Principal’s Message

Tomorrow night we are holding our annual presentation night at the Crossing Theatre. Students and staff are getting excited as they prepare themselves for this important event. Our awards night provides us with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the academic and sporting achievements of students.

Children have been rehearsing items for weeks. There will be some exciting music, colour and excitement. This year each grade will be putting on an item. Our school’s guitar groups as well as the school band will be performing too. Not only this, Mrs Allison has put together a video presentation about the year that I think is a true classic!

Personally, the evening will be tinged with sadness as this will be my final awards night. However, I look forward to speaking about our school’s significant achievements during 2014 as well as having a chance to officially say farewell to the school community.

There will be many highlights tomorrow night, but one that always arouses plenty of interest is the announcement of our school captains, vice captains and school council representatives. Our 2015 school leaders were announced this morning at our Special Assembly. These eight students are (in alphabetical order) Rachel Charles, Chris Clark, Angus Gourley, Cooper Lawrence, Charlotte Penberthy, Sam Soper, Cassidy Staines & Danielle Sunderland

The official announcement of school captains, vice-captains and school councillors will take place tomorrow evening.

Finally, I would like to thank our hard-working teachers and especially Mrs Deb Maher and the organising committee who have done a fabulous job coordinating and organising this year’s awards.

Star of the Week

William Watson

Eight-year-old William Watson has made a great start to his school career here at Narrabri Public School. William was enrolled in Miss Morrissey’s Year 2 class in the middle of the year and has made “every post a winner” since then.

William likes his new school and his teacher. “Miss Morrissey is very nice,” he said. “She always gives me lots of interesting work to do.” William’s favourite activity in 2M is the reading groups. He’s in Red Group. He loves maths lessons too. William’s best friend in the class is Tom Webster. William has two pet dogs Milo and Brownie. Milo is a cattle dog and Brownie is a Staffordshire Bull Terrier. Milo can fetch a stick, while Brownie just loves lying on the grass. It’s fun at home. Sometimes his friend Riley Lamb comes over to his house and plays.

William says the best thing about this school is that there’s no bullying and he can play with his friends without getting worried he’ll get in trouble. His younger brother Lachlan is in Miss Morris’ class.

William’s favourite instrument is the guitar and he’d love to join the school guitar group next year. He also loves rugby league and enjoys watching the mighty Wests Tigers on television. He says that he might even play rugby league next year in the local competition.
The Week Ahead

Week 10
Monday 8th December
K-6 Special Assembly in COLA @ 9.30

Tuesday 9th December
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm
NPS Annual Presentation Night - Crossing Theatre
6.00 for a 6.30 start

Wednesday 10th December
Year 6 Combined Assembly in hall @ 2.40

Thursday 11th December
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.45–3.30pm
Year Six Farewell @ 6.00pm

Friday 12th December
Day Branch P&C Lunch - Crossroads @ 12.00
School reports go home

Week 11
Monday 15th December
Class Moving Day

Tuesday 16th December
SRC Fun Day

Wednesday 17th December
Stage 2 Movie Day
Stage 3 Pool Party
Combined Yr 6 Assembly @ 2.40 in hall

Thursday 18th December
School Development Day

Friday 19th December
School closed today

New Administration Building
As you are no doubt aware, our much-loved administration building is likely to be demolished around the middle of 2015. We understand this news may come as a shock to many people in the local community. In fact, there was some negative comment in the local press last week from a few concerned citizens. Our major dilemma is that nearly all of the building’s major structural problems are not visible from the outside.

As you may know, a temporary demountable building is currently being installed in front of C Block and will be ready for the 2015 school year.

This week two members of our NPS Administration Building Committee, Mrs Ann Loder and Mrs Joanne Gordon, have volunteered to take local people on a tour through our administration building to show the current state of disrepair. For example, our staffroom is now considered too dangerous to use and has been locked. Tea, coffee and food is now heated in a separate area of the building and is being consumed outside.

You are currently looking at the first draft of the proposed design for the new administration building. As stated, it is only a first draft and changes will be made before the final plan is drafted by Sydney architect, Mr David Burdon, but these pictures give you some idea of what will be built. Although not the grand old building we currently have, it is an attractive modern building with greatly improved access and design features that promises to meet the complex needs of a 21st century school.

REMEMBER – No School Banking this week BUT if you have ordered a reward item call in to Mrs Pawley’s office as they have ARRIVED!!

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
School Fun Day

Our SRC Fun Day is fast approaching, Tuesday 16th December. Let’s hope for some fine weather (just for one day anyway) because students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are really looking forward to this exciting day.

Children must choose four different activities from the brochure sent home last week. These include such activities as designing your own t-shirt, sand art, movie room, obstacle course, pamper room, old-fashioned games, giant inflatable water slide and Christmas cooking and a Zumba fitness workshop!

Remember - students do not have to wear school uniform! Cost for this day is just $2 per student. Limited places per activity - please be aware though that it is strictly first in best dressed!

The school canteen has a wonderful meal deal going for our Fun Day. Please return all canteen orders by Friday 12th December.

Gold Awards

Last Friday saw a special Gold Awards assembly dedicated to those exceptionally hardworking students who have reached an important milestone in their school careers at Narrabri Public – the coveted gold badge.

Our school leaders ran a wonderful assembly in which awards and gold badges were handed out. Assistant Principal, Mrs White, announced the names of the worthy recipients while our school’s principal, Mr Clare, handed the badges to parents who pinned them on to their child’s school uniform.

To receive a gold award a student needs to have earned four silver badges. This is quite an achievement worthy of public recognition. At lunchtime, to celebrate and acknowledge this accomplishment, recipients were invited to lunch at Chan’s Chinese Restaurant with members of our school executive.

Finally, mention should be made of the wonderful entertainment performance of our senior guitar group led by tutor Mr Aaron Johnson. They performed the Madden Brother’s song, “We Are Done” and Cooper Lawrence’s vocals were outstanding.

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Canteen News
We will definitely be running out of stock from now on so children may need to check what is available before ordering. We will cross things out on the menu at the front of canteen as they run out.

RECESS: It is a good idea to order if you need anything for recess as we are putting the bare minimum on.

SRC Fun Day orders need to be in to canteen by Friday – accompanied by the money. See Fun Day booklet (also at the end of newsletter). Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has said they will come in for the Fun Day. We will need all hands that day. It’s big, but we get there. After shutters down on Tuesday, 16th the committee and Nikki and I would be glad if all our volunteers could join us for an end of year get together.
Most of you will be here anyway so we thought we’d have a drink and some nibblies to take us into the holidays.

Canteen Roster

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 9th December</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 16th Dec</td>
<td>HELP!!!!!!!</td>
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Thank you
Kim Owers - Supervisor
Nikki Finn - Assistant

Band Students
Please return all school instruments and sign them in with Mrs Scott in the front office THIS Wednesday, 10th December.
Thank you
Mrs McLeish

BandLink Concert
Last Thursday stage 3 were fortunate enough to be part of the audience at the BandLink concert at the Crossing Theatre. The quality of this performance was outstanding and the input from our band students was appreciated by all. The students join together with tutors for three days learning and then performing for an evening concert and a matinee performance.

The students thoroughly enjoy being part of this dynamic program, as all the music is well known and very catchy!

A special thank you to Rosemary Smith.
HELPING WORRIED CHILDREN

Children who avoid or flee from worrisome situations are more likely to develop anxiety, which can prevent them from enjoying a full life.

The underlying theory isn't a new one, that an absence of risk and challenge in childhood leads to nervousness and anxiety later on. But researchers found they were able to predict which children would develop more anxiety a year later. The researchers asked parents to respond to questions like “When your child is scared or worried about something, does he or she ask to do it later?” and children to respond to statements like “When I feel scared or worried about something, I try not to go near it”.

Children who said they avoided scary situations tended to get higher anxiety scores when they were surveyed again 8 to 12 months later. There was little change in anxiety scores for children who said they didn't avoid situations that made them nervous.

This is consistent with how anxiety disorders develop. Children who avoid all fearful situations don't have the opportunity to face their fears and don't learn that many of their fears are manageable.

This concern, in the era of helicopter parenting, comes up frequently and we often hear about the need to give children some risk-taking opportunities in their play and other activities. Giving children the chance to face the things they fear can in fact reduce their anxiety.

The researchers found the avoidance behaviours of anxious children declined substantially after receiving exposure therapy which gradually exposes children to the things they avoid and helps them manage their fears. The fact that these children were no longer avoiding as much the things they feared was a strong indication that they were getting control of their anxiety as well.

Nobody wants children to be placed in danger or to be thrown in at the deep end. But the lesson of this important research is that fearful children can be helped to manage their fears and grow up into more confident young people.

Acknowledgement: Stephen Whiteside, a paediatric psychologist with the Mayo Clinic Children's Centre, article in Behaviour Therapy

$5.00 FUN DAY
CANTEEN SPECIAL!

The NPS Canteen have put together an amazing Meal deal just for the SRC Fun Day

Sausage. Hotdog with your choices of sauce, cheese & coleslaw
A bag of mixed lollies
A Zing Drink
All for $5.00

Student Name:

Class:

The canteen can also cater for gluten free students. Please indicate below if your child requires this option.

☐ Yes, my child requires a gluten free option

Please return all orders to the canteen by Friday, 12th December, 2014

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