What’s Coming Up!

Term 1

Week 6
4 Mar  N.C. Regional Swimming - Lismore
6 Mar  Entries closes for ICAS Competitions

Week 7
9 Mar  Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 – 7.30pm
10 Mar  P & C AGM 6.30pm Club Lennox
12 Mar  Winter District Trials

Week 9
23-25 Mar  Year 3 Midginbil Hill Excursion
25-26 Mar  State Swimming – Sydney

Week 10
2 Apr  Easter Hat Parade

From the Principal’s Desk

A great big thank-you to staff and parents for their cooperation with last week’s weather event. Although it did not become as bad as predicted, we were very mindful of ensuring everyone’s safety; hence the decision was made to not operate as normal last Friday. I realise this was difficult for some parents; however we were acting on information given to us by our School Director and the SES. I hope you all stayed dry and found something to do that did not involve going outdoors!

I would like to highlight some information that is in today’s newsletter regarding parent/teacher interviews. These will be held on Monday the 9th of March between 4 and 7:30pm in the school hall. This year we are trialling a new booking system, whereby parents will book appointments online. All details for how to do this are included with today’s newsletter. If you don’t have access to the Internet let us know and we can help you with the booking process at school. If there are no suitable times left when you go to book you will need to contact your child’s teacher to arrange an alternative time.

I have been notified by Ballina Council that the 2015 School Zone Parking and Enforcement program has now commenced. This program is in response to a NSW Government Directive following a number of recent accidents and severe injuries, even death involving children in school zones across the State. Council Rangers will monitor school zones during morning and afternoon periods. They will be observing vehicle movements and taking photographic evidence of illegal parking and stopping in prohibited and restricted zones.

There will be no apologies, no excuses procedure in place. If you are caught doing the wrong thing you will be fined. An electronic copy of the school zone safety information can be found at www.ballina.nsw.gov.au. Some of these brochures will also soon be available at the office.

Please ensure you only park in safe, designated areas to ensure the safety of all of our children.

I was also notified during the week, that flashing lights will soon be installed on our school zone signs to further alert drivers that they are entering a 40km/hour zone. So that is good news as we have been asking for these for quite some time.

A reminder also to please ensure your child/children are in the correct school uniform, including shoes and socks. Black shoes are to be worn Monday to Thursday and joggers are appropriate for sport on Fridays. If your school shoe is a black jogger, it is fine to wear this every day. Socks should be white, grey or bottle green. We appreciate your assistance in this matter.

If your child is away from school, you must send in a note within 7 days explaining their absence. You can also do this via the School Stream App. It is not necessary to phone us on the day, just send the note in upon your child’s return to school.

Finally, in order to avoid congestion around classrooms at 9:25am and 3:25pm, we would like parents if at all possible to start leaving children at the gates of the school and meeting them there again in the afternoons. (Obviously this does not apply to Kindergarten children in the afternoons, as they need to be picked up from classrooms at 3pm, unless they are catching buses). We would also like to remind people that the double front gates near the office are not for pedestrian access.
Please use the smaller gate near the flagpole. We do not want people walking through the front car park which is used for deliveries and other drop offs. In light of our earlier safety message there have been some near misses with vehicles at this gate. We ask you to please respect this and use other gates to access the school grounds.

Kind Regards
Deb Langfield

Thought for the week
“Being happy is a choice we make daily”. Unknown

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Term 1 parent/teacher interviews will be held on Monday 9 March from 4 – 7:30pm in the school hall. This year we will be trialling an online booking system.

To book a time to speak with child/ren’s teacher/s please visit http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/

You will need the code JLCRW to access the event and follow the prompts. It is booked on a first in basis. If you are unable to access the web, please visit the office for assistance.

Should you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school.

UNSW ICAS AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS COMPETITIONS - YEARS 3-6

Each year the University of NSW conducts the ICAS tests. These are independent skills based assessments with a competition element. These are available to students in years 3 - 6 across the areas of Science, Spelling, Writing, Digital Technologies, English and Mathematics.

Each student who participates receives a certificate and detailed results indicating their responses.

- Digital Technologies Tuesday 19 May $8.00
- Science Wednesday 3 June $8.00
- Writing Week of 15 June $17.00
- Spelling Tuesday 16 June $11.00
- English Wednesday 28 July $8.00
- Mathematics Tuesday 11 August $8.00

Practise papers are available for interested students. These need to be requested from Mrs Atkins.

If you would like your child to enter any of these competitions, please return the permission note to the school with the entry fee for each competition to be entered by Friday 6 March 2015.

A copy of this note can be found on School Stream.

Library Events

Donations
Thank you to Sahana Marr and family for their donation to our school to purchase new books. It is greatly appreciated.

Overdue Notes
Overdue notes went home yesterday. Please check with your child if they have an overdue book or need to renew it.

Sports Bits

PSSA Knockout – Cricket
The boy’s cricket team will play Ballina Public School in the first round of the PSSA Knockout tomorrow Friday 27 February at William Reserve commencing at 10.00am.

Swimming
Well done to all the competitors who competed in Ballina yesterday. Congratulations to Sofia Rezai-Smyth who will now compete at the Far North Coast PSSA championship in Lismore.

Classroom Makeover

Imagine what Lennox Head Public School could do with a $5,000 classroom makeover from Staples™. The school with the most tokens wins, so help your children and our school by collecting as many tokens as you can.

A token will be published daily in the Northern Star newspaper from Saturday 14 February to Monday 16 March 2015.

Please bring all token to Mrs Armstrong and remember, the school with the most number of tokens per student wins, so start collecting!

Peer Support

This week in Peer Support children had the opportunity to discuss their personal qualities and strengths. The children identified their qualities and acknowledged how they contribute to their achievements.

Through activities, children recognised they use their strengths to achieve success and can be encouraged to approach future activities optimistically.

Ask your child to describe their own qualities and strengths so that you can recognise and acknowledge these.
Why don’t we sell soft drinks?

In Australia, children are consuming too many sugar-sweetened drinks, which are high in kilojoules and low in nutrients. “One in five (21.2%) 2 – 15 year olds drink at least six cups of sugar sweetened drink a day according to “ The Health of Children and Young People in NSW” Report of the Chief Health Officer 2014. Some are having more than 11 cups or 176 gr sugar a day. Since 2007, the Sugar-Sweetened Drinks Ban has been in place in all NSW schools.

This ban applies to soft drinks, energy drinks, fruit drinks, flavoured mineral water, sports drinks, cordials and iced teas.

Be sure to try some of the nutritious and tasty drink options at the canteen instead, or go for the best of all: water.

Community Announcements

Lennox Head Netball Club
Registration closes 28th Feb 2015
5yrs to adults welcome to play
Enquiries - Leanne Rodgers
Ph - 0414834612
lennoxheadnc.nsw.netball.com.au

Ballina Netball Association has extended its online registration.
Calling all NETTY NUTS - Online Registration Extended to: 28 FEBRUARY. 2015 Winter competition open to – 8-10 year “competition” players - Juniors: 11-17 years, Seniors: 18+
Register at: www.ballinana.nsw.netball.com.au
Email enquiries: netballballina@bigpond.com
Public Relations Officer, Ballina Netball
E: ballinanetballpr@hotmail.com

Our healthy canteen

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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<td>Margie</td>
<td>Julie</td>
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<td>16 March</td>
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<td>Christie</td>
<td>Kylie</td>
<td>Michelle, Annie, Gemma</td>
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Thank you, Sue Tatum Ph: 66877141

- No small yogurts until further notice. Large yogurts are $1.50
- Slushies are made from a pear concentrate which has been specially prepared for schools to meet the Healthy Kids Assn guidelines for an AMBER product.
  - We stock strawberry, vanilla, sour apple, natural blackcurrant. They have no added sugar, no artificial colour and no artificial flavour. We also have raspberry and grape which are sugar free.
- We stock fresh apples, frozen oranges and frozen watermelon.
- Thanks to everyone involved in Pancake Day, as you know it didn’t go off without a hitch. To the people who ran around buying up pikelets from even as far as Noosa – Thank you.
  - To the team on the day – Awesome effort. We couldn’t hold these days without the help of our volunteers, so THANK YOU ALL

Looking For Volunteer Host Families
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Italy, and the Netherlands are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

Hosting Is Fun! Request Program Information Today!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly, Manager – Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733, Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: http://www.wep.org.au

VALUE OF WEEK 6
Integrity under the COLA Playing and on the Equipment
Stay where you can be seen by a teacher
Our first school performance took place last Monday featuring Lorin Nicholson.

Lorin is blind and is an incredible guitar player and he promotes a simple but powerful message of perseverance, resilience, respect and leadership to inspire every student to succeed in all areas of school and personal life.

All the students totally enjoyed listening to him speak and his music.