



# Mendooran Central School

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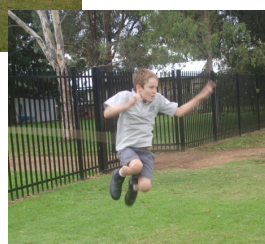
TERM 1 WEEK 7

[www.mendooran-c.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mendooran-c.schools.nsw.edu.au)

5TH MARCH 2012

## COUNTRY RUGBY LEAGUE CLINIC

Well done to all students who participated in the Rugby League clinic last Monday. Well known athletes and ambassadors of the game such as Ronny Gibbs and Alex Prout ran fun and engaging activities for students highlighting the game of Rugby League. With their focus on developing league's popularity and strength in the Western Region; Country Rugby League look to get back later in 2012 to Mendooran for a further coaching clinic with students.



### Principal

Michael Spora

### HTSS

Julie Waters

### Assistant Principal

Sara Reynolds

### Captain Secondary

Blake Washbrook

### Vice Caps Secondary

John Monk

Amelia Washbrook

### Captains Primary

Kyle Hartley

Emma Bennetts

### Vice Caps Primary

Charlie Smith

Peta McCleod

# PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

## SCHOOL SURVEY FOR NSW PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAMS (PSP FUNDING)

Once again you are being asked to fill in and return the Priority Schools Programs survey form, which is stapled to the newsletter you received today.

Filling in and returning this form aides us in applying for extra funding. The extra funding will be used to develop special programs to assist in your child's literacy, numeracy and ultimate success at school and has been an essential part of our commitment to learning here at Mendooran in the last two PSP funding opportunities covering the last 6 years.

Please fill out the form and seal in the enclosed envelope and write your child's name on the tear-off tab. The sealed envelope will be sent, unopened, from the school on Friday 9 March 2012.

We require 100% of the envelopes returned. To encourage you to fill in your forms promptly we are running a competition which will be drawn on Friday. One entry per child will be put in a ballot and drawn out, the winner receiving an **ipod touch**. We must stress the importance of returning your completed surveys. This PSP funding is extremely crucial to our school and our continuing commitment to excellence in learning and we would be grateful for your prompt response.

*Michael Spora*  
*Principal*



**NEXT P&C  
MEETING - AGM**  
Thursday  
15th March 2012  
3:30 pm



### CALENDAR

**TUES 6.3.12**

North West  
Swimming - Armidale

**WED 4.3.12**

Secondary Winter  
Trials - Gunnedah

**THU 5.3.12**

Active After School  
Sports - 3.10-4.30pm

Book Fair

**FRI 6.3.12**

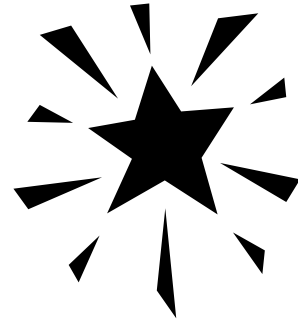
Book Fair

**MERIT AWARDS**

**K/1:** Crystal Tumbri  
Victoria Monk  
**2/3/4:** Carter Swan  
Brian Hellyer  
**4/5/6:** Sophia Skinner  
Lisa Fish

**Class Award Ribbons**

**K/1:** Riley McLeod  
**2/3/4:** Ella Hartley  
**4/5/6:** Annabel Finemore



## **PRIMARY ASSEMBLY AWARDS**

**Birthdays:** Mrs Lavender, Joseph Frohmuller

**Win Bins:** Kyle Hartley, Sam Bennetts, Carter Swan

### **KINDERGARTEN/YEAR 1 NEWS**

This week Kindergarten students will be learning the sounds “m” and “d” and Year 1 will be looking at spelling words that begin with the blend “dr”. Last week we looked at the structure of description text type and wrote a description of ourselves which we typed and printed on the computer. Last week we talked about our families and the topic this week will be what we like to eat.

S Reynolds

### **YEAR 2/3/4/5 NEWS**

This week for our COGS unit we will complete our wall display for our local native animals and birds. On Friday afternoon we will have a visitor coming to talk to our class from Landcare. Mr Simon Ferguson will bring with him some special items to display to the class, as he talks about our Local Natural Environment. I am very pleased with the effort the students are putting into learning their spelling words and completing homework on time. Next week some students will go up into higher spelling groups. I am sending home a ‘My 100 words’ sheet. This is a list of the most common misread words. Please place on your fridge or anywhere that the list can be easily seen so your child can practice reading out loud. Please tick at least 4 times when the words are known over the next 3-4 weeks. This sheet will be due in the last week of Term 1. On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March our class will be visiting the Mendooran business houses (weather permitting!). We will be taking photos and staying outside the businesses. A permission note will be going home tomorrow and is due back on Friday. If you would like to come with us for the walk, your assistance would be appreciated! Could you please let the school or myself know before the end of the week if you are able to come. Have a good week!

S Lavender

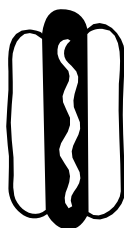
### **YEAR 4/5/6 NEWS**

First I would like to thank all of the parents for helping 4/5/6 students with their division that has been sent home in the homework. We (Miss Yeo and Miss LaBour) have seen significant progress with the 4/5/6 class in their ability to solve long division problems. This week for Maths we will be working on Time. We will send some of this home with the homework to encourage all students to continue their practice on Time as well as some data/graphing problems to help members of our class revise what we have worked on this past week. In preparation for NAPLAN 4/5/6 has also been diligently practicing and building on their skills for writing persuasive texts. In the homework this week there will be a page with a topic to write persuasively about. I will also send persuasive writing rubrics home with the homework so parents know what we are looking for in their persuasive writing. I will also be trying to provide more feedback when marking it.

R LaBour

## CANTEEN ROSTER

Mon 5.3.12: S Bracken  
 Tue 6.3.12: S Abbott  
 Wed 7.3.12: S Abbott  
 Thu 8.3.12: S Tumbri  
 Fri 9.3.12: S Sladden



Mon 12.3.12: S Bracken  
 Tue 13.3.12: S Abbott  
 Wed 14.3.12: S Tudgey  
 Thu 23.2.12: S Tumbri  
 Fri 24.2.12: L Monk/K Skinner

## *WEEKLY CANTEEN SPECIAL - SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE \$2.00*

### SECONDARY NEWS GENERAL

Secondary classes are settling in well and working hard. All Years have had essays due for English, Mrs Young requests that all work be in by Wednesday unless there has been an extension granted. Mr Bearman reminds all students that Clean Up Australia Day will be held THIS Friday 9.3.12. Jackson Adams has returned from a successful 3 days away at the Virtual Selective High school program he is enrolled in. Shanoa Hartley begins her second year with i-xcel in Term 2. In our continual efforts to ensure our school maintains the highest quality of teaching available for our students, professional training for Secondary staff has begun in earnest this week with myself away at a NAPLAN course, Mr Heazlett at both NAPLAN training and STLA courses and Mr Burke joining his Virtual Faculty in Maths. Finally, I want to encourage all students to attend EVERY day and stay in uniform!

Mrs Waters  
HTSS

### SPORT NEWS

#### SECONDARY WINTER TRIALS

Congratulations to Amanda Sladden, Tiarney Crothers, Steven Rutter, Britney Rutter, Jamie Sharpe (soccer), James Harris and Steven Leask (league) on their success at Coolah last Wednesday at the Three Way Winter Trials. These students will now go on to the next level at Gunnedah High School this Wednesday. Permission slips have been given to students and should be returned no later than 9.00am Tuesday morning. Well done!

#### PE UNIFORM

All students will need to bring to school a change of clothes for PE lessons. This includes:

**Sleeved t-shirt (no inappropriate pictures or writing)**

**Shorts / Trousers**

**Closed in leather shoes (joggers)**

**Hat.**

Clothing needs to be conducive to physical activity not restricting movement.

Students will be given time at the beginning and end of each lesson to change. The days students need to bring their PE uniform are as follows:

**Year 2/3/4 & 4/5/6 - Thursday**

**Years 7-10 Tuesday (Odd Weeks) & Thursday**

If students are unable to bring a change of uniform on the day they must provide a signed explanation note from parents. Students who are not in appropriate clothing for PE lessons without reason will be given theory/worksheets to complete during the lesson and will be treated the same as a non-participation.



**PRIMARY RUGBY LEAGUE & NETBALL TRIALS**

Primary Rugby League & Netball Trials are being held this Friday in Coonabarabran. Travel will be by private transport. All competent students who wish to attend the trials will be sent home with the required permission slips today. Please return these to the front office no later than Wednesday this week enabling enough time to organise transport for students.

D Althofer

**INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)**

The ICAS is an international competition that tests students in different academic areas. The results for our students from 2011 are as follows:

**ENGLISH****Participation**

- Mitchell Ribbons
- Kaitlyn Thomson
- Jackson Adams
- Emily Yeo
- Rebecca Sciberras
- Hugh Finemore
- Emma Bennetts
- Kevin Martin

**SPELLING****Participation**

- Emily Yeo
- Kevin Martin

**WRITING****Participation**

- Kevin Martin
- Rebecca Sciberras
- Emily Yeo
- Kaitlyn Thomson

**COMPUTER SKILLS****Credit**

- Mitchell Ribbons

**Participation**

- Emily Yeo

**SCIENCE****Participation**

- Kevin Martin
- Emily Yeo
- Jackson Adams
- Kaitlyn Thomson
- Mitchell Ribbons

**MATHEMATICS****Credit**

- Mitchell Ribbons

**Participation**

- Emma Bennetts
- Hugh Finemore
- Rebecca Sciberras
- Emily Yeo
- Jackson Adams
- Kaitlyn Thomson

Thank you and congratulations on the results to all the students that competed in the ICAS last year. The ICAS entry dates and costs for 2012 are as follows:

ICAS Subject	Year Levels	2012 Entries Closing	2012 Test Date	Entry Fee per student
<b>Computer Skills</b>	3-10	24 April	22 May	\$7.70
<b>Science</b>	3-12	8 May	6 June	\$7.70
<b>Writing</b>	3-12	21 May	18 to 22 June*	\$16.50
<b>Spelling</b>	3-7	22 May	19 June	\$11.00
<b>English</b>	3-12	3 July	31 July	\$7.70
<b>Mathematics</b>	3-12	17 July	14 August	\$7.70

## HOMEWORK CENTRE

Don't forget the school is running a homework centre on Tuesday afternoons. This is held in the computer room from the end of school until 4:30pm. Mr Neal will supervise the students and provide any assistance required.

# BOOK FAIR SHOWTIME

Your Ticket to Read!

Roll Up! Roll Up!! Come one, come all to the fabulous

Mendooran Central School Book Fair!!

Books Galore can be purchased at this exciting event!

When: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March

Times: 8:30am-9:am (Before school)

10:50am - 11:10am (Recess)

12:50pm-1:30pm (Lunch)

3:00pm - 3:30pm (After School)

Where: The Library

There's something for everyone! See you there!





## Mendooran Central School Uniform Supplies @ 30.1.2012

### CLOTHING

(Includes GST)

BLACK SLOPPY JOES	Small (Size 6, 8, 10, 12, 14).....	\$14.00
(with school crest)	Large (Size 16y, 16, 18, 20).....	\$16.00
T-SHIRTS (with school crest)	.....	\$ 9.90
TRACKPANTS (microfibre)	Small (Size 12, 14).....	\$18.00
(for upper primary/secondary)	Large (Size 16, 18, 20).....	\$20.00
TRACK PANTS (fleecy) (infants K-4)	(Size 6, 8 and 10).....	\$11.00
POLO SHIRTS (grey or white)	Small (Size 6, 8, 10, 12, 14).....	\$12.00
(with school crest)	Large (Size 16y, 16, 18).....	\$14.00
SPRAY JACKETS (black and white/school crest)	.....	\$55.00

### HATS

Caps (Black with school emblem)	\$ 5.00
Bucket Hats (Black: Size 53, 55, 57, 59 & 61cm).....	\$ 7.50

### EQUIPMENT

Calculators (Scientific).....	\$21.00
Library Bags (range of colours).....	\$ 3.50
Sunglasses (black).....	\$ 9.90
Student Pen/Pencil Sets (eraser, sharpener, blue/black/red pens & 2 pencils)	\$ 4.00
Pencil Cases (Tartan).....	\$ 1.50
Book Packs .....(with/without) A3 Art Diary	\$20/\$15.00

*Mendooran Central School has purchased black jumpers, tracksuit pants and polo shirts to help parents buy locally for your convenience. Prices have been kept down as much as possible and the School has passed on the savings by buying in bulk. The school crest has been included on jumpers and shirts to make our students look great in their uniforms.*

*Please contact the school office in advance if possible if you would like to purchase uniforms. The correct money is a huge help to the office staff.*

## WIN AN IPOD TOUCH!!!



**Send in your completed survey in the sealed envelope and each student in your family will receive an entry in the ipod-touch competition!!**

**Drawn Friday 9 March 2012.**

## SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS - 2012

**Voluntary Primary Contributions:** \$25.00 per child  
**Voluntary Secondary Contributions:** \$50.00 per child  
**Voluntary FAMILY MAXIMUM:** \$80.00 (not including electives)

*Both Voluntary contributions and Elective fees may be paid by instalment.*

### COMPULSORY ELECTIVES COST

<b>Year 7/8 Electives:</b>	Technology Mandatory	\$20.00 (enables students to take work home)
<b>Year 9/10 Electives:</b>	Industrial Technology	\$40.00 first project (\$30 per project thereafter)
	Food Technology	\$15.00 <b>per term</b> (\$60.00 per year)
	Design & Tech (Textiles)	\$20.00
	Art	\$25.00
	Agriculture	\$10.00
<b>Year 11/12 Electives:</b>	Hospitality	\$15 per term (\$60.00 per year)
	D&T Mixed Media	\$20
	Art	\$25
	Agriculture	\$10
	Metals & Engineering	\$40 first project (2 <sup>nd</sup> project dependent on cost)

Please tear off the following section and fill in details accordingly to the number of students you have attending Mendooran Central School to calculate the amount owing

**FAMILY NAME:**.....

### VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION

No Primary Students	<input style="width: 50px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>	No. Secondary Students	<input style="width: 50px; height: 40px;" type="text"/>	TOTAL \$ _____ SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS (Maximum \$80.00)
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### COMPULSORY COSTS SECONDARY ELECTIVES

<b>Year 7/8 Electives:</b>	Technology Mandatory	\$20.00	\$.....
<b>Year 9/10 Electives:</b>	Industrial Technology	\$40.00	\$.....
	Food Technology	\$60.00	\$.....
	Design & Tech (Textiles)	\$20.00	\$.....
	Art	\$25.00	\$.....
	Agriculture	\$10.00	\$.....
<b>Year 11/12 Electives:</b>	Hospitality	\$60.00	\$.....
	D&T Mixed Media	\$20.00	\$.....
	Art	\$25.00	\$.....
	Agriculture	\$10.00	\$.....
	Metals & Engineering	\$40.00	\$.....

**TOTAL ELECTIVE FEES** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## MENDOORAN PA&H ASSOCIATION

### DESIGN A LOGO COMPETITION!!

The Show society is running a competition to design a Logo for the Mendooran Show. This came about when we invited "Year of the Farmer" to be a guest at our 2012 show. They requested a logo ... and we didn't have one!

The logo should encapsulate everything that Mendooran Show means to you. Make it bright and bold, a simple idea with spark, which will be put on all advertising and correspondence from now on.

Below are some examples of other logos. You probably are aware of them and know what they are. The company doesn't have to print its whole name all the time. They simply use the logo and you know instantly who it is.



Entries are free for school students and \$1.00 for adults. Please deliver your entries to the school. The winner will receive a family pass to this year's show which is going to be bigger and better than ever! Entries close on Wednesday, 7th March. Good Luck!

Pip Archer  
Secretary

## TOUCH FOOTBALL - KEEPING IN TOUCH

Round 7 was rained out last week. This week will still be round 7 and the games are as follows:

*The Rookies vs Wild Boars*  
*Mendooran Café vs Barbarians*  
*The Coconuts vs Royal Hotel*

This round will be the final round before the **Grand Finals** the following **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. The finals will also involve presentation of awards & trophies afterwards at the Royal Hotel. Make sure you are all there early because games will start on time regardless of whether you have a full side!

The table so far is as follows:



Teams	Points
The Rookies s	16
Wild Boar	15
Mendooran Café	13
Royal Hotel	10
Barbarians	10
The Coconuts	8



There will be a BBQ put on at the Royal Hotel after each game as per usual. See you there.

M Burke

## MENDOORAN/MERRYGOEN AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB

Fingers crossed the weather is good for this Friday. As we missed out on medley and relay last week, we will attempt to do it this week. Can all members please be there by 3.45pm to enable the Marshall to group everyone for their races for a 4pm start. Some good news for the club and members...the swimming club was successful in their grant for 'Subsidised Club Membership'. As soon as I have spoken with NSW Sports and Recreation on their specific requirements and the funds have been put into our account, I will advise members accordingly. Can all members with perpetual trophies please return these by the 16<sup>th</sup> March at the latest. Just a reminder that the club has up for raffle an AUS swimming cap signed by Olympic swimmers Matt Abood, James Magnussen, Geoff Heugill and Eamon Sullivan on one side – the reverse side has Emily Seebohm and Alicia Coutts. Tickets can be purchased from the Post Office. The raffle will be drawn at the end of our Point Score season which is proposed for 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Feel free to call me if you have any questions – 6886 1131.

J Rushton

## AFTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS

A reminder that after-school swimming lessons with Gail Yeo will be on tomorrow (weather permitting). There will be two squads – one for the intermediates @ 3.30pm and one for the advanced squad at 4pm. Have a great day!

J Rushton

## MENDOORAN PONY CLUB NEWS

It was a shame the Binnaway and Mudgee Shows were cancelled last weekend. The fundraiser for the Area 4 Team has been postponed due to the wet weather – I will let you know when this will be rescheduled. Warren Gymkhana is next weekend and we look forward to a great weekend I will let you know as soon as I get a program for this. Don't forget that Coonabarabran show is this Friday and Saturday and they have a jam packed program including a pony club ring on the Saturday, combined training, jumping and sporting.

**DON'T FORGET THE WEEKEND OF 17<sup>TH</sup> AND 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH WE ARE HOSTING A REGIONAL SCHOOL AND INSTRUCTORS SCHOOL AND WILL NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET WITH CATERING AND CANTEEN.**

If there is any one interested in joining the pony club please call me (68442228) or come along for a look at our next rally day. Nominations are open for State Show Jumping Equitation – please contact me if you are interested in attending. The meeting set for this Tuesday night will be moved to next Tuesday night 13<sup>th</sup> March.

J Smith

## CATHOLIC RELIGION

If anyone is interested in doing Sacraments through the Catholic Church, please contact Louise Monk on 6886 1225.

L Monk



## D.J.R.L.N (DUNEDOO JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE & NETBALL)

We would like to thank and congratulate Katrina O'Malley for taking on the Treasurer Role for the 2012 season. Thank you Katrina. We are however still seeking a Canteen Coordinator. Please let Dale Hogden or any committee member know if you are interested.

So the season begins, and dates to be remembered are as followed:

**REGISTRATION:** Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at the Sports Club.

**COACHES:** We are seeking applications for coaches for the 2012 Football, Under 6's to Under 16's and Netball, Under 8's to Under 16's. Please forward your written applications to Dale Hogden, 10 Digilah Street, Dunedoo. All applications close 4pm, Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

**TRAINING:** will commence on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012 at 4pm, Robertson Oval.

**MEETING:** Next meeting will be on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2012, 7pm at the Sports Club.

**PROGRESSIVE DINNER:** Claim the Date!!! Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

**FIRST GAME (SEASON COMMENCE):** First game for the season will be a carnival to be held at Dunedoo on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

**COMMITTEE:** For your info – 2012 Committee:

President:	Dale Hogden
Vice President:	Ian Johnston, Mark Gallagher
Secretary:	Mel Bampton
Treasurer:	Katrina O'Malley
Football Coordinator:	Matthew Guan
Netball Coordinator:	Ailsa Brydon / Maria Harrington
BBQ Coordinator:	Fabian Boyd
Canteen Coordinator:	<b>YET TO BE FILLED</b>



## **SECTION Q CHILDREN'S SECTION (OPEN)**

Stewards: **Michelle SKINNER and Abby SKINNER**

Entry in this Section is Free Prizes: 1st \$2.00, 2nd .50c

***Children's Section kindly sponsored by  
Mendooran Newsagency, Mrs. B McGirr, Mrs J Lloyd,  
Ms W. Hill, Mrs P Kenny and Mrs B Monk .***

### **Handicrafts 8 Years and Under**

Article from natural or synthetic fibre  
Article from metals, plastic, leather or wood  
Clown mask  
Novelty article from recycled materials  
Article from clay plasticine or play dough  
Article made from Beados  
Article made from Lego  
Article made from Meccano

### **Handicrafts 12 Years and Under**

9 Article from natural or synthetic fibre  
10. Article from metal, plastic, leather or wood  
11 Clown mask  
12 Novelty article from recycled materials  
13 Article from clay plasticine or play dough  
14 Beading  
Jewellery  
Article from Beados  
Article from Lego  
Article from Meccano

### **Handicrafts 16 Years and Under**

19. Article from natural or synthetic fibre  
20. Article from metal, plastic or wood  
21 Clown mask  
Novelty article from recycled materials  
Article from clay plasticine or play dough  
24 Handmade Greeting Card  
25 Beading  
Jewellery  
An article of scrapbooking (one page)  
Article made from Beados  
Article made from Lego  
Article made from Meccano

Floral 8 Years and Under

31. Low arrangement in sand saucer, "Gold, Silver and Bronze" theme  
32. Arrangement in egg cup

Floral 12 Years and Under

33. Low arrangement in sand saucer, "Gold, Silver and Bronze" theme  
34. Arrangement in egg cup





**SECTION Q - CHILDREN'S SECTION - CONTINUED****Cooking 8 Years and Under**

- 35. Honey Joys
- 36. Pikelets
- 37. Five decorated arrowroot biscuits
- 38. 3 decorated cup cakes (not muffins)

**Cooking 12 Years and Under**

- 39. Novelty Cake, theme of "London Olympics 2012"
- 40. Six Biscuits
- 41. 3 decorated cup cakes (not muffins)

**Cooking 16 Years and Under**

- 42. Novelty/birthday cake, theme of "London Olympics 2012"
- 43. Six cup cakes, iced (cake mix allowed)
- 44. Six pieces of slice to be judged on quality

**ART Work**

All art must be mounted with cord attached ready for hanging

**8 Years and Under**

- 45. Painting any medium, theme "The Future"
- 46. Creative veggie creature from any produce

**12 Years and Under**

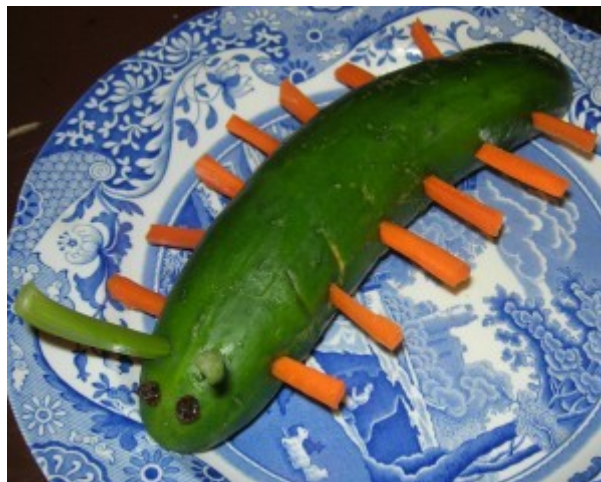
- 47. Painting any medium, theme "The Future"



*All entries in handicraft and art sections to have been worked within the last 12 months*

**CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OPEN**

- 48. Best Collage, plasticine or play dough figure
- 49. Best Painting
- 50. Vegetable Creature
- 51. Best Lego item
- 52. Best Beados item
- 53. Best Meccano item





## YEAR 9 ENGLISH

Euthanasia. In the world, not everyone agrees with this medical practice.

Do all living creatures, big or small, human or not, deserve the chance to be euthanised? One may argue no... the other yes.

One may think euthanasia is wrong, some people may take to the Hippocratic Oath: ***"I will give no deadly medicine to any one if asked, nor suggest any such counsel"***.

Others may think differently; say that euthanasia should be legal.

Euthanasia is not an easy choice to make. It is not taken light heartedly. It is only meant for the terminally ill. It is one of someone's final choices. Euthanasia. Not everyone chooses this option. But it should be a choice for you to make!

Dictionary.com meaning of euthanasia- Euthanasia refers to the practice of intentionally ending a life in order to relieve pain and suffering.

Horses, cats, dogs, cows, sheep, birds. I live on a farm. I'm around sick or injured animals often. I have seen, in many cases of illness, where animal have been euthanased.

A horse we owned, Sam, was struck with cancer one and a half years ago.

First a lump behind his left shoulder became visible and he started to lose a vast amount of weight rapidly. By early last year, he was distressed and in misery; the cancer lump was half the size of a small netball. 28/2/2011.

The date we put Sam out of agony. People believe that this was the best action after the cancer spread so quickly.

Animals on a farm. They get a broken bone, they get sick, and they can feel they are in a hole of blackness. On a farm, in a city, euthanasia is needed for animals. 100 animals around the world are euthanized each day. In many cases euthanasia is fortunately needed to put animals down... the taking of something's distressed life should be legal!

If one of your family members was lying in a hospital bed; incurably ill, lying there still, not moving, hardly breathing; would you consider euthanasing them? Putting them out of the pain they are feeling?

Did you know: there are a number of terminally ill people, around the world, that sign a legal document, authorising the procedure to be euthanased?

Did you know: that there are people, that witness seeing their mortally ill loved ones in a bed dying, suffering... and think about euthanasia.

People watch loved ones lie in a hospital bed each day.

Helpless... Helpless they feel. Helpless, the person in the bed.

Suffering... Your suffering from watching them die. Suffering is your dearly loved one.

What can you do, when there is nothing you can do? You can't ease the pain. All you can do is wait til the end. Isn't it better for a person to choose when their battle

for life is over? For them to end their battle in dignity? For us to know their heart is at peace?

***And can a man his own quietus make***

***With a bare bodkin?***

***With daggers, bodkins, bullets, man can make***

***a bruise or break of exit for his life,***

***but is that a quietus, O tell me, is it quietus?***

***Surely not so! for how could murder***

***even self murder,***

***ever a quietus make?***

***O let us talk of quiet that we know,***

***that we can know, the deep and lovely quiet***

***of a strong heart at peace!"***

**"THE SHIP OF DEATH" by D. H. Lawrence**

Moreover, earlier in this essay there was a discussion about a personal experience on a farm and how farm animals are euthanased. Euthanasia also appears in the book 'Of Mice and Men' By John Steinbeck. A part in this book is about a man and his dog that is euthanased.

Coldness. Darkness. Death...

Candy. A dog. Euthanasia...

1935. A ranch. Men...

1930's... life wasn't great. Life was tough. People just scraped by. It was the year of the Great Depression.

Men on ranches, laughing, playing euchre and working hard. Then there was Candy... an old man with one arm. To keep him company: his lifelong friend. 'I had him so long. Had him since he was a pup' (pg:50).

On a ranch, together Candy and his dog lived. Getting a bed to sleep on, a meal each day and together they were well. Until the day Candy's co-workers resolved that it was time for the dog to go!

Candy and his dog fit together like glue and paper, but once torn apart... it leaves a mark.

It could be argued that the men did do the right thing by euthanasing the dog, but one could believe it could have been done differently...

Candy: old, crippled, stoop-shouldered, with 'stubble whiskers' (pg 51)... the swamper. Smelly, old, no teeth, stiff with rheumatism. Candy's dog. John Steinbeck writes about an old man and his old dog. Juxtaposition. Juxtaposition between a human and dog. Candy and his dog.

Steinbeck used juxtaposition to show that two types of creatures can be framed as exactly the same.

'The old man came slowly into the room. And at his heels there walked a drag-footed sheep dog, grey of muzzle, and with pale, blind eyes. The dog struggled lamely to the other side of the room' (pg 26).

This quote from the book explains how both of the friends are old and slow. Just like each other. Both grey muzzled. Both crippled. Each other are they.

Additionally, did Candy's dog really need to be euthanased? Had Candy's dog lived his life and his time was at an end? That he needed to be put out of his misery, then and there. One could argue that yes... he did. However did he really need to be euthanatized by another that was not his owner?

'If you want me too, I'll put the old devil out of his misery right now and get it over with.' (pg53).

Candy's co-worker asks.

Candy momentarily mumbles around. Looking for a way out of this tricky situation. With no support from the others, Candy had no choice but to let his friend go. Without even a word goodbye, a co-worker takes the dog outside.

"BANG". The last thing Candy's dog would have heard... fortunately hours after the shooting Candy speaks out: 'I ought to of shot that dog myself' (pg 69).

The real question is... did candy let his dog go because he didn't have the guts to say no... or did he let him go because he knew it was the right thing to do??

Like all acts of euthanasia, it should be the individual's choice. Candy was coerced!

Euthanasia. This topic is debated all over the world, even today! No matter who you are: young or old, man or woman, is it the most humane thing to do if your family member is severely sick ?

Euthanasia is not an easy choice to make. It is not taken light heartedly. It is only meant for the terminally ill. It is one of someone's final choices. Euthanasia. Not everyone chooses this option, whereas many may think... it should be a choice for you to make!

Would you choose to euthanase another?

Would you choose to be euthanased?

By Abby Skinner

# Recipe for Success

## A Positive Behaviour Workshop for Families

### Mudgee

Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) is pleased to announce 'Recipe for Success' in Mudgee. Recipe for Success is a unique autism specific Positive Behaviour Support workshop. It has been designed using contemporary evidence based strategies by Aspect's Behaviour Support Team as part of their direct work with families. By the end of the 3 day workshop every family will have been guided to *write their own Autism specific Positive Behaviour Support plan* based on a chosen behaviour.

**Effectiveness:** The workshop has been running for the past 7 years across NSW and in 2010 was evaluated independently with very positive findings. The evaluation *"showed evidence of an extremely significant decrease in challenging behaviours ... and evidence of an extremely significant increase in parental self-efficacy following the 3-day workshop and again at the 4-6 week follow-up."*

#### Families Will

- Develop a best practice understanding of Autism and how an ASD might contribute to challenging behaviours
- Learn the key principles of how to create an autism friendly environment in their home
- Learn step by step how to write an autism specific behaviour support plan for one of their child's behaviours
- Learn step by step to write a crisis plan and respond confidently when challenging behaviour occurs
- Learn step by step how to teach new skills to promote their child's communication, emotional regulation or independence

*Professionals are invited to attend if the family they are supporting is attending.*

#### Testimonials from families

*"Best information session on Autism I have been to, so much clarity about getting to the core behaviour, unpeeling onion, enjoyed all visuals. Thank you so much"*

*"I have attended many workshops & seminars with my daughter to try & find answers to what we needed to know about autism. This workshop has been the most informative ever"*

*"Fantastic presentation. Very interactive & affirming & capacity building. Ideas not just discussed but taught how to follow through on. 3 days is not enough!"*

#### **When Where**

**20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012**  
**Mudgee Soldiers Club**  
**99 Mortimer St**  
**MUDGEES NSW 2850**

#### **Time Cost Register**

**9.30am to 2.30pm**  
**FREE**  
**On line at our website**  
**[www.autismspectrum.org](http://www.autismspectrum.org)**

#### **Contact**

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**[jwoodward@autismspectrum.org.au](mailto:jwoodward@autismspectrum.org.au)**



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AUSTRALIA