

Frank Partridge VC Public School

Educating your child for a bright future



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Newsletter Issue 29

Term 3 Week 10

16th September, 2014

The last week of Term 3 is here! Seems like only yesterday that we were beginning our new year! Thank you to our entire school community for their support throughout the term. Many parents and carers have taken to opportunity to contact me in regards to a wide variety of concerns. Your willingness to work with us through the many issues that arise throughout the term has been a real feature of our school this year and integral to us providing the highest quality learning environment for your child. I look forward to more of the same next term.

Term 4 is looking jam packed for students and staff alike. We will have our Semester 2 reports, Presentation Day, Transition to Kindy, Transition to High School, stage excursions, Year 6 Farewell and a multitude of other Term 4 activities to keep us busy and on our toes.

Very exciting times this week as we install 3 new interactive whiteboards in our school. Our initial interactive whiteboards were installed well over 5 years ago, and as such many are on their way out. We have begun a planned replacement schedule that will see 3 new systems installed this year and 3 new systems installed at the beginning of 2015. We will then replace 3 systems each year to ensure that the technology in our school keeps up with the newest innovations available and is financially viable within our budget. I am sure that the children in KD, 65M and 43F will be very excited with this new level of access to smartboard technology.

Congratulations to our Stage 3 team of students and teachers on the success of their Mini Fete. All students seemed to have a wonderful time, visiting the huge range of stalls and participating in the fun-filled activities. By all accounts, sock wrestling was a major hit, as were the showbags, lucky dips, hair spray, cake stall, loom bands and face painting. Miss Wesley put her body on the line with the sponge toss and once again there was a long line of kids waiting to "whack a rat!". A huge thank you to Mrs Leahy and her Stage 3 team of Mrs Smith and Miss MacArthur, as well as all of the teachers who manned stalls and made sure that our Stage 3 leaders were supported. Well done to our Stage 3 students who worked tirelessly throughout the day setting up, running and putting away their stalls. I did do a snap poll and apparently my sausages were cooked far better than Auntie Nerida's!

I will be meeting with Tracey Barron from the Work Health and Safety Directorate and Gregg Foy from the Asset Management Unit on Tuesday in regards to our car park. Despite our letter home, this continues to be one of the most dangerous aspects of our school with parents and carers double parking and dropping off and picking up students from dangerous positions. Please make a place to meet your kids after school down outside the gates. I walk a bus line down to the gates 5 minutes after the bell and would be more than happy to make a car collection line of students. Simply give us a ring at school and we will organise this. Tracey, Gregg and I will be looking into the creation of a roundabout type section when you first drive in the gates that will incorporate a safe pick-up and drop-off zone. I am determined to fix this problem by the end of the year and before anyone gets seriously hurt. Please help us to keep your kids safe and pick them up either from one of the available car parks when you first drive in or just outside the gates. We need your help to make our pick up and drop off times as safe as possible.

Diary

Wed 17th Sep

Kinder Excursion to
Dolphin Marine Magic
&
Spring Loaded

2/1H & MC Excursion
To
Link Leisure Centre
and
Bruxner Park

Stage 2 & 3 Social
Pyjama Theme

P&C Meeting
4pm

Fri 19th September

Last day of Term 3

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Tues 7th October

Term 4 Begins!

Gumbaynggirr

Word of the
Week
ngayan
meaning
sun

On Wednesday our Kindergarten students will be heading off on their excursion to the Dolphin Marine Magic and Spring Loaded. This looks like it will be an awesome day! I was lucky enough to attend last year and had a great time. Students will need to be at school by 9:15 and will be back in time for buses.

21H and our MC class will be heading off on their excursion to the Jungle Gym and Step Up Gymnastics classes on Wednesday. After a specially tailored gymnastics session the kids will be putting their new skills to the test in the Jungle Gym. Students will need to be at school by 9:15 and will be back in time for taxis. Mrs Haase and Ms Baker have done a wonderful job organising this incredible experience for our kids.

On Wednesday evening from 5 – 7 we will be holding the Stage 2 and Stage 3 Pyjama Social. The music will be pumping and our kids will have the opportunity to dance the night away as Stage 3 raise funds for their Canberra excursion. Entry will be \$4 and includes a packet of chips and a juice.

At the end of each term Mr Close and I have a close look at our attendance patterns. It is not good enough to simply consider school averages as often it is the absences of a few that impacts significantly on the average of the school. Instead we look closely at where the absences occur and for what reason. Some facts do not change however and it is important that quality attendance is a focus for our wider school community.

If your child is hesitant to attend school for any reason then please make the time to see their classroom teacher or myself immediately. Do not wait for 3 days to see if they stop worrying. Let us know straight away and we will work on a solution to suit your child.

Fact 1: We cannot teach your child if they are not at school. This has particular implications for students who are regularly late. They often miss the same learning opportunities each day and research shows that it takes the average child 2 hours to settle into their learning when late.

Fact 2: Our school programs are structured, sequenced and tailored for individual students. There are 40 weeks of school or 200 days in a year. If a child misses 2 weeks of these programs throughout the year then this will impact on their learning.

Fact 3: Children get sick and we must program to cater for this.

Fact 4: If your child misses 20 days of school throughout the year then they have missed 10% of their learning. This will impact on their progress. I can very quickly let you know how many days your child has missed so far this year. Simply give me a ring.

Fact 5: Schools, parents and carers must work together to ensure that students attend school on every day possible if they are to reach their full potential. Good attendance is a habit.

I would like to set 2 goals for our whole school community to work towards next term.

Goal 1: Attendance rates of 95% or higher. This allows for your child to be absent through illness for a maximum of 10 days throughout the year.

Goal 2: A decrease in late arrivals of 50%.

The achievement of these goals will make a real difference to the learning of our students. We have an incredible classroom teaching team, smaller classes, a wonderful learning and support network, incredible extension and remediation structures and quality welfare structures. If we work together on getting our kids to school then I think that we can make a real difference. We cannot do this without your help!

Friday will be our last day for the term. The first day back is Tuesday 7th October. Thank you for helping us to make this great school such a wonderful place of learning for our students. Enjoy your break and we look forward to powering into Term 4.

Todd.

Library News

Holiday Borrowing: If students would like to borrow for the holidays, (and teachers would love them too!) all over-due books must be returned this week.

Many thanks.

Mrs Coulter

Rabbits!

There are two new rabbits that now live at school and their names are Fatso and Springer. Fatso is grey and apricot colour and Springer is black. They are both girls with cute and stumpy tails. They live in a very cool and lovely two-storey hutch.

They eat grass and spinach from the garden out the back. They do like carrot, but it is not really good for them. All types of green vegetables are good for them. They used their paws like people to eat their food!

They were a little bit scared of everyone looking at them. They enjoyed and had lots of fun running up and down their new ladder!

From the MC class.

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Team. You all did a fantastic job. An extra big congratulations to Jack Kennedy, who, with an incredible effort, finished in the top 5 out of 40 students! Very well done.



Caught Being Good

Zane Beuzeville 4/3W - Sitting and eating, Jake Duckett 2/1H - Being honest, Tahlia Ashenhurst 4/3F - Sitting and eating, Olivia Lane 4/3M - Being a good role model

Class of the Week: MC

Congratulations

Community News

Scholarships to Camp Creative

Nambucca Valley Arts Council are offering scholarships to Camp Creative in Bellingen in January 2015. These are available to children of the Nambucca Shire aged 16 years and under. For information and application forms please ring Jenni on 0438686049. Courses may be viewed online at www.campcreative.com.au. Scholarship applications must be received by NVAC by October 1st 2014.

Oral Health Contact Centre on 1300 651 625.

All children aged between 0-18 are eligible to receive FREE general dental treatment through the Mid North Coast Local Health District. Parents do not need to hold a pension card or health care card for their child to be eligible.

Please call the Oral Health Contact Centre on 1300 651 625

if you would like your child to have a check-up. If they are having problems or pain they will be prioritised - just ring 1300 651 625 to be triaged.

The Mid North Coast Local Health District has dental clinics situated in:

Kempsey: - Kempsey Community Health Campus (in hospital grounds) Polwood Street Kempsey

Coffs Harbour :- Coffs Harbour Health Campus Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour 2450

If you have received a letter indicating you are eligible for the Child Dental Benefit Scheme you can use this at any of our clinics.

Year 6 Mini Fete



Hundreds Club Winners

1st Stacey Connell

2nd Mrs Haase

3rd Lee

Thanks to all of our parents, students and staff who supported the Year 6 Mini Fete!

**Lolly Guessing Completion
Winners**

Belle Elphick Ttooulou

Mr Potter

CANTEEN MEAL OFFERS

WEDNESDAY 17th September	THURSDAY 18th September	FRIDAY 12th September	
Name: _____ Class: _____ Chicken Burger with Caesar or Ranch Dressing Price \$3.90	Name: _____ Class: _____ Bacon & Egg Roll With BBQ Sauce Price \$4.50	Name: _____ Class: _____ Spaghetti Bolognaise Topped with Cheese Price \$4.00	HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Canteen Volunteer for September is Chris Bagnell. Thank you for all your help and best of luck in your new venture. Please collect your voucher! Sharlene.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Wanting to further support your child with schooling?

Have a passion to work with students with additional needs?

Looking for a pathway to teaching?

NORTH COAST TAFE - Child and Family Services are running a 10 week course, 14314 - Statement of Attainment Education Support (Teachers Aide) during Term 4 2015. An information session will be held on Tuesday 16th September at 10am at The Coffs Harbour Education Campus in Room OG.46.

Please call 66593641 for further information and to book in.

Macksville Marlins Swimming Club

Do you love to swim and want to join a great swimming club that caters for all ages and abilities?

The Macksville Marlins Swimming Club are having a GO Swim Day to celebrate everything great about swimming. Our GO Swim Day will include registrations, time trials, fun relays, BBQ and parent information session. Get involved in Australia's most popular Olympic and Paralympic sport!

Date: Wednesday 8 October

Time: Registrations from 4.30pm, Time trials from 6pm

Location: Macksville Memorial Aquatic Centre

Contact: Lyndel Sutton Ph 0409 681207 Email macksvillemarlins@gmail.com

Visit goswim.org.au for more details.

Macksville/Scotts Head Nippers
2014/2015 Season Registration Days
Sunday 21st September at Scotts Heads
Surf Club 10am-12pm.

Sunday 5th October at Scotts Head
Surf Club 10am-12pm.

Children must be 5 years of age and one parent must join. Membership is \$50 for Nippers (which includes a club shirt).

We encourage new and existing members between 5 and 14 years of age to join.

Be a part of the best family summer sport.

For more information check out our MSHSLSC website <http://macksvillescottsheadslsc.com/> or contact Hayden Sutherland ph: 65683414.

Macksville Ex-Services Junior Cricket Club

Registration Day: Saturday 4.10.14 9am at Donnelly Welsh Playing Fields or at training.

Age Group and Cost	First Training Session	First Game
Milo In2Cricket \$65	N/A	Tuesday 14.10.14 3:45pm
U10s \$65	Tuesday 14.10.14 3:45pm	Saturday 18.10.14 9am
U12s \$80	Wednesday 10.9.14 After school	Saturday 11.10.14 8:30am
U14s \$80	Tuesday 9.9.14 After school	Saturday 11.10.14 8:30am