Dear Parents & Grandparents,

A very short newsletter this week as I am in Tamworth today attending a Strategic Financial Management Workshop in preparation for the changes that are going to take place in this area in 2015.

**Sad News: Mrs Margaret Shutz**

Last Sunday evening our very dear friend and classroom helper, Mrs Shutz passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with Di and her family during this very sad time.

Mrs Shutz’s funeral will be held on Monday 22nd September, 2014 at the Gunnedah Lawn Cemetery commencing at 10.30am. Mrs Shutz was a former student of our school and has been a dedicated volunteer and classroom helper for well over 25 years. As a mark of respect, I would like as many of our students as possible to form a guard of honour at her funeral service. Please only send your child/children if you feel it is appropriate for them to attend. I ask that those attending, please wear full school uniform. I would like girls to be in their summer uniforms and boys to be in full school winter uniform wearing white shirts with blue ties please.

**Online Safety**

The internet provides an opportunity to enhance students’ learning experiences by providing access to vast amounts of information across the globe. All of our students (in particular our year 4, 5 & 6 students) are using internet and online communication services provided by the NSW DEC for the purposes of research, learning and communication between students and staff. Responsible use of the services by students, with guidance from teaching staff, will provide a secure and safe learning environment. At Carroll Public School students are being made aware of using the internet responsibly and of the Department’s Acceptable Usage policy but.......

**Our objective is to ensure responsible usage not only at school but at home as well.**

There are, as you are most likely aware, a range of safety and security risks associated with internet use, particularly at home where sites are unblocked. These include threats to our integrity, privacy and the security of financial transactions, as well as exposure to offensive and illegal content.
Attached to this newsletter is a pamphlet published by the Australian Government called ‘Protecting Yourself Online’. We ask please that you read this carefully, as it outlines six simple tips that you can take to protect yourself and your family online.

I thank Mr Butz for bringing this very important issue to the attention of our students.

**School Times**

A number of students are arriving at school between 8am and 8.15am. I ask please that your child does not arrive at school before 8.20am please. There is no official supervision before this time despite some members of staff being here at 8.00am. School officially starts at 8.30 am. Thankyou.

**Last Day Of Term**

The last day of this school term will be an out-of-uniform day for all students. They must however give a silver or gold coin donation for this privilege. Monies raised will go towards the cost of buying 8 sleeves for our new notepads.

This term has been very busy and as we all know, next term will be even busier. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and grandparents for your ongoing support of the students, staff and the school. It is such a pleasure to work with you all!

Finally, I would like to thank the students for their cooperative and very positive attitude to all aspects of school life, their ‘mostly’ hard work during Term 3 and above all, their care, kindness and consideration towards each other and the staff.

Please enjoy a very happy and safe ‘Spring’ holiday everyone,

Kind regards,

Christine