Dear Parents, Students and Friends of Young North P.S.

I would like to thank parents and guardians for taking the time to come and meet with class teachers during last week’s parent teacher interviews. Different school’s hold interviews in different formats and at different times. We feel that having a face to face catch up early in the year allows you to pass on necessary feedback to your children’s new teacher and also helps set goals for the year based on the assessment data collected in Term 1. Should you require further conversations with your teacher and/or other relevant staff we are only to happy to organise additional meetings.

In addition to the above, this year we are working very hard as a school to look at enhancing the differentiation of curriculum to all learning levels. There is no point pitching learning to the middle of a year group. Good schools have students, parents and teachers who:

1. Know what learning level students are at.
2. Develop programs based on evidence and data (assessment) that meets the next step needs of each student.
3. Celebrates growth.

What this means is that Learning Support staff at the school are working very hard to communicate with parents about adjustments for learners. This can even include Independent Learning Programs which will have individual goals developed and reported on throughout the year. We want our kids to always feel like winners and be rewarded for their engagement and effort in their own learning. Sometimes a standard stage based report is not appropriate as students may be working/learning really hard but below that stage level.

Don’t forget the Cross Country carnival is on Monday. Notes need to be returned this week with $1.50 for the bus.

Best Wishes
Mr Smerdon
What we did on our Holiday

THU
Lambing troupe, living

remember like

tree and

Next

8.30am to 1.00pm

All children’s books are 20 cents

prices.

AUTUMN BOOK SALE

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WED

Harmony Day @ YNTH

Next Friday, our school will celebrate Harmony Day. Students will

paired with buddies from different classes and be given the

opportunity to participate in activities that promote cooperation

and teamwork. Students will be working together in activities

like, 3 legged races, soccer, making a human knot and building

towers by only touching string. Students will also make a Harmony

dee in the library. Each student will add a hand print to be used

as leaves. It shows that when we live and work in Harmony and

like trees, we stand tall and proud, we go out on a limb, we

remember our roots and enjoy the view. In light of learning about

living and working together in Harmony students from our dance

troupe, choir and drumming corp will perform at the annual

Lambing Flat Chinese Event on the following day.

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Community Noticeboard

Reminder: Skoolbag Ap

You can download your free Young North PS Iphone or Android
App now! Young North Skoolbag is not just for parents. It is
a great way for ex students, grandparents and friends of
the school to keep in touch with all of the exciting things happening
at our school. Skoolbag will currently allow you to:

1. Receive Alerts - reminders and important information

2. News feeds - Newsletters and good news about our school

3. Administration- copies of school notes and the ability to
report student absences is also available.

The Young AECG welcomes current and new members to
their next meeting:
Where: Young North PS
Time: 11:00am
Date: Friday, 27 March

Art Experience

Tutor: Megan Holt.

Cost: Upfront cost $40.00 [all art materials included]

Terms:

1. Ages 7 - 10 Year Olds (infants/primary/lower secondary) 3 Classes x 3 Weeks

Starting Date: Thursday 28th May - 29th May 2015

Time: Thursday 4pm. to 5 30pm.

Where: Young North PS

Cost: Upfront cost $40.00 [all art materials included]

Tutor: Megan Holt.

Art Experience - During this six week program participants will be encouraged to build on basic painting and
drawing skills. By exploring new techniques, tools and concepts

Students will learn about tonal values, the colour wheel, observation and other key elements to help them create

amazing artwork.

Limited spaces: Contact: Megan on 6382 7898 email kevandmeg@bigpond.com or

contact Heather on 63823268 heather_ruhl@bigpond.com

Autumn Book Sale

AUTUMN BOOK SALE - huge range of second-hand adult and children’s books, DVD’s and CD’s at bargain
prices.

All children’s books are 20 cents, Friday 20th March from 9.30am to 6.00pm & Saturday 21st March from
8.30am to 1.00pm. @ St John’s Church Hall in Cloete St Young.

Southern Cross Cinemas

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<th>Sat 14/3</th>
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**YHS Open Day**

*Open Afternoon at Young High School*

I strongly encourage everyone to stop in to Young High School on 24/3/15 from 3:30-6:30pm. Last year I attended this event and went with the mindset of a prospective parent. I came away really impressed with our local high school, its dedicated teachers and its focus on student leadership and broad curriculum opportunities. If you haven’t had a recent experience with YHS then this is your chance to experience the 2015 version. Mr Smerdon

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**Easter Scripture Assembly**

This year a short 15 minute service will be delivered in the hall at 2:20pm on Thursday, 2 April. Parents and community are welcome to attend.

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**Lambing Flat**

**EXCITING NEWS!!!** The choir, dance and drumming corp will be performing at the Lambing Flat Chinese Festival on 21 March 2015. We will be performing in the event called “Future Faces”. It is a competition against other schools in the local area. We are performing our version of Happy from the movie Despicable Me.

*When: Sat 21 March 2015*

*Where: Anderson Park*

*Time: 3.45pm*

Students in the Choir and Drumming Corp are required to wear clean school uniform. Dance students required to wear black tights. (Shirts and silver ribbon are supplied).

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**Go Blue for Autism 1 April & YNth PS**

What is Autism?

When someone has Autism Spectrum (ASD), it means that their brains are wired differently to other people. However the symptoms of ASD vary enormously from person to person. People with ASD find it difficult to interact socially and communicate with others. As they often have difficulty understanding what other people are feeling and what interests others, they might say the wrong thing. They might talk for a long time about a topic they really like, as they are unaware that the topic is of no interest to others. They may not use gestures and body language, in the way that other people do. For example they may not use eye contact and may not smile. However, their ability to communicate can vary tremendously, with some people with Autism having no or limited speech, and others having extensive vocabularies.

Although people with ASD can find it difficult to talk to people and make friends, they still have the same emotions as anybody else and love to have friends, even if it’s hard. People with ASD also like things to happen the same way. They might take the same route to school or the shops, or line up their toys in a particular order. If something is out of place or if routines change without warning, they can get upset or worried. They may also be bothered by sudden loud sounds, bright lights or unexpected touch that do not bother others. They may become upset if someone hugs them or talks too quickly or loudly. They often have intense interests in particular topics and may be extremely knowledgeable about their special interest areas. They can also have an amazing memory for detail.

Every person with Autism is different to another and has their own way of seeing the world, which makes them interesting and unique.

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**Around the Grounds Sport Roundup**

Last Friday saw around 50 students attend the Rugby League Gala Day. The day was an opportunity for students to be introduced to League (boys) or Tag (girls) in a non-competitive environment. For many of our students it was their first time playing and after speaking with many they really enjoyed the experience and are considering taking up the sport. Thank you to the parents who assisted with teams on the day after some unavoidable organisational issues. We will now look to pick teams and begin training in preparation for the Trent Barrett Shield (3/4) and Mortimer Shield (5/6) that will be on later this year.

I would also like to wish our Under 8 and Under 10 futsal team’s good luck in their semi-finals next Tuesday. It is great to see them participating in the local competition and they have performed exceptionally well. The Under 8’s were undefeated during the regular season and the Under 10’s lost just one game. Our Under 12’s improved out of sight and struggled with numbers at times. Well done!!!

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**Cross Country**

In other news, notes have gone out today for the school’s annual Cross Country Carnival. It will be held at the Young Golf Club next Monday 16th March. Please return notes with $1.50 by this Friday 13th March. It is a wonderful day and I encourage all students to attend and participate on the day.

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**Healthy Eating Tips**

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**The simplest way...to make a healthy afternoon tea.**

Try these simple ideas for making snacks that will satisfy even the fussiest eater...

- **Homemade hot chips**
  - Slice potatoes into thin discs, and arrange on a baking tray sprayed lightly with olive oil. Grill until golden, and serve with a small amount of tomato sauce.
  - **Boiled sliced fruit with yoghurt**
  - It’s a fact - kids are more likely to eat fruit when it is cut up into small pieces. Try serving some sliced fruit with some reduced-fat yoghurt. It’s a winner.
  - **Vegetable sticks**
  - These are so easy to prepare and make a super healthy afternoon tea. Try cutting up some carrot or celery sticks and serving them with hummus.

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**The simplest way...to make pineapple sorbet.**

On a hot summer’s afternoon, nothing better than some refreshing sorbet. Why not make it yourself? It’s easy, cheap and fun!

**Ingredients**

- 440g can crushed pineapple in natural juice, frozen

**Method**

- Roughly chop frozen fruit and place in the bowl of a food processor. Process until fruit becomes granular. Scrape down sides of bowl with a spatula and process again.
- Repeat 4-5 times until fruit mixture is smooth, thick and creamy texture. Spoon into bowls and serve immediately with fresh fruit, if desired.

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For more information visit [www.eatitbebeat.com.au](http://www.eatitbebeat.com.au) or join us at facebook.com/eatitbebeat

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Last week representatives from the NSW State Library visited our school and presented to our Stage 2 students as well as some guest from St Marys, Murringo and Maimaru schools. Precious historical artefacts from Australia’s early history were shown to students including Captain Cook’s shoe buckle.
Uniform

The students are looking great in their uniforms to start the year.

Hats - Small hats in stock Week 5 and medium hats are on order. $2 from the office. The consistency of a single hat makes the school look great.

Blue Bottoms - Plain Navy is our bottoms colour. Please do not purchase Canterbury or other varieties. The idea of moving to a plain navy colour was consistency and affordability for everyone.

Shoes - The school shoe colour is black and it is preferred that sneakers be predominantly white. We know fluro is in but it does detract from our lovely two blues.

Polos - Available from the office.

Suppliers - We have 2. Purchase in store from YES or order through the school from A.S.K.

Dance, Choir, Drums & Guitar

Dance - Has begun Tuesday for interested students Year 3-6.

Choir - Has commenced on Wednesday lunchtimes with Mrs Alexander & Miss Wise for Year 1-6 students.

Drums/Guitar - Permission and payment slips should be returned with lessons commencing last week. Drums-Tuesdays Guitar-Thursdays

Note: Annual fees will be $80 this year. This is subsidizes heavily by the school. Our kids are lucky to get this wonderful opportunity at this price!

Drop off & Pickups - Drive Carefully

Please remember to drive carefully when dropping and picking up students from school. Rangers and police regularly patrol the school drop off zones so be sure to park responsibly and drive slowly. Important things to consider:

Afternoon Pickups - Parents are expected to meet their child at either the William Street upper front gate (behind Miss Bunny’s room) or from under the tree at the back gate. Please do not call your children across the road.

Change of Arrangements - Please endeavour to provide a note if children have changed arrangements for going home. The office has been receiving a large amount of calls to give last minute messages to students.

New look IT Centre - Premier’s Reading

This week we have sent home a note outlining the Premier’s Reading Challenge which will be offered to students from Year 1-Year 6. Students will be able to add their selected and personal choice books to their reading log through their student learning portal. Students will receive support with this during upcoming library sessions. Please keep your eye out for the note. Good Luck!

Mrs Kirkwood
Learning Centre Captain

Next P&C

Tuesday 17th March 6:30pm

We are really looking forward to a strengthened P&C with lots of new faces and membership.

New Kinder Parents Welcome! AGM held over to this meeting.

What’s on at the Young and District Community Hub?

Feb/March 2015

Open Craft Club: All Welcome every Friday morning from 10am – 12noon commencing from 13/3. Join in with a group of like-minded folk while you work on a project brought in from home or make use of the Hub materials to create something on the day. $2 per person includes tea and coffee.

Trash and Treasure: Feb 28th at 8am! Lots of bargains, everything must go!

Engaging Adolescents: March evening sessions. Build your relationship with your teenager/s and learn how to have both casual and tough conversations that work for everyone. Gain understanding of what it means to be a teenager today and what are reasonable expectations.

Easter Hat Parade & Egg Hunt: book your spot now for our annual Parade and Egg Hunt. This year’s Parade will take place on April 1st and is open to all children aged 0-8yrs and their carers.

Computer Group for Seniors: Join us every Friday 2pm – 4pm for computer basics at just $2 per person.

Cake Decorating: 3hr weekly sessions on Tuesdays. $20 per person includes morning tea. Ideal for beginners – experienced teacher, come and learn a range of techniques to decorate beautiful cakes!

Art Classes: 2hr sessions on fortnightly Thursdays using acrylic paints. Experienced tutor, all materials supplied. $15 per person with tea/coffee provided.

Take home a completed art work each session!

Young Carers Group: Fun! No Cost group for young people caring for a loved one with a disability, chronic illness, mental illness or drug/alcohol problem.

Fortnightly Thursday meetings and activities.

Music and Movement: For parents/carers and little people aged 12mths to 4 years. Every Wednesday morning from 9.30am – 10.30am during school terms.

$2 per family – All Welcome!

Keeping Kids in Mind: A 5wk (2.5hrs) course for separated parents who are experiencing ongoing conflict. Develop a greater understanding about how to support children following family separation. Please call to register your interest.

Special Needs Assistance Group (SNAG): Support group for families whose children have disabilities, learning difficulties and/or behavioural issues. Next meeting 19th March 1:30pm at the Hub. Existing members are invited to attend. For those wanting to join or enquire – Please phone Cathy on 6382 6328

Please call in and see us at 2c Campbell Street Young or phone 6382 6328 to book for all activities

Find us on Facebook

Young and District Community Hub
In 5/6B this term we have been busy making our own puppets for our small groups plays in Creative Arts.

**Term 1 in 5/6B**

Along with the other 5/6 classes we helped to Clean Up Australia by picking up rubbish at a local park.

Several members of our class participated in the League and Tag League Gala Day against other primary schools from Young.