Principal’s Message

It’s been a busy few weeks for the performing arts. I would like to congratulate all students who participated in the 2014 Narrabri Arts Eisteddfod. Once again, we did themselves proud with some outstanding group and individual performances.

The Year 2 Verse Speaking Group, Infants Choir and Drama Club deserve a special mention. Likewise, our Yr 6 girls excelled in public speaking. In fact, I had the privilege on Wednesday night to watch the popular school’s drama section. Our drama teachers Mrs Trudgeon (Cinderella Goes to the Hairdresser), Miss Morrissey (Splat the Cat), Miss Wardle (Paradise Island) and Mrs Tame (Monster Mash) produced some excellent plays featuring the talents of some very enthusiastic young performers.

Of course, preparing for events like the Narrabri Eisteddfod involves many hours of practice and strong commitment from tutors, parents and students. We are fortunate in having a great school program and such dedicated teaching staff whose goal is to make this a memorable occasion for all children.

We might not have won any trophies in drama, but there was great educational value in the experience. As the photo below shows, the joy is in the journey!

Star of the Week

Ellesha Anderson

Ten-year-old Ellesha Anderson deserves to be our “Star of the Week.” Her behaviour is simply outstanding. “I haven’t ever had a white slip in my whole life,” she told me with pride.

Ellesha is a great example of the polite, quiet achievers that our school produces. She likes nothing better than going to the quiet area at lunch with her best friends, Cleo, Anastasia and Eliza. “We play with the Monster High dolls that Cleo brings in and we like talking to each other too,” she said.

Ellesha is a proud member of class 4M. “Mr McIntosh is a great teacher. He is funny and never yells at us and he is kind too.” She especially loves watching “Behind the News” and also enjoys her daily maths lesson in Mrs Allison’s class. “We play maths games and do heaps of mentals,” she said.

At home, Ellesha plays in the garden and on the trampoline with her sister Ashlee. Sometimes she makes birthday cards with her mum using coloured paper and cardboard. They do cooking together too and Ellesha loves making vanilla cake and eating it!

During the school holidays, Ellesha likes helping her dad who’s a carpet layer. “I get him the tools and tidy up the carpet scraps,” she said.
Anti-Bullying Education

Last Monday 2nd June all NPS students K-6 were treated to a free show “Bully No More” thanks to the generous sponsorship of our Night Branch P&C.

The play presented a dramatised troubled friendship between two students at primary school. Eric couldn’t understand why he is always being picked on by Becksy at lunch time. He confided in his good friend Ralph who gave him a few home truths and some great advice.

The play embellished what bullying is; physical, verbal and visual. Bullying through intimidation and bullying through exclusion. It offered positive strategies that enable children to deal with bullying.

Teachers told me that students really related to this show and enjoyed it. Interest was high with many relevant questions asked back in the classroom which led into some interesting discussions.

There are two more shows in this series and we plan to book these as part of our Personal Development Program for 2015.

School Banking TOMORROW

If you have a gold token and would like to redeem your tokens for a reward item come and see Mrs Pawley before school – Wednesday, 11th June.

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The Week Ahead

Week 7

Monday 9th June
Queen’s Birthday Holiday

Tuesday 10th June
P&C Uniform Shop open 8.30-9.30 am
Focus on Reading training
PSSA Softball Trials – Tamworth
Awards Assembly – Primary COLA

Wednesday 11th June
Day Branch P&C meet @ 9.30 in library (All welcome)
Stage 2 Cake Day
KL Assembly @ 2.40
School Banking
AECG Meeting - 3.45 @ Lands Council
Night Branch P&C meet @ 7.00 Bowling Club

Thursday 12th June
Class party in our refurbished AV room for the class raising largest sum of money for NPS Fun Run.
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30-3.45pm

Friday 13th June
Regional Cross Country @ Coolah

Week 8

Monday 16th June
ICAS Writing
“Beyond the Line” student teachers begin their visit
Special MS Readathon Assembly 3.00

Tuesday 17th June
ICAS Spelling
P&C Uniform Shop open 8.30-9.30 am

Wednesday 18th June
3C Assembly @ 2.40
School Banking

Thursday 19th June
Day Branch Street Stall
PSSA Softball v Narrabri West (boys & girls)
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30-3.45pm

Friday 20th June
Yr 6 Combined Schools Sports @ Gately Oval
Special K-6T Class Project

K-6T has been working on a literacy program based on the book 'Uno’s Garden'. This was a five week program looking at how the author uses imagery and vocabulary to make the text powerful and engaging.

The book ‘Uno’s Garden’ is based around the theme of deforestation. The children composed their own stories in class using beautiful illustrations and some interesting vocabulary. We also made an amazing rainforest display.

The photo shows K-6T students in front of our forest display holding their compositions.

Mrs Trudgeon

Musica Viva Writing

The recent Musica Viva visit of the talented singing group, Gypsy Tober, seems to have inspired students from Mrs Shann’s class to put pen to paper!

I liked listening to the different beats and music of Gypsy Tober. The types of instruments were great to listen to too. The songs were wonderful and they sang well. Gypsy Tober even made up a new song. Gypsy Tober are part of Musica Viva.

Lachlan Eather

Gypsy Tober were good and they played different instruments and different music.

Issabella Hartog

I had fun at Gypsy Tober. My favourite part was the Magpie song. I enjoyed Gypsy Tober because they were entertaining and exciting.

Payten Barnes

We went to Gypsy Tober. I had to go up to play the clave or music sticks while they sang.

Zoe Sutton

I paid $7.50 to go to the show and see the performance. Gypsy Tober sang lots of songs in the show. We got to sing the Magpie song. When we played the instruments, it was fun.

Lyneah Mason

I liked it when Gypsy Tober did the samba and when they sang the Brazilian song too. I also liked when we got to do the actions. I liked Gypsy Tober because they were cool, in a good way. One played her instruments as well as the music.

Taylah Martin

Gypsy Tober were playing beats and we had to copy them every time they did a different one.

Mathew McGrath

When they played Magpies with their instruments it was cool. It was my favourite piece. I like magpies.

Lucinda Coffey

Stages 2 and 3 also gave their thoughts to Gypsy Tober

I liked Gypsy Tober because they showed us lots of different instruments. I liked the songs they sang and the song they wrote in 10 minutes.

Mietta Smith

Gypsy Tober were good singers using beats and they had good moves. You could sing with them. We made a song. It was good.

Oscar George

I liked Gypsy Tober and their music and the instruments from Africa.

Jayde Arnold

I liked Gypsy Tober because they did good singing.

Deacon Cuell
I liked Gypsy Tober because I liked their songs. They showed us the kinds of instruments they use in their songs. I learned new songs. They made up a song and sang it.

Kelly Wu

I enjoyed Gypsy Tober because the African songs were easy because my mum was born in South Africa. Gypsy Tober could make different noises with their mouths.

Ian Berney

I liked the way Gypsy Tober made up their music and I liked their instruments.

Blake Bartlett

School Council
The NPS Council had another busy meeting last Monday night. We are finding it challenging to fit everything in each time. Many areas of NPS were discussed - P&C Federation changes, social skills programs, NAPLAN, school administration software, building maintenance, teacher training, curriculum changes, evacuation procedures and effectively managing our ever growing student population.

Mr Clare led us through the current School Plan. This comprehensive document provides a broad roadmap for the three year cycle and includes the priority areas of literacy, numeracy, leadership and management, curriculum and assessment as well as student welfare.

We are very close to finalising our advice to the NPS executive regarding a Donations and Sponsorship Policy. Our next meeting is not until August, so please contact any of the Council representatives if you would like something discussed at that meeting (list available from the front office).

Libby Guest

New Ideas for Playing Happily
If you’ve looked around our playground during playtime lately you’ll see four large foam mats in front of our uniform pool. You’ll see them covered in Lego blocks, toy cars and other games.

This great idea is the brainchild of our hardworking and always enthusiastic Learning and Support Teacher, Ms Emily Meldrum.

The school is looking to offer our students a variety of activities to meet their different needs. After all, one size does not fit all and the school playground can sometimes be a difficult place for children. As you can see from the photo, it’s been very popular. It seems that many students prefer a quiet place to play away from the hustle and bustle of the main playground area.

By the way, we haven’t forgotten about the girls. Ms Meldrum has been busy getting lengths of elastic sewn together suitable for the great old-fashioned game of elastics. These will be available for students to use in our school playground shortly. By the way, last night I went online to Google and searched the term “elastics” and was shocked to discover that this game is making a huge come-back in places like the USA and England.

Well done, Ms Meldrum. You are a trend-setter without even knowing it!
Farm Garden

On Tuesday 3rd June 4M had the privilege of planting the new “Farm Garden” at school. The idea is for our school garden to ‘mirror’ what is being sown and grown on local farms during each season of the year. This idea was the brainchild of our local farming parents led by Ian Gourley. Mr Drew Penberthy, Mr Hugh Urquhart and Mr Ian Gourley came and delivered a very informative and entertaining planting session.

Firstly, Mr Gourley spoke about the different types of seeds that we were planting. Each group of students planted two rows of a particular plant.

As an ongoing class activity, we are going to measure the growth rates of the crops as part of a class experiment. We discussed the different needs of plants such as food, water, oxygen, carbon dioxide and soil. We took soil profile measurements and found that at the top of the garden we had a good 70cm of soil moisture and lower beds only 50cm of profile. The class also had the chance to make “chewing gum” from wheat.

The seeds we planted were Durum Wheat, Purple Wheat, Triticale, Barley, Canola, Linseed, Chickpeas, Field Peas, Faba beans, Saff Flower, Lupins, Lentil and Fenugreek. We look forward to watching the garden beds growing.

Article by 4M

Rugby Union Trials by Thomas Eather

On Friday, 30th May, Felix Johnson, Jakeb Nipperess and I travelled to Chillingworth Oval, Tamworth for Rugby Union trails to be selected for the North West team. There were approximately forty children trying out for the team. They all came from either the Tamworth region or the Armidale region.

There were five selectors who coached us during our morning skills session. After lunch, we had continuous mini games with region vs region. Then we sat down and the selectors announced the top 22 and Felix and I were selected. We will be travelling to Kiama in August.

NPS Rugby team looking very professional in their new attire

Narrabri Tennis Holiday Tennis Clinic

When: 1st week of the holidays
Monday 30th June through to and including Thursday 3rd July.

Where: Narrabri Tennis Centre
Cost: 9am to 12 noon - $80 for 4 days or $25 per day, 9am to 3pm - $120 for 4 days or $35 per day (Family discounts 3 or more children)

Program Includes: learning through play coaching, group lesson format using timed rotations and multiple coaches, instruction on all tennis strokes and round robin singles/doubles matchplay. Plenty of fun and games!!

Extra Information: Suits everyone aged from 4-16 years, beginners right through to the advanced even if you have never played tennis before. Free racquet hire and party and presentation on the final morning. Drinks breaks including recess and lunch. Wet weather program in place.

Further info: Shane Murphy 0405151935

Integrity ♦ Excellence ♦ Respect ♦ Responsibility ♦ Cooperation ♦ Care ♦ Fairness ♦ Democracy ♦ Participation
PSSA Netball Knockout
Last Friday the 6th June the NPS Netball team played against Narrabri West Public School in the PSSA Netball Knockout. Together the girls displayed amazing netball skills and successfully won 13-2. They will now progress to the next round of the knockout and we wish them the best of luck.

NPS Netball Team – Jorja Bakhuis, Stephanie Stuart, Francesca Smith, Breanna Smith, Lara Ciesiolka, Zoe Campbell, Annabel Read, Annie Gordon.

WHITE CARDS
1st
Phoenix Hoffman, Kaleb Barnes

BRONZE AWARDS
Mietta Smith, Caitlin Evans, Olive Almagro, Menzie Baker-Harvey, William Bussell, William Lettice, Brielle Bourke, Taylah Bull, Alinta Morgan, Nakari Morgan, Kate Partridge, Mylee Yu, Paul Doherty, Sam Yu, Isabella Monticone, Shakira Parker, Adam Farrar, Blake Ford, Tiarna Gibbs-McDonald, Brodie Fry, Elizabeth Caton, Mac Goulden, Patrick Lindsay, Lara Sunderland, Laura Richards, Maeve Harris, Georgia Stuart, Brinez Lantz, Ethan Irvine, Tyler Cowell, Rachel Charles, Brendan Lennox, Chris Clark, Sofia Fawcett, Rachel Caton, Thomas Wieringa, Hayley Orman, Zoe Campbell, Annalise Woodham, Sarah Draheim, Ashlee Yu

NPS Girls Experience Success at Eisteddfod
Last Monday evening some of our Year 6 girls participated in the Public Speaking section of the Narrabri Eisteddfod. Over the last few weeks they have been ably guided and assisted by Mrs Whan. The results of this hard work speak for themselves with Lara Ciesiolka gaining 1st place, Chelsea George 3rd place and Zoe Campbell Highly Commended. Congratulations girls!
The girls spoke on Change and were commended by the adjudicator on obviously writing their own speeches and using their own opinions. He was most impressed with this and encouraged them to further their development in this area.
We thank Mrs Whan for her generosity with time and effort, whilst on maternity leave, to get the girls to this level.
Isabelle Howard-Phemister entered individually and gained 2nd place. Congratulations Isabelle!

Pedro Noguera in “Educating Boys of Color” in Harvard Education Letter, May/June 2014

CANTEEN NEWS
We have had a number of notes and phone calls with families ‘booking up’ lunches. The canteens’ policy is not to see a child be hungry but we are also working on fairly small margins in an effort to keep our prices down; so the committee has asked me to remind you that we cannot afford to carry these outstanding amounts for more than a day or two. If your child brings home an account from canteen we would appreciate it if it is paid promptly. Thank you
Special this week quench drinks. These are aerated fruit juices which have 70% less sugar than fruit juices do. Flavours Apple/raspberry, Cola, Lemon/lime and Blue heaven. Cost $2.00
No more potato pies available
Special from Thursday – Pumpkin Soup with bread & butter $4.00

CANTEEN ROSTER
Wednesday, 11th June
HELP!!!!
Thursday, 12th June
Tarnia North
Friday, 13th June
Nicci Milson
Monday, 16th June
HELP!!!!

Please remember that even a little help goes a long way. Thank you Kim & Nikki

Integrity ◆ Excellence ◆ Respect ◆ Responsibility ◆ Cooperation ◆ Care ◆ Fairness ◆ Democracy ◆ Participation
Cake Day
Wednesday, 11th June, 2014

Stage 1
to provide cakes & slices please

Thank you for your support

Please send items in a disposable container, to avoid loss of valuables.

Cakes and slices will be priced at 40c.

A reminder that due to the fact that we do have students who have severe allergies to nuts and nut extract all forms of nuts are to be excluded from cakes and slices.