Dear parents and carers,

The recent announcement by Julia Gillard’s Government is outlined here in an excerpt from NewsComAu Gillard’s $1 billion reading blitz From: NewsComAu February 24, 2013. ‘SCHOOLS will be asked to deliver a back-to-basics reading blitz for one million children as a condition of Julia Gillard's education reform plan. The program may be centred on the teaching of phonics, which involves sounding out letters to children to help students develop basic reading skills. Announcing the program today, Ms Gillard said it was important for Australia to win the education race to win the economics race. The program will target kindergarten to year three students and may involve breakfast clubs and after-school activities.’

The program identified by the news report, Making Up for Lost Time in Literacy (MultiLit) program developed by Macquarie University, is already being implemented by our staff, following ongoing assessments to identify at-risk students. Staff have been trained in both MultiLit and Minilit for the younger children.

Just to reassure parents, we are already implementing a READING plan to include phonemics, phonics, fluency and vocabulary knowledge; we review STUDENT data to diagnose why some students are struggling; and tailor READING plans for children who need intensive support; and we encourage PARENTS to help by introducing a reading routine at home and volunteering in classrooms.

In addition, we have Reading Recovery for identified Year 1 students; in class support and withdrawal groups taken by the Support Teacher Learning in all classes; as well as intensive focus on students this term in Years 3 and 5 who are preparing for NAPLAN.

Congratulations to the Small Schools Swimming team representing us at the Zone Swimming Carnival on Friday. We were very proud of their achievements and most children improved their times to perform a personal best. Congratulations to James Moore who will proceed to the next level and represent the zone at the Regional Swimming Carnival in Dapto in Butterfly. The effort that he has given to training is most commendable.

This week we received the resources ordered following the Woolworth’s promotion last year. Your support to forward the tokens was fantastic and now each class will benefit from the new resources.

Thank you to parents who have paid their invoices for term one expenses. The children are already enjoying the benefits of Maths texts, and certainly will enjoy the Visiting Show Pickled Peck of Pickled Poems scheduled for 14 March at 9.30am. We will be joined by Wyndham PS for the performance.

Our Schools Clean Up Candelo will take place on Monday 4 March in the afternoon. K/1/2 will manage the school grounds, 2/3/4 will check the oval and 5/6 will check some of the streets of Candelo. The children will need garden gloves, hat, sunscreen, closed in shoes and a recycled plastic bag to collect the rubbish. A talk will be given at an assembly prior to the clean up to address safety concerns.
Children who would like to participate in the **Candelo Festival Parade** will be asked to nominate for a movement piece. We will negotiate a rehearsal time and also talk to parents about costume pieces that may be required for the water theme. Please see me if your child is able to participate in this community activity so that we can begin.

I will be attending the **Principal Conference** in Wollongong during Week 6. I look forward to the professional development opportunities that this provides and appreciate that the P&C Annual General Meeting has been moved to Thursday 14 March to accommodate this engagement.

Parents please note that we have scheduled **SCHOOL PHOTOS** for Thursday 28 March (the day before the Easter break). Could parents advise if children will be absent as we would love all of the children to be present for the class photos.

This week we farewell School Administration Officer Fiona Cullen. Over the years Fiona has worked as a teacher’s aide, library assistant and in administration to include coordinating the newsletter. We thank Fiona for her commitment to Candelo PS staff and families and wish her all the best as she continues her work at Bega HS.

**STUDENT WELFARE**

- Year 6 are asked to return the tear out sheets in the enrolment **package for high schools**.
- The staff and parents encourage the wearing of school uniform to include **school hats** each day. Please ensure the name is on the hat.
- Wearing shoes designed to support growing feet is important and we encourage all children to wear appropriate footwear for school activities.
- Teachers monitor the lunch break to ensure that all children are eating their healthy lunches. We appreciate the move families are making to the **NO PACKAGE** lunch boxes. Drink bottles filled with water are encouraged at school.
- There have been some reports of headlice within the school. Please check your children’s hair and treat with preparations available from your local pharmacy. There is the initial treatment and a follow up will need to be applied.

**SPORT**

Thank you for returning the permission note for the following events/carnivals:

- Regional Swimming Carnival Tuesday 5 March at Dapto Pool. Best wishes James Moore.
- Friday swimming for sport this Friday 1, 8, 15 and 22 March (it is expected that all students participate).

Children will need swimmers, towel, goggles (optional), warm jacket, water shoes, water bottles, lunch and recess (also available at the canteen at the pool at swimming carnivals), sunscreen and hat.

- **Hockey Gala Day Stage 2 and 3**

  Wednesday 13 March at Candelo Hockey Grounds. Selected teams will represent the school. Hockey parent helpers please see Mrs Bourke if you are able to help with training. Children must have a mouthguard (and shinpads are recommended) to participate in the day’s activities.

- **Stage 3 Rugby League Tag Gala Day**

  Thursday 21 March Bega Ovals. Selected teams will represent the school. Tag Footy parent helpers please see Mrs Bourke if you are able to help with training.

**PERFORMING ARTS**

- Recorder workshops with Henry Grose, Susan Gray and Merryl Whitby are planned each Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm in the music room. Nominated students will work towards the Opera House Recorder program. *(Mimosa Concert on Thursday 29 August.)*
- SCIP Wind program each Wednesday during school time, please apply to Helen Gill re this program of individual and small group tuition.
• Candelo Festival Choir 3.30 Tuesday afternoons with Melanie Horsnell.

**School Parliament:** Matthew and Brittney are busily preparing an Easter colouring competition and Guessing Competition to win an Easter cookbook and cooking accessories. Tickets (50c) are available from Year 5/6 children. Both Easter activities will be drawn on Thursday 28 March. The proceeds will go to the Year 6 fundraiser for the Stage 3 excursion and Diabetes Australia. I commend the children for their use of initiative and follow through.

Sport Ministers will assist teachers to order new equipment and to develop the teams for the Tag Gala Day (Thursday 21 March) and Hockey Gala Day scheduled for Wednesday 13 March.

**Student Banking**
A pack from the Commonwealth Bank is being sent home today for parents to open a savings account for their children if they do not already have one. School Banking is on Wednesdays. Children please bring their bank books to the office.

**K/1/2 NEWS:**
Kinders have been enjoying reading the big book 'Mrs Wishy-Washy' this week and laughing at the antics of her farm animals. They have been tuning their ears into hearing the initial sounds of words and with care, control and correct pencil grip developing their handwriting. They have been learning the rhymes 'Open Shut Them' and 'Hickory Dickory Dock'. In Maths they have been working on numbers to 10 and simple 2D shapes. Next week our big book will be 'Meanies', our rhyme 'Incy Wincy' and in Maths numbers forwards and backwards to 10 and 3D objects.

Year 1/2 will continue with their spelling lists and activities, sentences as questions and understanding more about verbs. Their big book will be 'Spooky House' and they will continue with their individual reader. In Maths they continue working with number patterns on the number frame to 119, friends of 10/20/100, problem solving and 3D objects. It's great to see the homework completed and returned on time. Spelling results are looking good, so keep up with the revision at home, thanks.

Today I have been attending the second session of the maths course 'TENS' and Ms Gordon followed through with the lessons for the day. However over the week we have been implementing some of the TENS activities such as 'Fly-swat' 'Blocks in a Bowl', 'Go Fish - 10' and 'Door Number Pass'. See if you can get an explanation of one or two of the activities from your child.

**Achievement Awards this Week**
Home Reading - Lily Mark (T450)
Sentence Writing - Flynn Charlton-Seaman, Alexandra Zuvela
Reading - Joseph Maher, Sophie Gill

Till next week, Deb.

**YEAR 2/3/4 NEWS:**
A big hello again from the 2/3/4 classroom. Our literacy focus continues on persuasive texts with the students creating some convincing arguments on the topic ‘Should badly behaved kids be allowed in shopping centres?’ It sparked an interesting conversation with the students weighing in on a variety of societal issues. The knitting projects are thoroughly underway and are a welcome reminder that this humidity will not be around much longer!

In addition this week saw the launch of our ‘Material World’ science unit of work. Students were introduced to the unit by exploring narratives, websites, magazines and a variety of objects that were constructed of different materials. As we continue to explore the world of materials we will be constructing musical instruments and sculptures using recycled materials. We would like to congratulate the achievement award winners Tahlia Hotson, Alexandra Eeles, Jez Carrett, Aidan Mark and Esther Hall for their positive contributions to our classroom. Warm regards Nell Reeves and Jo Collins.

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**YEAR 5/6 NEWS:**
Vocabulary from The Hobbit has given us cause to review dictionary skills this week.

School Garbage and the concepts of reduce, reuse and recycle created interesting discussion and sound
writing practice this week. The children are working to write five paragraphs to include an introduction, three arguments and a conclusion and to use the writing pyramid to develop skills. Work will begin on an imaginative creature 3D model in craft this week to help reduce and reuse some of the newspaper stack. The maths focus has been on subtraction for year 5 and decimals in year 6 maths. Daily mentals continues to reinforce rules, tables and measurement facts.

I look forward to meeting with parents who are still able to make an interview time for after school over the coming weeks. Please call to make an appointment.

The home writing project on job descriptions is now due and homework sheets are due each week. Maths activities are available on www.studyladder.com.au. Spelling words and activities are available online at www.spellingcity.com.au.

Next week I will be absent on Monday and then Wed to Fri at the Principal’s Conference. Mrs Collins will work with the students and Mr Blewett on his usual days.

Awards for excellent work in maths: Oscar Carrett, Michael Stoddard and Bailey Smith
Awards for the values of honesty and integrity: Angus Cameron and Ashlee Spencer
regards, Mrs Bourke.

LIBRARY NEWS
Please return library books to the school and don’t forget to bring your library bag on Thursdays for borrowing your favourite books.

P&C NEWS:
March Market BBQ Roster - Sunday 3rd March
Stall: Phil King, Norma King, Michelle Zuvela, Sam Joyce, Megan Collins (7:45-11:00am), Nicole Powell (11:00am-to finish)
Tomato: Monica Moore
Onion: Belinda Heffernan
Lettuce: Jasmine Norman-Cruickshank
Salad volunteers can collect vegetables and buckets from Candelo Bowling Club after 5:30pm on Friday or from 1pm on Saturday and deliver chopped salad to tennis shed by 8:00am.
Stall volunteers to be at tennis shed by 7:45am.
Call Amanda on 6493 2490 if you have any questions.

P&C Annual General Meeting: The AGM will be held on March 14th 2013. All parents and interested community members are welcome to nominate for positions on the committee.

The positions that will need to be filled are:
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Canteen Supervisor & Assistant
Market BBQ Stall Co-ordinator X 2
Nominations can be emailed to Cathy Robertson at flloyd69@bigpond.com or submitted on the night of the meeting. Most of these roles can be undertaken outside of school hours. Even if you have not had involvement in the P&C previously or you are new to the School, please consider if you are able to support the School through the P&C Committee. Involvement in the P&C is a great way to stay in touch with the latest happenings at the School and support your child's education. If you have any questions or are interested in any of the positions listed above or would like further information on the P&C please contact Ivan Balas on 64932620.

Bundaberg Flood Victims - Benefit Night
The Candelo Show Committee is holding a fundraising event showcasing local talent to raise funds for the Bundaberg Flood Victims.
Details are:
Date: Saturday 16th March
Venue: Show ground
Time: 5pm start
P&C will be lending their BBQ and helpers are required. If you are able to lend a hand on the BBQ please contact Marie Hackett on 6493 2427 or 0417 460 604.

SCIP NEWS

Candelo Festival: The Advanced Band and Aeros have been invited to play at the Candelo Festival. We will be playing at the opening night performance on Friday 12th April (last day of Term 1) in the evening. We will also be playing in the Festival Parade on Saturday 13th April. Notes will be sent home next week regarding the Festival.

Aeros: The rehearsal is on tomorrow (Friday 1st March). Please be ready to start at 8.15am.

Term 1 concert: The term 1 concert is planned for Wednesday 3rd April at 5.00pm in the Town Hall. Please mark this date in your diaries and let me know if there is a clash.
If you have any queries or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Helen Gill 6493 2448