Principal’s Message:

It’s the last week of school, my goodness, can you believe it? What a fantastic Term, Term 1 has been, and the week is not over yet. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Nebo State School Staff, Students, Parent/s and Carer/s, and the Nebo State School community. It has been an absolute honour and privilege to have worked with you all throughout this Term, and I look forward to continuing to work together to make our school a better place, and ultimately improve student learning.

Firstly though, we had a fantastic week last week. Students continued to work hard in the classroom and they were also treated to some dance workshops with my son James Fenwick. There are 5 Arts strands in the Australian Curriculum, and Dance is just one of them. Each class learnt a section of a dance and then we all came together as a whole school to learn a whole school routine. The children were respectful and enthusiastic and they demonstrated excellent interpretation of dance choreography components. On behalf of all the staff and students I would like to extend thanks to James for his time, efforts, patience, and expertise in teaching Dance at Nebo State School. We would like to invite everyone along this Thursday, 3rd of April, at 1.30pm, where we will be performing our whole school dance.
Last Friday we had our Free Dress – ‘Farmers Day’, to raise money for our drought affected Farmers. Thank you to all the Students, Parent/s and Carer/s who donated money to help this great cause. Some people donated towards ‘Aussie Helpers’, and others towards the ‘Buy a Bale program, which all helps our farmers in need. I am pleased to say that approximately $500 was raised from our school to help our farmers. Well done to all, a fantastic effort!

**Literacy & Numeracy – Well Done - Staff and Students**

I would like to congratulate students for showing improved understanding with Reading, Writing and Numeracy procedures. Mrs Wade has been facilitating our Reading Pilot Coaching Project this Term and many students have achieved their reading goals and will set new goals next Term. We have been working on a writing program, called ‘7 Steps for Writing’ and I am happy to say that although students still have a lot of work to do in this area, they have demonstrated much more enthusiasm in the classroom with writing procedures, and they have made progressive improvements with understanding audience and purpose. Students are also developing greater knowledge and understanding of numeracy concepts with the intervention program they have been working on with Mrs Vanteinhoven. The employment of Mrs Vanteinhoven was a targeted strategy as part of our Great Results Guarantee. I am confident that some of the procedures we have started implementing this Term will continue to help drive our school’s focus areas. Ultimately, it would also be fantastic to see this carry forward with some improvement with NAPLAN results.

**Thanks and Congratulations to our 5/6/7 Sporting Team**

Last Thursday afternoon a group of our year 5/6/7 students went to Moranbah State School to try out for the Denham District Touch Football team. Thank you to Miss Amiet for organising the students and taking them, so that they could participate in this event. Special thanks also to Mrs Connolly who accompanied Miss Amiet and the students, and for driving the bus there and back. The students all jetted off boiling with enthusiasm. This was the first time to participate in an event like this. All the students conducted themselves with great respect and great sportsmanship. Miss Amiet reported that the team spirit was awesome and that one of the staff members from another school commented on how well behaved our students were😊. Although all the students who attended, did not make the District Touch Football Team, well done for giving it your best shot. I am sure you have all learnt more about Touch Football and the rules for playing. **Congratulations to Danielle Bryan, Chloe Simmonds and Natalie Symonds**, who were all successful in making the Denham District Touch Football team to compete in Emerald next Term. Good luck to students who are trying out for the Denham District Soccer team tomorrow afternoon!
The National Assessment Program of Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be from 13-15th May. This year the writing genre has not been revealed. Instead, schools have been informed that the Writing Genre will either be a Narrative or a Persuasive. All students in years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to sit the NAPLAN tests. However, there are some instances where students may be exempted from one or more of the NAPLAN tests or marked absent (for the purpose of the tests) or withdrawn from the tests. The National Protocols for Test Administration provide the framework for understanding student participation.

Here is some information taken directly from the NAPLAN website:

**Exemptions**
Exemptions may be granted for students with a language background other than English or for students with a disability. In both cases, schools need to discuss the proposed exemption with the student’s parent/carer and gain their permission prior to the testing period.

**Students with disability**
Adjustments are provided to students with disability to support access to the tests and encourage maximum participation. Students with significant intellectual disability and/or those with significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests may be exempted from sitting the national tests. This is determined after consultation has occurred between the principal and the relevant parent/carer, and if it is decided the student is not able to access the tests with adjustments.

**Withdrawals**
NAPLAN tests are a routine part of the school calendar. However students may be withdrawn from the testing program by their parent/carer if there are religious beliefs or philosophical objections to testing. This is a matter for consideration by individual parents/carers in consultation with their child’s school. A formal application in the manner specified by the relevant Test Administration Authority (TAA) must be received by the principal prior to the testing.

**Absences**
Students are considered absent for test purposes in the following instances:
• they did not sit the tests because they were not present at school when the test was administered;
• they were unable to sit the test as a result of an accident or mishap; or
• they were at school but were too ill to participate.
Principals are encouraged to enable the participation of students who were absent on the day of the test but who return to school within the week scheduled for NAPLAN testing.

It would be great to see maximum participation of students doing NAPLAN in 2014, however if your child has a significant intellectual disability that would affect their capacity to complete the NAPLAN tests, please contact your child’s teacher or the Principal as soon as possible. A form must be completed by the child’s parent/carer for exemption and/or withdrawal procedures. Please find attached with this week’s Newsletter, further information regarding NAPLAN.

**Parent/Carer/Teacher Interviews**
Thank you to the parent/s and carer/s who have taken up the opportunity to have a formal interview with their child’s class teacher. Teachers’ will be conducting Parent/Carer Teacher Interviews, this Tuesday the 1st and Wednesday the 2nd of April. If you indicated you wanted an interview, your child’s class teacher would have sent home confirmation of your appointment time. If you are unable to keep your appointment time, if you could please contact your child’s teacher or the office to inform them, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Spelling Bee**
Spelling Bee competition words for Prep to Year 7 students went home last Friday 29th March. Students will sit their Spelling Bee Tests the first week back after the holidays on the 23rd or the 24th of April.
Visitors
This Tuesday 1st of April, we will have four qualified teachers visiting our school. These Teachers are completing a program called ‘Take the Lead’, which is a program for aspiring leaders run by the Education Department. This is the same very program I was fortunate enough to be selected for last year. ‘Take the Lead’ aspirants will be shown around the school, spend some time chatting with myself and will be spending time in some of the classrooms. The teachers who are attending our school on Tuesday are: Matt Davies; Ben Cooke; Erin Alloway and Kelly Roberts.

Student Council
The Easter Colouring in (P-4) and Poster Competition (5-7) that the Student Council organised, are due in this Tuesday 1st April. The winning entry for each Year level will be drawn at our Easter Bonnet Parade, on Thursday 3rd of April.

Special Parade
This Thursday 3rd April, at 1.30 pm, we have a special parade and it would be great if you could come along. Come and watch your child’s Dance Performance and Easter Bonnet parade. One child in each of our multi-age classes (P/1; 2/3/4 and 5/6/7 will win an Easter prize for the best Easter Bonnet. The winners of the Student Council Easter competition will be announced and prizes given out and the P & C Easter hamper raffle will be drawn.

Important Forms
The following forms will go home next week and must be returned as soon as possible: Internet Access Permission and Agreement Form, Photography and Media consent Form, Medical History, and an updated Student Information. Attached is also an Absentee Note form, which you can keep at home and send in to notify the school if your child is absent.

Daily Mercury Tokens
We are trying to win the Daily Mercury competition to get 10 new iPads for the school. If you have a token from the Daily Mercury Newspaper, could you please drop it in to the School Office.

Anzac Day – Term 2
A Flyer will come home this week regarding ANZAC Day events on Friday 25th April at the Nebo Memorial Hall. It would be great if we could have as many students as possible marching and attending.

Skateboarding
As part of Youth Week, a skateboarding clinic will be held at the Nebo Skatepark on the school holidays on Wednesday 9th April. Free boards and helmets are provided for use and there are prize packs for all participants. See the attached Flyer for further information.

Lost Property
We have a container of lost property in the undercover area near the Tuckshop. If your child is missing any items of clothing or hat, lunch box or water bottle, could you please encourage them to check the lost property box. Alternatively, you are welcome to come and have a look for your child. If you could also please ensure that all of your child’s items are labelled with their name on them, it would be much appreciated.

Honey & Pumpkins
Don’t forget if you need a pumpkin or alternatively would love to buy some delicious fresh honey, we have pumpkins and honey for sale. I recently had the pleasure of picking up 30 litres of honey from John, our community Bee Keeper. Special thanks to Kerrie and Allison for preparing the honey into jars for sale. Your help is always appreciated. Honey and pumpkins are available for purchase from the Office.
Happy Holidays
I would like to wish all staff and students at Nebo State School, and all Nebo State School families a safe and happy holiday. Hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break. Thank you once again for all your amazing support. It has been a very busy Term and as a whole school we have achieved a great deal, and without your support this would not have been possible. Thank you!

### Students of the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep/Year 1</th>
<th>Marnie Whitehead</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rueben Kliese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3/4</td>
<td>Halayna O’Connor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Connor Drury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6/7</td>
<td>Tanatswa Zvirikuzhe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phoebe O’hanlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist Teacher - Miss Amiet</td>
<td>Drake Perry-Gilbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kyle McCarthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPALS AWARD</td>
<td>Holly Aksenov</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a fantastic week

Jennifer Fenwick

**TuckShop**

Thankyou to Jodie, Nikkita and Ian for working in the Tuckshop last week.

Please use the green price list for tuckshop from now on. We are still looking for Helpers to help in the tuckshop, so if you could help please full out the roster forma nd hand it into the office, or please see and let me know.

Everything on the menu is available through both breaks except for icecreams, which are only available during the second break. Nutella’s, Cupcakes and drinks are available over the counter for both breaks.

**Roster for Term 1:**

1/4/14  Nikki

Thanks Kassy
Professional Guitar & Keyboard Tuition at School

We have an amazing opportunity to offer professional guitar and keyboard tuition to students starting in Term 2, 2014. The program is run by Music Stars – Australia’s leading provider of school music tuition. Music Stars provides:

- Group guitar and keyboard tuition
- Caters for all grades & music levels
- Weekly 30 minute sessions
- Convenient! Lessons at school!
- Very Affordable! $110 per term
- 70% less than out-of-school lessons + early bird & family discounts available
- End of year reports and certificates
- Guitars and keyboards supplied for use during lessons

Registrations Close Soon!

Please register online via www.musicstars.com.au Fortnightly and monthly payment options are available. If minimum numbers are not met the program will not be able to run.

More Information

If you require more information or would like to discuss the program in more detail please contact Music Stars directly using the information below.

Phone: 1300 889 179
Email: info@musicstars.com.au
Web: www.musicstars.com.au

We hope you can support this program!

Anne Street Estate is an affordable residential land release developed in partnership between Isaac Regional Council and the Australian Government.

Lots range in size from 600 – 1540 m2 with power, water and sewerage. Each lot attracts a cash rebate of up to $54,129. Contact Isaac Regional Council today to see how this could be your new home site or lifestyle investment. Sue Johnson Ph: 4983 4768 / 0417 253 673 to discuss.