Principal’s Message

ANZAC DAY MARCH

Over the past years children from Murwillumbah PS have participated in the Murwillumbah RSL’s ANZAC Day March. Once again we will take part in this proud part of our local history. Children will be required to wear their full school uniform including a school hat on the day. We will meet all children outside the post office between 10.00-10.15am on the 25th.

We welcome parents to join us on 12th April 2013, at 10:15am for our ANZAC Day Service as we honour those people who have served Australia during times of war. Children are asked to bring flowers from their gardens on this day to be combined in floral tributes which will be displayed during the service. These floral wreaths and tributes will then be placed on the Murwillumbah War Memorial by our school captains following our school service.

Children who are members of community service groups including cubs, scouts, brownies, girl guides, air league, etc are permitted to proudly wear their service uniforms to school on Friday. At the conclusion of the Anzac Service, children will take part in our school cross country carnival (weather permitting).

What a fabulous Easter Celebration we had last week with K-6 students parading during our Easter Hat Parade. With 70 delicious Easter baskets raffled, lots of money was raised. Many many thanks to the fabulous staff who coordinated this special event and to the very generous community for not only donating the Easter eggs for the raffle but also for purchasing raffle tickets. A lovely afternoon was spent – students, staff and our community enjoying it together!

I would like to congratulate the many children at our school who each and every day turn up with a positive attitude, ready to work and strive to achieve the very best they can. These children set a fine example for other students in the
Principal’s Message Cont.

school. They are what I call “excellent role models” who demonstrate outstanding qualities. They are reliable, trustworthy, and honest and have gained the respect of their peers and teachers.

Often we see them receiving awards on weekly assemblies, being part of a school group where they give up their own time before and after school, recess and lunch. I see them in my office as proud as punch showing me the terrific work they have completed in class, we also hear them in the playground using manners that make us proud. These children help make our school a happy place to be. “Thank You” to these wonderful students, keep up the great work.

Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 10 TERM 1:

KK: Ava, Latoya
KL: Kohen, Adriana
1/2S: Emily, Kye
1/2W: Skye, Lachlan
2/3R: Tristan, Xanthia
3/4K: Dominic, Zali

4G: Daymen, Kyle
5/6F: Ava, Ryan
5/6J: Therese, Britney
5/6P: Daniel, Tiarn
Computers: Breanna, Logan

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 11 TERM 1:

KK: Rory
KL: Riley, Tiarna
1/2S: Vincent, Kiam
1/2W: Nick, Aurora
2/3R: Izabella, Manaia
3/4K: Taylah, Mia

4G: Zac, Emma
5/6F: Charles, Amy
5/6J: Anna, Taychenne
5/6P: Lucy, Kelsey
Computers: Lincoln, Charlie
Library: Jessica, Ayla

P & C News

Need help getting the kids interested in Maths?
Or looking for the best way to help with homework?
Then join us at our next P & C Meeting to meet with our guest speaker.
This is a great chance to ask questions and understand how this is helping our kids.

With a two week break almost upon us, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy break. Thank you to our parent community for your continued support, we look forward to working with you when we return next term.

When: Wed 8th May
Time: 6:30pm
Where: Staff Room

This is also a chance to meet other parents and get involved with the P & C – We are not just about fundraising ... we are about creating a better school experience for our children!
Sports News

NORTHERN RIVERS BALLET COMPANY
Congratulations to Alyssa for her outstanding achievements in ballet. Alyssa has been selected as a junior member of the Northern Rivers Ballet Company.
Approximately 30 classical ballet students auditioned from the ages of 7-18. Under the artistic direction of Fiona Munroe, the elite dancers from the Northern Rivers and the Gold Coast will perform to over 2000 local residents.
The 2013 tour includes performing 3 full length ballets (2hr shows) at Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah and Byron Bay. Alyssa will be required to train for approximately 100 hrs for the production in July.
Alyssa loves to dance, choreograph dances and thrives on participating in performances. She loves to be involved in any area of dance because it makes her happy. She loves to wear the beautiful dance outfits including gorgeous tutus.
She has been dancing in Murwillumbah since 2008. She is currently studying for her Grade 5 ballet exams which she will carry out this year. We wish you good luck in your dancing endeavours and we look forward to watching you perform in the Northern Rivers Ballet Company Productions in July.

Mur-bah Magpie News

CHANGE OF ROUTINE
1/2W and 5/6P will be changing their library days as of Term 2. 1/2W will now be on Thursday and 5/6P will now be on Monday.

2013 STATE MUSIC CAMP
The dates for State Music Camps this year are as follows:
State Senior Music Camp: Saturday 22 June – Thursday 27 June
State Junior Music Camp: Saturday 13 July – Thursday 18 July
Applications close on Wednesday 1 May 2013. Student applications are available at: https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/music/music-camps/music-camp-student-applications

TIPS ON HOW TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT
A recent report found that parents who actively engaged with both the school and community to enhance their child’s learning experience greatly added to the academic potential of that child. In our newsletter we will put one tip each week on how you can help your child progress.
Expect a Child to Achieve – having high expectations for children to achieve academically and in other ways encourages them to do their best. Let the child know that you are proud of them for trying their best, not for coming first in something.
A reminder that every year teachers and ancillary staff are provided with the opportunity to partici-
participate in a range of professional learning opportunities, at a school, regional and state level. School Development Days throughout the year provide us with the opportunity to learn, plan, program and reflect on our learning as educators and practices. This year the Department of Education and Communities has allocated an additional day for schools to undertake planning for the implementation of the Australian Curriculum. It is mandatory for primary school teachers to implement the new English curriculum during 2014, with Mathematics due for implementation in 2015 and History and Geography in 2016. This additional day is on Tuesday 30 April which is the second day of Term 2 (Monday 29 April is the scheduled School Development Day). With two School Development Days opening term 2 students will return to school on Wednesday 1 May.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM – LITERACY AND NUMERACY 2013

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2013 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard. Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained. The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 14–16 May 2013.

TUESDAY 14 MAY WEDNESDAY 15 MAY THURSDAY 16 MAY

Language conventions - (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation)

Writing

Reading

Numeracy - (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Measurement, chance and data; and Space)

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. Friday 17 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

• they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or

• they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions that severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments that reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students with vision impairment.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in
consultation with the principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, you must sign a parent/carer consent form. Consent forms are available at your child’s school. Please make an appointment with the school principal if you would like further information about your child’s participation in NAPLAN.
Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html

Upcoming Events

12th April  ANZAC Day Assembly  10:15am
School Cross Country-
1st May  Students return to School

COOL KIDS OOSH VACATION CARE
If you would like a copy of the Vacation Care program please If you would like a copy of the Vacation Care program please see the school office or call Tanya John on 0413483802

SUPER 8’S AFL
Super 8’s AFL for boys and girls aged 6-8 yrs. Commencing Wednesday 1 May for 10 weeks from 4-5pm at Rabjones Oval (Cricket Club) entry off Commercial Rd. Cost $35. Bring a water bottle and wear football boots, jerseys are supplied to play in. Come and try AFL. Contact Carol Robinson for more information on 0438135898

Community News

MISS TWEED COUNTRY BALLS
8pm start, Enquiries 02 6672 5361
Burringbar - April 13, Stokers Siding - April 20, Bilambil - May 11, Tumbulgum - May 18, Uki - June 1, Crystal Creek - June 15, Tyalgum - June 29, Chillingham - July 13

EXPERIMENTS IN 1/2W - WRITTEN BY NICK
Last Thursday we did a science experiment with Vanessa’s Mum.
Making a Monster:
Equipment we used: bottle, paper
Ingredients we used: tissues, baking powder, vinegar, food colouring
What we did:
Firstly:  We had a bottle and put drops of food colouring in it.
Next:  We used paper to make the tail and eyes
Last:  We put baking powder in a tissue and put it in the vinegar
What happened?  It exploded!