DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY
On Thursday 22 May, 62 students represented St Marys North PS at the District Cross Country. We were blessed with gorgeous sunshine at the Regatta Centre in Penrith. All children did an exceptional job and we are so very, very proud of you all. Many of our runners finished in the top 30 out of 100 competitors, WOW, and ALL children should be proud of their spectacular performances.

Special congratulations to the following students for their outstanding achievements:
Layla Spaulding 1st, Lydia Alderton 1st, Ronald David 3rd, Clarissa Alderton 6th, Pacey Spaulding 8th, Eliza Brooks Farmer 9th, Brent Brooks Farmer 11th, Rebekah Spears 10th, Jessica Humphries 10th, James Henshaw 10th, Tyren Ryan 12th and Olivia Pearson 13th. Layla, Lydia, Clarissa, Ronald and Pacey have now all qualified to run at the Regional Cross Country.

PARENTS WAITING OUTSIDE CLASSROOMS
Please be aware, that if you are sitting outside classrooms chatting that usually the windows are open. Sometimes voices and conversations can be heard inside the classroom which can be a distraction to the students learning in class. We would appreciate it if you could have your conversations away from the direct vicinity of our student’s classrooms. Thank you.

MUFTI DAY
The SRC will be holding a multi day for students on Wednesday 28 May. Please come to school in your favourite sport team colours. Participation cost for our non-uniform day is 20 cents. Thank you for your support.

TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?
As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It’s often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety’s sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E
Next week, there will be another ‘Coffee & Chat’ on Wednesday at 1.30pm in the Connected Classroom, next to year 4D. This is a great opportunity to come along in a very informal setting and have some Afternoon Tea with other parents. Again, there will be another presentation on ‘Maths in the Classroom’ with Mrs Duross-Smith. It doesn't matter if you have not previously attended as she will quickly take a look at what has been discussed and demonstrated in other sessions. What you will take away from the afternoon will be lots of ideas about how to help your children with Maths in a fun and easy way. As well, Mrs Robertson and Mrs Greenow will have more general information on parenting, learning difficulties, courses, local events and also be able to any answer questions you may have.

‘Coffee & Chat’ aims to make our school, a community to help and assist our parents/carers, students and each other in any way, we can. We still intend to focus on fostering a group where parents can meet and talk but we are also wanting to provide support for you to understand your children’s learning curriculum. We Hope to see lots of new faces on Wednesday. If you are unsure where we meet please go to the office and we will assist you..

ROOBY ROO
On Tuesday, we celebrated the opening of the Rooby Roo, Reading Verandah! Rooby Roo came along to see us and share in the first reading session for 2014. A big ‘Thank you’ to Mrs Roddy (6R) for standing in for Miss Campbell, after she was unable to attend, due to illness. We hope that Miss Campbell will be well enough next week to read to us. The students enjoyed the new books that were brought straight from the library to share. One book even had a kangaroo as a character in the story. Rooby Roo was very impressed! Come along each Tuesday from now on to join in with all the reading fun and Rooby will visit us again soon!!
MENTAL MATHS STRATEGIES
We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies, here: www.bit.ly/JkiUsY

PRINTABLE PLANNERS FOR HOMEWORK AND STUDY
School A to Z has printable monthly planners which include school holidays and the numbered weeks of each Term (for example Monday 19 May is the start of Week 4, in Term 2). Print one for each child to stick on the fridge or on their noticeboards. It’s a great way to teach them how scheduling their time means they’ll be able to fit in the fun activities as well as their other commitments and responsibilities. Download May 2014 at http://bit.ly/UbmqzB

PLAYGROUND AWARDS - Week 4
Walk quickly to class
KB  Siennah Smale
KH  Jaydaleah Browning
KJ  Aaliyah Sherman
KT  Abubakar Abdul-Rehman
1L  Gracie Haynes
1S  Chelsey Tideswell
1RW Hamza Abdul-Rehman
2B  Jordan Bradney
2V  Shaylee Blanchard
2/3A Mikayla Schell
3C  Skye Brough
3R  Jordan Sila
3/4W Jayden Brough
4D  Tyla Flack-Clifton
4/5A Jaylease Van Dorp-Browning
5P  Jeremy-Paul Humphries
6B  Mitchell Lysaght-Wright
6R  Maina Filo

KIDS MATTER
VALUE AWARDS - Week 4
Support (being kind, showing care and compassion)
KB  Charlee Collis
KH  Mia Huikuri
KJ  Kiarna-Lee Pagett
KT  Makayla Haack
1L  Mickaylah Holden
1S  Kasen Lee
1RW Nickalah Scarfone
2B  Juleita Holden
2V  Kristie Thoms
2/3A Emily Clavan
3C  Brielle Portelli
3R  Sommah Walsh
3/4W Kayden Price
4D  Cordelia Henshaw
4/5A Jayden Farr Robinson
5P  Yasmin Pijov
6B  Ronald David
6R  Daniel Scott
On Monday the 2nd June, the Jollybops Science Shows are coming to St Marys North Primary School to present science shows for all students in K-6. Each show aims to bring science alive through exciting, stimulating and interactive science demonstrations. The shows will increase the children’s knowledge and understanding of scientific principles and understanding. They are presented in a fun way, by the shows characters of Rusty The Roboct, The Jolly Professor and The Jolly Wizard. These shows have consistently been awarded the prestigious “Frater” award for a top ten touring act in NSW as voted by teachers and should not be missed.

There will be 2 sessions:
- K-2 will be attending the show entitled “Move and Groove with Energy”
- 3-6 will be attending the show entitled “Natural Phenomena and Energy”

The cost of the show is $6.00 per child.

Permission notes and payment should be handed in to the office by Friday May 30.