P & C MEETING
9th MARCH 2015 6.30PM
Tonight at our P & C Meeting will also be the annual AGM – all position will be declared vacant at this meeting. Please consider holding one of the executive positions.

Principal’s Message

Congratulations to Joel Crockford for representing the Lower North Coast at the regional swimming carnival.

Clean Up Australia
Our annual Clean Up Australia event was conducted on Friday afternoon. Our students had the opportunity to clean up our school, the cemetery and some of our local streets. It’s so important that our students share in the understanding that the responsibility for our environment is everyone’s responsibility. I was shocked by the rubbish problem that Cambodia faces; the rubbish is everywhere and is a real problem for the health of the population and the environment!

Staffing News
Our school staffing is dependent upon the number of students enrolled on census day. Historically the number of student enrolments at our school has fluctuated around 160 enrolments. Over the past 3 years we have sent large class groups from year 6 to high school, but we have only enrolled between 18 to 20 students.

This has meant that we are now below the number required to keep all of our permanent staff, therefore a nominated transfer process has needed to be actioned. It is always a sad loss to a school when this process has to occur. It is also a difficult decision to make and needs to follow particular processes of staff notification and consultation.

Mrs Rose has been nominated within this process. Mrs Rose has decided to take leave until she is notified of her transfer to a new school. Mrs Rose will be missed and we wish her all the very best in her future school.

Mr Ingram will teach 3/4 R whilst Mrs Rose is on leave.

There will be no change to student’s class placement due to this staffing change as we anticipated a reduction of a class at the beginning of the year and set up only 6 classes rather than 7.

Also linked to student numbers, is the allocation of office staff. Sadly we have also been notified that Mrs Cooper will have her hours reduced from 3 days per week to 2 days per week. This will take effect at the beginning of term 2.

We anticipate and thank you for the continued support of our parent body as we make the adjustments necessary to comply with DEC procedures.

Stronger Smarter
Mrs Dickenson and Mrs Harvey will be participating in the Stronger Smarter professional learning course on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Mrs Barnes and Mrs Ashley will replace them in their absence.

High School Expressions of Interest
Please return these forms this week if you haven’t already done so.

Advance Notice
Our Easter Hat Parade and our Breakthrough Day (Fair Day) will be held on 1st April. Our Breakthrough activity this term will be a “Pink Stumps Day” which will include a fundraising for the McGrath Foundation. More information closer to the date.

Solid State Circus performance will be held on Tuesday 24th March. Notes have been sent home today.

Cross Country
We are beginning to train for X Country event. Students will participate in a 20 min run every afternoon for the rest of the term. Please wear joggers!

Mrs Bradshaw
Principal
News from 4/5A and 5/6H
Last week we had a sobering visit from “Headways”, a group dedicated to the education of people regarding the seriousness of brain injuries. Our children were both receptive and respectful. Well done and remember if you’re travelling on a scooter, skateboard or bike faster than you can walk……please wear a helmet!

5/6H
CAPA: Art-Our 3D Name sculptures are looking great.
PE- this week we will be continuing in increasing our fitness doing rotations of step-ups, wall sits, triceps, dips and bridges. We will also be starting our cross country training Monday to Thursday at 3:00pm. Parents are welcome to join in either walking or jogging the perimeter of school grounds with us.

Literacy group 1- Literacy Rotations involving Guided Reading, Guided Writing and Individual Spelling and Grammar work are going well. This week we will be videotaping ourselves read and evaluating fluency and expression.
It is pleasing to see that some students are making no errors in their Friday quizzes and tests, however it is really important that spelling knowledge be applied to their writing. Some students who are up to the challenge, will be given extension words as of this week.

Numeracy Group 2- this week is our 1st week looking at Fractions including identifying and converting improper fractions to mixed fractions and vice versa as well as working on recognising the need for formal units longer than the metre for measuring distance.

Parents if at any time you need to contact me you can ring and organise an appointment through the office or contact me directly via e-mail at michelle.henderson@det.nsw.edu.au

4/5A
PE- We will be joining whole school cross country training each afternoon at 3pm. Due to our Friday Literacy class being held in the afternoon we will not be training on Fridays.

Literacy group 2- are facing their first writing assessment. It is very interesting to note the different styles of organisation which may or may not have been evident.

Numeracy Group 1- went back to their early childhood and got to play with plasticine. They had fun and learnt how to add and subtract unlike fractions.

Don’t Forget to bring your Library Bags !
4/5A Library and History lessons are on Fridays, starting at 10:50
5/6H Library and History lessons are on Thursdays, starting at 10:00
A reminder for all students from both classes to bring their school hats every day especially on PE days and for Sport on Wednesday.

News from 1/2O
We had a very exciting end to Wk 6. On Thursday, with the help of Miss Sharon, O class made their very own potato person. If you are at the school, you can see them on our classroom windowsill.
On Friday we shared chocolate cake for Taryn’s Birthday and we had a very special visit from a litter of Chocolate Labradors.

This week we are looking at the text The Very Itchy Bear by Nick Bland. In mathematics we will begin looking at fractions and also area.
I will be away all day Thursday and O Class will be having Mr Donato.

Also a quick reminder, Easter is fast approaching and students will need to make a hat at home for the Easter Hat Parade – If this is a problem or not possible, please let me know and I will organise some lunch time sessions so students can create a hat at school.

Kinder News
Hoping that our Kinder families are well and truly settled into our school environment and all is well. This week we are learning the names of and sounds made by the following letters: Uu; Cc; Bb; & Nn.

Today you will receive a card for your child with login and password details for your child to use Reading Eggs at home. They will be familiar with using it at school, so all you have to do is help them to login and they will be able to do the rest.

Your child will also receive a Sports List so that you know which Sports Team they belong to. Today we start training for our school Cross Country. This happens every afternoon at 3pm.

That's all for this week and thanks again for supporting your child by reading, writing and counting with them whenever the opportunity presents itself.

P & C NEWS
The P & C will be holding an Easter Raffle – could families please send in Easter Eggs etc for the raffle. Tickets will be sent home shortly.

It will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade – 1st April 2015.
Literacy Café
Literacy Café resumes this Thursday. Mrs Adams will be working with students on the writing of narratives in readiness for creative writing competitions later in the year. Last year we had 8 students published. It would be fantastic if we could achieve a similar result this year.

Junior Dance
We have had a fantastic response from students K-3 with a few new faces joining the Junior Dance Team this year. Dance practice will be held each Friday at lunchtime in Miss Oram’s room.

Debating
This year FPS will be participating in two debating competitions; the Macleay Education Community of Schools (MECS) competition, and the Premiers Debating Competition.
Debating equips students with numerous critical and analytical skills while increasing confidence and general knowledge; and importantly it is fun! At this stage there is still the opportunity for year 5 and 6 students to join.
A training day will be held for 8 potential debaters in Coffs Harbour on the 23rd April. Notes will go home later this term. Debating club will be held with Ms Ransom each Monday at lunchtime in Homebase 1.

FPS Facebook Page - Privacy and Parental Consent
Thank you to everyone who has 'liked' our page. A reminder that this is a public page and that users should familiarise themselves with the Terms and Conditions of Use which is in the About section located at the top of the page.

In the coming weeks we would like to start using the page to post the achievements of student's and photo's of events at the school. Before we do so however, we would like to clarify permissions that were given at the beginning of the year.

At the beginning of the year within the General Permissions note there was the option to opt out of Facebook. If you left this box blank or placed a cross in the box, photos of your children will not appear on the school Facebook page. If you ticked this box, photo's of your child/ren may appear on the Facebook page.

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HEAD LICE – PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD’S HAIR AND TREAT.

House Ticket Tally

Congratulations to the following students for winning last week’s PBL draw. The winning class was 2/3W, the winning house was LAWSON.

REMEMBER PLAYGROUP ON MONDAY’S 9.30AM TO 11.30AM

Bobbie-Lee participating in “I want to be day”.

Bailey with his potato person – 1/2O

Taryn with her potato person – 1/2O

BOOTCAMP: A combination of cardio & strength training with variety each session. Be motivated in a group to get you in great shape. All fitness levels catered for.

Boot camp is held on Monday and Thursday mornings – 6.00am – 7.00am $10 per person. The sessions are being held in the Frederickton School hall.

KEYBOARD, GUITAR, SINGING, VIOLIN, FLUTE, PIANO, BASS and DRUM LESSONS

Individual and group lessons, students from age four—also Musical Theatre classes for adults and kids.

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