Principals Report

Narrabri Public has been fortunate this year in having such an outstanding Year 6 leadership team. As you can imagine their tasks are many and varied and include organising student surveys, handing out awards at assemblies and making speeches at special events like Remembrance Day and Presentation Night.

Being a school leader is a great opportunity for our students to achieve big things and help others. Yes, school leadership can be stressful at times and challenging, but it does afford students many rich and rewarding experiences.

Of course, all Year 6 students are leaders in a sense because they are role-models to our younger students, but next week eight Year 5 students will be elected as part of the official school leadership team for 2015.

It’s an exciting time for all concerned. Here’s how it will work. Students who have nominated for leadership will be giving their speeches at a special assembly to be held on Monday, 24th November in the school hall commencing at 1.50pm. Of course, parents, carers and other family members are invited to come along and support their child.

Students (except Kindergarten) will assemble in the hall to listen to candidates speak. Speeches have been written at school and are the student’s own original work. Students from Year 1 to Year 6 cast votes. Student votes will constitute 50% of the voting tally. The staff and teacher vote will constitute the other 50%.

To ensure fairness, all votes will be counted by the school executive team of Mr McIntosh, Mrs Tame and Mrs White. The names of our eight school leaders (four boys and four girls) will be announced on Monday 8th December at a special assembly and positions announced at our Presentation Night.

Star of the Week

Patrick Coleman

Eleven-year-old Patrick Coleman is a true-blue country boy. He was born not far away at Gunnedah Hospital. Patrick lives out on a lovely property at Upper Maules Creek. “Our house is between two hills and I’ve made my own pushbike track up in those hills and I’ve built a little hut where I can put my drink and sit.”

Patrick is not only clever with his hands, he is also a hard-working student with outstanding manners according to his teacher Mr McIntosh. Patrick loves life out in the bush and recently wrote his own book about birds. “I got this big idea to write down all the different species of birds that I’ve seen. I got paper and cardboard and put string from back to front and stapled it all together. I haven’t finished yet, but there are at least twenty-seven different birds in my book so far.”

Patrick says the best things about school are maths groups and art lessons. His best friends at Narrabri Public are Lachlan Large, Josh Soper, Matthew Penberthy and Charlie North.

Patrick also plays junior touch football on Monday afternoons and says that he’d like to participate in motor-cross racing and join the Narrabri Dirt Bike Club next year.
The Week Ahead

Week 7
Monday 17th November
K-6 Assembly – Primary COLA @ 3.00

Tuesday 18th November
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm

Wednesday 19th November
School Banking
Day Branch P&C Meeting – 9.30 in library
Bronzy Party @ 11.20
Kinder Assembly
Night Branch P&C Meeting – 7.00 at Bowlo

Thursday 20th November
NHS Class Creation Day
Silver Ceremony in hall @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm

Week 8
Monday 24th November
Yr 2-6 Leadership Speeches in school hall @ 2.00
Swim School begins

Tuesday 25th November
K-6 Assembly – Primary COLA @ 3.00
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm

Wednesday 26th November
School Banking
4M Assembly in hall @ 2.40

Thursday 27th November
Silver Ceremony in hall @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm

Friday 28th November
Last day for merit awards

Remembrance Day 2014
Last Tuesday, a moving Remembrance Day ceremony was held at the Narrabri RSL Club. This year, Narrabri Public School was represented by all our Student Representative Councillors who walked down to the ceremony.

Year 6 School Leaders Jacob Sunderland and Lara Ciesiolka spoke to the assembled audience of around two hundred people and also laid a wreath on our school’s behalf. All students who took part were immaculately dressed and, as always, wonderful ambassadors for Narrabri Public School.

Accompanying staff, Mrs McLeish, Mrs Lettice and Mr Clare were extremely proud of the way our students acquitted themselves.

Did you know...

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
School Council Report
The future of NPS is looking very positive with the school embracing a collaborative approach to planning and policy development. At our last meeting, the Council workshopied ideas for the school vision with our input contributing to the overall planning process. It is very exciting to see the incorporation of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) into the welfare and discipline policy and I hope that all parents indicate their top 4 core values for this program (just ask at the front office if you missed filling in the survey form). Similarly, the whole school survey has been available online (www.surveymonkey.com/s/NPS-Parents) and gave everyone the opportunity to be heard regarding our school's current performance as well as future direction. I hope you were able to take a few minutes and complete the survey.

The NPS Council is exploring the possibility of "splitting" recess and lunch times as one option to open up more playground space for our children. For this to occur, many challenges would need to be overcome. We seek feedback from parents regarding your thoughts on this option and how vigorously it should be examined. Please discuss with any of the 12 Council members - Joanne Petrovic, Tim Wilson, Joanne Gordon, Ian Gourley, Rob Smith, Ken Campbell, Norm Webster, David Gourley, Cathy Charles, Jessica Morris, Michael Clare or myself. Contact details are available at the front office.

Libby Guest
School Council Chairperson

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS
Narrabri Shire Council would like to encourage you to consider a nominee for at least one of the categories for our Australia Day awards to be presented by the Australia Day Ambassador on Monday 26th January, 2015.

Categories include:
• Citizen of the Year
• Young Citizen of the Year –Primary (Primary School Age)
• Young Citizen of the Year –Secondary (Secondary School Age)
• Community Event of the Year

This is an opportunity for you to recognise the achievements and hard work of people in your school community.

Nomination forms and guidelines can be obtained at either Council’s Administration Building, 46-48 Maitland Street, Narrabri or Narrabri Shire Visitor Information Centre, Newell Highway, Narrabri or on the Council website www.narrabri.nsw.gov.au or by calling the Event Coordinator Jasmine Offerman on 67996887.

Nominations close on Wednesday 3rd December 2014.

Year 5 Assemblies
Parents like to think their child is receiving a quality education that engages and encourages creativity. Not only that, most parents hope their child is being equipped to become a 21st century learner. Well, if the recent Year 5 assemblies are anything to go by, Narrabri Public parents have nothing to worry about.

If you weren’t there, Mrs Quirk’s recent assembly featured a news program and it was nothing short of amazing. I am certain every person lucky enough to see this exciting mixture of live drama and digital video movie making went home feeling inspired about modern teaching methods.

However, not to be outdone, Miss Butler’s assembly last Wednesday was also quite exceptional. It featured students performing an amazing song in “Pitch Perfect” style using cups and voice. Then, 5B students made incredible performance art on stage in the style of the famous American artist, Jackson Pollock. This is quality teaching in action. Well done, Year 5!
Last Week’s Silver Ceremony

Swimming Scheme Changes

Just a reminder to parents and carers that NPS recently reviewed the NSW Department of Education and Communities School Swimming & Water Safety Program.

This year’s school swimming will specifically target Years 2 to 6. It is compulsory for non-swimmers in Years 2, 3 and 4 to participate in this school-based program. Likewise, Year 5 and 6 students are also encouraged to participate if they are unable to swim 25m in deep water, unaided, with confidence and correct style.

We strongly recommend parents of Kindergarten and Year One students to consider enrolling their child in swimming lessons outside of school hours.

Newcastle Permanent Maths Results

For more than 30 years, Newcastle Permanent has proudly supported the Primary Schools Mathematics Competition, one of the longest running events of its type in Australia.

The annual competition is designed to test young students’ mathematical and problem solving abilities. It grows in popularity each year with almost 20,000 Year Five and Six students from 300 schools throughout the Hunter, Central Coast, New England, Mid North Coast and Northern Rivers regions participating.

Awards were presented to students at last week’s 5B assembly by our school’s co-ordinator, Mrs Claire Allen. All Year 5 & 6 students participated this year.

Year 5 “Credit” Students

Yr 5 Students Achieving Merit Level

Yr 5 Students Achieving Distinction Level
Congratulations Sofia Fawcett

Yr 6 Students Achieving Merit Level
Connor Finn, Tewiki Mason, Reece Anderson, Francesca Smith, Jack Searle, Adam wright, Sara Charles, Annabel Read, Makayla Beddow, Chelsea George, Luke Weiringa, Jake Foran, Zoe Campbell, Andrew Coleman

Yr 6 Students Achieving Distinction Level
Alexander Loder, Jacob Sunderland, Thomas Wieringa, Georgina Dries, Beau Tomlinson, Charles Fawcett, Felix Johnson

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
P&C Daybranch

Next meeting
Wednesday 19th November
in staff room
at 9.30am
All welcome including preschoolers!

WHITE CARDS
1st
Koster Murphy

SILVER AWARDS
Skye Manning, Takeesha Williams, Ella Maskill, Declan Rooney, Jake Bussell, Emmjay Baker, Claire Eather, Jarmlar Zarka, Toby Michell-Smith, Gypsy Williams, Issabella Hartog, Mathew McGrath, Oscar George, Jayde Arnold, Zoe Druce, Malik Dennis

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY AWARDS
ENGLISH:
Jorja Hackett, Cooper Hall, Ella Tomlinson, Makayla Cook, Sam McLean, Brendan Lennox, Sam Soper, Beau Parker, Teleisha Dick

MATHEMATICS:
Makayla Cook, Breanna Booby, Layne Foran, Annalise Woodham, Sophie Eather, Billie Dyball, Sofia Fawcett, Connor Finn, Tahnee Barwick

ACHIEVEMENT:
Brayden McKenzie, Emmjay Baker, Sean Allen, Jye Anderson, Seth Fischer, Campbell Hancock, Rachel Caton, Tanika Clark, Lara Ciesiolka

SPORTS:
Eryn Parkes, Jarmlar Zarka, Bianca Wilson, Ciani Welsh-Lobo, Josh Soper, Cody Shepherdson, Malik Dennis, Jorja Bakhuis, Callan Webster

CITIZENSHIP:

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation

Shaine Baker was red house captain at Narrabri Public School and next year is the red house captain at Calrossy!! Great to see our “old” students doing so well and staying in touch with “old” friends Brie & Zoe.
P&C BBQ & Trivia Night

**When:** Friday, 21st November, 2014

**Where:** Narrabri Public School Hall

**Cost:** $10 per person (8 adults per table)

**Theme:** LOUD & PROUD (Prizes for the most colourful players)

B.Y.O. Nibblies & drinks BBQ starts at 6.00pm

TRIVIA STARTS AT 7.15PM

Lots of fun, silent auctions, games & prizes

All welcome, please book your table through Rox – 679222246 – in the front office – payment collected on the night.

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SAYING THANKS TO OUR STUDENTS

In the USA, November is the month of Thanksgiving, and people are considering what they should be thankful for. Perhaps Aussie teachers could think about how thankful they are for their students.

**What should teachers thank our students for?**

We could start by thanking them for coming to school each day. Showing up ready to learn is a great reason to thank a student. They have so much going on in their lives that often it is a huge accomplishment to arrive in class ready to go. Students make choices every day about how they’re going to behave and what’s important to them. The fact they show up in class is worth a smile and a thank you.

When they appreciate your lesson, pay attention, settle quietly and quickly to work, speak politely and cheerfully to you and their classmates, answer questions with thought and care, that is all worth a thank you.

As teachers, it’s easy for us to feel underappreciated. Teaching can be a thankless job, but so can being a student.

Just because it’s the legal requirement for them to be in your class doesn’t mean that they don’t deserve a small amount of recognition for being there.

Not every day is an easy one for our students and a thank you from a teacher can go a long way. And if we begin thanking students for their effort, they’ll start to thank you and thank others for the work they do each and every day.

**If we want our students to appreciate the hard work we put into each lesson, what better way is there than starting to appreciate and thank them for the hard work they put into each lesson?**

Students are people as well. They crave the same type of attention and reinforcement that all of us do. Find a way to thank your students. They will thank you for it.

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**Canteen News**

We will need some extra help in canteen on the SRC Fun Day. It will depend on what the committee decides on for the meal deal and how much help we will need. Please think about giving some time on the day or help bagging up lollies between now and then.

Thanks

Kim Owens
Supervisor

**Canteen Roster**

| Tuesday, 18th November | HELP!!!!!!!! |
| Wednesday, 19th November | HELP!!!!!!!! |
| Thursday, 20th November | Cassie Webster |
| Friday, 21st November | HELP!!!!!!!! |
| Monday, 24th November | Cathy Coleman |

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Integrity  ◆  Excellence  ◆  Respect  ◆  Responsibility  ◆  Cooperation  ◆  Care  ◆  Fairness  ◆  Democracy  ◆  Participation