

# Frank Partridge VC Public School

*Educating your child for a bright future*



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Newsletter Issue 1

Term 1 Week 2

3rd February, 2015

Welcome back to Week 2 of Term 1 2015.

I cannot tell you how proud I am of our kids and how they have returned to school after the holidays. Classes are very settled and already into their various curriculums. This is so important if our kids are to achieve anywhere near their full potential. We have a lot of work to do this year as we continue to improve on our key focus areas for 2015, Student Engagement and Achievement of Outcomes.

One of the major ingredients we need as we begin this improvement journey will be your child's attendance. Our school target is 95% attendance. Anything less than this impacts quite substantially on the effectiveness of our programs and initiatives. "If a child is not here then we cannot teach them". There are 47 school days in Term 1. To achieve 95% attendance, your child can only afford to miss 3 days. This is most definitely a goal we can only reach with the full cooperation of our whole school community. Please think very carefully before allowing your child to be absent. Of course injury, illness and family can often make these absences unavoidable and we accept this. It is those absences that are avoidable that we need to decrease. We have wonderful teachers and exciting, engaging classrooms. Please be sure that your child is here to make the most of these opportunities whenever possible. Should you need help in any area of your child's attendance, then please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Home reading and homework is going to have a much larger profile this year, and our systems will reflect the feedback that I received from parents and carers last year, as well as school needs. In short, the parent responses indicated that homework was often a battle. Parents and carers often did not have the time to help out with homework, and other after school activities were just as important. With this in mind, on Wednesday afternoon, we will be designing a Whole School Homework policy that will incorporate a small amount of compulsory Literacy and Numeracy activities that students can do independently. If at ANY stage your child indicates that they cannot complete the work then please do not argue with them. Simply circle the work that is unfamiliar to them and write a note for their teacher who will address the problem in class. The work will be able to be completed in one afternoon or over several afternoons. Several of our students enjoy the opportunity to extend themselves through homework and I applaud this attitude. To cater for their needs we will have some form of optional homework each week as well. This work needs to be done to the highest quality. All homework will be marked each week and all students will be expected to complete their homework each week. Once the staff and I have nussed out the full details I will send a copy of the policy home with each child for your comment, and we will review the program at the end of Term 1. Home readers will also be coming home each night so that an adult can read an appropriate text with their child. This will only take 10 minutes and can be done afternoon, night or morning. It is very important that these books come back to school every day so that they can be changed if needed. These books should be easy for your child to read. If at any stage they seem too hard then, please make a note in the Home Reading book for their teacher. If they seem too easy then this is good! The

## Diary

**Tuesday 10th Feb**

Swimming Carnival

**Thursday 12 Feb**

Darrimba Maara  
Hearing Screening for  
Indigenous students

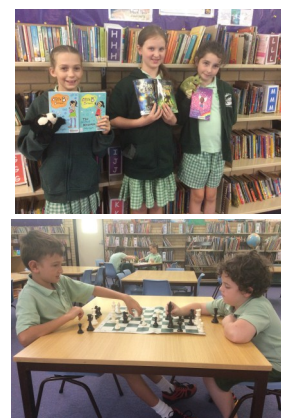
**Monday 16th Feb**

District Swimming  
Carnival

**Tuesday 24th Feb**

Pink Stumps Day

## In the Library



home reading system is designed to increase fluency and confidence in our readers, in areas in which our students are often lacking. Feedback on this program will be sought at the end of the term.

Both of these programs are a wonderful opportunity for our parents and carers to take a real role in their child's education; a role that will make a huge difference to their progress and achievement. I look forward to seeing both programs becoming an integral part of our school culture throughout the year.

We welcome our new intake of Kindy kids this week. We will have 2 classes of 12 students with Mrs Lanesbury and Mrs Daley ensuring that they experience a wonderful start to their schooling. I look forward to meeting with each and every one of them throughout the term.

Don't forget our school Swimming Carnival is on next Tuesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. All students 8 years and older will be involved in races throughout the day. Miss Morrow has been busily organising this exciting and enjoyable day. The focus is most definitely on participation. Our houses have elected their leaders and are practicing their war cries. Parents and carers are more than welcome to attend on the day and will be needed to cover various jobs. See Jayne if you will be available.

Congratulations to our House Captains and Prefects who were elected by their peers on Friday. This is quite an honour and we will be presenting these school leaders with their badges on Friday, should any parents or carers wish to come along and join us in congratulating the leaders on their success. Our House Captains are Samuel Donovan, Zane Beuzeville, Flynn Varley, Jake Jones, Belle Elphick-Ttooulou, Mckeely Ricaud, Jade Crawley and Paris Stadhams. Our House Vice Captains are Damon Simon-Wilson, Tyrone Bowden, Cody Larkin, Patrick Bagnell, Crystal Wylie, Phoebe Schram, Martina Wellington and Kailee Salway.

Finally a special welcome to all of our new families. I am very proud of our school and our school community, and I look forward to getting to know our new families as they become part of our whole school community.

A reminder that no vehicles are to park beyond the red fire hydrant. We are working to increase our parking places and drop off zones. The excavator will be here next Monday, due to the rain. Parents and carers can park in the parks running up from the driveway gate and also in the designated parks near the bus stop. Under no circumstances can you double park in the staff car parks near the gas tank or at the back of the hall. This practice is just too dangerous and puts the safety of our kids at risk.

Have a great week. Todd.

### **Library News**

Welcome back to the Library to all, and especially new students and families.

Our school Library is open to students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime and also in the mornings on these days from 8:45am for students and families. Come on up!

Thank you to all students who have returned overdue books from 2014. Some students still have outstanding loans that need to be attended to before they can borrow to take home. A \$5 payment is requested for lost books.

Thursday Chess Club has already begun with Nicholas, Drew, Ebony and Jasmine getting in some early practise! Registrations for the first FPVC 2015 Chess Competition are still being taken and any student with knowledge of the game is welcome to sign up.

Class Library days are as follows:

Tuesday: KL, 4/3M, 6/5N, 6/5S

Wednesday: KD, 2/1E, SU1, 2/1W, Miss Baker's class

Thursday: 2/1H, SU2, 4/3D, 4/3F, 6/5L

K-2 students are required to bring a Library bag for take home borrowing. (A clean plastic bag or an old pillow slip is fine!). Good idea for 3-6 students also.

Book Club: Order brochures have been distributed for Issue 1. Our school takes orders as per the brochures 4 times throughout the school year. Parents and carers can pay by credit card, cheque or cash. Please send orders with correct money or credit card receipt, in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with student name and class on the front, to the Front Office. Goodies will arrive several weeks after the closing date, which for Issue 1 is Thursday 19th February.

See you @ My Library. Mrs Coulter.



# Welcome Kindergarten



**Wishing all of Kindergarten and their families a wonderful first year of school!**



| WEDNESDAY<br>4 FEBRUARY  | THURSDAY<br>5TH FEBRUARY  | FRIDAY<br>6TH FEBRUARY  | MONDAY<br>9TH FEBRUARY  |
|--|---|---|---|
| NAME _____<br>CLASS _____<br>CHICKEN SNITZEL<br>&<br>AIOLI BURGER<br>PRICE: \$5.50 | NAME _____<br>CLASS _____<br>SALAD BOXES WITH<br>HAM, CHICKEN OR EGG<br><br>PRICE: \$4.50 | NAME _____<br>CLASS _____<br>CHICKEN KEBABS<br>WITH FRIED RICE<br>PRICE: \$4.00 SMALL<br>\$6.50 LARGE | NAME _____<br>CLASS _____<br>6 DINO NUGGETS<br>& SAUCE<br>NIPPY FLAVOURED MILK<br>CHOC OR STRAWBERRY<br>PRICE: \$5.50 |

## Community News

### Mid North Coast Tutoring

Caryn Godwin  
ABN: 27225153394

Qualified Teacher with 20 years Experience

Catering for:- Early Childhood, Primary, Secondary, TAFE, University  
Focusing on:- Literacy, Numeracy, NAPLAN & HSC Preparation, Music, Research & Assignment Writing Skills.

Ph: 0437 300 827 email: mnctutoring@outlook.com



**Nambucca Roosters Juniors**

Where Everyone Gets a Game

Sign on day

7<sup>th</sup> February

9am until 1pm

At Coronation park

New players need to bring their Birth Certificate

**For More Information Please  
Contact Rachel**

0432368054

[rach-elphick@hotmail.com](mailto:rach-elphick@hotmail.com)

or visit our website

[www.nambuccajuniors.com](http://www.nambuccajuniors.com)



## Stuarts Point Players

6 Nineteenth Avenue, Stuarts Point 2441  
[info@stuartspointplayers.org.au](mailto:info@stuartspointplayers.org.au)



### AUDITIONS FOR UPCOMING PRODUCTION

Auditions for the Youth Production of "Groove- A- Rella" will be held at Stuarts Point Community Hall on Monday night 16<sup>th</sup> February at 6pm. We are looking for 15 students aged between 8 and 16 years who are available to rehearse one night a week from 6pm until 7:30pm and who would enjoy the challenge of this swinging hip musical! There will be four performances in May. Performance dates and venues are Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at Gladstone Community Hall, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at the Bandbox Theatre in Kempsey, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at Stuarts Point Community Hall and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at the Nambucca Entertainment Centre. Hope to see you there!

The adult production, which will run with our youth performance, is titled "Alibis" and is a murder mystery. There are roles for five women and four men in this intriguing play. Auditions will be held on Monday night 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in the Stuarts Point Community Hall. This will also require a one night a week rehearsal schedule.



## Experience The Magic Of Hosting



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In July our exchange student, Toon, joined our family. And when I say joined he literally did that. He has become my teenage son. Our experience as a family has been amazing and unforgettable.

Toon is leaving this week and I feel like my son is grown up and leaving home. There is nothing negative that I can say about our time with Toon. Toon has been through all sorts of things with our family. Through good times, like the birth of our new daughter, and not so good times (but nothing bad).

I would like to say my respects to Toon's parents. They have done a wonderful job raising such a courteous, well mannered, well balanced son. We have so many fantastic stories from this exchange experience. We have enjoyed it so much that we are hosting again next July. We will have a friend for life and will never forget Toon.

Thank you WEP for the chance to meet Toon. It wouldn't have been possible without the WEP team. Only a quick few words to show my appreciation in meeting Toon and to WEP.

Enrich your home with a curious exchange student in July 2015

**Request student profiles now to find out more!**

[www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au) **1300 884 733** [info@wep.org.au](mailto:info@wep.org.au)