PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

The start to this term seems as busy as ever with Primary Cross Country happening today over at Caniaba and the NAPLAN testing occurring next week for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Senior Preliminary Reports are currently being finalised and will be distributed next week.

Teaching staff are currently working hard on refining and enacting the School Plan and finalising new ways to work together to ensure we offer the best possible educational opportunities to our young people.

In this newsletter you will find a survey from the P&C regarding the Primary uniform. Please read it carefully and return it as I believe it is important for the views of our parents to be fully represented in whatever decision is to be made about our uniform style, material and provider. We value your opinion.

As the weather begins to change please ensure your young person is dressing adequately for school. With chilly mornings followed by bright, warm sunny days, it is imperative your young person is dressing in layers so they will be toasty warm in the morning but can be cool and comfortable as the day warms up.

We also appreciate you labelling your young children’s clothing so we can return vagrant clothing to its rightful owner.

Enjoy the last of the warm weather!

A thought:
“No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face.” [The Autumnal]
— John Donne

Mary-Jane Pell

Please find attached on the back of this newsletter P&C Primary Uniform Survey and Stewart House Envelope.
FROM THE DEPUTY MARSHALL

A big welcome back to all our students, staff and the whole school community for what I hope is a very productive, happy and learning filled Term 2. I know that at the end of Term 1 everyone was starting to feel a little “frazzled” – it was a long and busy term – so it’s great to see everyone looking refreshed and relaxed.

This will also be a busy term with NAPLAN, Café Central, Wellbeing Day, Lovebites, PASH and Work Experience for Year 10 on top of the regular day to day school activities. Term 2 is also notorious for colds and flu affecting staff and students, so it is probably timely to remind all to take care of themselves this term, pace yourself and make it through to the next holidays as stress free as possible … (I can’t believe I’m mentioning the next holidays already!!!).

Remember that it has been proven that approaching tasks in a positive mood leads to 3 times more intelligent, creative, accurate and fast responses. This is something that will help us all through this term and life in general.

Cath Marshall

SENIOR CERAMICS

2016 has, to my delight, seen the re-introduction of the Ceramics course into Nimbin Central School Secondary studies!

Year 11 has now been completed with students excelling at their introduction to clay. In order to learn the basic handbuilding techniques of coiling, pinch-pots and slab work Whimsical Pots were created to explore this avenue of creation. Closely following this fun exercise, the construction of a larger coiled pot, based on historical studies, was successfully completed by all with students’ imagination running free with sound construction and emerging decorating skills.

As well, understanding the basic geology of clay, decorating with slips/underglazes/glazes and learning about different kiln firings comprised their technical theory work for this unit. The best of their work was exhibited in the Nimbin Autumn Arts display where, to students’ delight, many of their pots were sold!

Unit 2 saw them approach the pottery wheel method of making pots with as much enthusiasm as the introductory unit. Again, their talents were exposed as they slowly gained confidence and produced functional ware in the form of bowls, cups/mugs and plates. Such diversity, again, in decoration, with skills that are of note, within this creative group. To complete their preliminary studies they explored simple mould-making with each student creating their own mould from found object in the form of recycled, textured bowls and plates. Their final exam for Year 11 consolidated their practical and theoretical knowledge. Some outstanding work, so well done girls!

Year 12 proposals are now due as students research and consolidate their area of interest for their major body of work. Slowly, they are reflecting on their skills and what they would like to achieve over a longer period of time. Many are considering combining the different areas and techniques covered in Year 11 with various clay and kiln firings.

I am looking forward to seeing some more wonderfully different clay creations which will be displayed in our MPU on completion of their Year 12 studies, later in the year. Here we go again students, another journey starting with this important venture. All the best for the enjoyment of your final, school ceramic creations and studies.

Marg Canning
Ceramics
K - 6 News

Welcome back. It’s a relief to have the cooler weather and chilly mornings. As per usual the term is filling up with lots of events so please make sure you refer to the up and coming events calendar on the front of this newsletter. Did you know that you can access the newsletter via our school website and also download permission notes.

ANZAC Day March
Thank you to the squad of students who represented our school at the Anzac Day Ceremony in Nimbin. It’s occasions such as these where the staff carry an enormous pride and congratulate them on their respectful behaviour.

Special Assembly.
Our third special assembly will be held on Friday 27th May 2016 and an invitation to parents of students receiving an award will be sent the week before. A number of students will be awarded a Principal’s Commendation Certificate by Ms Pell. Also class 4/5/6 will be presenting an item and we would love to see a great audience in attendance.

National Music Tutor Program NSW
Nimbin Central has been accepted in the National Music Tutor Program NSW which started this term and runs for two terms in classes 2/3/4 and K/1. Participating teachers are mentored at their school over Terms 2 and 3 by an experienced, highly-skilled music educator, providing them with the skills and confidence to deliver high quality music in their classrooms.

Why music education?
Music education in schools has been proven to improve student outcomes in the classroom, as well as improving self-confidence, creativity and teamwork skills.

It’s certainly a highly valued program and we are enthusiastic to introduce the program to our students.

Daily Fitness REMINDER
K-6 participate in fitness lessons daily. These quite vigorous lessons develop improved gross motor skills, hand eye co-ordination, teamwork and all round fitness. It is important for safety reasons and physical development that students wear appropriate footwear to school. Crocs, slip on shoes, sandals, boots do not provide adequate support and protection for children’s feet. At present the children are practicing for the Cross Country carnival and cross a mixture of surfaces and terrains. Help us to support them to enjoy their sport by ensuring they have proper footwear.

As always if you have any concerns about your child’s education please talk to us so that we can make your child’s schooling a happy and positive learning experience.

Regards

Dian Plesko
Assistant Principal
ANZAC Day March 2016
CAREERS

Information on the following areas are available from your Careers Advisor:

- Australian Catholic University Open Day and Early Achievers Program
- Western Sydney Careers Expo
- Any students wishing to apply for Bond University please see Mr Chaseling ASAP
- UTS Scholarships
- Girls Engineering Workshop Sydney Years 9-11
- Snowboard Skiing Internship
- Pathways to University Day University of Notre Dame
- A variety of courses at Whitehouse Institute
- Ski or Snowboarding Institute
- Indigenous Apprenticeship Program
- Parent information evening University of Notre Dame
- Fashion Institute Open Day
- Discovery Day Nature Care College
- Roof Plumber Apprenticeship HUTC Casino
- Host an exchange student
- Scholarships and application Le Cordon Bleu Sydney
- WEP (Student Exchange) information evenings
- Music Information Day Griffith University
- Girls Choice Summer School, University of Newcastle information for Science and Maths subjects

Regards

Mark Chaseling

P&C NEWS

Hi everyone – hope you had a great holiday! The first P&C meeting for Term 2 will be next Tuesday, 10th May, 2pm in the Meeting room. Currently we are discussing the school's waste management systems, healthy canteen options, sourcing water filters for the bubblers, improving the car park, and more! Come along to the meeting, or send us an email to ncspandc@gmail.com, if you have any ideas or issues you would like to raise.

We are also planning our upcoming fundraising events. We would love to set up a fundraising sub-committee, so if policies and meetings aren’t really your thing, but you bake a mean slice or would like to rustle up a raffle, please get in touch.

A survey is attached to the back of this newsletter regarding the Primary school uniform. We need to find a new uniform supplier, and in response to parent feedback have sourced a 100% cotton uniform. The only problem is, it’s only available in a plain polo, not in our current 3-colour design. We need your input to help us make a decision about which way to go – a single colour polo in organic cotton, or the current design in a poly/cotton. Please fill in your survey and return it to the front office during the next two weeks. There are samples of the proposed uniforms hanging in the foyer if you would like to check them out. Feel free to contact the P&C with any questions or comments.

Wishing you all the best as you settle back into the school routine – hope to see you at a meeting soon!

Elowyn
P&C Secretary
WARNING! WARNING! MISSING BOOKS COST MONEY! Please make sure that you return all books except textbooks after 2 weeks or renew them because after reminder notices comes a letter asking you to pay for a replacement copy. We choose not to fine any-one but often have to chase up books or lose them when people move house. Please check your bookshelves to make sure all books make it back to us.

Reading Aloud at Home

- Across ages, the overwhelming majority of kids (86%) say they love(d) being read books aloud at home or like(d) it a lot—the main reason being because it is a special time with parents.
- More than half of children aged 0–5 (57%) are read aloud to at home 5–7 days a week. This frequency declines to four in 10 kids aged 6–8 (41%), and continues to decrease with age.
- Of those children aged 6–8 whose parents no longer read books aloud at home, half (51%) did not want their parents to stop.
- Nearly six in 10 parents of children aged 0–5 say they started reading books aloud to their child before age one, while only 26% say they began before the age of three months. Just under half of parents with children aged 0–5 (47%) received the advice that children should be read aloud to from birth, most commonly from friends and family; however, only one-quarter of parents (26%) from the lowest-income households received this advice vs. 65% in the highest-income households.

Mazz Webb
Table Tennis Tournament

I would like to congratulate our Table Tennis team – Kai, Jaiden, Beau, and Chris, for their strong performance at the Richmond Zone Table Tennis Tournament. The format of the competition required our boys to play against teams from other schools in the area. Games were played in both single and doubles formats. The results were mixed on the day, with our representatives celebrating a number of individual and team wins, while also being defeated by some very strong competitors on the day. Our team gained valuable experience from playing against players of different abilities with unique styles of playing – ranging from hard and fast hitters, through to sneaky spinning players. The Table Tennis team will definitely be stronger from the experience, and I continue to encourage all students to participate in similar interschool sporting activities as they arise.

Brad Clarke

Jaiden returning a tricky spin shot during a game of singles

Beau following through after a strong backhand return during a doubles game with Jaiden against Richmond River

Kai hitting a winner during his singles game

Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary will be holding a Cake Stall and Sausage Sizzle next to the Medical Centre on Saturday 7th May from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm. All welcome!!!
Learning from our kids

Life is busy for all of us yet we have our kids with us for such a short time.

How much of our time with our children is given to issuing instructions? How much time do we give to listening to them?

Sometimes our kids surprise us because we are not up with how their thinking is changing.

The key is listening well to them.

Here are a few reminders for all of us:

Try to let young people know that you are truly interested in what they think by listening to them. You can convey this by remaining silent. A young person once told me that listen and silent both contain exactly the same letters. (Maybe she was trying to tell me something!). You convey that you are listening by your body language, eye contact, and by the use of reflective listening techniques.

Other good listening skills include:

- having a genuine curiosity and desire to listen to what a young person has to say
- being prepared to give and receive feedback in interactions with young people
- having a desire to understand and reflect that back to the young person
- empathy - really trying to understand the young person’s point of view
- giving undivided attention to the young person – by finding a quiet spot to chat and putting aside papers and pens
- asking questions to clarify points you don't fully understand
- resisting the urge to tell the young person what to do - instead ask them to suggest some solutions to their problems.

Some suggested communication tips:

The first step in communicating with young people is to try to understand them and what they are going through. Don't assume, ask the young person how you can help them.

Boundaries are an important part of all our work with young people. Without boundaries our relationships with young people can be ambiguous and uncertain.

Young people will often have already established ideas about what they should/could expect of us.

By providing these guidelines in our relationships with young people we are setting up positive limits that set out what each of us is responsible for.

It is important to be aware of factors that can serve as aids and those that can act as barriers to effective communication with young people.

While using suggested communication methods does not guarantee success it will ensure more effective engagement with young people and promote the sharing of information with them.

Things you can do to support School Attendance:

Talk positively about attending school and learning
Help your child get into a routine for getting ready to go to school stress-free
Help your child to get ready for school in the morning
Talk about the positive social of the school environment:
Friends
Favourite classes
Favourite teachers

For Teenagers:

Talk with your teenager about their long term goals and dreams and how school can help them achieve their dreams.

Always enjoy your kids even when they are being un-enjoyable.

Anne Bowden
What's on at Lismore Library?

Young Writers Group
with
Jesse Blackadder

Love writing?
Just want to learn new skills?

Thursday 5 May
5.00pm - 6.30pm
Lismore Library
For High School aged participants.
Refreshments provided.
Bookings & enquiries 02 6621 2464.

Strategic fun with
Eurogames
Interested in having a fun afternoon with like minded gamers?

What is it?
Strategic games that engage the imagination, promote social interaction and feature amazing artwork and concepts.

BYO games welcome, open to all ages.
Last Sunday of each Month
1.00pm - 4.00pm
Second floor of the Lismore Library
Starts Sunday May 29

Interested in learning ENGLISH in the LIBRARY?
It's FREE at Lismore Library for community members wishing to improve their English communication skills and looking to connect with local community groups.

General Group Sessions
10.00am - 12.00 noon
1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month
Learner Licence English Sessions
1.00pm - 3.00pm every Wednesday
Individual Sessions
2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month
Bookings essential.
Phone 02 6621 2464 or Email: lismore@rtrl.nsw.gov.au

MULLUMBIMBY CRYSTAL FESTIVAL
4th & 5th JUNE 2016
MULLUMBIMBY SHOWGROUND
CRYSTAL EXHIBITION & SALE
JEWELLERY*GEMS*FINDINGS
MINERALS*SILVER RINGS
BEADS*FOSSILS*ROCKS
CRYSTALS
AUSTRALIAN GEOLOGY
and LOTS MORE . . .
AUSTRALIA'S TOP TRADERS
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9am - 5pm
ADULTS $6.00 CONC $3.00
UNDER 12 FREE
PHONE ROB 0405904881

Finger Knitting
Thursday 12 May
5.00pm - 6.30pm
Lismore Library
Refreshments provided. Bookings Essential.
NIMBIN CENTRAL SCHOOL

“Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible”

FOURTEENTH APPLE LAB

AFTER SCHOOL PERFORMANCE CLASSES
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
TUESDAYS 4:30-6:00
AT SILVER CLOUDS STUDIO, SOUTH LISMORE
PHONE 0406 787 847

Register now via fourteenthapple.com

SUMMERLAND
Northern Star Lismore echo
www.northernstar.com.au

Colour your World with a fun Filled family outing
Lismore’s 26th Annual Gemfest

2 Full Days: Saturday 14th May, 9am - 5pm
Sunday 15th May, 9am - 3pm
Venue: Lismore Showground
Entry: $5 per adult, $1 per child (under 5 yrs free)
Featuring: Gold Sapphires, Jewellery, Opals, Fossils,
Gemstones, Meteorites, Crystals, Raffles,
Kids Activities, Food Stalls & Lucky Gate Prizes

Nimbin Trailer Hire
Phone Shane 0458 491 428

CERES DELI & BULK FOODS

For a range of healthy un-packaged bulk foods, tasty cheeses, olives and continental deli delights.

Come and have a browse and see for yourself!
59 Bridge Street North Lismore
(opp. 20,000 cows) Phone: 6622-8352

Johnny Mc Recycling
ASB: 64 933 659 259

Ph: 6689 7322 Mob: 042 99 44 571

Web Address: www.nimbin-c.schools.nsw.edu.au
P&C Survey – Nimbin Central School Uniform
Please return by Friday May 20th

The school needs to find a new primary uniform supplier as the current supplier went out of business. The P&C has received requests from parents for a cotton shirt, and have found a company which can supply them. Most uniform suppliers no longer provide a 100% cotton option.

Blessed Earth can supply GOTS-certified organic cotton uniforms, for the same price as our current uniform. The Global Organic Textile Standard has stringent requirements for both environmental protection and social accountability, which the P&C supports. You can read more about GOTS at www.global-standard.org

The catch is, they can’t supply the current three-coloured primary uniform design, so in order to adopt their uniforms we would have to change the primary uniform to a single-colour polo; navy or royal blue have been suggested. It would feature the school crest printed on the breast.

The school would allow a transition period during which both uniforms would remain valid, so that those owning the current uniform would not have to immediately replace them.

The second option would be to keep the current design, which is available from another supplier in a 60% polyester/40% cotton fabric for the same price.

At Nimbin Central, uniform is not compulsory for every day wear, but students are encouraged to wear it and gain points in the merit system. Uniform is compulsory for any excursion off school grounds, including sports carnivals, therefore, students must own one.

To help the school and P&C make a decision regarding the new uniform supplier, please fill in the following survey and return it to the front office by the end of Week 4, Friday 20th May.

Samples of each of the options are available to view at the front office.

Please circle the relevant answer:

1. Year of school of your child/ren:   K  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12

2. Your child wears a uniform:
   Every Day
   Most days
   Occasionally
   For excursions/special occasions only
   Comment – What are your reasons for using or not using the uniform?
3. For the primary uniform, would you prefer:

Option 1 – Organic cotton uniform, with a change of design to a simple polo.
In either:
   A. Navy blue
   B. Royal blue
Option 2 – Keep the current multi-colour design, in a polyester/cotton blend.

Comment:

4. If the school were to change the uniform to Option 1, would you:

   a) Wait until currently owned uniforms no longer fit before buying more.

   b) Buy the cotton uniform immediately. If so, how many would you be likely to purchase initially, in what sizes?

5. Many schools have a hat as part of their uniform. We could add a broad-brimmed cotton hat to our uniform for under $10.

   Would you support a school hat as part of the uniform? Remember that it would be optional for everyday wear but compulsory for excursions.

   Yes
   No
   Comment