As regular readers of this newsletter know, Mr Frank Potter, Executive Director, Public Schools NSW visited all Narrabri schools last Wednesday, 27th August.

Mr Potter is one of only six executive directors in NSW, and as such, is directly responsible for overseeing public schools across a large part of the state.

Mr Potter was accompanied by Barwon Director of Schools, Rebecca Langdon. The visit to NPS began around eleven o’clock with a discussion with executive about how we are meeting our educational goals. Mr Potter then visited classrooms to observe how well mathematics is being taught across the various grades. He spoke with students, teachers and parents from Kindergarten, Year 3, 4 and 5 as he moved around.

Lunch for Mr Potter, Mrs Langdon, staff and guests was held in our school library. Representatives from School Council & our P&C, Libby Guest, Jo Petrovic and Joe Gordon who came along to represent our school community. Once again, NPS Canteen Supervisor, Kim Owens did us proud with a magnificent hot meal which everybody appreciated.

The following day, Rebecca Langdon (Barwon Director) expressed her thanks in this email: “Just a quick email to say thank you very much for your warm welcome and hospitality. Frank was extremely impressed with your directions for your school, the innovation and the fantastic learning that is occurring.”

This week’s star is one of those quiet achievers who make Narrabri Public such a wonderful place to learn. Layne Foran is a happy and cheerful young lady with a fabulous, positive attitude towards school.

Layne loves the country lifestyle. In her spare time, she’s a fair-dinkum cowgirl who is happiest when she’s riding her horse around the family farm out there at Maules Creek. She also has two beautiful Jack Russell dogs named Zeb and Darcy.

Layne is in 3/4Alison. “My favourite subject is art,” she said. “Drawing and painting are my favourite subjects.” Layne is also part of our QuickSmart maths program. Her tutor, Mrs Wheeler calls Layne, “one of my superstar QuickSmart students.” That’s true because Layne always gives one hundred percent and even practises at home to improve her skills.

Layne’s best friends are Bianca Wilson, Lilly-Rose Baker and Milly Bruce. He favourite colours are aqua and lavender. Well done, you’re a champion student as far as we’re concerned Layne!
Cambodia Mufti-Day Appeal
Sincere thanks to all those students who, despite the wet weather, came dressed up in mufti last Wednesday 27th August. Your gold coin donation for a very worthy cause was definitely appreciated.

All money raised on this day will go towards putting resources into a school in Cambodia. They currently have little or no paper, pencils or chalk for blackboards. Every dollar we send will help them.

By the way, our lolly guessing competition ran all this week. The winner will be announced at our Monday assembly this afternoon.

As you can see from the photos, many of our students went to a deal of trouble to dress in a multi-cultural theme. Well done!

2M Assembly
Congratulations class 2M on a wonderful assembly last Wednesday afternoon. Many favourable comments about your presentation and general behaviour were overheard. One thing is certain - anybody who attended this assembly was impressed.

The Week Ahead

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

Tuesday 2nd September
Administration Building Committee Meeting @ 11.30
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Wednesday 3rd September
5Q Assembly
School Banking

Thursday 4th September
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
Silver Award Ceremony in school hall @ 11.20
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm
Federation Farm Meeting 7.00pm

Friday 5th September
P&C Day Branch Fundraiser
Father’s Day Stall will be held in school hall

Week 9
Monday 8th September
Assembly under Primary COLA @ 3.00

Tuesday 9th September
Mrs Allison returns from LSL
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Wednesday 10th September
Canteen Red Day
Assembly @ 2.40
School Banking

Thursday 11th September
Bronzy Party for all recipients @ 11.20
Silver Award Ceremony in school hall @ 11.20
Yr 3-6 Touch Gala Day
Combined Scripture Service
P&C Uniform Shop open 2.30–3.45pm

Friday 12th September
PSSA Cricket v Tamworth Public @ Cooma Oval

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Contentious Issue for NPS
If you read last Tuesday’s Narrabri Courier you may have read a letter from a local landowner who complained that a meeting conducted by a local group community known as “People for the Plains” did not go ahead in our school hall on Friday 22nd August as proposed. The meeting featured a film about the effects of coal seam gas and a talk by well-known television personality, Michael Caton.

Since then, a number of concerned parents (both for and against CSG) have spoken to me about my decision to withdraw the invitation. I understand this whole issue remains controversial.

However, I am sure everybody understands it is not my role as this school’s leader to make a stand on contentious issues. My job is to simply follow our department’s policy guidelines to the best of my ability. I do, of course, realise that while some parents passionately believe this meeting ought to have gone ahead, others feel the exact opposite.

To my way of thinking, however, this is the exact point where the issue becomes a political rather than an educational one.

Parents have School Council representatives who are able to take their concerns to meetings for discussion. Given the possibility that they too might hold differing points of view, this would almost ensure some robust, earnest debate. Alternately, all parents have an opportunity to express their opinions about issues relating to our school at monthly P&C meetings.

Having spoken about this issue with Barwon Director Rebecca Langdon last week, my sincere advice to all is that discussions should remain civil, neither defamatory nor inflammatory. After all, Narrabri Public School’s core business is teaching and learning. Michael Clare

Voltaire (1694-1778): “We are all formed of frailty and error; let us pardon reciprocally each other's folly - that is the first law of nature.”

Sports Achievers
We certainly have some outstanding sports stars here at NPS. Below is a photo of Zoe Campbell who represented North-west at the NSWPSSA Girls State Touch Carnival in Wagga.

Zoe travelled down to the Riverina for a week. Her parents Ken and Heidi were very proud of her achievements. The team had a mixed carnival with a win, a draw and a couple of losses, but they were quite competitive in each game. Zoe said, “It was an enjoyable week and I made some new friends.”

Meanwhile, Zoe’s fellow Year 6 students Tom Eather & Felix Johnson went to Kiama for PSSA State Rugby Union trials. The following reports were emailed to me last week by their coach …

No 5 Thomas Eather
Thomas is a hardworking, no nonsense kind of player as all good forwards should be. Thomas was an integral part of the forward pack for the North West PSSA Rugby team. His uncompromising play in defence and attack was a pleasure to watch. Thomas gave the “engine room” of the team some good “go forward” by making those all-important hard yards up the middle. Thomas showed that he is a good lineout jumper and has some solid skills when it comes to the scrum. In defence Thomas works hard and made some key tackles for the team at important moments. He has a positive attitude to rugby and his team mates. He was always encouraging the boys even when the game seemed out of reach. Thomas is one of those hard working forwards that doesn’t make huge runs but is prepared to roll up his sleeves and clean out opposition players at the ruck and get a shoulder on at the maul. He does those important, but not glamorous jobs on the rugby field. I enjoyed coaching Thomas and wish him all the best with his education and the Blue Boars.
No. 21 Felix Johnson

Felix was one of the members of the 2014 North West PSSA Rugby team with what we call ‘wheels’ or ‘jet shoes’. Felix possesses tremendous pace and can find his way to the try line. His running lines are extremely intelligent and he is able find a gap in the toughest defensive lines. Felix found himself playing a few different positions over the course of the campaign, but fulfilled his role tremendously well. Whether he was in the centres or on the wing he was constantly giving his best. Felix also showed that he was not afraid to get in the ‘engine room’ and give the big boys up front a hand when needed. He copped a few knocks during the carnival, but soldiered on admirably. Felix has a big future in the game and is one of those players that all coaches like to have in their squad because he always does what’s required of him. He’s a great listener and plays every minute of every game at the same intensity. I wish him well for the remainder of the season and good luck for High School in 2015.

Silver Ceremony Time

At this time of the year, our Bronzy parties are winding down and the number of students eligible to receive their silver badges is beginning to grow. In fact, we are holding our first silver ceremony on Thursday at 11.40 in the school hall. Parents and family members are invited to come along to watch their child receive their badge. Please join us and celebrate your child’s achievement with some music from the school band, a piece of cake and a nice cup of coffee. Please note: our first ceremony is large and will extend beyond our normal recess time.

PICSE Science Competition

On Thursday 28th August was the judging of the annual PICSE Science Competition was once again held. As you might know, our school has a long-standing commitment to science education and we take great pride in participating each year with the local science community here in Narrabri.

Of course, the PICSE competition fits in beautifully with our science curriculum and as you can see from the photos, our students love this competition.

This message below comes from the co-ordinator CSIRO Education Officer, Trudy Staines:

“Thank you for participating in the PICSE Cotton SEIA’s. We had 76 entries from 5 schools in the shire - a great effort from our local teachers to fit this into their busy school year. The students were great and impressed the judges with their engagement and behaviour”.

Thank you so much to the judges who took time out to judge all the projects; they were representatives from a number of our local Science organisations (NSW DPI Bio Security, CSIRO, CSD, CRDC, Santos, Rotary, Cargill, PICSE and Warrambool Environmental Services). Special thanks to the Sydney University who brought a great team to do activities.

I am very proud of our event and I would like to acknowledge and thank very much the donators of the prizes who make this event possible

They are:
Cotton Research & Development Corporation
NSW DPI Bio Security
Sydney University Wheat research
Santos
Boggabri Coal
Namoi Water
Grey Farming Mungindi
Cargill Oil Seeds Australia

Book Week Competition 2014

We are delighted to announce that a student from NPS has won a prize in the prestigious Narrabri Library Book Week Competition. This year the town library was inundated with 529 entries from across the shire!

All we can say right now is that the local librarian and competition organiser, Jenny Campbell, is coming to next Monday afternoon’s assembly to present the special book award to a very talented Year 1 student.

Who is it? That’s still a secret. We’ll announce the winner next week!

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So a huge thanks and gratitude to all who made it a great day

JUNIOR CRICKET
Meeting to form committee for this seasons junior cricket competitions, both local and inter-town.
From Kanga's to under 16's.
DATE: Tuesday 9th September 2014
TIME: 6.30 pm
VENUE: Narrabri Tennis Club house
Inquires: Rod Tomlinson 0488925021

Canteen News
As we wind down towards the end of term 3 the canteen will be running out of Lasagne, Spaghetti Bolognaise and Macaroni Cheese. At our committee meeting on Wednesday the committee asked that I not make any more so as the freezer stock is emptied and it will not be replaced. Fried Rice will continue on to the summer (term 4) menu.

Hunter/New England Health is working with us to help promote our healthy menu choices. If your children are ordering their lunch once a week than all of our menu options are OK. If however you order for your child several times a week it is a good idea to try our sandwiches and salads for some of these days. This, of course, is easier as the weather warms up too. We always have fruit available at canteen and many families take advantage of this for “crunch and sip” break during the morning. It is important to encourage a balanced diet so varying choices both in the lunch box and when ordering is a good thing. We are looking at introducing yoghurts (not just the frozen ones) next term and if you have some healthy choice suggestions which are nutritious and quick to prepare you’d like to see added to the menu please come and see me and I can take them to the committee.

Thank you to both Nicci Milsom (for her day) and Lyn Large (for her hour doing drinks) on Friday. I really appreciated your help to make the day run smoothly. We will be having our “Red Day” next week on Wednesday so save your spare change for a sweet treat.

CANTENE ROSTER

Tuesday, 2nd September
HELP!!!!!!!
Wednesday, 3rd September
HELP!!!!!!!
Thursday, 4th September
Jenny Lindsay
Friday, 5th September
Nicci Milsom
Monday, 8th September
HELP !!!!!!!

Thank you
Kim Owens
Supervisor

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P&C Daybranch Fundraiser:

Father’s Day Stall will be held this Friday, 5th September, 2014. Donations are still being accepted at the front office. Gifts will be priced from $2.00 - $10.00.

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.

Thank you

POSITION VACANT

BOOKKEEPER

NPS Canteen is currently seeking an experienced person to assist in all aspects of book keeping and payroll for 10 hours per month. The successful applicant will be competent in MYOB or similar accounting package and be responsible for completing the following:

- Weekly pays for canteen staff
- Monthly financial reports for the Canteen and P&C meetings
- Monthly superannuation payments for canteen staff
- Quarterly submissions of IAS via ATO web portal
- Attendance at monthly Canteen committee meetings
- Abiding by confidentiality and privacy guidelines

For any further enquiries please contact Georgina Gourley on 0429 923 740.

Applications close Monday 15th September. All applications in writing and forwarded to:

NPS Canteen President OR npscanteen@yahoo.com.au
P.O Box 161 Narrabri NSW 2390

Bronzy Party last week was smaller, but loads of fun!

BRONZE AWARDS
Briana Coleman, George Barton, Zoe Druce, Dakoda Bower, Kaden Harvey, Riley Lamb, Kianna Allen, Jye Norris

SILVER AWARDS
Maeve Harris, Nakari Morgan, Kate Partridge, Paul Doherty, Sophie Eather, May Krishna, Olivia Verrier, Poppy Smith, Lachlan Large, Ellesha Anderson, Charli Cassidy, Candice Wright, Shaunie Yu, Georgia Stuart, Sofia Fawcett, Jessica Berney, Danielle Sunderland, Blake Ford, Adam Farrar, Shakira Parker, Brodie Fry, Caitlin Evans, Olive Almagro, Annabelle Gordon, Sara Charles, Georgia Garden-Thorn, Zoe Campbell, Hayley Orman, Thomas Wieringa, Cassidy Staines, Beau Tomlinson, Francesca Smith, Latoya Huggins, Callan Webster, Luke Wieringa, Campbell Hancock, Angus Gourley

INFANTS ASSEMBLY AWARDS

ENGLISH:
Alinta Morgan, Menzie Baker-Harvey, Ella Draheim, Kiarnah Eames, Emilio Almagro, Declan Rooney, Angus McLean, Laine McCauley

MATHS:
Sam Yu, Hamish Webster, Beth Lindsay, Taylah Bell, Ayrlea Arnold, Patrick Lindsay, Brigette Rose, Kate Weekes

SPORTS:
George Barton, Richard Hill, Dustin Cuell, Madeleine Shields, Ben Allison, Harry Parkes, Payten Barnes, Clarence Morgan

CITIZENSHIP:
Nakari Morgan, Olivia Shields, Kia Smiley, Helena McLean, Charlie White, Braedon Mason, Oscar George, Thomas Webster

ACHIEVEMENT:
Tekaya Dennis, Alicia Morgan-Ferguson, Lane Shoobert, Geoffrey Crean, Mikayla Milson, Elizabeth Caton, Brayden Cotton, William Watson

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PRIMARY ASSEMBLY AWARDS

ENGLISH:
Sean McLean, Jake Bussell, Sean Allen, Jye Anderson, Ebonnie Brown, Riley Emmerson, Azander Key, Francesca Smith, Hilton Jackson, John Allison, Kaleb Barnes, Layne Foran, Riley Lamb, Julaan Fish, Daniel Swain, Molly Michell-Smith, Isabelle Howard-Phemister, Tahnee Barwick

MATHS:
Debbie Haywood, Dominic Atkins, Ciani Welsh-Lobo, Annalise Woodham, Holli Nipperess, Paige Dean, Jack Wheeler, Makayla Beddow, Hayley Orman, Liam Foster, Tim Clare, Brooke Miskle, Nic Hand, Olivia Verrier, Azander Key, Candice Wright, Jasmin Nixon, Callan Webster

ACHIEVEMENT:
Jorja Hackett, Blake Boney, Isaiah Ross, Brooke Everson, Jacob Coxon, Brendan Lennox, Michael McDougall, Callan Webster, Charntaye Leonard, Alex Mison, Maddison Luech, Rhani Frewtrell, Tim Clare, May Krishna, Lilly Williams, Alistair Gourley, Kira Manning, Patrick Simpson

SPORTS:
Alex Mison, Claire Eather, Millie Goulden, Ciani Welsh-Lobo, Charli Cassidy, Clayton Johannesen, Sonia Kennedy, Lara Ciesiolka, Charles Fawcett, Georgia Kirkby, Ashton Smith, Lily-Rose Baker, Lakeiya Dennis, Charlie North, Tyler Cowell, Kelton Williams, Wiki Mason, Jacob Sunderland

CITIZENSHIP:
Kaitlyn Wall, Megan Swain, Cilla Hamblin, Makayla Cook, Poppy Smith, Cassidy Staines, Sofia Fawcett, Kyle Gray, Andrew Coleman, Chelsi-Jo Everson, Toby Michell-Smith, Bianca Wilson, Zarli Owers, Joshua Taylor, Shaunie Yu, Reanna Doolan, Reece Anderson, Breeana Smith

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT NETBALL

FINALS JNRS & B GRADE-30TH Aug, 6th
Sept & Grand Final 13th September
Net Set Go will continue until the 13th September
Net Set Go & Jnrs to start as normal

Twilight Mixed Rego Time: 8th Oct, 5.30pm to 6.30 pm at Courts
ENQUIRIES: ANNE BENNETT 0457 901895

THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

Choose from over 30 exhilarating camps at 10 locations across NSW these school holidays. Our Sport and Recreation Centres offer over 40 activities for kids aged 5 to 16 years. Try your hand at fishing, mountain biking, kayaking, abseiling, crafts, cooking or flying fox. You’re sure to find a camp the kids will love.

Kids’ Camps
from $45 per day
fb.com/nswsportandrecreation
www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps 13 13 02

Area Manager - MOREE AREA
ISS Facility Services - More jobs by this advertiser

The Government Cleaning Division of ISS, which predominately provides cleaning services to a range of NSW government sites including schools, TAFE colleges and departments, is seeking a dedicated Area Manager. Responsibilities include the day to day management of staff and sites within the area to ensure a safe and healthy work environment where customer requirements are met.

Successful applicant will be able to demonstrate:

- Industry knowledge
- Clear oral and written communication skills
- Excellent customer service and support skills
- Comprehensive understanding and commitment to WHS
- Self-motivated and possess excellent time management skills
- Computer literate
- Genuine management experience in a service related industry
- Current drivers licence
- Hold or be prepared to undertake Certificate IV Asset Maintenance
- You will also need to complete a Working With Children Check and undergo a police clearance.

Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications and a fully maintained motor vehicle will be provided to the successful applicant.

Previous applicants need not apply.

Thank you for your interest in working with ISS.

Due to the volume of applicants if you have not heard back from ISS within one month of the closing date your application is deemed to be unsuccessful.