Principals Message

We’re well and truly into the swing of things at Murwillumbah.
After the usual organisational hustle and bustle of the first few weeks our classes are hives of activity, and a range of programs have kicked off around the school – social skills, sport, music and academic enrichment to name a few.

On Wednesday the 18th, we will be holding our Senior Citizens concert.
The children are looking forward to performing for all our Senior Citizens and a number of community members.
We hope to see many grandparents and friends as possible. The concert will commence at 10.00am. A morning tea will be held immediately after the concert. We ask parents to support us by providing a plate of food that can be used for morning tea…cakes, biscuits etc.. We will send home a reminder note next week.

There’s a lot more to come at Murwillumbah so stay tuned.

In the previous newsletter I reminded parents about forwarding payment for text books and other school items that your child has received. Once again, many thanks to those parents who have forwarded payments for these items. In the near future, students will be bringing home family invoices to confirm the balance owing per student. Prompt payment would be greatly appreciated.

Our newsletter is produced fortnightly and is available for viewing via the school’s website at: www.murwillumb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
It can also be viewed by downloading a free app on your smart phone - School Stream.
This app is a school to parent communication tool and provides an easy way to tell parents and carers everything you need to know about school news, newsletters, events calendar, cancellations, school notices, school information, school timetables, school documents and much more.
No more lost paper in school bags! It is also a way to reduce the environmental impact of printing the newsletter and we ask for your support by accessing and viewing the newsletter online, where possible.
Further information about how to download School Stream is on the last page of this newsletter.

If you do not have access to the internet and require a hard copy of the newsletter please refer to the attachment on the last page of this newsletter. This will enable your child to be given a paper copy of each newsletter.

If you have more than one child at the school your eldest child will receive the paper copy. This procedure will commence on Wednesday 18th March.

Congratulations to the following children from 6W who have visited my office to show me their terrific work. They are really enjoying their unit of work on Rainforests.

Adam, Will, Zachary, Seth, Emma S and Emma J, Jade and Charlie

and from 1/2S Cowan and Narla.

We are currently in the process of developing our school plan for the next three years. This process involves staff, students and community members.

Outside the school office, I have placed up our three strategic directions for 2015-17. You may view these if you are visiting the office.

Natalie Hall is the community rep. If at any stage, you would like to speak to Nat about input, please don’t hesitate to contact her.

From time to time I will include websites that I feel can be of assistance to parents. The following websites are well worth a look as they provide very useful information.

Helping your kindergarten child succeed at school
A great way to kick off your child’s formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom.

Find out more:

Speech problems
All children learn how to talk and listen at different rates but did you know there’s a general pattern to your child’s language development?

Find out more:

Please be aware that our Canteen is getting desperate for volunteer helpers. Volunteering in the canteen is a fun way to be involved in your child’s school. You get a chance to meet their friends and get to know the other children and staff at MPS. If you can assist, even if only for a few hours per month, please contact the school office.

Have your work, home or mobile telephone numbers changed in the past few months? Has your nominated person for the school to contact in case of emergency changed or have his/her contact details changed?

If contact details have changed and you haven’t yet informed the school, please notify the school office so that school records can be updated.

Murwillumbah P & C Association
Our new committee for 2015 was elected at the last P&C Meeting held last week. Thank you to the following parents for your support of our school:

President – Natalie Hall
Vice Presidents-Amanda De Lyon & Sandra Paddock
Treasurer – Rebecca Inglis
Secretary – Megan Lindsay
Uniform Committee- Amanda & Sandra

I hope the school community get behind our P&C and lend as much support as possible throughout 2015. The end result….YOUR child is the one who will benefit from your support.

Have a great week

Regards
Les Daley
Principal
Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 5 TERM 1:

KL: Sam, Mathew
KP: Rylee, Oliver
1K: Kasen, Arden
1/2S: Narla, Joshua
2H: Cree, Ava
2/3G: Millie, Stella
4P: Karsha, James
4/5A: Kimberly, Jordan W
5/6K: Sammy, Avalon
6W: Madjenta, Joe
Library: Keira, Emma J
Mrs Taylor: Riley A, Leyah

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 6 TERM 1:

KL: Zalee, Zavier
KP: Neveah, Eli
1K: Leyah, Riley P
1/2S: Chloe, Jacob
2H: Lincoln, Lily E
2/3G: Maighsi, Bruno
4P: Alexie, Cooper
4/5A: Bronte, Ruben
5/6K: Taylah, Dom
6W: Kiarra, Brock
Library: Hamish, Nevaeh
Mrs Taylor: Kaitlyn, Connor C

School News

CHICKENPOX (VARICELLA)
There has been a reported case of chickenpox in students from our school.

Symptoms- Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab.

How can I help prevent spread?
Keep students home from school for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried.
Pregnant women and anyone with a compromised immune system (e.g. due to cancer or certain treatments) may require preventive treatment and/or exclusion for their own protection. Contact your local public health unit for advice. Immunise your child at 18 months of age against chickenpox. Immunisation is recommended for children at 12 years if they are not immune.

HEAD LICE
I am writing to advise that we suspect that nits/head lice are present in the hair of some students within the school. The source of hair lice is almost impossible to trace, but we do know that the infestation travels quickly.
Would you please check your child’s hair tonight and if you find any eggs or lice then please commence treatment as recommended as soon as possible.

CONDITIONER AND FINE TOOTH COMB METHOD
1. Apply conditioner to dry hair aiming to cover each hair from root to tip with a layer of conditioner.
2. Detangle the hair using an ordinary comb.
3. Immediately comb the hair with a fine tooth comb.
4. Wipe the conditioner off the fine tooth comb onto a paper tissue and look for eggs and lice.
5. Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least 5 times.
6. Also examine the comb for lice and eggs.
The Department of Education & Communities considers that the detection and treatment of head lice in children is a parental responsibility.
BUDDY READING
Students in Stage 1 and 3 have been enjoying getting to know each other AND practising their reading/listening skills, by participating in Buddy Reading.
1K and 6W meet every Tuesday and Thursday, and 1/2S and 5/6K every Monday and Thursday.
Each student has a buddy, and for just 10 minutes a day, the younger students have already impressed their buddies! Stage 3 love listening to their buddies read, as well as stamping their reading charts.
The playground also seems a happier place, where buddies greet each other, and are always willing to lend a helping hand.
6W and 1K are very excited about their first buddy lesson, where they will work together this Thursday to create a poster “How to be a good friend”.

Canteen Roster
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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<td>Liz H</td>
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P&C News

A big thank you to the many families that were involved with the P&C in 2014, we look forward to your continued support in 2015.

The P&C AGM was held last week and saw a small change to the executives.

President: Natalie Hall
Vice Presidents: Amanda DeLyon and Sandra Paddock
Minutes and Social Secretary: Megan Lindsay
Correspondence Secretary: Sandra Paddock
Treasurer: Rebecca Inglis.

We look forward to supporting the students and families of Murwillumbah Public School with new initiatives this year.

P&C meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6.30pm in the library.

EASTER RAFFLE

The P&C will be holding an Easter egg raffle this year. We are asking all families to please donate an Easter egg or Easter gift so we can have a number of prizes for the raffle. Please place your donations in the box in the office. A book of raffle tickets and more information will be sent home soon.

Sports Report

In the next few weeks we will see many sporting events taking place which will involve many of our students. Softball and Cricket teams are being prepared for their PSSA Knockout Competitions.

We will also see a mixed Hockey being organised to participate in the Fitzpatrick Shield.

Students will be notified shortly if they have been selected to attend the District Winter Trials in the sports of Soccer, Rugby League, Netball and Hockey.

Last Monday Sid and Charlie attended the FNC Tennis trials which were held in Alstonville. Both boys were great ambassadors for our school and participated in the right spirit. Charlie was successful in being selected to attend The North Coast Tennis trials in Grafton on Monday 16th March. We wish him the best.

Next Sunday and Monday Joe will be attending the North Coast Cricket selection Trials in Sawtell. Good luck Joe and all the best.
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<td>16th March</td>
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<td>18th March Senior Citizen Concert</td>
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<td>23rd March Zone PSSA Trials</td>
<td>24th March Rugby League</td>
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<td>26th March School Cross Country</td>
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<td>30th March</td>
<td>31st March</td>
<td>1st April Easter Hat Parade</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
<td>3rd April PUBLIC HOLIDAY GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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School Holidays Tuesday 7th April - Monday 20th April
Students return to school Tuesday

**Community Notices**

**FREE AUTISM WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES**
Like all school aged students, children with autism spectrum disorder benefit from strong, positive relationships between home and school. Positive Partnerships uses evidence based materials and practical resources to help support these relationships by facilitating workshops for parents and full time carers in your local community.

Details for the upcoming 2 day workshop:
Dates: March 24 and 25th 2015 at Twin Towns Club & Resort
Cost: FREE- including resources, lunch, morning tea and refreshments.
Full details and online registrations at www.positivepartnerships.com.au
This workshop is funded as part of an Australian Government Department of Education initiative to support school age children with ASD across Australia.

**LOW-COST DOG & CAT DE-SEXING**
Friends of the Pound are offering low cost dog & cat de-sexing in the Tweed Shire!
Price on application.
Bookings & payment are at our Rehoming Booth at Petbarn, Harvey Norman Centre, 29-41 Greenway Drive, TWEED HEADS SOUTH, NSW T: 07 5524 8590

www.murwillumb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Our school now has a free app to deliver school information, instantly and directly to your smartphone.

How to get the School Stream app on your mobile device

1. From your mobile device go to the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android), search for School Stream and download the app to your phone.
2. Once School Stream has finished installing, open the app, type your school name into the search then select your school.
3. Are your children attending different schools? Tap the school selector, select add a school, type the school name* into the search then add. Jump between your children's schools by touching the school name/logo in the top blue bar, or switch schools from the slide-in menu.

*Any additional schools will need to be licensed users of School Stream to appear in the app.

Choose what notifications you receive

1. Open the School Stream app on your mobile device
2. From the slide-in menu, go to Settings
3. Under Edit/Alerts select My Schools and select your School to open the Notifications page
4. Toggle notifications on or off individually (e.g. Alerts, Events, Newsletters, etc.)
5. When you have finished, use the Back button to return to the Settings page, then select Done to return to your School

Don't have a smartphone?

If you don't have access to a smartphone and require information to be delivered via traditional methods (printed notices, email please fill out the form below and submit it to the office.

Family name: ____________________________________________

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Please indicate the reason:

☐ I don't have access to a smartphone (e.g. iPhone, Android, etc.)
☐ I prefer not to receive information from the school on my smartphone
☐ Other (please specify) __________________________________________________________