Parents and Citizens Meeting
The second P&C meeting for the year will be held next Tuesday night in the Railway Bowling club starting at 7.00 pm. We will discuss the upcoming activities including Grandparents’ Day and the Easter Hat Parade, Term 1 educational programs and our plans for Term 2.

PSSA Cricket Knockout
After a comprehensive victory over Gulgong Public School last week the senior boys’ PSSA knockout cricket team will play their second round match against Dubbo West Public School on Monday, 18 March at Riverbank Ovals, Dubbo. Congratulations to team members Owen Campion, Dominic Ambler, Ben Rosenbaum, Caine Deaves, Thomas Potter, Baye Wallace, Tom Pascoe, Lachlan Sinclair, Mitch Rosenbaum, Lawson Shepherd and James Finch.

School photos
School photos were taken earlier this week. Fortunately, the program ran smoothly and the children were well behaved on what can be a trying day for pupils and their teachers. I thank all parents for ensuring their children were wearing full school uniform and so neatly presented for their photos.

Grandparents’ Day and Easter Hat Parade
Grandparents’ Day and the Easter Hat Parade is one of the biggest days on our social calendar. It is a wonderful way to bring our community together before the Easter break. We invite all grandparents and family members to join in the fun and friendship on this day. The P&C will be providing a barbecue lunch and tea and coffee. Volunteers are required help with the barbecue on the day. Please leave your name at the office if you can assist.

Grandparents’ Day Program
- 12.45 pm Visit Classrooms
- 1.25 pm Lunch
- 1.45 pm Grandparents’ Concert
  - Recorder Group
  - Stage 1 Choir
  - Senior Choir
  - School Spec Dance Group
  - Boys Dance Group
  - Band
- 2.15pm Easter Hat Parade and Circus performers

Dubbo Public School Website
Our website is starting to build and is regularly updated to include all notes, events and happenings at Dubbo Public School. We are also in the process of adding individual class pages for each class and these will be up and running very soon. You can print out permission notes, check the most current version of the school calendar, access the school newsletter, get information about the school canteen, view the photo gallery (updated regularly by Mr Ebert) and much, much more. The school website is a very comprehensive and useful resource for our parents and school community.

Dubbo District PSSA Swimming Carnival Final Results
Final point scores for the DDPSSA swimming carnival have been tallied. DPS came third in the overall point score, second in the handicap point score and Lachlan Sinclair was the 11 Years boys’ champion.

Western Area Swimming Carnival
Our Dubbo District swimming team members had a very successful Western Area Swimming Carnival with all swimmers displaying incredible effort to perform at their best. The senior boys relay team finished in fourth place. Without doubt the most outstanding individual performance came from Lachlan Sinclair (Year 5) who finished first in the 50 metres freestyle and butterfly and second in the 50 metres backstroke and the senior medley.

Dates for Your Diary
- March
  - Tuesday 19: P&C meeting, Railway Bowling Club, 7.00 pm
  - Thursday 28: Grandparents’ Day and Easter Hat Parade
- April
  - Thursday 4: K-6 Assembly
PSSA Trials
We have some students taking part in the PSSA basketball trials tomorrow. If they are successful in gaining selection in the Dubbo District team they will compete at the Western Area trials at Cowra next week. Soccer trials will be held next Tuesday afternoon, 19 March after school and rugby union trials on Wednesday, 27 March. Notes have been sent home but if any other students would like to take part in the soccer and rugby trials spare notes are available from Miss Barlow. We wish them the best of luck.

Parent tip - Helping your child making friends
The following are some useful tips for helping your child to make and keep friends
• Talk to your child about making friends
• Identify unfriendly behaviour
• Teach some social skills such as how to start a conversation
• Provide opportunities for your child to invite friends to our place
• Encourage your child to participate in out of school activities
• Limit the time spent in solitary activities
• Technology offers children opportunities to make and maintain friendships

School News
Year 6 Shirts
Year 6 shirt orders have been placed this week. Shirts cost $41.00 each and payment in full is due by Friday, 12 April. For any queries or concerns please contact Mr Ebert as soon as possible.

Year 6 Wambangalang Excursion
The Year 6 excursion to Wambangalang Environmental Education Centre is on Wednesday, 20 March Cost is $25.00 per student. Payment and notes need to be returned to school by Monday, 18 March. For any further information or concerns, please contact Mrs Lawes.

Year 5 Old Dubbo Gaol Excursion
The Year 5 excursion to Old Dubbo Gaol is on Wednesday, 20 March 2013. Cost is $7.00 and notes and money are due back at school by Monday, 18 March 2013. Full school uniform needs to be worn.

Year 6 into Year 7, 2014
Expressions of interest forms for placement in your child’s chosen high school for 2013 must be returned to school by Friday, 22 March 2013. For any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs Lawes.

Stewart House Donation Drive
The annual Stewart House Donation Drive is on again and a lucky donor could win a $4,000 holiday to a destination of their choice if their envelope is drawn. Simply place a $2.00 coin or equivalent in the donation drive envelope which accompanies this newsletter and return it to school before 10 May 2013.

2013 Stage Levy and Voluntary Contributions
The Stage Levy for 2013 has been set at $40.00 per student. Voluntary contributions are not compulsory and payment is a matter for decision by parents. They are also set at $40.00. Payment can now be made by EFTPOS.

Canteen News
Wacky Wednesday Week 8 - Fish & Chip Frenzy
Due to the overwhelming demand for the canteen’s fish and wedges Wacky Wednesday meal deal, we will offer this over two days next week. Fish and Chip Frenzy orders are $5.50 (including a popper) and will be available on:
Wednesday 20 March – Kinder and Stage 1
Thursday 21 March – Stages 2 and 3
All orders are due by noon next Tuesday, 19 March 2013. We are urgently in need of assistance in the canteen next Wednesday so if there is anyone out there who might be able to help. Please contact the school.

P& C News
The P & C are running an Easter Raffle to be drawn at Grandparents’ Day on Thursday, 28 March 2013. A number of Easter hampers will be on offer as prizes. Each family would have received a book of 5 tickets home today. Tickets cost $1 each.
The Easter Raffle is run by the P&C with all funds being raised going back into the school. Therefore we are asking for donations of Easter products to put into the hampers. The donations can be chocolate, Easter toys or any product that is Easter-related. We do ask that no products contain nuts. Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Hearing Team News
Recently, notes were sent home with student in Kinder through Year 3 requesting information about their otitis media (glue ear/ear infection) history. What a wonderful response! Over 70 notes were returned. Thank you. Notes have been sent home this week for student in Years 4 to 6. I will be working with Mrs Lawes, the school’s hearing contact person, towards placing sound amplifying systems in classrooms where they are most needed.
A reminder that hearing tests remain ‘current’ for three months. If you would like more information on where to have a hearing test in Dubbo, please contact the school office.

Rachel Mills
Support teacher, hearing