Student Leaders and Buddies

Congratulations to our new student leaders and their families. It was lovely to see so many parents celebrating this achievement. We have a great group again this year and they have already begun their role as a voice for their fellow students as well as planning the first fund raising event.

There are so many worthwhile charities and causes that we try to rotate our favourite causes on a biannual basis. The children discussed the fact that Cancer has touched many of their families and or family friends and therefore the decision was made to raise money for Cancer Research. This will be held on the last Thursday of Term One and funds will be raised by an “Opposites” Mufti day. More information will be sent home closer to the date.

Congratulations to our brave Kindergarten students who stood on our stage for the first time while their Year 6 buddies presented interesting descriptions of their buddy.

Easter egg draw

Although chocolate is a sometimes food, it is also a favourite of most people. Our Easter draw has been very successful fund raiser for our school and these funds will go towards the purchasing of teaching resources, musical instruments and technology for each classroom.

Families are asked to donate Easter Eggs as prizes and will receive raffle tickets to sell over the next month. The draw will be held on Thursday 27th March.

Professional learning

All our staff are committed to being “Life Long Learners”. New reforms such as “Great Teaching, Inspired Learning”, have now mandated the hours of professional learning required by teachers. All teachers must meet strict criteria and standards to maintain their accreditation. The school’s accountability is published through Annual School Reports and the Management Plan, reported against ongoing evidence from both internal and external evaluation and linked to The School Excellence Framework.

The Department of Education (DoE) are currently developing standards and professional learning for our School Administration School Support Team (SASS) to support them with imminent changes.

This week I attended a 3 day conference in Sydney which covered all aspects of the principal role, school management and most importantly how to achieve improved outcomes for our students.

Last week Miss Cooper received training to support individualised learning plans and throughout the term Mrs Hutchinson will continue her Reading Recovery training. Mr Priestley participated in a Stage Two Collegial Day; Mr Sky is
attending a Stage One Literacy, Language and Learning (S1L3) course today which will continue throughout the year, while Mrs McKenzie will continue to train in the Kindergarten L3 training. If you are interested in knowing more about the above information please contact our school office.

Clean Up Australia before anyone else does!
Students did a great job cleaning up our beautiful school grounds last week. Mr Sky discussed the rubbish collection with the students and it was noted that the rubbish was more on the perimeters of the school and definitely not left by our students. Students also displayed a good understanding of recycling and reusable rubbish. Well done everyone!

Year 2 to 6 Swimming for sport - HELP REMINDER!
We need lots of volunteers to run our swimming lessons on Fridays 11/3 & 18/3 at Alstonville and at our swimming carnival on 1/4 at Lismore Pool. We cannot run this program without parent help. Please return the attached slip if you are able to help.
Here is a very relevant and thought provoking quote reflecting the essential skills today’s students require: “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn” - Alvin Toffler

Michelle Slee
Principal

Value Review for Weeks 5 & 6: “INTEGRITY

High School Open Nights
Kadina High Campus: Wed 9 March
Lismore High Campus: Tues 8 March
Richmond River High Campus: Thurs 10 March

Notes due in
Kindy Northern Star Permission ASAP
Ethics /Scripture Note ASAP
Swimming for sport Friday 4th March

Bus Safety Excursion
On Monday Mr Sky and Mrs McKenzie took their classes on an excursion around Clunes. The children had a wonderful time travelling on Pat’s bus and learning all about the rules that help them and their friends travel safely on the bus.

P & C News
Thank you to Innes and Steve for kicking off the first canteen for the year. If anyone else would like to do a canteen day, we are looking for someone to do canteen in March. If you would like to do a canteen day you have free choice in what you would like to serve and how you would like to run the day. Please contact me on snaily363@hotmail.com
Thank you to everyone who came along and helped at the welcome BBQ and thank you to the amazing staff at Clunes for looking after our children so that we could all get the information we needed to start off the school year. Monday the 7th of March is the next P&C meeting. It is the AGM so please come and show your support.
Our biannual Trivia Night extravaganza is on the 14th of May. Save the date and start thinking about gathering your mastermind team together. $15 per person, tables of 10 and prizes galore. Theme for the night will be announced at a later date.

We have been focusing on nature at COOSH recently. Laura took the children on a nature walk and collected flowers to transform into paint, using a soaking technique to utilise their natural dyes and colours. Hannah brought in a selection of artefacts from her garden, including a birds nest, for children to experiment on artistically, using different splatter painting and brush work. The effect was dramatic and the process messy and fun!
If you have any special skills that may be of interest to the children, please talk to Hannah as we are seeking to involve members of the community in our program. We are also looking for new committee members. If you are interested in volunteering please let one of our COOSH educators know.
25th February 2016

Dear Parents,

All Year 2 to Year 6 students will be participating in a swimming program on Friday 11/3 and Friday 18/3 at Alstonville Pool, 10:30 – 11:30am. Students will also participate in a Clunes Swimming Carnival at Lismore Memorial Baths on Friday 1/4. The two week program and school swimming carnival caters for all abilities, from non-swimmers to stroke correction and increased endurance.

This program will be run by our 3 attending teacher and we must also provide adequate supervision for safety and maximum participation. We must have parent helpers to assist staff with this supervision. If you can assist us in this program for even just one day it will help to share the load and allow the program to go ahead.

Please write your name on the day/s you are available on the roster below and return to our school office if you are able to help.

Parents can meet the students at Alstonville pool at 10:30 on the 11/3 and 18/3 and at Lismore Memorial Baths on 1/4 or they are welcome to travel on the bus which leaves school at 9:50 and returns approximately 1pm (later on the swimming carnival day)

Please also indicate whether you have completed and returned a “Working with Children Check Form” or you would like one sent home.

Michelle Slee
Principal

PARENT HELPER ROSTER FOR TERM ONE SWIMMING

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<tr>
<th>FRIDAY 11/3</th>
<th>FRIDAY 18/3</th>
<th>FRIDAY 1/4</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALSTONVILLE</td>
<td>ALSTONVILLE</td>
<td>Lismore</td>
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<td>10:30 – 11:30</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:30</td>
<td>10:30 – 1PM</td>
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I can help on the above day/days. Name (Printed) _______________________

Please circle

Yes, I have completed and returned a Working with Children Check form and returned it the school office.

No I have not completed a Working with Children Check form and need one sent home.

Signed ___________________________    Contact No ______________________