There is no day so full of promise as the first day of school!

Welcome back to the start of another great year. I trust that everyone had a restful break and that you are all recharged and ready for another exciting year.

Mrs Jean Barrett

It is with regret that I inform the school community of the sad passing of one of our much loved teachers Mrs Jean Barrett. Mrs Barrett passed away during the holidays. At this stage there will not be a funeral service but Mrs Barrett’s sons are intending to hold a service to celebrate Mrs Barrett’s life—the date is still to be confirmed. I have sent condolences and flowers on behalf of the staff and students of Nareena Hills Public School.

Tomorrow teachers of Years 2 –6 will inform the students of Mrs Barrett’s death. It would be appreciated if parents could also discuss Mrs Barrett’s death with their own children.

Mrs Barrett was a dedicated teacher who gave her very best to every student she taught. We will remember her fondly.

30 January—Day 1 for students Years 1 –6

As indicated last year, all students will return to their 2012 classes for day 1 and possibly day 2 of 2013. Once we have finals numbers of students we will form 2013 classes. Students are to meet their teachers in their 2012 class meeting place. We will not start the day in the hall.

KC  Mrs Cameron
K MB Mrs Relf
K/1 HB Mrs Stone
1B Miss Gibson
1/2T Mrs Thompson
2G Mrs Gray
2/3 F Mrs McPhee
3/4 PG Mrs Parker
3/4 B Mrs Brett
4/5 M Mr Haines
4/5 K Mr Kerin
5 /6 C Mr Cherubini
5/6 L Mrs Larkin

Mrs Giselle Coltman
Principal
Learning & Teaching

Teachers are learners too

The teachers spent the staff development day with staff from the Figtree Community of Schools learning about mathematics. Brian Tickle was employed by the NSW Department of Education and Training, Australia as a Mathematics Education Consultant for eight years (1996-2003). During that time he was responsible for helping teachers in the Taree District (64 schools) to develop activities, strategies and programs for improving student learning outcomes in mathematics for all students. He was also responsible for training teachers in the ‘Count Me In Too’ and ‘Counting On’ projects which were designed to show teachers how to help students to develop sound concepts, strong number sense and more efficient mental computation strategies. Since 2003 he has worked as an independent mathematics education consultant across Australia and overseas.

Teachers refined their knowledge regarding the use of open ended and investigation questions to assist students to further develop their mathematical reasoning and understanding. The day was very inspiring!

School Sport News

The school swimming Carnival will be held on Friday, 8 February at the University of Wollongong pool. All students in Years 3-6 and Year 2 students turning 8 years old this year are eligible to participate. Students will receive a note this week.

Community Notices

Tennis Gala Day-University of Wollongong Friday 1 February 2013 (brochure will be sent home this week)