AGM: Our P&C held their Annual General Meeting last Tuesday night and elected our new office bearers. We welcome Michelle Devine - President; Mary Ameduri - Treasurer; Ian McArthur - Secretary; Deidre Grofiski - Fundraising and Tori Cannon - Uniforms. I would like to thank our out-going office bearers for the amazing energy and effort they brought to our P&C and school this year. Every child has had the benefit of your direction and hard work as you ensured that funds were raised and utilized to provide the many resources and experiences they have been offered.

WELCOME: We welcome another two students and their families to our school. In Year 1 we welcome Charmaine and in Year 3 we welcome Nick. Two lovely new students that have slotted in very quickly and smoothly. Its also wonderful to see our existing students assisting this process through demonstrating kindness and respect towards our new arrivals.

School Planning: Discussions, surveys, meetings, focus groups are just some of the ways we are planning for the future directions of Middle Dural School. It is only with input from all stakeholders that we can form our directions to ensure we are delivering the best possible service to our students in the direction we determine to be the most valuable and future focused. With this end in mind, Parent surveys were sent home last week to be completed and returned by today. If yours has not found its way back to us, please complete it and send it in tomorrow. If you did not receive one please contact Lyndon or Jennie in the office to send you one (9651 1761). I deliberately created a survey that would allow you your say while keeping it to only one page. We really value your input and acknowledge and respect your right to have a say!

Helping Hands Morning Tea: Mrs Urio would like to host another Helping hands Morning Tea to assist with the covering of recent book purchases. You will be assured of some delicious treats and some good company if you could spare an hour or two on Thursday 27th November at 9:00am in the school library.

Gaston Community of Schools Debating Challenge: Students from Yrs 5 and 6 have been selected to represent our school at this event to be held at Galston High School on Tuesday 25th November. Mrs Urio has been coaching the students in debating and public speaking skills and we are certainly pleased with their progress.

BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL CARE: Thank you to those of you who have indicated this service would be of use to you. We have completed our necessary letters and forms and sent these off to our department. The wheels are now in motion for this facility at our school and we will inform you of any happenings when they take place.

Geranium Cottage: Our students will be entertaining some elderly residents of a nursing home in Willoughby on Wednesday 3rd December as the elderly lunch at Geranium Cottage. A permission note will come home shortly.
Chatting with Year 6...  
Has allowed me to find out something quite amazing... they are very computer literate and internet savvy when it comes to games... BUT....  
I can feel a challenge forming in my mind! Are the year 6 students up to a challenge that will question and utilize these well-practiced skills?

**KITCHEN GARDEN**

Not a lot happening in the garden at the moment ...except for the passionfruit growing like crazy!!! ... BUT....  
I am so happy to announce that there has definitely been some action with the shade shelter!  
Thank you so much to Phil, Morrie, Jeremy, Christian and Noah for your hard work on Sunday 9th Nov and again to Phil and Morrie who came again last Thursday afternoon to follow up. Your huge efforts are greatly appreciated.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

Many children may be missing out on free dental care as they are not aware of the Public Health Dental Service.

Western Sydney Health have reported an increase in Whooping Cough in their area. Please be aware.

Please read the attached notes.

Our P&C will be meeting on Tuesday 9th December at 7:00pm in the school library.

Everyone’s busy! Nobody has time!  
So why do we meet? I’ll tell you in rhyme....  
Our children need us  
United to show  
Responsibilities,  
Kinship and caring will grow, as  
Involvement and sharing  
Determine the ways our  
School will grow bigger  
......... just one of these days!  
So why not come and join us!

**Heard in the K/1/2 room...**

“You can actually stand up in heaven.”

Perceptions are so fascinating ... the way our youngsters view their world.

A small reminder to parents that if you have any concerns at all regarding your child, their work or an issue with another child in the school, we ask that you please speak to the class teacher to clarify the situation. Sometimes things are not quite as they seem.

Do remember that in a small school, teachers are extremely busy, covering anything from 2 to 4 duties a day as well as preparation and marking. It may be, therefore, better to make an appointment to ensure satisfaction all round.

Ann Mills  
Principal  
Middle Dural PS