NOW ENROLLING KINDY 2015

Principals Message

Murwillumbah Public School will once again be celebrating Education Week with various performances plus open classrooms and a morning breakfast. We invite and encourage parents and friends to attend our activities and our open classrooms/morning breakfast tomorrow, 31st where the staff will be preparing a scrumptious breakfast. SRC representatives will collect donations as parents enter the front gates.

Our whole school assembly will begin at 9.15am with a special performance from our stage 1 choir!

Class leaders for this term will also be presented with their leaders badge during the assembly.

Congratulations to all our children who attended the District Athletics Carnival last week. I was very impressed with the way they conducted themselves throughout the day. The judges said they had never been thanked by students before in all their years of running carnivals and the ladies from Uki were taken back by the manners displayed by our children. Well done kids!

Parents of prospective Kindergarten students for 2015 have been beating a path to our door over the last week. It has been a pleasure to meet some of the boys and girls who are already excited about the step up to Big School. If you know of anyone intending to enrol for next year please encourage them to contact us soon.

Mrs Lack has purchased the transition shirts for our transition program which will commence on Friday 5th September at 9.30am for all our Kindergarten children commencing next year. Further information about this program will be sent home in the upcoming weeks.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Art Smart workshop planned for last week due to a lack of support from surrounding schools. The good news is that I have been able to re book this three day program from 4-6th November. This
Principals Message Cont

Regular attendance plays a vital role not only for students who are enrolled at and regularly attend school. The Education Act (1990) requires that parents ensure that children of compulsory school age attend school for the full term. Unexplained absences are considered as unauthorised by the Department of Education and recorded in the child’s attendance record. Research demonstrates a strong correlation between student learning, attendance at school, and improved life outcomes. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve educational success, and increase their career and life options.

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. The Department of Education requires a valid reason from parents and carers when their child is away from school. These may include:
- an unavoidable medical/dental appointment
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances
- being sick, or having an infectious disease.

If your child has to be absent or is absent, the school must be notified within seven school days of the absence occurring. This is usually by way of a note but can also be a phone call. Principals may decline to accept as satisfactory an explanation for an absence and will record that absence as unjustified. Principals may request medical certificates when absences explained as being due to illness are frequent or prolonged.

**Holidays**
Parents are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. However, if it is necessary to take holidays during school time, parents can apply for a Certificate of Exemption from attendance at school. This will ensure that absences are not recorded as unjustified.

Forms are available from the office.

**Arrival on time**
Arriving at school and class on time:
- ensures that students don’t miss out on important learning activities
- helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- reduces disruption to the class.

Late attendance is recorded as partial absence and will be run only for students from our school. We will be inviting around 15 children to attend this workshop.

Our Term 3 Aboriginal Education program involving Uncle Jimmy and Kate from the Family Centre is now under way. The children are looking at Aboriginal history, culture and beliefs, spirit, community, Elders stories, healing and a range of relationship and life skills topics will be covered during the eight week program. There will be lots of opportunities for children to share and contribute ideas, increase their self-knowledge, awareness and resilience and gain a greater understanding of culture and the community. No doubt, they will have lots of fun and enjoyment along the way.

**SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS**
This week our focus is to STAY SAFE. We can show this by walking on the concrete, including when it is raining, tucking our chairs underneath our desks so we can move around the room sensibly.

Staying safe is important both in the classroom and the playground. We can always follow the rules when playing out on the equipment at recess and lunch and always tell the teacher on duty if someone gets hurt.

Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Research demonstrates a strong correlation between student learning, attendance at school, and improved life outcomes. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve educational success, and increase their career and life options.

Conversely, students who take more time off school are at greatest risk of not achieving their full academic potential, dropping out of school early and experiencing long-term unemployment. The Education Act (1990) requires that parents ensure that children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school. Regular attendance plays a vital role not only in a child’s academic progress but also in their social and emotional development.

Music News

Bunyip Band and Concert Band have been cancelled this week and next week, due to Creative Arts Camp and the Sydney Choir Excursion. The bands will resume on the 11th of August.

Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 2 TERM 3:

**KL:** Danika, Hudson
**3/4H:** Evie, Keira

**KR:** Abbey, Kasen
**5/6P:** Adam, Lucas

**1SA:** Jordan, Lily
**Computers:** Hannah, Narla

**1W:** Sophie, Ava
**Library:** Ayril, Emily

**2/3G:** Kiarn, Nick

**2/3K:** Dorian, Joshua

School News

5/6K SCIENCE VISIT
On Wednesday the 23rd of July, 5/6K went up to Murwillumbah High School for a Science Day with Miss Turnbull. It was so fun! In the morning, we learnt about the 5 animal kingdoms and did some activities to do with these. We had to categorise animals into groups. Also in the morning we looked at some dead animals in jars. We had to categorise the animals into the appropriate sections. There were some ugly and cute animals in the jars but the toad scared me.

After lunch, it was time for the best time of the day. Squid dissection! The squid was so smelly so we opened up the windows. Miss Turnbull took us through the steps of what to do before we started. When we got the squid we had to weigh and measure it. Then we could get on with the dissection. The squid felt slimy and its suction cups weren’t that sticky. It was really messy.

By Shelby

**BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL**
On Monday and Tuesday this week, students from Year 3 to 6 had the opportunity to attend the Byron Bay Writers Festival. Sally Rippin and Andy Griffiths gave an insightful and very funny talk about what inspires them to write their books. Sally told the students that her imagination and life experiences shape the novels she writes. Andy shared the process of writing and working with an illustrator to produce the wonderful series The 39th-StoreyTreehouse. Both students and teachers enjoyed the Festival and were inspired to create some books of their own.

5F SCIENCE DAY
Last Friday 5F attended a Science day held at the Murwillumbah High School. Students discussed what Living Things, Once Living Things and Non-Living Things were. They were shown how living things are classified by observing the various different features of plants and animals. The students were also given the opportunity to visit the Aqua Centre where fish are bred and studied. The Agricultural Plot was a hit with the students as they had the opportunity to get up and personal with a number of animals. The afternoon session enabled the students to demonstrate their dissecting skills as they were able to dissect a squid looking for and identifying the different parts of the animal. A great educational day was had by all.
Sports Shorts

DISTRICT ATHLETICS
Last Thursday 56 students from Murwillumbah Public School attended the Murwillumbah District Athletics Carnival on the Murwillumbah High School Oval. All students who participated approached the day with a great deal of enthusiasm and the results that they achieved reflected the effort that they put into their respective events.

Results from the day are as follows:
Cate – 4th /100m; 4th /200m; 2nd /800m
Chelsea – 3rd /200m
Ella – 3rd /800m
Katori – 1st Shot Put
Emyleigh – 2nd Shot Put; 2nd Discus
Senior Girls Relay – 2nd (Emyleigh, Cate, Chelsea, Jahliah & Britney)
Zach – 2nd /100m; 3rd /200m; 4th /800m; 1st Long Jump
Riley – 3rd /100m; 1st /200m; 3rd Shot Put
Joe – 1st 800m
Adam – 2nd Shot Put
Ryan – 1st Discus
Junior Boys Relay – 3rd (Zach, Jacob, Ruben, Cooper)

From these results all the above mentioned students have qualified to attend the Far North Coast Carnival in Byron Bay on Friday 15th August. Good luck to all students.

TOUCH FOOTBALL
On Monday our boys and girls Touch Football teams participated in a gala day in order to complete the first four rounds of the PSSA Knockout competition. Both teams put in a great effort in their matches with the girls team progressing to round five.

SCHOOL INTENSIVE SWIMMING SCHEME - YRS 2-5
This is a very important program for your child to participate in. It commences Monday 11th August 2014 for 10 days. Permission notes sent home today, must be returned before Wednesday 6th August.

Science Discovery Workshops
On Thursday 14th August K-6 will be learning about Gravity and Motion through hands on activities provided by the Science Discovery Project. Some of the activities include light, sound, electricity, magnetism, solar energy and simple chemical reactions. The cost of the workshop is $1.00 which has been subsidised by the school. Please return the following permission note and money by the 13th of August.

Science Discovery Workshop Permission Note

I give permission for my child/children __________________________ to attend the Science Discovery Workshop to be held at Murwillumbah Public School on Thursday 14th August. Please find enclosed my payment of $1.00 per child.

_________________________________   __________________________
Parent/Guardian        Date

www.murwillumb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
ICAS RESULTS
The NSW University’s International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) results for Science and Computer Skills were distributed at today’s morning assembly.

Congratulations to all students for the efforts and the results are as follows:

**Computer Skills**
- Year 6 Shelby Merit
- Year 6 Garrett Participation
- Year 6 Ella Participation
- Year 5 Cedar Distinction
- Year 5 Zac Participation
- Year 4 Amy-Lee Participation
- Year 4 Holly Participation
- Year 4 Daniel Participation
- Year 4 Ben Participation
- Year 3 Jamie Participation
- Year 3 Cooper Participation
- Year 3 Luke Participation
- Year 3 Ayla Participation
- Year 3 Cooper Participation
- Year 3 Griffin Participation
- Year 3 Vanessa Participation

**Science**
- Year 6 Alyssa Participation
- Year 6 Garrett Participation
- Year 5 Joe Credit
- Year 5 Cedar Participation
- Year 3 Jamie Credit
- Year 3 Ben Participation
- Year 3 Luke Participation
- Year 3 Cooper Participation
- Year 3 Griffin Participation
- Year 3 Lachlan Participation

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Canteen Roster

**MONDAY**
- 3rd August
  - 4th August Sydney Choir Excursion
  - 5th August Sydney Choir Excursion
  - 6th August Sydney Choir Excursion
  - 7th August FNC Athletics
  - 8th August Bookweek
  - 9th August 10th August 11th August 12th August 13th August
  - 14th August FNC Athletics
  - 15th August Bookweek
  - 16th August 17th August 18th August 19th August 20th August
  - 21st August Bookweek
  - 22nd August Bookweek

**WEDNESDAY**
- 3rd September
  - 4th September 5/6P Science Day at MHS
  - 5th September 10am-2pm WHS Yr 5 Sports
  - 6th September FNC Athletics
  - 7th September District Public Speaking
  - 8th September 9th September 10th September
  - 11th September District Public Speaking
  - 12th September

**THURSDAY**
- 30th July
  - Big Breakfast Book Fair
  - 1st August

**FRIDAY**
- 1st August
  - 2nd August
  - 3rd August
  - 4th August
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  - 25th August
  - 26th August
  - 27th August
  - 28th August
  - 29th August

If you are unable to do canteen on your rostered day please notify Debbie (0422 698 542) or the School ASAP, so a replacement can be found in time.

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Community Notices

**TWEED HEADS & COOLANGATTA**

**SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB - GREENMOUNT BEACH NIPPERS SIGN-ON DAY**

**SUNDAY 14TH OF SEPTEMBER 9AM - 11AM**

OASIS POOLS, BANORA POINT

Must be 5 years of age as at the 30th of September 2014. Please remember to bring togs and goggles. Entry of $3.50 applies for swimmers only at the pool.

**CABARITA BEACH SLSC**

Nippers Sign On Day Sunday 31st August 2014 8:30 - 12:00pm Great Friends, Fitness & Fun!

OASIS POOLS, BANORA POINT

Must be 5 years of age as at the 30th of September 2014. Please remember to bring togs and goggles. Entry of $3.50 applies for swimmers only at the pool.

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**CALENDAR**

**Term 3**

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**Canteen Roster**

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Touch Football Gala Day