DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 4 – 2014
Week 6
Nov 12 – 14 Support Unit camp at Happy Hallidays (IM class)
Week 7
Nov 20 Year 7 Orientation Day GLC Forster and Tuncurry campuses
Week 8
Nov 24 Year 3 Intensive swimming commences
Nov 27 Year 6 performance "Peter Pan"
Week 9
Dec 1 Year 3 Intensive swimming continues
Dec 3 Stage 3 Super Sleuth
Dec 5 Medallion Assembly
Week 10
Dec 9 Presentation Assembly
Dec 9 Year 6 farewell
Dec 11 Semester Two reports home
Dec 12 K – 2 concert
Week 11
Dec 16 Stage 2 Christmas carols performance
Dec 17 Year 6 farewell arch
Dec 17 Last day for students
Dec 18 & 19 SDDs

Principal's Report
Mr Clissold’s leave
Mr Clissold will be on long service leave from next Wednesday 19 November for the remainder of the school year. While he is away, Mrs Kessey will be Relieving Principal. Ms Dupen will relieve as Deputy Principal from 19 November to 28 November and Ms Austin will take over this role from 1 December for the remainder of the year. Mrs Kellie Connolly will teach Ms Dupen’s class and then move onto Ms Austin’s class during their relieving periods. Mrs Drew will relieve as Assistant Principal for Stage 3 while Ms Dupen is Deputy Principal and Mrs Lutherborrow will relieve as Assistant Principal Support while Ms Austin is Deputy Principal.

Congratulations Charlie – A maths champion
Congratulations to Charlie N. who came 1st in the region for the Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition. He travelled to Coffs Harbour with his family this week for the official presentation ceremony.

Well done Charlie, we are proud of you.

Aboriginal Education Officer
Mr Coen Ridgeway was successful in gaining the relieving Aboriginal Education Officer position via expression of interest. This position has been filled for the remainder of Term 4 2014 and Term 1 2015, with the option to extend it. Coen will be a valuable addition to Forster PS.
2015 Student Leadership Team

Congratulations to our 2015 Leadership Team. Our student body has chosen well. I look forward to working with the team next year. School captains will be announced at the Presentation Day Ceremony on Tuesday 9 December 2014.

In alphabetical order:

**Girls**
Ruby Camilleri  
Jade Cremin  
Kintarli Morris  
Loganne Palmer  
Sophia Power  
Rhiannon Thompson

**Boys**
Landon Blissett  
Beau Caves  
Nick Kianou  
William Knight  
Charlie Naylor  
Angus Robertson

I would like to also congratulate all candidates who took part in this process. The standard was particularly high this year. We really enjoyed listening to the speeches. You should all be very proud of your achievements.

**Students not returning in 2015**

Our staffing allocation is based on our enrolment, it is extremely important that you let the school know, in writing before Friday 21 November 2014, if your child will not be continuing their education at Forster Public School in 2015 (2014 Year 6 excluded). Please disregard this notice if you have already made contact with the school. If you are taking an extended vacation please inform the school in writing of the date your children will be returning to school.

**Resilience**

This is the fourth and final instalment of the information we've been presenting around building resilience. Resilient individuals are better able to bounce back after setbacks and we adults all have a role in helping young people build this important characteristic.

Parenting tip #5: Teach that mistakes are an opportunity to learn

When you make a mistake, what do you do? Are you likely to throw your hands in the air and say it’s too hard? Do you give up and go back to what you know you can do? Or do you see the mistake as a chance to learn something new, and try again?

When your children make a mistake, what do they do? And perhaps more importantly, what do you say to them?

When we have a ‘learning’ orientation we see setbacks and failures as opportunities for mastery. By teaching our children that continued effort, practice, and learning are the keys to success, setbacks are no longer seen as frightening, and children become more resilient – willing to take risks and try new things.

They are also more likely to look forward to possibilities in the future and have a more optimistic and curious nature. This mindset is strongly linked to resilience.

Parenting tip #6: Promote responsibility by giving responsibilities

Many parents say of their irresponsible children, “I want my child to be responsible but I simply can’t trust her to do what I ask.” They are unwilling to give the child any responsibilities because they fear the child will not be responsible.

Lectures will not promote responsibility. Instead, responsibility comes from opportunities to be responsible, a chance to help, and by being part of a family that is involved in doing things for others.

Parenting tip #7: Teach your children to make their own decisions

When our children struggle, we often want to tell them what to do to fix things. Constantly making decisions for our children can undermine their decision making skills and confidence.
When you child is faced with a problem, listen with your heart. Then see the world through his eyes. When he feels understood, ask the question:

“What do YOU think we should do?”

Let your child know that you are willing to help and support. Then invite him or her to make a decision, and be supportive. If a decision is poor, offer gentle guidance or ask, “I wonder what might happen if we did that.” As your child thinks through the various possibilities, he will gain confidence in making his own decisions following challenging situations.

Parenting tip #8: Discipline, but don’t denigrate

Children will make lots of mistakes, even when trying their best. When our children do things that are wrong, we can focus on teaching them rather than punishing them. Often the most effective way to teach is to invite our children to think about what they have learned from a particular situation. We can then ask them to make decisions about the most appropriate course of action, such as apologising, making restitution, and refraining from doing what they have done again in the future.

Children who are resilient do better than children who are not resilient. Their parents use the skills outlined above to foster resilience, and as a result resilient children:

- feel special and appreciated
- learn to set realistic goals
- have appropriate expectations of themselves and others
- believe they can solve problems and make good decisions
- see weaknesses as a chance to learn and do things better
- recognise, develop, and enjoy their strengths and talents
- believe they are competent and are comfortable with others
- have good interpersonal skills
- and most of all, resilient kids bounce back!

Remembrance Day 2014

Our Remembrance Day Ceremony was a moving and sombre event. Students from Kindergarten to Year 6 attended each wearing the traditional poppies they had made in their class. We are grateful for the support offered by the local RSL Sub Branch; Mr Graham Kelly - Vietnam President, Roly Kinnear - Korean Veteran, Frank Brady - RSL Sub Branch President, Norm Graetsch - Vietnam Veteran and Padre Daryll Moran.

Our sincere thanks to the RSL Sub Branch and congratulations to all students who participated with interest and respect.

Tree Planting Lone Pine Memorial Park

Our Captains and Vice captains (Eden, Bronson Chloe and Jay) were invited to participate in a tree planting at The Lone Pine Memorial Park on Friday 17th October. The RSL Sub Branch is in the process of developing a memorial with an avenue of trees with plaques identifying the many conflict Australian Service men and women have been involved in.

Captains from each of the local schools planted trees and it is hoped that each will remember their role in this significant memorial.

Focus Groups

In preparation for our 2015 - 2017 school plan, focus groups were held with small groups of parents. One of the points of discussion was around attendance. The parents in the groups felt regular...
attendance at school was vital and while there were sometimes issues around buses being late, all agreed it was essential for students to be at school regularly and on time.

Some students and parents do not see that regular and punctual attendance at school is important. Nothing can be further from the truth. Besides missing out on valuable content, students miss out on information, discussion and skill development that are the pathway to success and the development of high self esteem.

The following chart highlights the impact of non-attendance and partial attendance over time. Viewed in this context, the implications of regular absenteeism is startling.

This chart shows the cumulative effect of persistent non-attendance over the period of compulsory schooling from Kindergarten to the end of Year 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days Absent</th>
<th>Total Days</th>
<th>Number of Terms</th>
<th>Number of Years Missed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 per week</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 years 1 term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 per week</td>
<td>676.5</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>3 years 1.5 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 per week</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>4 years 2 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 per week</td>
<td>1353</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6 years 3 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 weeks per term</td>
<td>1127.5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5 years 2 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave 5 days per term</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>1 year 1.5 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave 10 days per term</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>2 years 1 term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial Absences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour late per week</td>
<td>75 days</td>
<td>1.5 terms</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ hour late per day</td>
<td>188 days</td>
<td>3.75 terms</td>
<td>Almost 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour late per day</td>
<td>376 days</td>
<td>7.5 terms</td>
<td>1 year 3 terms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent Satisfaction Survey
The school reviews the satisfaction of parents with our school annually. The survey is collated online and parents can access and undertake the survey by using the following link:


We would value your input and encourage as many parents as possible to complete the online Survey Monkey Parent Satisfaction Survey.

SPORTSATHON
After a false start we eventually completed the sportsathon at the end of Term 3. It was another successful day and the children raised just over $8000. We would like to thank our generous sponsors: The Forster Tuncurry Lion’s Club for use and supervising the Trampolines and Mini Golf, free use of the Aquatic Centre, Forster Tennis Courts, Forster Bowling Club and Forster Tenpin Bowling. These children raised $100 and more: Ella Oxenbold Yr6, Clair Bolt Yr5, Jett Buderus Yr 5, Alfie Oxenbold Yr2, Jaiden Stewart Yr 1, Madison Greaves Yr1, and Hayley Barber Kinder.

Some great prizes were donated by: Amaroo, Iguana, Manning Shoes, Sinners & Saints, Fairways Newsagency, Saltwater Wine, Bluewater Gifts, Woolworths, Gloria Jean’s Coffee, Hogs Breath Cafe, Coles, Forster Surf and Sport, Occasions, Kmart, In House, Forster Dental Clinic, Forster Oosh, Leading Edge Computers, Muffin Break, N.A.B., McDonalds, P.JJ.’s Cheaper Choices, ARL, Nusa Indah, Sweatshed and Cindy’s on the Beach.

Miss Deverell

WRITERS CORNER
Our beautiful Kindergarten students have made some outstanding progress in their writing this year. To think that the majority of these students came unable to write most letters and that they can now get ideas down onto the page and independently construct sentences and small paragraphs is a phenomenal achievement. It is an enormous credit to both the children and their excellent and dedicated Kindergarten teachers. We would like to share a couple of pieces with you.

By Hayley K24

The Gingerbread Man

Once upon a time an old woman made a Gingerbread man. When she opened the oven the Gingerbread man ran away. Everybody was chasing the Gingerbread man. He climbed on the Fox’s nose. The fox ate the Gingerbread man. He wasn’t hungry any more.

By Tenille K21

There was once a koala called Sam and she went out and got lost. She didn’t know where her mum was looking for her baby because she was a cat. Once upon a time there was a koala and she played with
her cousins and he played with my brother and sister and my little brother too. He was playing with a mummy koala who had a baby in her pouch.

By Evie K25

Kangaroos have joeys. It has sharp claws. It can jump high.

By Shamiya K25

Wombats have a pouch to carry their babies around the place. A wombat has a furry body.

By Beau K25

Possums have sharp claws to climb. Possums have a pouch for its baby.

By Ryley K25

A kangaroo hops really high in the sky. A kangaroo has a pouch for its baby.

Support Unit

Sponsorship

For many years special programs in the Support Unit such as Riding for the Disabled and the life skill swimming program have been supported financially by the Great Lakes Disabled Alliance. Without their support many students would not have been able to participate in these programs. We are extremely grateful for their support. The Great Lakes Disabled Alliance operate an opportunity shop in Manning Street Tuncurry and for them to continue to operate and support our community, please try to support them.

Happy Hallidays Camp

Students from classes K-4/27, 5-6/26 and K-6/5 had a wonderful time on their camp at Happy Hallidays Holiday Park. They all enjoyed the great facilities provided and were extended in the challenge of being away from their familiar home environments. The camp highlighted the importance of students being able to organise their belongings. Some highlights are shown in the photos below.

Mr Maidment shows how it’s done!

Lots of energy was expended on the jumping pillow…

in the pool…
Karen Austin
Assistant Principal Support

Early Stage 1 & Stage 1
END OF YEAR CONCERT
The annual end of year concert will be held on Friday, 12th December, commencing at 11.00a.m. in our school MPC. Mark this date on your calendars and organise your rosters so that you can be there!

Classroom teachers are now busy thinking about their items. If you would like to help, please see your child’s classroom teacher.

HOME READERS / LIBRARY BOOKS
It is time to return all home readers and library books so that we can stocktake.

CREATIVE KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS
Kindergarten students are enjoying learning about and writing about our fantastic and interesting Australian animals.

Willow and Finn

Sienna, Maxim, Jade, Kye, Tenille and Mia.

PRESCHOOL VISITORS
We are all excited to meet the Preschool children visiting Forster Public School and who will be our new Kindergarten Students in 2015. Remember to smile and make them feel welcome!

WHAT IS RESPECT?
• Having regard for others. That means accepting that other people are different but just as important as you feel you are.
• Having a proper respect for yourself. That means that you stand up for yourself and don’t let yourself be talked into doing stuff that you know is wrong or makes you feel uncomfortable.
• Not interfering with others (or their property.)

RESPECT AT SCHOOL
At school you will learn to respect others and yourself.
• You learn how to be a member of a class.
• You learn how to behave with teachers and other ‘school adults’.
• You learn to respect and keep school rules, which help to make your school a safe and caring place for everyone.
• You learn to respect the property of classmates and the school.
• You meet with people from different backgrounds, maybe different countries, cultures and religions.
• Some people will look very different to you and your family.
• Some people will behave very differently to you and your family.
• You can respect their differences and expect that they will respect yours.

THANK YOU HELPERS!
All the teachers would like to say thank you for the continued support of parents and helpers who volunteer their time in the classroom. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated!

Penny Holm (Rel) / Katrina Pettet
Assistant Principals

Stage 2
Year 3 School Swimming Scheme
The School Swimming Scheme for all Year 3 students will be held this term at the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre.

The scheme will continue daily for two (2) weeks from Monday 24th November 2014 until Friday 5th December 2014.

Please note: Pool entry will cost $3.00 per day, unless your family is a Gold Card Member when costs will be NIL. Total cost for the 10 days will be $30.00. There is no cost for the lessons.

Permission notes have gone out to Year 3 students this term and please ask for another note from the office if your child has inadvertently lost theirs. Please ensure your child avails themselves of this opportunity and takes advantage of these lessons to acquire this important life skill.

End of year Picnic Day
Once again, Stage 2 are hoping to have an outing at the movies to end off our eventful year. Once this has been finalised, a note will be sent home with all the details.
Year 6 Farewell
A reminder that the Year 6 Farewell is on Tuesday the 9th of December. A note will be going out very soon. The cost will be approximately $25.

Year 7 High School Transition
Students going to both Tuncurry and Forster campuses of the Great Lakes College will be having their transition days next Thursday, the 20th of November. Notes have already gone out for this. Many students are yet to return their notes and $4 for the bus.

Year 6 Party Day
Year 6 will be having their part day on the last day of school, Wednesday 17 December, at Adventure Land (the old Ton of Fun). The cost for the day will be approximately $25. Notes will go out about this very soon. The children will return to school at 2:00 p.m. where we will be inviting Year 6 parents to come to the MPC for the presentation of graduation certificates, speeches and a Power Point presentation to celebrate our incredible children. Then we farewell the children with a school arch.

Year 6 Gift
Year 6 are giving an aerial photo of our school with our year 6 students in the photo as their gift to Forster Public School. Photographer, Craig Mason, was at our school last week taking the photo. We have no doubt the final result is going to look great.

As we move into the festive season enjoy this special time with your families. Pace yourselves and look after one another.

Peter Pan
Year 6 students will be performing their play Peter Pan on Monday and Tuesday, December 1st and 2nd. They will perform for the school on the Monday and parents and community on the Tuesday. Exact times will be confirmed over the next couple of weeks.

Fran Dupen
Assistant Principal

Community

PCYC Taree Presents
Bricks on the Bay
Lego Expo
◊ Saturday 21st February 1pm – 6pm
◊ Sunday 22nd February 9am – 1pm
◊ Do you want your School & Students to have a free display, then contact the PCYC Taree
◊ Prepay Entry $10 per family of 4 ($3 single)
◊ At the door $1.5 per family of 4 ($5 single)
◊ BBQ Lunch & Dinner - Saturday
◊ BBQ Breakfast & Lunch - Sunday
◊ Raffle on the day
◊ Lego for sale by Bricks on the Bay
◊ People’s choice award drawn each day
◊ Contact Reception on Ph: 02 6551 0292
◊ Email: taree@pcycnsw.org.au

PCYC Taree
Press release: Ray White shines a light on giving this festive season

Ray White has partnered with Rotary to deliver an inspiring Christmas campaign for disadvantaged children who may need a little extra light in their festive season.

The Little Ray of Giving campaign will launch across Australia and New Zealand from 1st December 2014, with Australians being asked to dig deep to put smiles on the faces of some special children in their community.

The gift drive was a simple way to help put a smile on the face of children and families who may need some extra cheer at this time of year, said Ray White Forster Tuncurry’s Daniel Cross.

“All you need to do is wrap up your present and drop it under the tree in your local Ray White office. Tell the Ray White team if the gift is for a boy or girl, nominate an age group and your gift will be delivered by the team at Rotary to a child who will appreciate the lift to their festive season,” Daniel Cross said.

Ray White Forster Tuncurry, located at 3/12 Wharf Street, Forster have a special giving tree in their front window to collect gifts for children and families who will be doing it tough this festive season.

“It’s a really simple way to put a smile on the face of a young child who might otherwise go without this Christmas,” Daniel Cross said.

“Sometimes just a small gift can make the biggest difference to families who are struggling at an expensive time of year.”

Ray White has run this initiative across Australia and New Zealand each December since 2012. Last year alone almost 3000 gifts were donated across 55 offices and delivered to children in need across Australia.

END

Contact: Joanne Hill, Ray White Forster Tuncurry
Phone: 02 6554 7666

*Gifts collected during a Little Ray of Giving campaign are donated to Rotary in Australia and Ronald McDonald House Charities in New Zealand.