Last week I travelled to Mildura to join the Far West Principals Network meeting. This network takes in 37 schools from Tibooburra in the North, Euston in the South and East to Ivanhoe, with nearly all Principals in attendance. It was incredibly humbling to be among such a dedicated group of educators. The commitment to ensuring we get the best possible education for the kids ‘outback’ was a theme that ran across the three days. There are a number of reforms in education that require a level of cooperation and coordination between schools that has not been seen before and the Far West has already had the spotlight turned on it as an example of best practice in ensuring equity and equality across an incredibly diverse group of schools.

One of the largest and far reaching reforms is the Local Schools Local Decisions or LSLD. This reform gives Communities and their school unprecedented authority to make decisions about how education is provided to their students. Along with the Connected Community strategy, LSLD provides Menindee Central School with an opportunity to make a very real opportunity to examine the way we do things in our little school and make informed changes if required. That is why consultation in planning is critical to make sure we get it right for Menindee. Our school plan continues to come together and a draft overview of our strategic directions and purpose will be out next week for comment.

This week we have hosted Killara High School and I must thank our staff who again put in huge hours behind the scenes preparing to host our visitors, our reputation as an excursion destination continues to grow which has a flow on effect in terms of financial support for our traineeship program. It is not only school staff who make the visits so unforgettable, the Menindee Women’s Choir and cast of Weeping Cloud, Darlene Newman, the staff at the Grape Exchange, Health Service, Kinchega National Park, Police ACLO’s and everyone else who stopped and took the time to have a yarn with our city cousins made sure the memories of Menindee will last a lifetime.

The school spectacular excursion looming large and invites will be out soon for those students who have qualified through their good behaviour, attendance and commitment to their learning.

Congratulations to all!
UNIFORM
SINGLETS AND THONGS ARE NOT PART OF THE MCS SCHOOL UNIFORM
PLEASE DO NOT WEAR THEM TO SCHOOL

Dates to remember

November 25th – Dec 1st  School Spectacular Excursion
November 21st  Year 12 Formal Graduation Night (6:30pm start)
December 8th  Presentation Night (6:30pm)
December 13th  Carols by Candlelight (7:30pm BBQ 8:30pm Carols)
December 15th  Year 6 Graduation (9am School Hall)
December 17th  Term 4 2014 finishes  Student Christmas Party
February 5th  Term 1 2015 commences

The School Canteen will be closed this Friday

SCHOOL BUS TIMES
THIS WEEK
THURSDAY & FRIDAY ALL DAY
DUE TO KILARA VISIT
**Project Based Learning in the High School**

Starting next week, students in years 7-10 will be taking part in project based learning. Students will participate in group projects between recess and lunch, and independent projects after lunch.

Why Project Based Learning?

Students will be selecting their topics this week, and they will be published in next week’s newsletter. *We would love community involvement*- if you would like to help please pop down and see us. Volunteers will need to fill in a working with children declaration, if you need help with this please come down to the school and we will be happy to assist.
Primary Swim School Yr K-6

Year 6 Graduation Assembly

9am School Hall
December 15th
Parents & Family invited to attend
Local Schools, Local Decisions is a reform that gives NSW public schools more authority to make local decisions about how best to meet the needs of their students.

Managing Resources

Decisions are best made by those closest to the people they affect. This means schools should have as much say over how to use their resources as their students.

SCHOOLS will manage a much larger share of the overall K-12 public school education budget — from less than 10% of the total K-12 public school education budget now, to more than 25% in 2024, instead of allocating resources like staff and equipment from the same funding campus account, schools will have their own budgets and have the flexibility to allocate resources according to their local priorities.

A new funding model

A new Resource Allocation Model (RAM) will distribute public school funding in a fairer way. It will recognize the different needs of each school. Each school will have greater access to resources, and it will also be more transparent and provide schools with greater funding certainty from year to year. Small changes in student numbers will not lead to large decreases in staff and resources.

Co far we have:

- removed restrictions on bad grants under $50,000
- year principals more say over the prioritizing of annual planned maintenance work on our premises, replacing carpets and painting walls within schools
- developed a performance-based funding model based on student and school needs. The model is consistent with the recommendations of the McKell report into school funding.

Staff in our schools

More opportunities for local allocation mean a school can build a strong and coherent team committed to its school's priorities and the learning needs of its students.

A new framework to design teaching and support roles, giving clear wage policy and Board of Studies curriculum requirements, schools will choose the teacher and roles of staff within their budget to best meet their students' needs.

Lifting capability

Teacher quality is the single greatest in school influence on student engagement and outcomes.

Through Local Schools, Local Decisions and the Greater Teaching, Inspired Learning framework, the Department is leading system-wide reforms to lift the capability of current and future teachers and leaders.

We are developing new standards and frameworks for teacher salary progression, professional development and performance management.

So far we have:

- signed a new Staffing Agreement that enables schools to choose how to fill every second vacancy once appropriate teaching and administration applicants are placed
- governors have taken on post-retirement roles in their local public schools
- introduced guidelines for varying the staffing mix for the 21st schools in an empowering public schools National Partnership

Working Locally

Strong partnerships between the school, its teachers and the parent community make a positive contribution to student learning. With increased local decision-making in schools, the significance of parent and community engagement will also increase.

The school plan will become even more important and the parent community will actively contribute to the development of the school's strategic direction and priorities in the way that makes the most sense for them.

Connecting schools

Schools will have more opportunities to meet their local needs by working together and forming learning networks within their Local Education and GE groups.

So far we have:

- mergers and new school models to allow principals to make more local decisions for purchase up to $50,000 and help schools build relationships with local businesses and service providers
- produced a new guide for principals with options to help schools build stronger family and community partnerships.

Yr 12 Electric Disco

Thursday 4th Dec

6pm - 9pm

Year 4 and under finish: 8pm

Entry: $3

Be Electrifying!
Playgroup reminder that the CWA Hall is not available for Playgroup Friday 24th & 31st due to the HSC Exams being held there.

School Term: 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

- Friday 24th October 2014
- Friday 31st October 2014
- Friday 7th Nov NO GROUP
- Friday 14th Nov NO GROUP
- Friday 21st November 2014
- Friday 28th November 2014
- Friday 5th December LAST GROUP

For more information: Phone or visit the team at CentaCare Wilcannia-Forbes

1/261 Argent Street
Po Box 159
Broken Hill NSW 2880
p. 08 8087 3477
f. 08 8087 2397

www.centacarewf.org.au

Children learn through play experience’s

Parents are encouraged to join in their child’s play

Open to all families with children aged 0-5yrs.

Children gain a strong sense of identity, connectedness and well-being while becoming confident learners and effective communicators.
YEAR 12 FORMAL
FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2014
Cost $30
Payment required by: 7 November
Please contact: Cheryl or Gavin
FULLY CATERED DINNER INCLUDED IN COST
Formal Start: 6.30pm
Food Served 7.30pm
Menindee Pre-School

Transition to school
Our educators have recently been looking over and discussing the new NSW Transition to School Statement which were recently introduced. This tool looks like an excellent way to share strength based information about the children starting school with families and the child’s school.

Why is this important?
We know that strong relationships and information sharing between families, early childhood settings and schools before children start school helps to ensure a smooth transition. Early Childhood experiences are vital for children's brain development and a quality transition to school continues children's development and learning. Research suggests that a good transition to school process ensures children will start school ready to learn and schools will be ready for children, also children who have a positive start to school are likely to engage well and to experience academic and social success.

What is the Statement?
The NSW Transition to School Statement is a practical and simple tool designed to make it easier for information to be shared between families, early childhood services and schools. It summarises the child’s strengths, identifies their interests and approaches to learning, and suggests ways these can be supported. This statement is aimed at being a collaborative process and collection of relevant information from educators, children and families, as we all have play an important part in developing this statement.

How does it work?
The Statement is completed by the child's early childhood educator, in cooperation with the family. All information is provided voluntarily. The Statement is then communicated to the child's intended school where it provides the school and teachers with information they can use in planning and preparing for the child's arrival and transition into the new learning environment.

Use of the Statement is optional. Each service and family will make the decision about whether to prepare a Statement, and the family will choose whether to make it available to the child's intended school and teacher.

How is it linked to quality education and care?
The NSW Transition to School Statement links to Quality Area 6 of the National Quality Standard, which emphasizes collaboration between early childhood services and other organisations and service providers in order to enhance children's learning and well-being.

Thank you to everybody who purchased toys from our Xmas Fundraiser Catalogues. These orders have been arriving and being either delivered directly to you or distributed through the centre.

Little Kids and Books continues to run fortnightly, with sessions dates for term 4 being
- Thursday 13th November
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

 Classified Ads
All submissions for the school news are to be in by Monday 3pm. A written copy can be left at the school/Post Office addressed to ‘SCHOOL NEWS’. Your advert must have your name, address, phone number and signature—this same limit applies to teachers. Every endeavor will be made to print all submitted articles; however, due to a ‘space limit’ some articles may have to be held over or reduced to suit our requirements. Advertising costs are: $4.40 (basic advert), $11.00 (quarter page), $22.00 (half page) and $44.00 (full page) per week.

Payment is required when placing advert.

PLEASE REMEMBER: IF SELLING A CAR OR MOTORBIKE YOU MUST INCLUDE THE REGISTRATION NUMBER OR ENGINE NUMBER. Adverts without this information will NOT be included, phone 8091 4409.

Lucky ball numbers: Drawn 10-11-14: No’s 1-5-8-9-11-14: Winners Nil. Jackpot: $1,303.00 Numbers:1-16

PLEASE NOTE THE SCHOOL NEWS DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IS MONDAY 3:00 PM.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD
1ST OCTOBER TO 31ST MARCH
A permit must be obtained from the Permit Officer before lighting or using a fire in the open during Fire Danger Period.
Permit Officers: G. Rolton K Lombardo

BODY BLISS Beauty Therapy
Summer is just around the corner....
......time to relax & PAMPER YOUR FEET WITH A PEDICURE
Manicures Waxing & Massage also available

Bookings essential Phone Kris 0429 029 906 Nora St Menindee

Alby Social Club Christmas Party
When: 6th December
Where: Albermarle Hotel
Time: 4.00pm
All members welcome.
Santa will be coming

A Church Service will be held in the Uniting Church at 2pm Sunday 16th November.
All are welcome.

Bible Quote:
When the righteous thrive, the people rejoice, when the wicked rule, the people groan:
PROVERBS 29:2

ARBONNE:
Information Presentation and Workshops in Menindee 21st, 22nd, 23rd November.
Morning, afternoon & evening sessions.
Skin care, Weight loss, Make-up
Mother & Daughter workshops & more.
Ph Carmen 0424 206 357 Consultant ID 613486396
Hostess Kris 0429 029 906
for further info or to book a session.
SUNSET STRIP PROGRESS
ASSOCIATION INC. (9895710)
PO BOX 12 SUNSET STRIP 2879

MEDIA RELEASE

SUNSET STRIP PROGRESS – 2014 WINNER.
400 NOMINATIONS – 7 CATEGORIES
WINNERS

Barry Fowler a/Secretary of the Sunset Strip Progress Association Inc. attended the NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards at Wagga Wagga with 400 nominations for the seven categories.

SSPA Inc. as Manager of the Lake Menindee Plantation Reserve Trust was named the winner of the Crown Lands Crown Reserve Trust – Corporate Manager’s Award.

Barry Fowler stated that in writing up the nomination, he documented the Strip can do volunteers were undertaking projects and tasks covering environmental, social, recreational, business and community functions.

On the night, it was a minnow verses goliath groups he said.

In comparison, Sunset Strip operated on the smell of an oily rag with no paid staff thanks to its volunteers and importantly the many businesses and partners.

There are 6,000 Crown Lands Crown Reserve Trusts in NSW managed by incorporated bodies, councils, progress associations, sporting bodies or reserve committees who look after parks and sporting facilities, community welfare facilities and other community assets.

The Sunset Strip Village Progress Association was established to build community facilities on the Lake Menindee Plantation Reserve. The Progress volunteers have constructed a number of facilities on the Reserve including a nine-hole golf course, tennis courts, community hall and Landcare plantations.

Mr Fowler said the Commonwealth Bank prize monies of $5,000 came at an opportune time when the government policy of drying Lake Menindee has left a gap of $15,000 in the budget with bar taking down due to less people visiting the Strip. Mr Fowler concluded.
Menindee Development Committee

s355 Committee of the Central Darling Shire

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Meeting Date and Time: Thursday 27th November 2014 at 3.30 pm

Location: Menindee Rural Transaction Centre, Yartla Street) Meeting Room

Commence / Open Meeting

Chairperson presides over the following items:

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of previous AGM
4. Reading Reports ie Chairperson and Treasurer.

All positions are declared vacant. The Returning Officer, Margot Muscat will take the chair and preside over the following items:

5. Election of Office Bearers
   • Chairperson
   • Deputy Chairperson
   • Treasurer
   • Secretary

6. New Members - Acceptance of nominations from the community.

The newly elected Chairperson then takes over the chair and is responsible for:

7. Thanking the community for participating
8. Welcoming new committee members
9. Consider recommendations ‘carried’ by way of motion from the floor

Closure of AGM meeting
Menindee Development Committee

s355 Committee of the Central Darling Shire

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

NOMINATIONS

Please nominate for a position on the s355 Menindee Development Committee by either writing to (stating which position you wish to nominate for):

The Returning Officer
Menindee Development Committee
PO Box 171
Menindee NSW 2879

or

attend the AGM to be held on Thursday 27th November 2014
at 3.30pm at the Menindee Rural Transaction Centre, Yartla Street and nominate in person.

Positions to be filled are:

Chairperson
Deputy Chairperson
Treasurer
Secretary

Please note that only nominations received by the time of the AGM will be accepted. Late applications will not be accepted.
03 November 2014

Media Statement

Time for sensible and factual discussion on water

In recent months, we have witnessed mounting community concern over the current and future management of water in Broken Hill and the outlying region.

As occurred during the last decade, our region may be on the edge of extended drought conditions and, without significant rainfall during the next twelve months, some extremely difficult decisions will need to be made.

Without decisive action, there are two possible choices Broken Hill faces. The first option is to truck water in to the city, the second is to truck people out of the city. Neither option is acceptable.

This is why the Federal Government has undertaken studies through Geoscience Australia, to identify emergency supply options, while also providing significant support and funding to the New South Wales Government, to provide access to ground water reserves as an emergency water supply.

I want to be extremely clear; these are and will only ever be emergency supplies.

Providing groundwater access is an emergency management tool and the responsible option - these actions will not result in reduced access to water in the Menindee Lakes.

The only reason the Government is providing access to ground water is to ensure Broken Hill can continue to draw water if our traditional source runs dry.

The Menindee Lakes are uniquely located in one of the hottest and driest parts of Australia. Consequently huge volumes of water will always evaporate each year – approximately one hundred times the total town water consumption of Broken Hill evaporates from the Lakes (600 gigalitres) annually.

The Commonwealth has provided $800,000 in funding to the NSW Government to investigate ways we can manage the Menindee Lakes more efficiently and reduce the amount of evaporation that occurs.

NSW are required under this funding agreement with the Commonwealth to finalise a series of options by the end of the year, to improve the efficiency of the lakes via a program of engineering works.

We are also committed to wide consultation before making any decisions.

I will ensure everyone has had an opportunity to have a say on the future of the Lakes and will take this message back to the Commonwealth Government before any decisions on securing water for this region are taken.

The Government does not intend to stand back, cross our fingers and hope for rain.

Taking a punt on long term weather forecasts and hoping for the best is not what responsible governments do. Neither is this a time for hysterical commentary to overtake sensible and factual discussion and decision making.

Further details, please contact Steve Block 02 6021 3264 mob 0428 213 264
Menindee Charities
2014
Christmas Pageant

Hey Kids, Santa arrives at the Hall at 6pm for the Christmas Fair

5.30pm Saturday 29th November
Yartla St Menindee

If you would like to have a float, or offer support, please call Amanda Hindmarsh on 0427 914616
Menindee Charities 2014
Christmas Fair
Saturday
November 29th

Santa arriving Civic Centre 6pm. BBQ. Stalls.
Show Bags. Raffle drawn by Santa.

Stall enquiries to Jimmy 80914343 or Annette 80914886
A fun filled event for the whole family

Ice Blocks
BBQ
Santa

Carols by Candlelight
Menindee Central School Oval, 7:30 pm, Saturday 13 December 2014

Drinks
Lollies

This is an alcohol free event
Soft drinks and snacks will be available for purchase
MENINDEE WEDGE TAILED EAGLES
FORMAL RUGBY PRESENTATION
22ND NOVEMBER 2014

TIME:  7PM TILL LATE
WHERE:  MENINDEE CIVIC HALL
COST:  $40 INCLUDES LIGHT DINNER
AGE LIMIT:  MUST BE 16 YEARS & OVER
B.Y.O Drinks & Alcohol
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM :
CHERYL BLORE, AMANDA HINDMARSH & BARBARA QUAYLE
Beyond Cafe
Menindee Enterprise Park

New
Scoop Ice-cream
Single $3.50
Double $4.50
Come check out our yummy flavours

Standard Sunday Menu

Bacon & Egg Roll-$5.00
Ham-cheese toasted sandwich-$3.50
Ham-Cheese-tomato toasted sandwich-$4.00
Chicken-cheese-mayo toasted sandwich-$4.00
Assorted homemade cakes-slices & cheesecakes
Priced from-$3.00
Coffee-$4.00
milkshakes-$4.50
thickshakes-$5.00
ice coffee–ice chocolate-$4.50
assorted soft drink-$2.50
juice-$4.00
water-$1.50
Ice tea -$4.00

Next Open
23rd November 2014
11-2pm

ARBONNE.
Presentation by Carmen see pg 7 for details

Market Stalls

Party on Argent

Phoenix Giftwrap
Stationery
Ribbons
Boxes