

Lansdowne Public School

Weekly Newsletter Number 23

Tuesday 31st July 2012

Principal's Message



A friendly little visitor to our school.

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Small Schools Soccer Knockout at Peats Ridge

A narrow defeat by 1 goal to nil for our team last week. All reports were extremely complimentary about our students' efforts and sportsmanship. Thank you to Mr Price and families that travelled such a long way to give our students the opportunity to compete.

Kindergarten Enrolments 2013

We are very keen to begin our transition and orientation program for kindergarten for 2013 by mid-way through the term. If you have or you know anyone who has children ready to start school next year could you please ask them to contact us at the office so we can make sure everyone receives the information and dates for the start of our program.

Local Schools Local Decisions

I have attached to the newsletter, the latest information from our department concerning the proposed funding arrangements for schools.

Chatham High Orientation Day

Our stage 3 students will be attending Chatham HS this Thursday accompanied By Ms Richardson. This is the next activity involved in the very extensive transition to high school plan Chatham HS has proposed. The high school will be funding the day with transport and a free lunch.

Parent, Carer and Community Workshops

Bernadette Gammon is our Parent and Community Consultant based in Port Macquarie District Office. Bernadette supports Priority Schools with strategies to engage school communities in enhancing the educational outcomes of students. Bernadette will be at school on Friday August 31st at 9:00am to run a workshop on how you can support your child's learning at home. She has lots of great ideas and resources to share. Please put this date in your diary and come along and join us for a cuppa and idea sharing. There is a flyer attached to the newsletter with some more detailed information. We have also booked Bernadette for Friday 14th September. We welcome your suggestions for what you would like to know more about or how we can support you in helping your child with their schooling.

Manning Camden Haven-Lower North Coast Principal Conference

I will be attending this conference today and will also be out of the school tomorrow. Thank you to Ms Richardson who continues to support 56W.

Kind regards, Christine Wild

TERM 3 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS TO REMEMBER

WEEK 3	Tuesday 31 July	Mrs Wild attending Principal's Conference – Ms Richardson / 56W
	Thursday 2 August	WOW Days at Chatham High School – Ms Richardson accompanying 5/6W
	Thurs 3 August	Mr Price attending Professional Learning – Ms Schneider relieving
WEEK 4	Thursday 9 August	Mrs Wild attending North Coast Principal's Conference
	Friday 10 August	Mrs Wild attending North Coast Principal's Conference
	Friday 10 August	Zone Athletics Carnival
	Friday 10 August	School Assembly 2:20pm
WEEK 5	Tuesday 14 August	Mrs Gilchrist attending Professional Learning – Ms Richardson relieving
	Thursday 16 August	Mr Price attending Professional Learning – Ms Schneider relieving
BOOK FAIR – EDUCATION WEEK 6		
WEEK 6	Tuesday 21 August	P&C Meeting 6pm.
	Thursday 23 August	OPEN DAY
	Friday 24 August	School Assembly 2:20pm
WEEK 7	Tuesday 28 August	Mrs Gilchrist attending Professional Learning – Ms Richardson relieving
	Thursday 30 August	Father's Day Stall

P&C NEWS

P & C MEETING – The next P&C meeting will be on **Tuesday 21st August at 6pm.** Everyone welcome.

FATHER'S DAY STALL – will be held on **Thursday 30th August.** Donations would be appreciated and can be left at the school canteen on Monday or Fridays.

COUNCIL ELECTION DAY / MINI MARKET – will be held on **Saturday 8th September.**

We are looking for any saleable items in clean and reasonable condition. Items can be left at the school canteen on Monday or Fridays.

Thank you, Margaret Haddon



Library Awards Well done!
Molly Stuart, William Neale and
Beau Moran-Choppin



Class Awards Congratulations!
Brook Newman, Jay Rickett, Emily McLaughlin, William
Neale, Nyah Roberts and Quinn Huber. Not present Kaios
Baker and Connor Potts.
Literacy Award – Mitchell Whyms.



Nathan Moore reading his poem to the
assembly



Student of the Week Well done!
Rickie Lee Chopin, Alkira Roberts, Georgia O'Grady and
Bailey Knott (not present).
Silver Award - Liberty Wares.



Exploring music with paper



Niki shows us how to use a hula hoop



Spike enjoying his lunch with the children

Dear Parents,
Children in K/1/2 require a 2 litre cleaned milk bottle with lid and a square 2 litre ice-cream container for an upcoming project. Please send these into class over the next two weeks.

Thank you Mr Bulley and Mrs Gilchrist



**Tips, and
ideas for
parents**

Educating our children - Parents Matt

How can I best help my child do well at school?

Come along to the session on Friday 31st August at 9am.

We will cover:

- what the research says about the role of parents in education
- share great tips and ideas for supporting your child's learning at home.
- take time to look at and explore a great online resource for parents.
- question time and suggestions for future sessions.

Come and join us for a cuppa in the Library

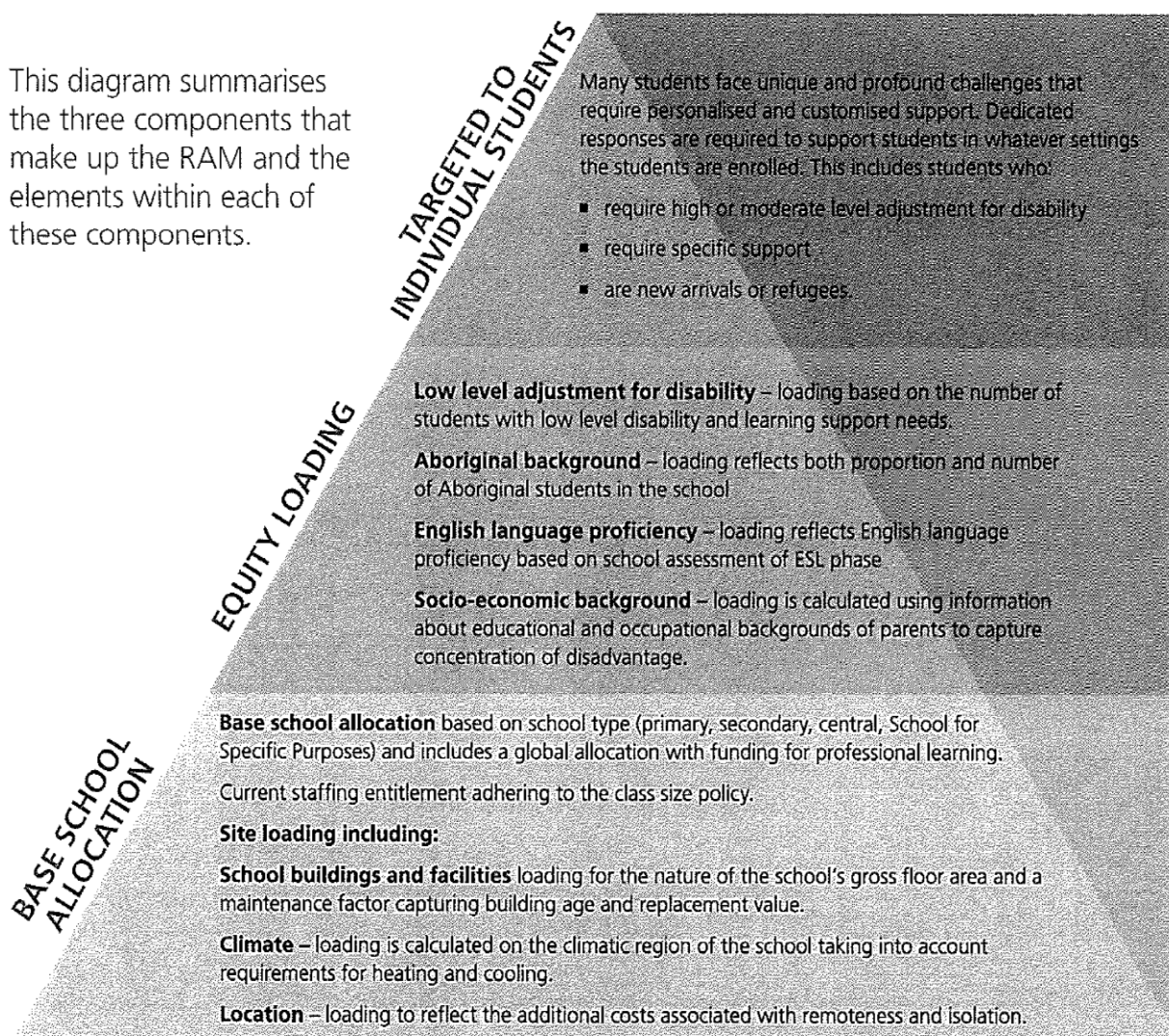


The new Resource Allocation Model (RAM)

Fact sheet 2

Local Schools, Local Decisions is an education reform that puts students at the centre of all our decisions. We have developed a new resource allocation model (RAM) to allocate funding for public schools in the most equitable way.

This diagram summarises the three components that make up the RAM and the elements within each of these components.





A fairer funding model for all NSW public schools

Fact sheet 1

In March this year the NSW Government announced its Local Schools, Local Decisions educational reform; a reform that puts students at the centre of all our decisions.

To achieve this we need to give public school principals and teachers a greater say over how they use resources to meet the needs of their students. We also have to provide resources to schools in a fairer way, based on those things we know matter to student outcomes. Our public schools will now control over 70% of the school education budget, up from the current level of 10%.

To enable this shift of resources to the school level, we have developed a new resource allocation model (RAM) for allocating funding in a more equitable way. The RAM takes into account the fact that students and school communities are not all the same; they have different needs and will need different levels of support. The RAM also provides the certainty of funding for schools to employ teachers in order to adhere to the class sizes policy. Funding will ensure no principal need worry about the cost of a teacher, leaving principals to choose teachers based on teacher quality and skills required to best meet the needs of their students.

Five principles have underpinned the development of the RAM.

1. Based on student and school need	The funding provided to schools will reflect the characteristics of individual schools and their students.
2. Evidence-based	The components of the model are underpinned by the latest educational research and NSW school and student data.
3. Moving funds to schools efficiently and transparently	Funding will flow directly to schools and schools will know the elements that make up their funding allocation.
4. Certainty for schools	The model will address deficiencies in the current allocation process and give more certainty to schools consistent with the school planning year.
5. Sustainable and adaptable	The model has the capacity to adapt to new policy priorities and changing school and student populations in the future.

Why are we moving to a new resource allocation model (RAM)?

We know that schools and students are not all the same. The RAM builds on educational research and student and school data to allocate funding so that the students and schools with greater need get more resources.

In our current funding system principals can only make decisions about how 10% of the total public education budget is spent. It is driven by a basic school funding formula which means a small number of students leaving a school can trigger a disproportionate reduction of staff and funding. Under the new RAM, principals will be able to make decisions about more than 70% of the total public school education budget. The new model will give more certainty to schools about their funding levels and ensure that small changes in enrolments will no longer mean big changes in resources.

The current model of equity program funding means that schools who qualify for certain programs get additional resources and schools that don't qualify miss out altogether. Under the RAM, funding will reflect the level of need of the students in the school.

How will this model work in schools?

Schools resource allocation will be divided into two components. A specified amount of money will be preserved for staffing and these resources cannot be used for anything other than staffing. The remaining component will fund all other operational requirements of the school which may include additional staffing.

Will principals have to select teachers based on cost?

The biggest single cost to a school is that of classroom teachers. Under the RAM all classroom teachers will cost the same to all schools. Teachers will continue to be paid their actual salary in accordance with their pay scale.

Principals will not be required to select staff based on cost. The RAM will provide enough resources to staff every classroom teacher position required under the class size policy.

How will schools be accountable for the management of their resources allocated under the RAM?

Schools, in consultation with their communities will be required to develop, implement and report annually on a single school plan; a school plan that connects student learning outcomes and the school budget. This means making sure every dollar is spent wisely to get the best outcomes for students and to promote quality teaching in all our schools. Schools have an obligation to show what was achieved.

What are the next steps?

Over the next 2 to 3 years schools will transition into a new finance system. Schools will have access to new tools which will simplify and support increased local decision-making, including for finance and human resources transactions. The new RAM will allocate funding in a transparent and efficient manner.