Principal’s Message

On Saturday morning our popular Kindergarten Expo was once again held here at the school. This annual event gives us an opportunity to showcase our facilities and the outstanding educational programs we offer students. This year the event was organised by Miss Jessica Morris and our other two Kindergarten teachers for 2015, Mrs Irvine and Mrs Young.

Over the past fortnight, Kindergarten teachers have been visiting local pre-schools such as Kogil Street, Narrabri Kids, Gumnut and Nurruby. They introduced themselves to those pre-schoolers and talked about the fun things that we do here at “big school.”

The weather was kind and families began arriving just before ten o’clock. Our young visitors were happy and looked ready for some fun! Inside the Kinder classrooms there were craft activities, a smartboard, toys, puzzles and even a special vacuum cleaner. Not only that, but the room was full of beautiful blue and yellow helium balloons!

Outside the Kinder rooms, games were set up and it wasn’t long before you could smell sausages sizzling away on the barbeque. It was great to see children, parents and staff lining up for a sausage sandwich. Big thanks to our Day Branch P&C for the sausages!

Without doubt, it was a great Kinder Expo 2014.

Star of the Week

Issabella Hartog

When Issabella Hartog’s mum came up to see me Friday afternoon she looked very excited. She couldn’t wait to tell me she’d just found out that Issabella had won the title of “Little Miss Country Girl 2014” for Narrabri district.

Apparently, when the Hartog family went to the Narrabri show earlier this year, a lady came up and asked her parents if they’d like to have some photos taken of Issabella. She told them their daughter would then be eligible to enter a competition called, “Miss Country Girl Muster.” They agreed to the idea.

Next, the Hartog’s drove Issabella over to the golf club during the school holidays to have a photo shoot. Some nice photos were taken and put onto a website called www.kismetdigital.com.au People could go online to vote for their favourite entrant. There were about twenty Narrabri girls in the competition.

For winning this title Issabella receives $500.00 worth of cash and prizes. At the end of the year, winners from other country towns go into a final judging. Whoever is chosen then will earn the “Miss Country Girl NSW.” The prize is $5000.00 worth of cash and prizes.

Well, I can’t offer you any money or prizes, Issabella, but I thought you’d make a great Star of the Week!
The Week Ahead

Week 7
Monday 25th August
Assembly under Primary COLA @ 3.00

Tuesday 26th August
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Wednesday 27th August
Executive Director of Schools Mr Frank Potter visiting NPS from 11.00 to 1.00
Cambodia Mufti Day
Canteen Meeting 2pm
Newcastle Permanent Maths
2M Assembly

Thursday 28th August
MAX FM
PSSA Cricket v Tamworth PS
PISCE Awards
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.3–3.45pm

Friday 29th August
Regional Athletics Carnival @ Tamworth

The Week Ahead

Week 8
Monday 1st September
Riding for the Disabled K-6T
Assembly under Primary COLA @ 3.00
SAS Recognition Week
School Council Meet @ 7.00pm

Tuesday 2nd September
Mrs Allison returns from LSL
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Wednesday 3rd September
5Q Assembly

Thursday 4th September
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.3–3.45pm
Federation Farm Meeting 7.00pm

Canteen Meeting
There is a Canteen Meeting at 2 pm on Wednesday, 27th August in the canteen, all welcome.
We’d love to see you there.
**Administrative Building**

The poor state of repair of our administration building remains one of the major issues for Narrabri Public School. I just wanted to inform the school community where we are up to in regards to all of this.

In case you don’t know, a school/community group was formed a few months ago to represent our interests. This group consists of Barwon Director, Rebecca Langdon, architect David Burdon, Lindy White, Kerrie Haire, Ken Campbell, Ann Loder, Joe Gordon and myself. Our task is to work with architects, Narrabri Shire Council and Public Works to get the best outcome for our school. A recent article in the Courier put forward a balanced, factual point-of-view about the situation we currently find ourselves in.

The committee is looking at three possible options 1) a new building 2) restoration of our current building or 3) a new building which incorporates the facade and other original sections into the final design.

In the meantime, we are still waiting for a heritage impact statement from the historical architect assigned to this project. When this is completed, we will know more about which of these three options is likely to go ahead and then put forward a design proposal to the school and local community in early October.

The next meeting date for the committee is Tuesday 2nd Sept. I will keep you informed.

**Behaviour Course**

A number of our staff are training in the important area of behaviour management. We believe this important skill needs to be continually developed to ensure that we are able to support the different needs of children we teach. Fortunately, there are some outstanding on-line training courses that the Department of Education provides.

Earlier this year, Mrs Young, Mrs Charles and Mrs Allison received some training. Last week, Miss Butler, Mrs Wilson, Miss Wardle, Mrs Wheeler and Mrs Bakhuis got together to learn some very interesting facts about behaviour.

**Behaviour Facts – Did You Know This?**

A) All behaviour serves a purpose or else it wouldn’t exist.

B) Behaviour is contextual. We see quite different behaviours from people when people and places are different.

C) Behaviour is learned and new behaviour can be learned. For an average student to learn something new, it needs to be repeated an average of 8 times.

D) For an average to unlearn an old behaviour and replace it with a new behaviour, the new behaviour must be repeated 28 times.

**Trees**

Our school has a number of trees identified as requiring pruning. A small number will even need to for safety reasons. This project has been delayed for several months due to the loss of the services of the arborist given the job for the local area. However, an arborist (Nick Clark ACRO Tree Services) visited last week and has put in a new quote. The large date palm tree with the safety fence around it will go at this time.
Presentation Night 2014

Our school’s committee held a meeting last week. The cost of hiring the Crossing Theatre was examined, but it was decided that this important school event will once again take place at this prestigious venue.

The date we have booked is 9th December. At our P&C meeting last Wednesday night, our Night Branch was asked to once again consider helping us meet the cost of this special night of the year. Their generous response to this request re financial support was genuinely appreciated.

Parent, Student Survey On-Line

Each year as part of our school’s self-evaluation process, parent/carer surveys are required. There are many good reasons for this a) to get feedback on the operation of the school from students, teachers and caregivers b) to gather feedback on the school’s delivery of the School Plan performance c) to give direction and assist the School Council in representing the School Community d) to engage and involve parents/ caregivers and teachers and students in the running of the school e) to improve the job we do for your child

These surveys have been written and are being reviewed at present. They will soon be available to parents on-line through Survey Monkey. More information about this will be outlined in this newsletter in the weeks to come. A big thanks to our School Council secretary, Joanne Petrovic, who has been assisting the school with this project.

BRONZIE AWARDS

Peta White, Patrick Merritt, Eva Simpson, Thomas Ryan Ryan, Ashlee Anderson, Ryan, Ryan, Ashlee Anderson, Sahvanah Hunt-Falkiner, Isaiah Ross, Gypsy Williams, Jayde Arnold

Science Day

Thursday 28th August sees the annual PICSE Science Competition being judged at the Crossing Theatre by CSIRO Science Education Officer, Trudy Staines and local scientists. As you might know, our school has a special long-standing relationship with the local science community here in Narrabri. We take pride in being seen as a “Science School.” As in previous years, our K-6 classes responded positively to the invitation to participate. The PICSE competition fits in beautifully with our science curriculum, but it was still a big ask for our teachers with all the content teachers need to get through each day. Well done, teachers and students.

Tom Eather & Felix Johnson at the State Rugby Union in Kiama. Congratulations boys – you did NPS proud!!
CAANTEEN NEWS
We have ‘ethnic’ food on our menu regularly so on Wednesday the children might like to order an Aussie Pie and sauce or an American Hotdog. Or Italian Pizza and Pasta. Not to forget Fried Rice and salads with french dressing.

As an EXTRA SPECIAL on Wednesday ONLY we will have some different Icy poles and Ice creams available.

From the tropics –
Lemonade Icy poles or a Fruitsicle @ $1.20
Raspberry or Mango Splits @ $1.50
and Golden Sun (Toffee) and Happy Jacks (100’s + 1000’s) Ice creams @ $1.80

CAANTEEN ROSTER

Tuesday,26th August
HELP !!!!!!!

Wednesday, 27th August
Nicci Milsom

Thursday, 28th August
Cassie Webster

Friday, 29th August
Nicci Milsom

Monday, 1st September
Cathy Coleman

Friday is the Northwest Carnival and Nikki will be away supporting Connor so anyone with an hour to spare would be very welcome.

Thank you
Kim Owens- Supervisor Nikki Finn-Assistant

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HOST AN OVERSEAS STUDENT?
Experience another culture, make new friend and improve your language studies at home
Hosting – An experience for life
Student Exchange is looking for host families across Australia to welcome overseas students into their home.

www.studentexchange.or.au
1300135331 (cost of local call)

P&C Daybranch Fundraiser

Father’s Day Stall will be held on Friday, 5th September, 2014
All donations of soap, wrapped lollies, mugs or whatever you think would be great to give Dad on his special day can be bought in to the front office.

We will be holding a wrapping day on Wednesday, 27th August at 10.00am in the Uniform Shop – so if you have some time to spare please pop in from 10.00am.

We would love your help!
Also on Friday, 5th September we are asking for help to sell the Father’s Day gifts – your assistance from 9.00am in the school hall will be very much appreciated.

Uniform Shop
A reminder to anyone who has an outstanding account to please finalise by Friday, 29th August.
A big thank you to everyone who has donated clothing.
We would love more donations 2nd hand uniforms to sell at our shop PLEASE.