To provide a safe, happy and friendly learning environment where students are supported by a motivated, connected and valued staff and community. Our desire to celebrate as each child works towards achieving their potential and inspire within them a life-long love of learning and the courage to explore the world with integrity, compassion and respect.

Cassilis Public School, Vision Statement

Be Respectful Be Safe Do Your Best
...steering you to success

Term 1, Week 9
Student of the Week
Angus Heycox

Angus has been awarded the title of 'Student of the week' this week for being kind and respectful to others and doing his best to improve his learning by trying harder to concentrate during class. When other students tried to distract Angus from his learning at school last week, Angus ignored them or moved away to get the best out of his learning. He was keen to draw up a draft boat for science last week and although his boat didn’t work out the way he had planned, he didn’t let that affect his mood.
From Mrs. Grinham’s Desk

Term 1 has been a fantastic start to the year with students settling in to good work habits and improving the quality of their work. The teachers have provided a wealth of authentic learning opportunities for all students and most parents have trusted us to take their students outside the school to give hands on learning experiences to the students. One of the key learning methodologies that are used with the students at present is Connected Outcomes Group (COGs) learning where student learning focuses on a theme “the sea” at present. COGs based learning requires in depth preparation, collaboration and quality teaching too gain the best student outcomes. Cassilis primary staff have over 100 years combined teaching and support experience and are dedicated, caring, highly trained professionals with CPR, first aid, anaphylaxis, asthma, emergency care, child protection and bronze medallion training, which allows us to deliver such a diversified and engaging pattern of learning. Departmental policy and teacher student ratios are strictly adhered to ensuring the safety and well-being of all students and staff.

We hope you enjoy the holidays and extra time with your children and we wish you a Happy Easter. Teachers return on Monday 20th April and will be learning about the Science curriculum, professional goals and working to complete the school’s three year plan, as well as preparing for another busy term full of quality teaching and learning.

School Vision and Strategic Directions

In line with the new school plan, and consultation with parents and community, the school is updating its vision statement and strategic directions for the next three years.

Our Vision:

To prepare every student to be successful lifelong learners who are confident and creative individuals; and active informed citizens through a commitment to equity and excellence in education.

We believe it is important for students to be self-aware, build resilience and positive relationships and actively contribute to the school, the community and the society in which they live.

We value and support strong partnerships with the broader community
to maximise student engagement and achievement in a nurturing environment.

**Strategic directions**
Student Learning and Engagement
Excellence in Professional Practice
Building Community Partnerships.

If you would like to contribute to the development of our plan please contact us on 63761009

**LAST WEEK...**

**Harmony Day**

Students and families, including our senior citizens enjoyed a wonderful Harmony Day on Friday 20th March. Students cooked Chinese, Mexican, Greek and Austrian delicacies, tested their fitness, made Chinese lanterns and learnt about red packets and the Chinese Zodiac, and made harmony "click- clack' games. Everyone enjoyed the multicultural food feast.
**Golf Workshop**

On Monday 23rd March students were involved in a golf workshop, run by Mark from the Jack Newton Junior Golf program. He was very impressed with how well the students’ skills have developed over the term. Congratulations to Miss H for her outstanding teaching.

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**Beach Excursion**

On Friday 27th March, students and teachers - Mr. Gant, Mrs. Grinham and Miss H. set off in the bus to Newcastle for a day of hands-on Science experiences. On the way Mr. Gant asked tricky questions about rivers, coal powered electricity, beaches, bridges and boats.

The students were excited to reach the beach and wasted no time paddling in the waves, finding shells, seaweed and chasing seagulls.

After lunch we walked along the break wall discussing types of rocks, where the Hunter River meets the sea, and asking lots of fabulous questions.

We walked back to the bags along the beach and jumped in the bus ready for the long journey home. Some students fell asleep almost straight away as they were worn out from all the sun, sea and sand!

Some students asked if we could go to the beach every Friday, but sadly we don’t live close enough for that! Everyone was very well behaved and had a fantastic day. Thank you to Mr. Gant for driving the bus Miss H and Mrs. Nairne for their organisation and to Macquarie Generation for kindly lending us the bus.
Term 1, Week 10
Student of the Week
Rachel Bibby

Rachel has earned the title of student of the week this week for her continued respectful behaviour and manners towards all staff and students last week. We had a busy week last week with two visiting casual teachers at the school early in the week and Rachel showed each of our visiting teachers her best manners and welcomed them into the school. During group activities while getting organised for the Mini-fair, Rachel worked well with her peers and made sure each group member was given input. She also enjoyed the Beach excursion on Friday and was a positive role-model to other students. Congratulations and keep up the wonderful work Rachel!
**Week 10 Assembly**

Congratulations to our award winners. All students presented their poems and did a great job. Next term we will be working on making eye contact with the audience and using gestures and props to enhance our poems.

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**Easter Raffle**

Tickets are available for $1 in our Easter raffle. There will be a prize for the family who sell the most tickets so start selling now!! Winners will be drawn at the Easter Mini Fair.

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**Easter Mini Fair**

**Thursday 2\(^{nd}\) April**

**11:00am-1:00pm**

All Welcome!
- Raffle
- Games
- Food- beef and chicken burgers, drinks, ice blocks
- Craft
- Cakes and Sweets
- White Elephant
Easter Hat Parade
The Easter Hat Parade will follow lunch, after the mini fair. Categories are pre-schoolers, K-2, 3-6, adults. Make your beautiful hats at home and join in the fun!!

Great Barrier Reef Virtual Excursion!

On Monday 30th March at 12:30, Cassilis school students took part in a Virtual Excursion to the Great Barrier Reef without even leaving the school. They participated in a virtual dive into Reef HQ Aquarium’s Coral Reef and Predator exhibits and had the opportunity to interact live with a SCUBA diver while they learnt about the Great Barrier Reef. Students learnt about the diversity of reef creatures, the adaptations they possess and the role they play within the reef community. This was a free excursion that has been subsidised by excursion fundraising and aligns with the Under the Sea topic and the New Australian Science Curriculum that students have been working on this term.

Interesting Websites

April school holidays
Have you got April school holidays organised yet? It's not too late to book for a Sport and Recreation Kids' Camp. Watch the video to see how much fun these kids are having.


Parent-teacher interviews
Have you got a parent teacher interview coming up? Here are some tips for getting the most out of these important meetings. Prepare a few questions to ask, and walk away with a plan.

Search Cassilis Public School in your face book account - like and share. Be sure to read the about section for guidelines.

Diary

March
30th - Virtual Excursion to the Great Barrier Reef!
30th - Assembly 9am -poetry competition presentations.

April
2nd - Easter Mini Fair
2nd - Easter Hat Parade
2nd - Final Day Term 1
3rd - Good Friday
6th - Easter Monday
20th - Staff return SDD

21st - Students return Term 2

25th - ANZAC Day
27th - ANZAC Day public holiday

May
4th - P&C meeting 3:15 Library
22nd - Grip Leadership, Dubbo - Mrs. G and Year 5 students.

June
1st - P&C meeting 3:15 Library
3rd - Pittman Cup
8th - Queen’s birthday public Holiday

18th - Science and discovery day @ Muswellbrook 5-6.
26th - Final day Term 2

July
13th - Staff return SDD
14th - Students return Term 3
24th - Tree planting day

August
3rd - P&C meeting 3:15 Library
15th - Mrs. Grinham’s last day
17th - Mrs. Burgess Returns

September
7th - P&C meeting 3:15 Library
18th - Final day Term 3

October
5th - Labour Day Public holiday
6th - Students and Staff Return Term 4

November
2nd - P&C meeting 3:15 Library

December
7th - P&C meeting 3:15 Venue TBA
16th - Students final day 2015
17th - 18th Staff Development Days