Principals Message

Welcome to Education Week...
This week we acknowledge and celebrate Education Week along with all public schools across New South Wales.

Today I spoke at our Assembly about how proud I am of the endless opportunities the children receive at Murwillumbah Public School. Opportunities that provide students with the chance to be involved in many extra curricular activities. These opportunities are offered because of our wonderful Public Education System. Whether it is sport, mathematics, music, writing, art, dance, public speaking, camping (just to name a few) Murwillumbah children are always actively involved in their own Education. I want to acknowledge the wonderful staff at Murwillumbah who often go beyond the call of duty to ensure that children at our school, are looked after and cared for in a safe and caring, (Public Education) learning environment.

Thank you to the many families who have already expressed interest in their child attending Murwillumbah Public School for Kindergarten in 2016. We have had a lot of interest from current and new families, which is very exciting. We’ll be starting with the first of our transition activities on Friday 4th September. Mrs Lack has ordered our Kindergarten transition shirts and we are looking forward to seeing our transition children on the 4th September. We will be contacting families who have returned enrolment forms with more details.

Last week the Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli launched the Quality Teaching, Successful Students (QTSS) package which is a powerful tool to improve the quality of teaching in our public schools with primary students enrolled. As part of the NSW Government’s Gonski commitment, $224 million is being invested over the next four years to provide the state’s best teachers time to work with their colleagues to make a real difference to the quality of teaching and learning in our primary school classrooms. Feedback from principals has reinforced the need for more money, more time and greater decision making powers to allow them to make a real difference to the outcomes of their students. QTSS will allow for teacher development to occur through collaboration with colleagues; an approach research tells us is best practice for improving the quality of teaching.
QTSS is an example of the NSW Government’s evidence-based education reforms - a journey we started back in 2011. QTSS recognises the vital importance of quality teaching in the primary years of schooling, providing principals with the flexibility to continue real shifts in practice.

With this significant investment comes high expectation. Principals need to use this opportunity to make sure changes are made in their schools that lead to improved student outcomes. Principals will demonstrate this improvement to their communities through the Annual School Report, using the School Excellence Framework to assess and validate the improvement to teacher practice and teacher results.

This resource will be made available to schools through a phased implementation.

Good luck to our recorder group who will be heading to Sydney to perform at the Sydney Opera House in two weeks. Mrs Armour and Mrs Power will be travelling with the children. I know the children are looking forward to the trip and we wish them all the very best.

This week we will be commencing a new initiative at Murwillumbah. Each Thursday, four different classes will be involved in special art classes for one hour. We will be employing a teacher to work with our children looking more closely at developing their artistic talents.

I will be heading to Darwin this weekend for a few weeks. Mr Gamble will be joining me a week later to accompany the NSWPSSA Rugby League team as they take part in the Australian Championships. Mrs Hill, Mrs Power and Mrs Watkins will be relieving for me at different stages. Mr Rosenbaum will be covering these classes during the three weeks. Mrs Lindsay will be taking 3G during Mr Gamble’s leave. Mrs Phillips will be covering for Mrs Armour while she is in Sydney. Mrs Robinson will be taking 4/5A during weeks 4 and 5 while Mrs Anderson takes some long service leave.

Next year as our major excursion we are offering the children entering years 4, 5 and 6 (2016) the opportunity to attend an excursion to Canberra. This will involve the chance to travel to the snow and take part in a two hour ski lesson by professionals. All ski and clothing hire is included as well as lift passes for the day. The children will also visit the Electoral Centre, Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, National Art Gallery, Telstra Tower, Australian Institute of Sport, Questacon and the Canberra Information Centre. Accommodation for three nights at the YHA Canberra City including all meals is included.

The children will depart on Sunday afternoon the 24th July and return Friday Morning 29th July. We will need to make bookings for accommodation and other facilities in the very near future.

Next week we will be sending an expression of interest if you would like your child to attend. You will need to complete the expression of interest note that will be forwarded to all children entering year 4, 5 and 6 in 2016 along with a small deposit.

Woolworths Earn and Learn
It’s Back!! Woolworths Earn and Learn promotion commenced on 15th July and goes till Tuesday, 8th September 2015. For every ten dollars you spend you earn a sticker and that is tallied so that our school can collect points towards much needed art supplies, science supplies and possibly games for the classroom. We have a box outside the front office that you can place your stickers in. Our target this year is 30 000 points. The sticker sheet can be downloaded from the website: www.woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

A warm welcome to Desley Watterson who has replaced Mrs Percy in the front office. Desley will be with us until the end of the year and brings a great deal of experience. If you are visiting the front office, please introduce yourself and welcome Desley.

Enjoy your week
Regards
Les Daley
Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 2 TERM 3:
KL: Martha, Zalee
KP: Awinya, Brodie
1K: Ari, Jack
1/2S: Chloe, Josh
2H: Tristan, Bree
2/3G: Jahlow, Jack G
3P: Carlton, Paige
4P: Karsha, Brielle
4/5A: Ruby, Rhiannon
5/6K: Claire, Thomas
6W: Jordan, Cole, Will
Library: Poppy, Willow

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 3 TERM 3:
KL: Hamish, Poppy
KP: Eli, Ammarah
1K: Mia, Keiralee
1/2S: Danika, Noah
2H: Aurelia, Nino
3P: Kaytiarne, Charlie
4P: Taylor, Jake
4/5A: Bronte, Jordan W
5/6K: Jerson, Qeada
6W: Jenna, Kayla

School News

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION AND ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS (ICAS)
Congratulations to all the following students who sat the Digital Technologies test.
Year 6 Cedar Credit
Year 5 Cooper Merit
Ben Participation
Griffin Participation
Kathleen Participation
Year 3 Nara Merit
Thomas Participation
Anna Participation

Congratulations also to all the students who sat for the science exam. This is the first time ICAS has designed a Science exam for Year 2. So well done to all the Year 2 students who participated.
Year 2 Ruby Credit
Aurelia Credit
Tiarna Participation
Blake Participation
Year 4 Karsha Participation
Griffin Participation
Kathleen Participation
Cooper Participation
Year 6 Joe Credit
P&C News

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN 2015

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is shop for your groceries at Woolworths.

From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it’s complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the school or at your local Woolworths.

At the end of the promotion, we’ll be able to get some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English, Science and some fantastic fun supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our library. If you’d like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

The next P&C meeting is to be held on 26th August at 6.30pm. The P&C patrons have been invited to attend this meeting and enjoy supper with us. Children are welcome to attend all P&C meetings and it would be great to see some new faces at the meetings.

The P&C will be holding a Fathers Day stall later in the term, keep an eye out for the details and a Fete is scheduled to be held on September 4th, again more details will be forwarded shortly.

Natalie Hall
P&C President

Canteen Roster

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<tr>
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<td>August 3rd -</td>
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<td>Kat G</td>
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<td>August 10th-</td>
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<td>August 17th -</td>
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<td>Kat G</td>
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<td>August 24th -</td>
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<td>30th July Creative Arts Camp</td>
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**Education Week 27th July - 31st July 2015**

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<td>12th August Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6</td>
<td>13th August Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6</td>
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<td>18th August Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6</td>
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<td>20th August Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6</td>
<td>21st August Swim Scheme Yrs 2-6</td>
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<td>24th August School Public Speaking Finals</td>
<td>25th August 6W M/Bah HS Science Day</td>
<td>26th August</td>
<td>27th August Uni bound Yr6 Day</td>
<td>28th August</td>
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<td>31st August 10:30-1pm RSL Legacy Day</td>
<td>1st September</td>
<td>2nd September District Public Speaking Finals</td>
<td>3rd September Kindy Transition Pgm Commences</td>
<td>4th September School Fete</td>
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<td>14th September Pottsville Camp</td>
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www.murwillumb-p.schools.nsw.edu.au