included it in this newsletter.

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education? (NSW Education and Communities)

Further, if a child is late to school by just 20 minutes per day, then this would add up to missing almost one year of schooling.

Regular attendance at school is important for every student’s development and well being and is essential to assist students to maximise their potential.

A recent Western Australian study revealed that attendance patterns are developed in the early years of schooling. These attendance gaps are usually established early (by at least Year 1) and these gaps remain constant throughout primary school, but become wider when students enter high school. In the US one in ten Kindergarten students have chronic absentee issues. Unfortunately these students lag behind their peers just because they don’t come to school.

We recommend that students have at least a minimum 85% attendance rate at school. Students who fall below this are in danger of not completing the requirements of each course that they study.

International research demonstrates a strong link between attendance at school, student learning and improved life outcomes. When children miss out on school they miss out on vital information, their learning routine is broken, they can lose confidence and they miss out on building friendships.

Regular attendance also helps your child develop the skills needed to access the world of work and to learn the importance of punctuality and routine.
Many interactions occur at the start of the day. In Senior School this is when we have Care Group. I cannot stress enough the importance of attending Care Group and interacting with peers and their teacher on a regular basis.

It is my experience that those students who are late to school on a regular basis miss those vital conversations that occur with peers and they start to feel like they don’t fit in, just because they have missed the opportunities to interact with friends.

A US study in Chicago revealed how critical attendance is for success in high school. One would expect that Year 8 test scores are good predictors of students’ likelihood to do well in high school. However, this study revealed that school attendance was eight times more predictive of course failure than test scores. The researchers found that just one week of absence is associated with a much greater likelihood of failure regardless of incoming achievement. (Allensworth and Easton, 2007)

Can I recommend to all parents that they consider the attendance patterns of their children and if there are some issues of concern in this area, that you contact the College so that we can assist you with strategies to help your children attend school on a regular basis.

Lorrae Sampson
Executive Principal

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop closed on Fri 31/10/14 and will open for the Year 7 Orientation Day on Tuesday 18/11/14.

DID YOU KNOW YOUR CHILD’S BEST LEARNING TIME IS THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY.

THAT’S WHEN EVERY MINUTE COUNTS THE MOST!
DiD you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day.

That’s when every minute counts the most!

Senior School Starts at 8:30am
Junior School Starts at 8.45am

Remembrance Day - Lest we forget.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918. The ‘Great War’ was ended with the signing of the Versailles Treaty. Remembrance Day, or Armistice Day, is both a celebration of the end of atrocities and a cause to reflect on the horror of war. Over 16 million soldiers and civilians died in this war, including 6 million allied forces of which 60,000 were Australians.

In our college we have many families who have served and lost loved ones in war. Today, many are ready to be deployed to various theatres on our nation’s behalf or support such ventures. We are grateful for and remember you, as well.

It is right that we make the special effort to remember our past as humans don’t take long before they forget the past. But if we don’t remember, we will forget much about about our identity and what is important to us.

In the Bible, we read that God’s people who need to be constantly reminded of God’s faithfulness and compassion through history. We read of how God rescued his people from slavery in Egypt, led them to the promised land of Canaan. Despite their forgetfulness to love and obey God, he maintains his covenant - he would be their God and they would be his people.

Ultimately, God sends his own son, Jesus, to defeat the forces of evil and death through his death and resurrection. It is this story which Christians remember when they gather weekly or on special occasions. It is an old story, but as relevant today as ever. Yet, it has been forgotten by many in our culture.

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

“As we reflect on Remembrance Day and we celebrate the end of the First World War, might we remember the God who brings justice and peace through his Son Jesus”
As we reflect on Remembrance Day and we celebrate the end of the First World War, might we remember the God who brings justice and peace through his Son Jesus.

Let us pray...

Lord God of the nations, whose sovereign rule brings justice and peace, have mercy in our broken and divided world. Pour out your peace into the hearts of all, that people of all races might learn to live together, in a shared humanity, as your image bearers in this world. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Lest we forget.

Jim Dayhew
College Chaplain

Defence Day
This coming Friday we celebrate our annual Defence Day. This day celebrates the strong connection that NAC has with our Defence Forces and local Defence families. We have had many offers from defence personnel to run special events and are also looking forward to a visit from a helicopter flight crew from HMAS Albatross who will be flying in and showing us the aircraft. I would encourage all NAC defence families to come along to the special lunch at 12.30pm which will be held in the College Library.

Taster Day
Last Tuesday NAC held a ‘Taster Day’ for incoming Year 7 students from other schools in the area. Students played some get-to-know-you games with our current Year 6 students and took part in a range of fun activities with a number of senior staff. Mr Jones and Mr Pearce conducted an archaeological dig and unearthed a mysterious skeleton in the Kindergarten sandpit. Mr Ewing held a raced cars along the E block balcony. Mrs Templeton conducted some science experiments in our science labs and Ms Groves got students moving with some PE activities. Thanks to all the staff involved in this day, many of the students who came along on the day commented on how welcome they were made to feel.

Orientation Day
On the same theme I would like to mention our 2015 Orientation Day which will be held at the College on 18th November at 9.00am. Incoming Year 7 students will take part in some Year 7 classes and will do some initial testing as well. There will also be an information session for parents.

We have had many enquiries for 2015 from parents of students in Years 8-11 as well and have widened this event to allow for these students to come along and experience a taste of what NAC has to offer. These students will join senior classes for periods 3-4 and will have a BBQ together with students that they have met at the Thursday NAC café.

NACFest
Our annual NACfest Year 10 film festival is shaping up to be a great night out. Demand has been strong with the event completely sold out. Year 10 have been frantically finalising their films with last minute editing. A huge thankyou to Micah Watson (2014 Year 12) who has given his time so generously and worked some incredibly long hours to assist Year 10 in editing their films.
P&F Christmas Dinner
A reminder to buy your tickets for the NAC P&F Christmas Dinner. Last year this event was fantastic and promises to be even bigger and better this time around. Details of the event can be found on the College website.

Reports
As we approach reporting for Semester 2 I would like to notify parents of a few changes to the way in which reports will be distributed. We have found over the course of the year that some parents have not received emails that have been sent from school. There are a range of issues that could cause this including problems at the receivers end which makes it a particularly hard problem to solve. We are looking carefully at the issue from our end however and will work towards a solution that allows for greater reliability in email communication. However this solution will not be in time for us this semester. Therefore we will not be emailing reports as attachments this semester as this seems to trigger most of the issues that parents have been experiencing. Rather, we will notify parents when their child’s report has been placed on the parent portal. This gives the same outcome, just a different way of getting there. Of course, if parents wish to receive a hardcopy, reports will be printed on request and can be either picked up from Student Services or mailed.

Remembrance Day
Prefects and Captains represented the College at the annual Remembrance Day memorial service in Walsh Park Bomaderry. It was also great to see a number of NAC students (Eleanor Paech, Carleton Baily, Oskar Butt, Nicholas Muzzall) taking part in the service as members of TS Shoalhaven Naval Cadets. Well done!

Mr D Hamaty
Head of School
2015 ORIENTATION DAYS @ NAC
Senior School – Tuesday, 18 November 2014

Senior School Orientation Day gives our new Senior School students an opportunity to check out what NAC has to offer in the coming year. Students attending this day may wear casual clothes.

2015 Year 7 Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am –</td>
<td>Welcome to students and parents in the College Gymnasium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Students will move out to participate in Maths and English testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information session for parents, including question time followed by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>morning tea, concluding at approximately 10:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am –</td>
<td>Orientation Day program for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2015 Years 8 to 11 Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Welcome to students in the Recital Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50am</td>
<td>Students will join Senior School classes from Periods 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm –</td>
<td>BBQ Lunch at the NAC Café</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:40pm</td>
<td>Parents are invited to join us for a cup of coffee or tea at our NAC Café</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>prior to collecting their child at 1:40pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From 1:00 to 1:40pm the students will enjoy a BBQ lunch and games at the College Gymnasium and NAC Café. Parents are invited to join us for a cuppa prior to collecting their child at 1:40pm. We look forward to seeing our future students for this introduction to Senior School at NAC.

Junior School – Wednesday, 19 November 2014

Kindergarten Orientation is an important transition step for children preparing to start school and to help familiarise children as much as possible with the ‘big’ school environment. The Year 1-6 Orientation Program is designed so that children can meet their buddies and become familiar with their new surroundings. Whilst the children are visiting classrooms, an information session for parents will be held in the Library commencing at 9:30am. Afterwards, parents are invited to join their children for morning tea at 11:00am.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Year 1-6 Students and Parents go to the Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20am</td>
<td>Parents take their Kindergarten child to the classroom then go to the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Parent Information Session Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students Visiting Classrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Term 4 Parent Forums

The final Parent Forum is on Tuesday 2nd December.
The topic for discussion is:
Can computer games really help my child?

This session will be led by our Coordinator of Learning Technologies, Mr Graeme Ewing

The sessions starts at 5:00pm in the College Library
Coffee and tea provided.

Awards

Congratulations to all award recipients this week

Bronze Awards

Academic

Year 7
Connor Clarke
Sophie Emery
Cordelia Ewers
Samantha Fletcher
Kimberley Gibney x2
Jarrod Hooker
Tessa Marks
Bethany Percival x2
Ellie Priest
Jarrah Searle x3
Nicholas Shaw
Mia Stewart
Lachlan Sutton
Lana Zetovic

Year 8
Benjamin Boyce-Mortlock
Jesse Buckham
Zachary Hale
Blake Hallwell
Victoria Hancock
Joshua Handel
Benjamin Herne x2

Bella Inthra
Ebony Jones x2
Jacob King x3
Kyle Leslie
Andrew Pearson
Hayden Roach x2
Troy Strickland
Brock Toscan x2
Alexandra Winter
Chloe Wood

Megan Hamaty
Jarrah Searle
Mia Stewart
Lana Zetovic

Co-curricular

Year 7
Alexander Halank
Samantha Legzdin

Year 8
Jesse Buckham
Benjamin Herne
Jacob King
Joshua Pearson x2
Hayden Roach
Lexie Templeton
Alexandra Winter

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Lexie Templeton
Alexandra Winter

Scuba at NAC

DMac took his four intrepid SCUBA students: Pat O’Connor, Lewis Emery-Otford, Jai Mamby and Connor Jeston, one Sunday afternoon to complete their Open Water Course.
The two dives were off Bass Point at a local spot known as the Gutter.
Lovely weather was enjoyed by all.
Whales were seen breaching off shore.
There was plenty of local life such a blue groppers, Port Jackson sharks and a rather testy octopus.
**good face portrait prize 2014**

Budding artists of Nowra Anglican College Senior School, you are invited to submit a portrait for the Curatorial Teams “good face” portrait prize.

The portrait should be of a person who is special to you - someone who is known to you and plays a significant role in your life.

There are three competition categories: Years 7&8 (Stage 4), Years 9&10 (Stage 5) and Years 11&12 (Stage 6).

In each category the winner will receive a premium drawing pack including Primo Drawing Set of pencils and a Fabriano Tiziano drawing pad. 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category will win a pass to a special portrait drawing workshop with a guest artist. Works by winners and runners-up will be exhibited at ART WARS in Week 8 where there will also be a People’s Choice Award.

Entries must be no smaller than A4 and no bigger than A3. Portraits can be made using pencil, paints or mixed media (not photography). Entries must be received by 3.15pm Thursday 20 November 2014.

Please go to the following website for more details: https://sites.google.com/a/sras.nsw.edu.au/nac-curatorial-team/good-face-2014-portrait-prize

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**NAC / SAC Cricket Challenge**

In what we hope will be the beginning of an annual tradition the under 15 squad travelled to Shellharbour to play a 40 over a side turf match against Shellharbor Anglican College.

After losing the toss and fielding in conditions conducive to swing bowling, NAC’s bowlers were soon on top. Jordan Hockey (3/10) Ben Boyce-Mortlock (2/6) and Jhie Cushan (2/20) bowled tightly and we dismissed SAC for 112 in the 40th over. Unfortunately 7 catches were dropped which may have kept the opposition to an even lower score.

Wickets tumbled early in NAC’s innings and but for a patient partnership by Luke Huard (17) and Aiden Wearne (12), we may have totally collapsed. However in a frantic final 5 overs, Ben McDonald (11), Damian Spelta (12) and Jhie Cushan (8 n.o.) batted with intelligence and skill to bring us to the brink of what had become an improbable victory on the last ball of the match. Sadly we were unable to scramble the needed runs and finished at 7/111, just ONE run short.

It was a wonderful experience for the boys to play on a quality turf wicket and as usual they demonstrated both wonderful sportsmanship and great spirit.
HMAS CRESWELL

This is the story of 8 Y12’s and Mr. Izard who went on a school trip with a slim chance of no return. Zach Gorden, Lachlan Vandenberg, Jacob Barnes, Jai Manby, Lachlan Bailey, Jack Boxsell, Bailey Hooker and I spent the 5th November at HMAS Creswell and it was a day that none of us will forget. We got to have fun as well as learn about the history of the Royal Australian Navy with activities including rock climbing, a water assault course about 4m above a swimming pool 4m deep and a tour of the museum on site.

The rock climbing was great fun, despite how much our muscles were aching by the end of it. Whilst one of us climbed, another of us would delay so we all had to put faith in each other. The general consensus agreed it wasn’t the easiest thing to do. Most of us made it to the top of one of the walls; I however made the mistake of attempting the hardest wall first (with an invert making you climb outwards) which tired me out almost instantly. I got halfway up before dropping. On the easier walls, my hands were shaking and sweating which made holding on a very difficult challenge. Two hooks from the top, my hands slipped and I ended up colliding into a wall. Luckily, the walls were covered in carpet to make impact easier to cope with.

We then moved onto the “water assault course” which had lots of prerequisites. We had to swim 50m in 2 minutes which was easy; the officers who do that test have to wear full uniform which can be really heavy in water. We then had to swim underwater for 10m, most of us successfully did this on our first attempt. The final test was a jump from a three meter diving board into the pool whilst holding our nose, locking our arm in position with the second arm and looking at the horizon. We all did that really well.

The assault course was very challenging and our first thoughts were “you can imagine this being on Total Wipeout”. It started with a flimsy ladder climb onto a cargo net. Next, we had to get across three black platforms held up by the rope on the roof (getting onto them was tricky) onto a swinging metal platform.

This was very hard and when I did this, I created a moment that will be forever in the minds of those who were there. I managed to backwards roll onto the platform after lots of flailing which was hilarious to watch. We then walked across a bridge made of 6 wooden planks. Then we had to lift ourselves into a tunnel a meter above the bridge feet first.

We then had cone platforms which were more secure than the black ones so we all found that the easiest part of the obstacle course. The next obstacle course was a chance for me to show the others up (as I had done gymnastics and the others hadn’t) because it was a balance beam. Many of the guys fell. Bailey’s dive was turned into an awesome stunt as he back-flipped during the fall. I prepared my legs (pointy toes, arms out) and walked. I almost got there when then beam shook (possibly a bit of friendly banter) which took my legs from under me.

The next obstacle was another swinging metal platform followed by the monkey bars. This was the end for a few of us as we plummeted into an icy pool after our hands gave way. This is where I fell, but the legacy of the chosen few lives on. A mixture of cone platforms and black platforms awaited those who survived the monkey bars, which was a good recovery.

Then the second cargo net was a tedious obstacle, the energy of the remaining few was tested. The final few had a final swinging platform to get onto and then a bar to hold onto at the end. Bragging rights were given to the person who successfully made the most chin-ups on the bar. Jacob had a total of 4 chin-ups which was good considering we were all worn out. One brave lad by the name of Bailey Hooker got onto the bar and, despite the impossible challenge, achieved a winning total of 5 chin-ups.

Finally, we had a tour around the museum and learnt a lot about the history of HMAS Creswell. We even got to hold swords, which is one of the male things. We got to look at displays, medals and we got to hear one of the older Lieutenant Commanders tell us stories from the Australian Naval history. We all found that very interesting.

Overall, the day out was absolutely amazing (and physically tiring) and we can’t wait for the next one. On saying that, we’ll have to recover and I’ll have to get the scars on my left hand and my back seen by a doctor.

Corey Bate
Congratulations to Elijah Ewing (Class of 2014) who has had his Major Design Project selected for DesignTech, the annual exhibition of outstanding projects for HSC D & T students.

Elijah designed a product called the VEC which stands for ‘Versatile Ergonomic Controller’. The design is a game controller for specific PC games that conventional controllers are not well suited to. The concept came from surveying the target market and it was realised using some high tech technology including 3D CAD modelling, 3D printing and laser cutting. The College prides itself on giving students access to cutting edge technologies such as these. Elijah had to travel to Sydney to do his laser cutting this year but we are very excited to announce that we will be taking delivery of our own laser cutter at the start of 2015.

Congratulations Elijah

Another reminder about the College Writer Award – please email your entries in to Mr Rebel. Entries close Monday November 17th.

There has been a steady trickle of entries this week, but I’d like to see a lot more!

Entries can be anything you’ve written during the 2014 calendar year (but must fit into one of the three categories – Poetry, Media, Short Story). You can enter things you’ve written outside of school, but some English classwork and assignments could also be suitable –
Year 8 can enter your advertisements in the Media division.
Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 can enter pieces you’ve written for English assignments in the Short Story division.
The Poetry division is wide open – please enter your poetic masterpieces for your chance to win in this category (not a huge number of poetry entries so far).
Departing 2014 Year 12 students – you are eligible to enter as well!
Current Year 11 (new Year 12) students – so far there is only ONE entry from your year group – would love to see a lot more.

Happy writing!

Can you write something super?

POETRY
MEDIA
SHORT STORY

Entries close Mon. Nov 17

Email entries to rebel@nac.nsw.edu
Girls Group
This year, Mrs Jodie Robinson, our School Counsellor, has been running a girls’ group for children in Year 3. We’ve been really pleased to see the girls grow in confidence and assurance in social settings. When they were asked to reflect on the things they had learned they said that:

We can now:
• move on from bad times with friends
• stand up for ourselves
• be confident about making new friends and joining in with others
• know how to be nice to people
• ask to join in games
• Hi-five!
• play with more people
• be more comfortable playing in a big group
• ask questions of people we don’t know as well

Term 4 Happenings
Throughout the Junior School this term we’ve had a strong focus on Personal Development, Health and Physical Development.

Mr Biswas has been running the Rock and Water program for boys in Years 3 and 4. The Rock and Water program is designed to develop boys’ confidence, self-respect, boundary awareness and self-awareness through a range of physical and social activities. The boys have really enjoyed and benefited from this focussed program.

The Interrelate program for Years 5 & 6 covered topics including communication skills, forming relationships and issues of gender and sexuality. This is a worthwhile program and an important part of the PDH curriculum.

It’s been a busy term of sport with soccer and cricket featuring predominantly. Children from Years 3-6 have enjoyed days away competing against other schools. Year 2 have completed their two week swimming school, which has been a good preparation for their first swimming carnival in February next year. Year 6 will be learning about surf safety and going to Culburra Beach as part of that program.

I’d like to thank Mr Edwards, our Junior School Sport Coordinator, for a great job this year in providing abundant opportunities for our students to participate in a wide range of sports.

Presentation Day
Presentation Day (Tuesday 9 December) is a special event in the school calendar. We celebrate the achievements of the past year and acknowledge the work of our students. Members of the College council, parents, community leaders and parliamentarians attend.

We explain to children that there are a relatively small number of awards in proportion to the number of students in the College. It’s important that they are prepared for the possibility that they may not be receiving an award. This does not mean that they have not worked hard or tried their best.

The Junior School Presentation Day will be held in the College gymnasium, beginning at 11.00am. Following the event students are permitted to go home with their parents. Students who remain at school will be supervised until the end of the normal school day. We warmly invite parents and friends to join us for this special event.

Semester Two Reports
Teachers have been very busy over the last few weeks writing reports. Semester Two Reports will be made available electronically but if you would prefer your child’s report in a hard copy format, please contact the office (4421 7711) so that this can be arranged.

Upcoming Junior School Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P &amp; F Disco &amp; Mufti Day</td>
<td>Tuesday 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 Orientation</td>
<td>Wednesday 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surf Safety Presentation (Year 6)</td>
<td>Wednesday 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
<td>Thursday 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Surf Day Culburra</td>
<td>Friday 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Chapel</td>
<td>Monday 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehearsal for Presentation Day</td>
<td>Tuesday 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation Day</td>
<td>Tuesday 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Day (Last day for students)</td>
<td>Wednesday 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As we approach the year’s end at a seemingly relentless pace, I’m reminding the children to continue to work hard, to use every minute well, to wear their uniforms correctly and with pride, to be thoughtful of others and to be respectful of their teachers.

Thank you, parents, as you support us in these aims.

Our staff value your help in ensuring that your children arrive well prepared for each school day.

Susan Pearson
Head of Junior School
A Gumnut exploration of mini-beasts

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”
William Shakespeare.

The children in the Gumnut room have been sharing a growing passion for investigating mini-beasts. Each day they search throughout the yard to see what they can find. We found our butterfly nets and decided to see if we could catch any butterflies with them.

We spent the morning searching for butterflies, but they were nowhere to be found. We wondered if it was because of the recent rain?

Charlotte: “Butterflies are not out when it’s cold!”

When the sun came out later, we still didn’t catch any butterflies, but Toby and Imani found a shiny bug and Sam found a green cicada.

I posed the question “Why do you think cicadas come out of their shells?”

Kaitlyn: “To get new skin.”
Ellie: “To fly away, they try to hatch out of the shell to fly away.”
Imani: “Maybe another leaves that shell and another one goes in” (linking to her experience with and knowledge of hermit crab).
Kimberley: “Maybe they come out of their shell because they have to fly!”

Kaitlyn: “They push their way out.”
Billy: “They come out to get more skin.”
Brodee: “Maybe they stop to have a rest.”
Harry: “Because the wings are trying to get out.”
Lacey: “Because it wants to try and fly away.”

Oceana: “When the wings drys out it flies away,”
Phoebe: “They try to come out of the shell because they want to eat some food.”

Kaitlyn and Imani had some questions they were wondering about:

Kaitlyn: “Why do cicadas have the string on their shells?”
Imani: “What do cicadas eat?”

(We will research these questions over the coming weeks).

We discussed the importance of respecting living creatures and allowing them to live their lives – no matter how big or small they are. We remembered that we always ensure to release them back into their natural habitats after we have finished our investigations.

Imani shared with us that she found some ants and ant holes in the yard.

The following is a snippet of our conversation about ants.

Ellie: “Do ants have bones?” (Nobody was really sure so we decided we would need to research to find out).
Kaitlyn: “Do ants make honey?”
Farrah: “No!”
Jairus: “Ants make a house with honey!”
Oliver: “They carry it on their backs!”
Louis: “Fly’s get honey.”
Maddison: “So do bees!”

Jasmine: “Some of the ants die when they have babies.”
Kaitlyn: “How do ants make honey?”
Zali: “How do ants dig?”
Louis: “Do they dig with their hands?”
Heather: “Do you mean their legs?”

Louis: “Yeah… Ants don’t have hands!”
Imani: “I have ants at my house that go into a big hole!”
Maddison: “I do too!”

Imani: “The hole that I found has gone…”
Edward: “Sometimes I see a big hole outside.”
Heather: “Do you mean here at preschool?”
Edward: “Yes.”

We discussed the importance of not poking at any holes that we find as we don’t know what is inside – it could be an ant hole, a cicada hole or a spider hole.

Blake: “I went bushwalking and I saw ants… there were big ants!”
Nikki: “Are all ants the same?”
Maddison: “Ants are orange.”
Blake: “There are yellow and black ant.”
Louis: “Some ants are brown.”
Ellie: “Some ants are black and white.”
Zali: “Some ants can be green.”
Ben: “Some ants have yellow backs.”

Edward: “Ants have white things and they are the eyes.”
Alisha: “I’ve seen a red, yellow and green ant!”

Jairus: “I saw some ants at my house but I never catch them.”
Imani: “When my brother came over we saw an ant….. It had a red bottom!”

Kaitlyn: “Ants can carry honey on their bottom!”

(After some reflection we realised that Kaitlyn was making connections to our visit up to the NAIDOC display that included a display of Honey Ants. Early Years Learning Framework, Outcome 4.3: Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another, 2009: 36).

We invited the children to illustrate their ideas about ants in their personal black artist books. “…..Children use drawing as a powerful tool for thinking. In different ways and at different rates, they develop a range of mark-making skills and strategies and use their drawings for various representational purposes in their quest to make sense of themselves and their world” (Kolbe 2005:7).
FAMILY FUN DAY, HUSKISSON
on
SATURDAY 6TH DEC. 2014
at the
Lady Denman Heritage Complex, Huskisson

MAIN ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE

- Super Prize Guessing Competitions
- Monster Chocolate Wheel - Major Prizes
- Remote Control Boats On The Pond
- Nail Driving Competition • Score A Goal Competition
- Santa Photos and personalized Christmas Baubles
- Market & Food Stalls • Pony Rides
- Childrens Kids Zone Including Petting Zoo, Jumping Castle, Fairy Floss, Slushies, Face Painting & Balloons
- Dunking Machine - bring your swimmers, challenge your teacher!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO BUILDING A SENSORY GARDEN FOR BUDAWANG SPECIAL SCHOOL

Southern Branch Football Club is holding trials for girls and boys for its 2015 competition teams.

Girls U13 - U17 Trials have already taken place.

Boys Sunday 16 November U12s at 9am & U13s at 10.30am; Tuesday 18 November U12s & U13s at 6pm; and Sunday 23 November U12s & U13s 2pm.

All trials are being held at South Nowra Football Fields. To register complete the online forms at www.southernnswwfootball.com.au. Further details can be obtained from Matthew Shepherd, Southern Branch Manager on 0419925906.