The day you plan on having it. You will need to provide to the classroom teacher the type of cake and the food that will be supplied. This new process has been introduced to ensure the safety of all students. When food is supplied, parents need to be notified beforehand via a note from the classroom teacher, advising what the food will be and when it will be served. The teacher will also complete a risk assessment.

This applies to occasions such as birthdays, school barbecue days and special events. Please note; none of these occasions are being cancelled. It just means that food brought into school for any child cannot have food being brought into school for any child. Therefore, we cannot have food being brought into school for any child to receive without a child’s parent first giving permission. This doesn’t apply to what children bring to school in their lunch boxes or for lunch orders, as the parent pack or order the exact food they are comfortable with their child eating.

This applies to occasions such as birthdays, school barbecue days and special events. Please note; none of these occasions are being cancelled. It just means that every time food is supplied at school, parents need to be notified beforehand via a note from the classroom teacher, advising what the food will be and when it will be supplied. The teacher will also complete a risk assessment. For birthday cakes, you will need to notify us of the type of cake and what ingredients are used. When parents receive the note, they will be asked to notify the teacher if they don’t want their child to receive the food that will be supplied. This new process has already been used at the end of last year when the P&C supplied ice blocks for the last day of school.

To summarise, for birthday cakes, my advice is if you are planning on having a birthday cake for your child at school, then start the process at least two weeks prior to the day you plan on having it. You will need to provide to the classroom teacher the type of cake and the ingredients used. The teacher will then send home a note to parents of that information including the date when students are to receive the birthday cake. The teacher will then complete a risk assessment. If you need any further information, please don’t hesitate to see your child’s classroom teacher, or myself. Please note, all staff are annually trained in anaphylaxis and we have EpiPens situated in various parts of the school to cover any potential incidents. EpiPens travel with all students when they leave the school for sporting events and excursions.

Class Meetings For Parents – This will take place similar to last year. Each class meeting will take place on a different day after school starting at 3.45 pm sharp. The meeting will give parents the opportunity to find out from their child’s teacher everything they need to know about what is happening in the classroom. The teacher will also discuss some things from a school perspective. Please make the effort to come along as it is in your child’s best interest. If you are unable to make it, and have questions or concerns, please see your child’s classroom teacher.

- Monday 2 February Year 3/4 (in classroom)
- Wednesday 4 February Year 5/6 (in classroom)
- Thursday 5 February Year 1 (in classroom)
- Monday 9 February Year 2 (in classroom)
- Wednesday 11 February Year 4/5 (in classroom)
- Thursday 12 February Kindergarten (in classroom)
New School Attendance Information – Changes from 2015. The Minister for Education has approved changes to the use of the Attendance Register codes for 2015. The changes implement the ACARA National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting. ACARA developed the National Standards to establish nationally consistent parameters for the collection and reporting of student attendance data.

Holidays - As part of the implementation of the National Standards, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. A reminder that every day absent must be explained with a suitable reason to justify it. Students who don’t bring back a note after being away, are given a reminder to explain their absence. If this reminder is not returned, the school must mark that day down as an “unexplained absence”. The school’s student attendance is checked regularly, usually every four weeks, by the department’s Home School Liaison Officer. It is their job to make sure students are attending school on a regular basis and that if they are in fact absent, their absence is explained. If they find this to be unsuitable, they may need to take the necessary steps to rectify this situation, which may involve the prosecution of parents in a court of law. Please make the efforts to return notes. Copies of the absentee note are attached to this newsletter.

New School Home Learning Policy (formerly Homework Policy) – This has been revised and approved by both the School P&C and School Council at the end of last year. It will be implemented at the start of 2015. Parents need read the revised policy, especially the parent’s responsibility and the student's responsibility. Parents will need to sign and return to school the Annual Home Learning Contract (last page). Teachers will discuss the policy and their home learning in more detail at their class meetings. No homework will be given in the first and last week of each term. The homework policy, along with weekly homework, will be published on the school website. Homework will start across the school in Week 3 – Monday 9 February. The new policy was attached to last week’s newsletter.

New Note System Introduced – To help make things easier for parents, students and our school, we have introduced a new coloured note system. It is as follows:

- Permission notes to be returned by parents – green
- Information notes (nothing to be returned) – blue
- Detention notes that need to be returned by parents - red

My Door Is Always Open – for anyone to come and talk to me about any concerns or questions that you may have. Please bring an open mind, be willing to work with me and the school and be mindful of the fact that I don’t always set the rules (the NSW Department of Education does), but I do have to enforce them. I often find by sitting down and talking and listening together and by providing parents with knowledge and information about policies and rules and regulations, they gain a greater understanding of how work things and why, and want to work with myself and the school as a result. Don’t hesitate to come and see me.

School Fees for 2015 – As decided by the School Council last year, the school fees for 2015 will be $30.00 per child (no family discounts will be available). Envelopes will be sent out in the near future but, if you wish to make payments earlier, these can be done at the office. A big thank you to a number of parents who have already paid – fantastic!

Anti-Bullying Program – Every week I want to try and put information in the newsletter to give parents more support to help work with their children about bullying.

Strategies to Deal with Bullies – Victims should:
1. Stay calm
2. Stand strong
3. Respond confidently
4. Walk away
5. Report to someone you trust

Jason Weaven
Principal

CANTEEN ROSTER

Friday 6 Feb:   Deborah Chattaway
Monday 9 Feb:  Sally Bulle
Friday 13 Feb: Kirsty Tepper

NEW CANTEEN MENU AND PRICE LIST

Attached to today’s newsletter is an updated Canteen price list. Please disregard any previous price lists.

YEARS K-2 REQUIREMENTS FOR 2015

Would you please supply the following clearly labelled items for your child’s use.

- Glue sticks (constant supply)
- A4 lined exercise book (for homework)
- Tissues

Please ensure that your child/ren have these items ready for the commencement of the 2015 school year and continue to have a supply throughout the year. All items need to be labelled clearly.
YEARS 3-6 REQUIREMENTS FOR 2015

Would you please supply the following clearly labelled items for your child’s use.

- 2x A4 lined exercise books (for homework)  
  (Reasonable quality and not lecture pads. 64 or 96 page is plenty)
- 4x Glue sticks (constant supply)
- HB lead pencils (constant supply throughout the year needed)
- Red and blue pens (Year 5 and 6 only - constant supply throughout the year needed)
- Sharpener
- Soft white eraser
- Scissors
- Ruler with cm and mm (not steel or bendy)
- Coloured pencils
- 1x box of tissues (for class use – to be brought in at beginning of year)
- Mathematical set containing protractor and compass (Years 5 and 6 only)
- Library bag – to allow borrowing of books
- Good pocket dictionary
- Small to medium pencil case (no large pencil cases)
- Textas (optional)

- NO NOVELTY STATIONERY ITEMS ALLOWED AT SCHOOL BECAUSE THEY CAUSE DISTRACTIONS
- NO LIQUID PAPER/WHITE OUT ALLOWED
- NO FOLDERS NEEDED

Please ensure that your child/ren have these items as soon as possible and continue to have a supply throughout the year. ALL ITEMS NEED TO BE LABELLED CLEARLY.

Thank you,
K-6 Teachers

HAVE YOU CONTRIBUTED TO YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION YET?

School Council have decided to keep the school contribution fees for 2015 to a low $30 per child.

That’s just 15¢ per child, per school day!

These fees allow the school to purchase teaching resources as well as writing books, stationery, art supplies and library books.

Remember, every dollar counts!

Congratulations to those 4 families who have already contributed to their child’s education!

There is still time for our remaining families to contribute before the end of Term 1.

SPONSORSHIP:

The following businesses of Holbrook sponsor our newsletter. Please support them when you can.

FROM THE UNIFORM SHOP

PRE-L VED UNIFORMS IN STOCK NOW!

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<td>Other</td>
<td>Library Bags</td>
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$5 ea

SEAMSTRESS
June Kilpatrick
1/86 Albury Street, Holbrook 2644
Ph: 0417 941 520
Email: june.kilpatrick@bigpond.com

Holbrook Bakery
TRADITIONAL CAKES & PIES
Coffee Shop
1/8 Albury Street, Holbrook NSW 2644 Ph: 6036 3300
Open 8.30 am to 3.00 pm 7 days
COMMUNITY NEWS

2015 LIONS CLUB TRIATHLON

The 22nd annual Holbrook Lions Club Triathlon is only three weeks away. The triathlon and 8 km run will be held on Sunday 15 February.

A range of event categories will again enable competitors of all ages to take part as an individual or part of a team, these include: The stand alone Mini-Triathlon for kids eight and under (10:30 am start), under 11, 14 and 17 age groups in the junior race (8:30 am start), combined with the open and veteran sections in the senior race (9:30 am start time). There will also be an 8 km run (9:35 am start) for those who don’t wish to ride or swim. All age sections have male and female categories.

Competitors will be able to compete as individuals or form a team and it is possible to be both an individual competitor and member of a team, for example, another person may use your bike ride as part of their team. The basic aim of having so many sections is to enable as many people as possible to participate in this long running community event.

Race distances:
Junior race (8:30 am start): 8 km bike, 200 m swim and 3 km run.
Senior race (9:30 am start): 15 km bike, 200 m swim and 4.2 km run.
Fun Run (9:35 am start): 8 km.
Mini Tri 8 Year and under (10:35 am start): 2 km bike, 33 m swim and 700 m run

Competitors will be able to pre-enter on line or on the day (if entering on the day you will need to be there one hour before the event and pay a late fee).

For registration forms and information visit www.holbrook.nsw.au

PARENTS’ PRAYER GROUP

Parents are invited to meet and pray for the school and its students weekly during school terms on Thursdays from 9.00 am to 9.15 am at the playground near the submarine. All welcome. Please call Kirsty Tepper for further information on 0417 217 210.

LAST MINUTE SWIMMING SQUAD – JUST $5

Each Tuesday and Thursday until the end of February 2015, squad is just $5 per session. Session times are as follows:

Mini Squad 3.30 pm to 4.00 pm
Junior Squad 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Senior Squad 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm

Membership to the Holbrook Amateur Swim Club is required ($35). For further enquiries, please contact Vicki Schuur on 0439 597 616.