This week students from grade 3, 5, 7, 9 have been busy with NAPLAN literacy and numeracy testing. As I outlined in the last newsletter, this will be a good opportunity for students to compare themselves against a national benchmark for students of a similar age. It will also provide access to data for teachers which should enable your child’s learning to be tailored to better suit their needs. Results will be released later in the year.

In line with the Department's duty of care responsibilities to provide a safe environment for all students the Department has identified several areas of risk associated with volunteer activities involving children. As a result, Good Character Checks will be mandatory for all people involved in a number of volunteer undertakings around the school. This may or may not include some of the help that you, as parent helpers, provide for the school. If you have any queries regarding whether or not you may require a GCC please feel free to contact me to discuss your individual circumstances and whether or not an assessment is required.

While on duty of care I would like to remind everyone of the school’s expectations on responsible use of mobile phones. Mobile phone use is becoming more and more prevalent in our daily interactions and so too is the capacity of the phone to be applied to a range of multiple uses, such as direct links to Facebook, direct applications from the internet and videos and pictures, just to name a few. In essence, they have become a high performance device which can be accessed and used almost anywhere and at any time.

Last year our policy on mobile phones was reviewed and ratified by the School Association, its aim was to provide a reference point that allowed for a socially responsible and appropriate use of mobile technology that matched community values and expectations. Given this, it is important that expected behaviours and values are continually modelled and reinforced. There are many potential opportunities for misuse of these devices and many students are naïve as to the legal ramifications associated with such behaviour, therefore I urge parents to talk to their children about these and encourage them to use their mobile devices wisely. A number of sites available on the web provide guidance for parents on issues around the mobile technology.

On a final note I’d like to remind everybody that our annual Bonfire is on again this Friday. After being postponed last week due to fairly atrocious weather I’m pretty certain this Friday night will be a goer. Bring the family and enjoy a great night of family entertainment and fun.

Cattle Handling Team
Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 23 May 2012
At 7.30pm in the old house
Anyone interested, most welcome to attend. (Promise you won’t get a job).
Extra notices are available from the office - Tuesday, 22 May.
Enquiries Sonja Dudfield 6438 1298 or 0488 411 901

Parents and Friends News
Thank you to all those people that donated items and helped out at the Mother’s Day Stall. We raised $580. Thank you to all students who purchased a pressie for your mum.

We will be selling hot potatoes at the BONFIRE on Friday, 18 May. Please come along and support our school.
The Cross Country Carnival was held in overcast but very mild conditions last week after several days of heavy rain. Runners lined up on the start line to tackle a wet and sometimes muddy course and came back puffed and rosy cheeked with mud-splattered legs!

Sincere thanks again to the Neal family for allowing us to use their wonderful property in one of the few “real” cross country courses schools are able to use. We appreciate their tolerance in letting us practice and compete on their farm. Thanks also to the staff and parents who stood on checkpoints or came to watch. Well done to all of the runners who tried their best.

Participation points were again the difference between winning and otherwise with Taltarni taking out the carnival by almost 1000 points. Congratulations to all Taltarni team members.

We had some excellent individual results with some younger students taking line honours in several of the races in front of their older competitors. Congratulations to our grade champions:

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Head Lice

Head Lice have been found in numerous classes in the past few weeks. It would be appreciated if parents could please check their children’s hair for head lice (including secondary children).

Unfortunately your child is required to stay away from school if they have head lice until they have been treated and all eggs removed.

Head Lice
Come and Join the Fun at Yolla District High School's

Fireworks and Bonfire Night

Spectacular Firework Display!

Glow Products
Live Band
4 Star Nation
Food Stalls
Fun for All

FRIDAY MAY 18
6-8pm

Fireworks start at 7.30pm
Buy Tickets at the Gate

Family of four - $20.00
Adults - $10.00 each
Children - $5.00 each

*Alcohol Free Event*