Week 10–17th September 2014

Sharing Our News

It’s been a busy term in sport! I was very privileged last week to be present to watch our boys’ rugby league team become State PSSA Champions. They played with great skill and maturity and did our school very proud. Congratulations to all the boys and their supportive families for a well-deserved achievement. We also have excellent horse sports results from last week and 2 students heading to state athletics.

Our classrooms have also been a hive of activity in term 3. Teaching of the HSIE curriculums have been complimented by our 2 major excursions to Canberra and Pt Wolstoncroft. King Street staff have also continued professional learning in a variety of areas.

Please enjoy the writing contributions from stage 3 in this newsletter. They have been working very hard with their creative writing and there are some outstanding pieces of work.

As we head into term 4, I am looking forward to welcoming our 2015 Kindergarten students for their Orientation. As teachers it is always exciting to see the fresh new faces we will have the privilege of guiding over the next 7 years. Our first Kindergarten Orientation Day will be on the 23rd October, with ‘Storytime’ sessions beginning on Wednesday 15th October in the library. Please feel welcome to contact our office if you need further information.

Please enjoy the holiday with your children, and stay safe. As there is no Staff Development Day at the beginning of term 4, classes will resume after the public holiday on Tuesday, 7th October.

Cath Larkman
King Street PBL Values

At King Street we are:

Kind, Safe, Proud and Supportive.

In our classrooms we:

- **Co-operate**...always cooperate with teachers, classmates and visitors
- **Listen**...be an attentive listener for effective learning
- **Attitude**...have a positive attitude for successful learning and be proud of our work
- **Sensible**...move and behave safely in the classroom
- **Studious**...be studious and enjoy the sharing of knowledge with teachers and classmates.

At King Street Public school we have CLASS.

Thank you to the following students for displaying our KSPS values and rules (Term 3, Week 4):

**S2B:** Mikayla E, Jade S  **S2I:** Charlotte H, Liana C  
**S2M:** Chelsea S, Archie D  **S2T:** Chloe-Rose F, Macy B  
**S3A:** Jayden H, Hannah W  **S3G:** Cory H, Aimee F  
**S3H:** Nick H, Ethan T  **S3K:** Ella S, Christine P  
**S3M:** Kye P, Lachlan P

Kindergarten Orientation

King Street looks forward to welcoming our 2015 Kindergarten students early in term 4 at their Orientation Days. The dates for Orientation are:

**Thursday October 23rd at 9.30am** (includes parent information session)  
**Thursday October 30th (9.30am)**  
**Thursday November 6th (9.30am)**

‘Storytime’ sessions will commence on Wednesday October 15th at 2.30pm. Storytime is held in our library and will continue each Wednesday until the end of term 4.
Dates to Mark in Your Calendar

It is very hard to believe we are heading into term 4. This term there will be a number of important dates to remember as we head into end of year preparations. Please note the following:

Sat 22nd Nov: 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance
Mon 24th Nov: 50th Anniversary Open day
24th Nov-4th Dec: Intensive Swimming Year 2
Wed 3rd Dec: Year 6 High School Orientation
Fri 5th Dec: Gold and Silver Card Assembly
Wed 10th Dec: End of Year Concert
Fri 12th Dec: Presentation Assembly
Mon 15th Dec: Year 6 Farewell
Tues 16th Dec: Party Day
Wed 17th Dec: Last Day for Students

Talent - No Talent Quest

Year 6 Fundraiser

Year 6 will be holding a portrait fundraiser in term 4 to support the purchase of their school gift. The fundraiser will take place on Sunday the 19th October.

Bookings can now be made via the school office. Please note, timeslots will be filled from 9am onwards. The cost for the sitting is $20, which will include a 10x13 family portrait or an A3 pencil sketch, as well as a keyring. The $20 is to be paid at the time of booking.

We thank you for your support of year 6.
Trish Maher

Stage 1 Reptile Park Excursion Postponed

The Stage 1 excursion to the Reptile Park was unfortunately postponed last Friday due to concern regarding the weather.

At this stage we anticipate the excursion will now go ahead on Thursday 16th October. All monies will be carried over.

We will send a note with your children to confirm these details.

Thank you for your support.
Rachel Griffiths, Stage 1 Supervisor

School Attendance

Please find below more helpful information and tips for parents/carers regarding school attendance. The Learning Support Team appreciates your attention to these matters.

Reluctant Attenders
“Tips for parents

- Are your mornings chaotic? Make lunches and keep them in the fridge, have children complete homework, check for next day’s school needs (money, special clothing, notes etc) and have clothes organized the night before.
- Home School Liaison Officers are available to assist with problems of non-attendance. Contact the school for the HSLO’s contact number. Don’t let your child develop a pattern of non-attendance as this pattern becomes hard to break.
- Are your child/children having difficulty getting out of bed in the mornings? Try setting an earlier bedtime for them. You could also supply them with their own alarm clock.”

Rachel Griffiths and the Learning Support Team

Kindergarten Excursion to Hunter Valley Zoo

On Friday 17th October Kindergarten children will be going by bus to Hunter Valley Zoo and Hunter Valley Gardens. The notes will be sent home at the beginning of next term. Parents will be welcome to meet us and walk with us at both venues. The cost will be approximately $35 per child. Save the date!

Thank you,
Fiona Burgess

School Photos have Arrived

Teachers have now distributed school photos to their students. Any children that have been away can collect their photographs from the office.

Sport/Group photo order forms have also been handed out to relevant students. These photos are available for viewing in a folder in the front office, and orders are due by Monday 13th October.
Horse Sports Team Continue Success

The KSPS Horse Sports Team have continued their 2014 success with yet another outstanding day at the Aberdeen Horse Sports competition last Friday. The members of this team are to be congratulated yet again for their incredible riding skills and the manner in which they represented our school. An example of this is Thomas D being awarded ‘Most Well Behaved Student’ at Aberdeen and being presented with a saddlecloth. Other results for the day were:

Chloe D: 3x 1st, 2x 2nd, 1x 3rd, 7 yr girls champion
Lara P: 1x 2nd, 2x 5th, 1x 6th
Cally H: 1x 1st, 1x 2nd, 2x 3rd, 1x 4th
Naite H: 5x 1st, 1x 2nd, 8 yr boys champion
Thomas D: 5x 1st, 1x 2nd, 9 yr boys champion, highest pointscore for 10 years and under (receiving a watch), most well behaved student on the day (receiving a saddlecloth).

“Last Friday I went to Aberdeen for Horse sports. When you got there you had to go to your age group and line up. You got called to go to the ring with an adult. Through the morning it was the hack and rider classes first.

Then after lunch you had to do a march around before the sporting events. After the march it was the sporting events. There was the bounce, keyhole, bending, in and out of the paddock and ben bar raft. You get timed on the events.

After the sporting it was the presentation. There were lots of prizes handed out. After the presentation people starting leaving to go home.

It was a good day and I hope to go there again soon.” Lara P

KSPS Welcomes Francis Watts

This year Coal and Allied sponsored the very talented Frances Watts to come to our school and share her enthusiasm for writing. She also gave us some insight into how she creates her stories! She has written "Kisses for Daddy", "Parsley Rabbit’s Book about Books", "Captain Crabclaw’s Crew", and "The Fearsome, Frightening, Ferocious Box" just to name a few. Frances has published 20 books in the last 10 years. It was a lovely day and a wonderful opportunity for the students. King Street Public School truly appreciates Coal & Allied sponsoring the Author Visit, allowing the performance to be free for our students.

For interested students Frances website is http://www.franceswatts.com/.

Star Struck 2015 Auditions

Applications for vocal auditions for Star Struck 2015 are now open. A copy of the application form (including information on audition requirements, dates, locations etc) is available from the Star Struck website: www.starstruck.schools.nsw.edu.au.

Please note the closing date for applications is Monday 13th October. For inquiries contact the Star Struck office on (02) 49621413 or email StarStruck@det.nsw.edu.au.

Please see me at school if you need any help.
Mrs Wendy Tan

100 Club Cracker Night Winners

S3H would like to thank everyone who bought tickets in the 100 club which was drawn on Cracker Night. Congratulations to Mr Ward who won first prize! 2nd prize went to Jude M and 3rd to Sam M.
PSSA Fundraiser
The Upper Hunter Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) is holding a fundraising day in the form of a 4 Man Ambrose Golf Day. This is the association that coordinates many of the sporting competitions that our students are involved in. Everyone is welcome!

**Where:** Muswellbrook Golf Club

**When:** Sunday 19th October

**Time:** 8am – Shotgun Start

**Cost:** $35 per player ($140 team) includes breakfast from 7.15am (Lunch not provided)

Loads of prizes to be won!!!

Email your entries by Friday 10th October to: Jonathan.RUSSELL7@det.nsw.edu.au

Have you Downloaded our App Yet?
The App has many features allowing access to school information and events. It also allows you to contact us with your information electronically.

Download our App to your smartphone by going to either the Apple App Store or Android Google Play Market and search for King Street Public School. Once you have found it press install or download.

King Street Values the Wellbeing of our Students
Please be aware that we have an immunosuppressed student in our school.

If your child develops a contagious disease, please let the school know ASAP so we can act accordingly.

King Street is an Allergy Aware School
This is a reminder for all families that some of our students have serious reactions to products containing nuts and fish.

We ask families to carefully consider the danger that others could face if they touch or eat these products.

**We ask that you please do not send foods or containers to school that contain nut or fish products.**

Keeping Our Students Safe on Sussex Street
We would like to thank those parents that are continuing to do the right thing in keeping our children safe on the busy roads around the school.

There are a number of parents however that are using the staff car park driveway in Sussex Street to pick up or drop off students. **We would ask that drivers please not continue this practise as it is not only illegal but very dangerous to our students.** We also ask that the gate be kept closed at all times until a member of staff opens it in the afternoon. Please do not encourage your children to enter or leave the school via this gate at any time. There are pedestrian gates near the dental clinic and the infants rooms to use.

We thank you for your support in this matter.
Singleton Sound Solutions
75 John St, Singleton
Tel: 02 65 715 155
http://www.singletonsoundsolutions.com.au

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables
Mick & Chris’s Fruit & Vegetable Store open Fridays & Saturdays over the Railway Bridge on Glenridding Road.

Singleton Sound Solutions
75 John St, Singleton
Tel: 02 65 715 155
http://www.singletonsoundsolutions.com.au

2014 AGL
Singleton Show
Friday 26th & Saturday 27th September
Featuring TRAVIS COLLINS!
www.singletonshow.com

PASKARLA
Pets & Accessories

Presents
The Inaugural
Singleton Pet Show
Saturday Sept 27, 2014 @ AGL Singleton Show

Classes
1) Best Pet (Children Under 8 Years)
2) Best Pet (Children 8 Years and Over)
3) Most Unusual Pet
4) Pet That Most Looks Like It’s Owner

- Kids 17 years and under are eligible to enter
- Pet Show Entry is Free
- Pets must be in a cage/box or on a harness or lead.
- Entries Open 10:30am on Saturday 27 Sept.
- Judging to commence 11am

You Could Win a Voucher donated by Paskarla Pets & Accessories!!!
The Pet Show will be held on the Lawn Area in front of the Secretary’s Office at the Showground

Holiday Tennis Clinics
September-October '14

4x FULL DAY CLINICS
ONLY $99

50% OFF

Ages 3-16 yrs

WEEK 1 CLINIC
Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th & Thursday 25th September
Full Day Clinic: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
ONLY $99 for the 4 day clinic
OR $30 per full day

WEEK 2 CLINIC
Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th, Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd October
Half Day Clinic: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
ONLY $49.50 for the 4 day clinic
OR $10 per half day

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!
www.huntertennisacademy.com.au
Phone Kate or Kerry on 02 6572 3889
Info@huntertennisacademy.com.au
Boundary Street, Singleton NSW

It’s Going to be Super September At Bunnings Singleton

- 13th September – Super Hero Day.
  Kids are invited to come to the store in their super Hero outfits. Team Members will be dressed up and the hero’s from the Rural Fire Service will have a display at the store as well
- 20th September 10am – Rockpool Adventures interactive display, plaster painting and sand art
- 23rd & 25th September 11am – Noon- Kids DIY Craft Activities for School Holidays

www.kingstreet-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
FOX

This term Stage 3M and Stage 3T have been studying the picture book FOX by Margaret Wild and learning how authors use interesting language choices and a variety of sentence structures to engage readers.

Fox is about a dog who saves a magpie from a bushfire. Magpie has a burnt wing and is unable to fly and Dog has lost an eye, however they help each other overcome their difficulties and form a strong friendship. Their happiness is threatened when a fox comes into the picture and convinces Magpie to leave Dog. In the end, Fox abandons Magpie in the desert and Magpie decides to return to Dog.

Students were asked to write a new ending for Fox starting with the final line in the book.

Slowly, jiggety-hop, she begins the long journey home.

After hours of torturous heat, the sun goes down and Maggie decides to rest her exhausted little feet. She finds a tree with a hole at the bottom, forming a cave-like enclosure. Having no choice but to rest her dehydrated, weary body, she collapses into a coma of drowsiness. The hours of sleep feel like years.

Magpie eventually pulls herself up with the motivation of Dog. “I have to get back to dog and explain what I have done,” she says to herself very faintly. “Will Dog be drowning in sadness or would he have already forgotten me,” she keeps thinking as she hops over the red earth. Magpie manages to pick up some scraps as she gets closer to the bush. She also has some water. She slurps and crushes her food and water like a horse with an over-sized stomach.

A few days pass and Maggie falls sick. She can only move very slowly and very little. Another couple of days pass and Maggie can only walk where Dog took her after she got injured. Suddenly a thought rushes into Magpie’s head. What if Dog is angry and he left because he doesn’t want Magpie to find him? But she just has to talk to him and explain what happened.

Slowly, jiggety-hop, she begins her nervous trail to reach the cave. Maggie reaches the cave and there she sees a gloomy, slouched figure laying on a rock. “Dog? Is that you?” she says painfully. Dog’s head turns faster than a cheetah. In his one good eye you can see sadness, anger and betrayal.

“Magpie, why did you do it? You said I was your wings and you were my missing eye,” Dog teared. “I’m so sorry. I don’t know what came over me, please... forgive me,” says Magpie.

“No! You are not going to betray me again. Just leave!” Dog snaps. Maggie tears instantly and once again, jiggety-hop, she leaves the cave.

Suddenly she collapses. Dog runs over and picks her up in his mouth and lays her on a rock ledge. “I feel really tired,” Magpie says, struggling to keep her eyes open.

“I’m so sorry Magpie. I am nothing without you and I do forgive you,” Dog whispers, sounding very frightened. “Thankyou Dog. You are my best friend. I will see you soon,” she manages to get out before she fades away very peacefully. Dog lives very happily always knowing that Magpie is his best friend.

Karla R

As Magpie came through the desert, she felt as if there was someone behind her. She looked and said, “Is someone there?” Right at that moment, something jumped out of a hole in the sand. It was an animal with very short hair, almost as if it had put gel on every single hair, and teeth that were sharpened like knives.

“Hi,” it said. “My name is Cheetaah.” Magpie smiled excitedly and asked, “Can you take me to the cave in the woods?”

“Sure,” said Cheetaah. Cheetaah ran so fast that Magpie’s face looked like a stretched out buldog by the time they got there, which was less than an hour.

Magpie quickly stumbled to the mouth of the cave and yelled out, “Dog!” Dog quickly stopped sobbing and ran to Magpie. “Where did you go?” said Dog trying not the cry.

“Fox tricked me into believing him and he left me in the desert.”

Magpie thanked Cheetaah for getting her there and Cheetaah left. After that, Magpie and Dog continued their relationship. And Fox? He went down to the hunting ground and got shot. I wouldn’t like to be him.

Toby H

In the haze of the rising sun, Magpie began to wonder what Dog was thinking. Was he thinking of her and wondering if Fox took her or was he merely sleeping, maybe having dreams of the next day when he and Magpie would ride again. Or would they? Magpie began to have terrible thoughts. Was she really going to make it home or would she just die here in the desert where so many helpless animals perished.

This thought was so unbearable that Magpie got a sudden surge of energy. She began to walk faster, intent on one thing and one thing only — making it back home. But as exhaustion took over, she began to slow down and the minutes stretched into hours and the hours stretched into days.

When Magpie had almost given up hope, a cave loomed out of the redness in the setting sun. The cave was so familiar that Magpie’s heart yearned to see Dog’s friendly smile. She took three leaping bounds to get back to the cave — to get back to what she considered home.

Suddenly Dog’s figure emerged from the mouth of the cave but it wasn’t the dog Magpie had once known. No, this dog was stronger, bolder and the soft happy smile Magpie longed to see was gone, replaced with an angry snarl. As she gazed into those eyes, she saw something she had never seen before. She saw anger, betrayal and, maybe worst of all, she saw the third for revenge.

Right away thousands of words and sentences began flooding into her head but got lost on the way out. “I’m sorry. I want to be friends again,” was what she wanted to say but instead she spluttered, “I... want... friends,” and then she moaned, “please.” Then she collapsed in horrific sobs, her eyes rolling back into her head and she began to jerk uncontrollably.

Dog rushed forward, carried her into the cave and laid her on a rock. “I forgive you,” murmured Dog, “Please don’t die. I can’t bear it without you.”

“I will never leave you again,” whispered Magpie, fading in and out of consciousness. “I am your missing eye and you are my wings.” Then they both fell asleep and the next day Magpie and Dog rode again.

You may be asking about Fox. Well he returned to the bush and continued his life but remembered always the beautiful friendship that he could have had with Magpie and how he threw it away because he was scared.

Charlotte W
Maggie travels for a few hours, but suddenly slows. She starts to see blackness. Her vision is starting to fade away. She sleeps for a while and lets her mind rest. Maggie starts dreaming about Dog. “Will I ever forgive me? Will our friendship last after what I did?”

Maggie wakes to a very silly Fox waiting for her. He opens his mouth to speak but is rudely interrupted by Magpie.

“What the heck were you thinking?” yelled Maggie. “I could have died!”

“I know,” said a very apologetic Fox. “I was only jealous of your great friendship. I’ve never had a friend. I was so lonely. Then I met you and Dog. Both of you were so kind to me. Can you please forgive me?”

“Okay,” whispered Maggie. “I’d better get going.”

“Please bring me back to Dog,” Fox begged.

“How on my back and I will take you.”

“Yeah, why not,” magpie agreed with Fox’s idea. She got on his back and off they went. They flew past the stringy barks and yellow box trees. Outside the caves, Magpie was gathering what to say to Dog. She walked in and was greeted by a very worried Dog.

“I’m so sorry that I left you. I shouldn’t have. Can we still be friends? I will be your eyes and you my wings,” cried Magpie.

“Of course,” yelled Dog. “Fox, do you still want to be our friend?”

“Yeah please Dog,” said Fox.

“Wow, tough luck! You dragged my best friend away from me. Now you will know what it is like to be alone!” screamed Dog.

Fox left without a word. Dog and Maggie never saw him again.

On the way she hears something strange in the bush. She stops and has a look around, but still keeps on walking. After a while she feels she is being watched and she yells out, “Come out Fox! I know you are there.” He comes and says shamefully, “I am so sorry. Please forgive me. I will never, ever run away.”

Magpie screams. “You should be sorry!” Fox looks down, ashamed. He thinks about how he could have had a friend but ruined it.

Magpie feels sympathy for Fox so she asks if he will take her back to the cave and then she will think about forgiveness. Fox puts a smile back on his face and picks up Magpie. He runs faster than ever before and gets there in no time. When she gets there, Dog stares at Magpie with disappointment, but Magpie cries, “I am so sorry for running away. Will you ever forgive me?” Dog says “I will but you must never leave again, ok?” Magpie agrees and they both hug. Then they send Fox away and never see him again.

Once fox had left Maggie out in the hot, scorching red desert, she could feel her feet burning like the sun is burning all her feathers away. She says to herself, “I need to get to dog as soon as I can so that I can apologise for what I have done.”

Maggie starts to walk and there ahead, she sees a cave similar to the cave she lived in. She keeps walking, almost running. All of a sudden, Maggie steps and sees Dog sitting at the mouth of the cave with someone else. It is blurry and she can only see the figure of the other animal. She starts to walk closer and closer to see who dog is with. Could it be? YES IT IS! She sees the red bushly tail. It is Fox.

Maggie falls back and Dog runs to her and says, “Maggie are you alright?” I was so worried about you I thought you would never come back. What happened?” Maggie replied, “I’m sorry Dog. I went with Fox because he said he could run faster and I know he can. Also I know that he can betray other animals and you would never do that. I shouldn’t have gone with him.”

Dog whispered, “I forgive you Magpie.”

The two friends begin to run through the scrub, past the stringy barks, past the yellow box trees and out into the blue ness away from Fox.

On Maggie’s long journey home, her little legs were getting sore. When she went through the yellow bark trees, her little feet got stubbed but she continued on her long journey so she could get to Dog before he woke up and saw her gone. After three days walking she finally got home and Dog was walking for her. When she got there, Dog said, “Where have you been? I am so worried about you.”

Maggie said, “I am so sorry. I went with Fox out of the desert because he was faster than you.”

“So you betrayed me to go with Fox because he said he is faster than me?” Dog said. “I am not your friend anymore.”

Dog and Maggie went different ways and they never saw each other again since that day. Fox saw Maggie in the bush by herself and went and sat next to her. Then Fox made Maggie feel comfortable and they became best friends.

She could hear the far away scream again, but she still couldn’t tell if it was a ... “OUCH!” A stick poked Maggie and it went through her burnt wing. “How could I have ever gone with that monster creature, Fox,” she mumbled to herself. It took Maggie several days to get to the cave. There she saw a dot but as she got closer the dot became a figure.

“Dog is that you,” Maggie whispered in a sad tone. She walked over to the rock and saw... “NIKO! Dog, how could you die on me Dog?”

Maggie closes her eyes and never wakes up.

As Maggie is sleeping, she hears another scream. This time she can tell it is a scream of despair. Dog keeps creeping into her mind. These are not happy thoughts. They are haunting thoughts, ones that would make you shiver or even keep you awake at night.

She feels like dying but Maggie convinces herself to keep trailing through the fluid-draining, harsh desert. Maggie thinks she can see the cave in the distance. She yells, “Dog! Dog can you see me? Dog please come and rescue me. Please.”

Maggie takes a few more steps, then falls. All she can see is black. Dog rushes over to Maggie but he is too late. Maggie is gone forever. Dog once more clamps Maggie in his mouth and takes her to the mouth of the cave. And there he lays her to rest. Dog cries, “Maggie, you will always be my missing eye and I will always be your wings. You will be dearly missed.”

Six months later, Dog dies when he is attacked by an animal with haunted eyes and a rich red coat.

The days rolled by like years and Maggie got back to the cave in a week, perhaps two. When she got there, dog was not there so she lay on the cave floor burning to a crisp as she fell asleep.

Later that day, Maggie heard something and woke up also wondering if it was Dog and if so what she would say to him. As Maggie slowly hopped to the mouth of the cave, she could see Dog at the river with another animal. Maggie could not see who it was but it had a rich red coat just like Fox.

So Maggie hopped down to the river and cried, “What are you doing with Fox? He betrayed me. Did you betray me as well?”

Fox replied, “Yes,” then Maggie died.

As she moves slowly and awkwardly as she is unable to fly, “Why did I ever leave Maggie?” she mumbled to herself. “I have so far to go before I reach the cave. I hope he will forgive me.”

She stumbled onwards through the burning hot desert. Her throat was parched and she looked around for something to drink but couldn’t find water.

Her burnt wing throbbed with pain. After a long time she looked up and saw the cave. “Why did leave me Maggie?” asked Dog.

“Because Fox was faster,” replied Maggie.
While Magpie was hopping, she could already feel the blazing heat burning against her rough feathers. For the past thirty minutes, Magpie felt like she was about to lose it. She had been seeing mirages of Dog sitting on a log crying and whimpering for Magpie.

"I'm right here Dog, please stop crying," explained Magpie, but as Magpie got closer to the mirage of Dog he would just disappear.

Instead of hopping, Magpie started limping. All these memories of Dog and Magpie would suddenly just keep rushing to her head. "Oh I just hate myself for what I did to Dog. I was his missing eye and he was my wing!" Magpie roared.

In the faraway distance, Magpie could see trees with grass and flowers. Magpie was saying to herself, "Is this truly where Dog is?" and then a thought popped into her head, "No this is probably another mirage. I'm not falling for this trick again."

Magpie walked and walked until she arrived at sand and long green grass. It reminded Magpie of a border like how you cross into other countries. Magpie had gained the courage and stood to the grass. As her feet were positioned on the ground, Magpie waited for everything to disappear like the past mirages. After about ten seconds, Magpie suddenly started waving her good wing around. "It's a miracle! It's not a mirage! I'm coming Dog!"

Magpie rejoiced.

As Magpie was hopping along the bushes, she could feel bad vibes running up and down her spine. She could smell the same scent that Fox had. While she was thinking, Fox leapt out on top of Magpie. "You again," says Magpie trembling.

"Yes, it's me. Fox - the fastest runner in this whole land. What was your name again?" he asked sarcastically.

"Oh, I'm the bird you left in the middle of the desert!" burst out Magpie.

"Oh yes, you are the irritating little birdie whose wing was burnt in that dreadful bushfire. You know Magpie, I only left you to die alone without anyone giving you medical attention because you and Dog made me sick. I was all alone. My whole family died in that bushfire. I couldn't help them and seeing you and Dog rejoiced made me go ballistic! Since you didn't die out there, I'll kill you faster now," jabbered Fox.

As Fox clawed almost touched Magpie, Dog pounced onto Fox and started to bark. Dog finally scares Fox off and Magpie is relieved.

"Why did you leave me?" questioned Dog. "I was convinced by Fox. I didn't think it would go this far. I just want to say I'm sorry." Answered Magpie.

"I forgive you," said Dog.

Everyone is happy now except for Fox!

Magpie thinks, "How am I meant to get back to Dog. I can't fly." So she hops back to Dog and it takes her about two days to get back to Dog. When she gets back, Dog says to Magpie, "I thought you were not going to leave me. I was you wings and you were my missing eye."

"I know," says Magpie, "but Fox was faster."

"So are you calling my wings Thanks?" Dog asks. "I am going to find a better friend than you Magpie. We are done," says Dog.

Alexina R

Magpie struggles to make a step, her feet feel like fire as she stumbles over the hot, lifeless sand. She stops. In the distance she can see the bush and something else. It looks like Fox but there is something different. Everything goes silent. Magpie gets a chill down her spine even though she is in the hot lonely desert. Magpie blinks then the strange figure is gone.

Jiggly-hop, Magpie begins again. Magpie can feel herself fading away and then she thinks of how dog will feel without her. Seconds feel like minutes, minutes feel like hours and hours feel like days. After eight treacherous hours, Magpie reaches the bush. She stops to get some food and water and as she searches, she can hear eerie noises coming from each direction. She can feel herself being watched like a lion stalks its prey. Magpie freezes. Scarcely breathing, she is like this until everything turns black.

The next day Magpie awakens, her head pounding like the drums. She gazes at her feet. Then she looks around and soon realises she is at the river. She can see Dog's cave, but no Dog. Her feet are like balloons that are about to pop. The pain is tremendous but Magpie fights it. Jiggly-hop goes magpie. She gets two metres when a rather large figure jumps out of the bush. Magpie falls back and hits the ground with a thud. She struggles to her feet and her eyes slowly adjust.

"Magpie at last I have found you. Where have you been all this time?" says Dog, unsure whether to be happy or not.

"On a journey with Fox that I never hope to do again," whispers Magpie.

"Come on, I'll take you back to the cave, but don't do this again," says Dog.

"Okay," replies Magpie. "One question though, did you scream that scream of despair?" asks Magpie curiously.

"Yes I did because you are my eyes and I am your wings," whispers Dog.

Brad W

Magpie decides to stop for a rest from walking for so long. She stops by a river and some shady trees up ahead. "I think that would be a nice spot to rest," says Magpie to herself, running out of breath. "It's getting dark. I might stay here for the night."

Magpie collects some twigs, grass and leaves for her to lay on and sleep. She goes down to the water and with her good wing, runs some water on her other, burnt wing.

"It's morning now. I better get going," whispers Magpie hopefully. Sighing, she thinks of this long journey ahead of her and Dog - how he would feel, how he would react when she gets home. If she makes it home.

Her feet start to throb badly. Magpie wants to stop but she sees something in the distance. Excitedly, Magpie cries, "I think it may be home! I can't stop now. Dog will be waiting for me. I can't let him down again."

She takes another step and falls to the ground. With a release of air, Magpie gets her last words out. "Dog, I'm sorry. Please forgive me. Help me Dog, please."

Dog woke to find Magpie gone and has been looking around the cave but can't find her. Dog realises that she may be lost and decides to go out further and look for her in the bush. "Magpie, Magpie!" Dog shouts in horror. "Magpie, where are you?"

He sees something on the ground. It's black and small with a funny shaped body. He slowly approaches the object and takes in all the possible things it could be. "Oh no, it can't be Magpie. Nooo!" cries Dog.

Sitting there looking stunned, Dog lays his head down next to Magpie. "Oh Magpie, how things could have been different," he whispered in a desperate voice. "I should take you home now and lay you to rest."

Dog picks Magpie up with his big, gentle mouth and carries her back to the cave where her spirit will now roam. Dog is very upset but he won't worry too much because he knows that Magpie would not want him to dwell over her death and he knows that she is now in a better place and they will soon be reunited once again.

Shakira S

Magpie needed to get home to see if Dog would accept her apology for her big mistake. Then Magpie felt a twitch in her fragile wing. It started to move and then Magpie moved both of them at the same time and felt herself lifting off the ground. Her face was filled with excitement and she saw the black-ashed milo-like land below. In the distance, she saw the cave. She flew like never before and was so proud of herself. She saw Dog sitting down in the ashes howling and landed her flight. When Dog saw her, he jumped up and couldn't have been any happier. He was filled with joy that Magpie could fly and then they lived their life happy like no other life.

Amelie F
Days past, Magpie felt it was months as she walked through the stringy bark. She heard a rustle in the bushes. “Who’s there?” Magpie questioned. Nothing was said. “Who is there?” she screamed again.


“Oh you were so easy to fool, haha,” Fox taunted. “Mmm,” mumbled Magpie.

“So you’re going off to that dog thing? I think he needs an apology from us. Don’t you think?” Fox asked. “Yeah, from me, not you, you beast of a thing. Good day,” Magpie grumped.

Fox slid back into the bushes growling and Magpie trotted off. Just when Magpie was about to give up, she saw the mouth of the cave. Magpie rushed over and said, “Hello Dog.” The sound echoed through the cave. “Dog I’m here. Speak to me.”

The sound again echoed through the cave but a pair of red eyes glowed in the shadows inside the cave. Magpie went closer. The eyes were fox’s. Magpie went closer then without a sound – CHOMP went fox’s jaws, swallowing Magpie whole.

Magpie woke up in a flash. She murmured, “It was just a dream. Wow!” She saw Dog, then she snuggled against his warm tummy and drifted back to sleep.

**Jasmine N**

As Magpie walked in the hot, dry sand she thought for a moment. She saw the rustling leaves. “I wonder if Dog is thinking of me.” After a few days in the desert, Magpie suddenly recognised a dead tree she went past. “I’ve been going around in stupid circles!” she shouted in anger. “Now I’ll never find my way home to Dog thanks to Fox.” So Magpie went in a different direction and after a few hours made it safely back to the bush. Magpie had some trouble finding Dog but finally she found him. His fur looked like a rich red colour and sort of reminded her of Fox and as she walked closer and closer, she could smell a smell of rage, envy and loneliness. The animal turned around and Magpie realised that it was Fox. Fox, with his haunted eyes, glared at Magpie. “What have you done to Dog?” Magpie shouted. “What do you mean? I haven’t seen Dog for days,” explained Fox. “You’re a liar!” she said. Fox ignored her and ran off into the bushes. Then Magpie found the real Dog and ran over to him. As Dog turned around to go back to the cave, he heard someone calling his name. He looked up and surprisingly, saw Magpie. He jumped up in excitement. Dog ran to Magpie and the hugged tightly. “I’m so sorry Dog. I didn’t mean to go,” she said. “That’s ok,” said Dog. “I understand.” Then Dog and Magpie were back together in their friendship.

**Alyssa J**

As she is limping home she can hear something lurking in the bushes. The first thing that comes to her mind is Fox. Fox with his haunted eyes and red bushy coat. She turns to look but there is no sign of Fox so she continues her journey. A few hours later she decides to have a rest and sleep under the starry sky. Just before she drifts off to sleep she again hears something suspicious happen in the bush. It does not sound like a normal bush rustling so she decides to stay up a little bit longer. She hears nothing else that night. Early in the morning when birds are chirping and the sun is rising, Magpie slowly wakes up to a dog howling. “Dog,” she says. “Are you there?” Nothing is said.

After that she looks around finds out what is going on sticks lying on the ground beside her injured and burnt wing. She grabs it and thinks to herself, “How did this get here?” She refuses to use it for the journey but again finds another one lying on the ground as she walks past. A few hours later she arrives at the mouth of the cave where she had last seen Dog. He is nowhere to be seen. Her body hits the ground and she is feeling helpless and lonely. Then Dog runs out of the bushes and Magpie says, “So you were that suspicious noise in the bushes I kept hearing.”

Dog answers, “Yes.” Magpie dramatically apologises to Dog and he accepts. Magpie becomes Dog’s eyes and Dog become Magpies wings again. 

**Brodie F**

As Magpie walks home, she hears another scream. Yet again, she can’t tell if it is a scream of triumph or despair. “Well,” says Magpie, “I hope Dog is not looking for me. I don’t want us both to be lost. That would be dreadful.” Magpie continues walking. She stops at a stream for a refreshing drink of water. While Magpie is at the stream, she finds a short, sturdy stick that is the perfect size for her broken wing.

“Ah,” whispers Magpie, “this stick will make my trek back so much easier.”

Although Magpie thinks she is alone, Fox is lurking in the nearby burnt bushes. She carries on walking. Just as Magpie is about to take a rest, she hears a rustle in the bushes. “Who’s there?” she shrieks. Fox is silent. Magpie asks again, “Who’s there?”

Fox slowly limps out of the bushes. He no longer has a red bushy tail. “What on earth happened to you?” queries Magpie.

“I fell into a rabbit trap. My tail got caught,” replies Fox.

“Come back to dog with me. He deserves an apology from both of us,” says Magpie sternly.

“You’re right,” says Fox, “and I’m sorry for leaving you in the harsh desert. After another hour of walking together in the blazing heat, Fox and Magpie reunite with an extremely worried Dog. Where did you go?”

Questions Dog. I was so very worried for both of you, especially you Magpie, you poor old thing.”

“Fox and I have something to say to you,” says Magpie sadly.

“We are sorry,” says Magpie and Fox.

“That’s ok,” smiles Dog. “At least I know that you are both ok and safe. I want you to stay in the cave with me, but no running away.”

“Yes please!” cheer Magpie and Fox, “and we swear that we will never run away again.”

**Elena B**

Hours later, Magpie finally reaches the start of the thick green bush. She says to herself, “I’m almost there Dog. I’ll never give up.” At dusk she finds a place to sleep right next to a gently flowing creek. She has a drink and something to eat then goes to sleep. The next day starts with birds chirping and the sound of the creek water. Magpie’s belly starts rumbling and she mumbles tiredly, “I’m so hungry.” She peeks and scratches at the soft soil on the ground and gets out a worm. After that she gets going. “I’m on my way Dog. I’m on my way.” She promises to herself, “I will make it.”

About three hours later, she stops and sees a cave and thinks, “It’s it actually is!” Five minutes later she reaches the mouth of the cave and whispers, “Dog? Are you there?” “Magpie? Is that you?” questions Dog. “Why. Why did you leave? I thought you were my missing eye and I was your wings.”

Magpie replies, “I’m so sorry. Will you ever forgive me?”

“Yes of course I will!” says Dog cheerfully. Then they both fall asleep beside each other.

And so Magpie and Dog run every day. Fox is nowhere to be seen and they live the rest of their lives with each other happy and cheerful.

**Bayley S**
State Champions 2014
P & C Would Love to Hear Cracker Night Feedback

At the next P&C the committee meeting we would love to hear feedback from our parents and students regarding our recent Cracker Night. The evening was a huge success, and we are always eager to hear ideas on how to make it even better.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please fill out the following form and return it to the office where it will be passed on to the Committee. We value all input, and look forward to your suggestions and ideas.

**Cracker Night 2014**

Did you attend Cracker night this year? Y/N

Was this the first time you have attended? Y/N

How many people did you attend the evening with?

What did you enjoy the most about the evening?

Are there any additional stalls /activities you would like to see?

Did you enjoy the fireworks? Y/N

Comments:

Other Comments/Suggestions:

The King Street P&C Committee Values your Input and Support.