DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 1 - 2014

Week 3
13 Feb Swimming Carnival

Week 4
17 Feb Kindergarten commence full day attendance

Week 5
25 Feb Meet the teacher meetings

- Early Stage 1 4:00pm - 5:00pm
- Stage 1 4:00pm - 5:00pm
- Stage 2 4:30pm - 5:30pm
- Stage 3 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Week 8
17 Mar P&C Meeting 7:00pm in staffroom
19-20 Mar School Photographs (summer uniform please)

Week 9
27 Mar Life Education begins
27 Mar Cross Country

See above for “Meet the Teacher” times & dates

A note will be sent home next week with further information about “Meet the Teacher” sessions.

Welcome
We would like to welcome our new permanent staff members. Mrs Natalie Galle, Miss Laura Chappell, Mrs Elizabeth Lutherborrow, Mrs Lesley Connor and Mrs Paula Drew have joined our team this year. Please make them feel welcome.

We would also like to welcome the following new temporary staff - Miss Justine Mills, who is teaching Year 6 and Miss Leah Pasierbek, who is teaching relief from face to face across the school.

The 2014 School Executive:
Rick Clissold Principal
Steve Pulley Deputy Principal
Narelle Kessey Deputy Principal
Kylie Seaman Instructional Leader - DP
David Graham Assistant Principal ES1
Katrina Pettet Assistant Principal Stage 1
Anne Evans Assistant Principal Stage 2
Fran Dupen Assistant Principal Stage 3
Karen Austin Assistant Principal Support
Scott Machon Assistant Principal Learning
Barbara Wright Assistant Principal Learning

Please be reminded that if you have any issues about your child’s learning or well-being at school, contact the class teacher.

2014 Classes
K21 Toni Quinn
K22 Leah Jenkins
K23 David Graham (AP - Stage Leader)
K24 Penny Holm
K25 Margaret Deverell

1/17 Donna Jones / Helen Clemensen
1/18 Jan Read / Rosemary Buck

Principal’s Report

Principal’s / Deputy Principals’ Report

Enrolments
Enrolments were stable enough for us to form 26 mainstream classes and 5 support unit classes. One additional student, held for five school days, will trigger the formation of an additional Year 2 class. Thank you for your patience with this process.

Final Date: Tuesday, 18 February 2014
Revised Kindergarten Finishing Times
Kindergarten finishing times for 2014 are as follows:

- The school day ends at 2.30 pm for Kindergarten students Monday 3 February until Friday 14 February 2014. **It is very important that the children are picked up at this time.**
- From Monday 17 February Kindergarten students will finish at 2:55pm consistent with the rest of the school.

Health Care Plans / Medical Conditions
Some students in our school have medical conditions. Some of these conditions may require the student to take medication at home and/or at school. Please make sure your child’s teacher and the office staff are informed of these medical conditions.

Health care plans are prepared for students with significant medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes and severe allergies. It is extremely important that we are kept informed of any changes to your child’s condition, or if your child is newly diagnosed with a significant medical condition. Please see the office staff if you need to update your child’s medical information and they will pass on information to Mrs Bertwistle for a health care plan to be prepared.

Allergies
We have a few students in our school with severe allergies to peanuts and nut products. This is a life threatening condition for these students. For this reason we request you refrain from sending peanut butter or products containing nuts to school with your child.

We also have a student with a severe allergy to dogs and another student with a severe allergy to insect repellent. Again these are potentially life threatening conditions.

Thank you for your cooperation in supporting these students.

Annual School Swimming Carnival
The annual qualifiers swimming carnival was held at the Great Lakes Aquatic Centre on Thursday 13 February. It was a great day with students demonstrating their sportsmanship in competing and encouraging each other. Congratulations to Angus who broke a fourteen year record in the boys open 100m freestyle in a time of 1:12:28. Thirty-nine students qualified for the Zone Swimming Carnival which will be held on Friday 21 February at Wingham pool. Eligible students have been given a note with the details of this carnival.

Thank you to Mrs Nixon and her team for organising a successful carnival and the parent volunteers who assisted on the day.

Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs)
Many of our students bring personal electronic devices to school. All students who bring and electronic device to school need to have an acceptable use agreement completed by their parents and returned to school. These agreements were sent home with the personal electronic device policy earlier this term. If you do not have a copy please see your child’s teacher. If children bring a PED to school they do so at their own risk. Please note if students are found to be taking photos on PEDs, the device will be confiscated and parents contacted to collect them.
Grandparent’s Day
In recent years we have held our Grandparent’s Day during Senior Citizen’s Week in Term 1. This year we have decided to postpone Grandparent’s Day until Term 2. We will inform you of the date in future newsletters.

Rick Clissold  Principal
Narelle Kessey  Deputy Principal
Steve Pulley  Deputy Principal

Support Unit
Welcome back to our Support Unit news for 2014. We now have five classes, each with a teacher and at least one School Learning Support Officer. Classes are very full and very busy. Parent planning meetings are currently being scheduled where we will discuss our goals for the 2014 school year.

Our Life Skill Swimming Program will begin next week. Each child will participate in activities that are planned to increase their ability to be safe in water and enjoy the wonderful waterways we have in our local area. Please return permission/information notes as soon as they arrive home.

Karen Austin
Assistant Principal Support

Early Stage 1 & Stage 1
Best Start for Kindergarten
This year, every NSW public school kindergarten student took part in the Best Start Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Program. The program allows teachers to evaluate and diagnose the starting point of a child’s education. The teachers assessed the students’ reading and writing, their communication skills and recognition of the sounds and letters of the English language. Teachers also assessed students’ early numeracy skills in counting, number recognition and how they work with groups and patterns.


Kindergarten
Welcome to all Kindergarten children who have started this year. Special thanks to parents and caregivers for their support settling children into school. Kindergarten classes have been finishing at 2:30pm and will continue to do so until the end of this week, 14th February. From the 17th February, Kindergarten will finish at 2:55pm. Buddies will conclude 17th February with a Farewell party being held on this day. Kindergarten children have been asked to bring a small plate to share. Thank you to all the senior buddies who supported Kindergarten students’ orientation and transition into their first year of school. This program allowed the students to feel safe and happy and there were smiles all round.

Maxim and Rosy are buddies

Kate having a laugh with her buddy!

David Graham / Katrina Pettet
Assistant Principals

Stage 2

Students are settling well into their new classes for 2014. Please ensure students have a labelled school hat each day so they are able to enjoy playing safely in the playground. Students in Stage 2 also require their own pencil case with labelled lead pencils, a ruler, eraser, coloured pencils and a glue stick to use each day.
Crunch and Sip is in place in all classes. Students are encouraged to bring in a water bottle and fruit and vegies to eat during a short session that suits each class teacher.

Parent teacher nights are approaching fast. Please take this opportunity to meet your child's teacher. Staff are looking forward to meeting all the parents and sharing the exciting activities that will be happening with your child this year.

Sport rotation activities commence next Friday 21st February. 4/15 will be swimming for their first 4 weeks. The cost will be $5 each week or $20 for the four weeks ($8 if you are a member of the Aquatic Centre). A note will be going home early next week. If this money is not paid, students will join another sport group.

Anne Evans
Assistant Principal

Stage 3
We are off to a wonderful start to the year. Our Grade 6 Students and new school leaders have been conducting themselves in an outstanding manner. They are proving to be fantastic role models for the younger students and already we can see the tone that is being established across primary as a result of our year 6 students' behaviour.

Year 6 Camp
Our Year 6 Camp will be in week 3 of Term 2 from 12 May to 14 May. A note asking for expressions of interest will be sent out this week asking parents and carers of Year 6 students to indicate if they will be supporting the camp. The cost of the camp will be APPROXIMATELY $230.

Expressions of Interest for High School
Expression of Interest for High School forms will be sent home with Year 6 students in the next week or so with an accompanying note. They will need to be completed accurately, indicating which high school you want your child to attend in 2015 and returned to school no later than 21 March.

Home Reading
We encourage all parents/ carers to continue listening to their children read out aloud every week night. Even in Grades 5 and 6 reading out aloud is an important way of helping children to develop their reading fluency and comprehension. Continue reading to your children too. Reading with your children is a very special time and a critical part of their homework routine. Talk to them about the text and ask the children questions about what they have read and ask them to summarise what they have read in their own words. These are all essential skills for good readers to develop.

Meet the Teacher
Stage 3 teachers would like to invite you to meet with your child's teacher on Tuesday 25 February between 5:00 - 6:00pm in their respective classrooms. We look forward to meeting you all.

Educating your children truly is a partnership. Together with the children and parents and carers we form a partnership. It is by working together that we are best able to help children reach their full potentials. If there are ever any issues, please make a time to see your child's class teacher. Together we can always find solutions. We anticipate it is going to be a great year and we look forward to getting to know all of you.

Comprehension
One of our school targets is improving our children’s reading comprehension skills. This semester we are going to be focusing on the very important skill of summarising. This is where children identify and accumulate the main ideas and restate them in their own words. To support your children in developing this skill when they are reading to you ask them questions like:
What are the most important points the author is trying to make?
If you were to tell another person about this text in a few words what would you tell them?
What is the main theme? How does this connect to the world beyond?

HAPPY READING with your children.

Fran Dupen
Assistant Principal

Sport
Welcome back. We are gearing up ready for another action packed year. Our House Captains have been elected and may I say are performing beautifully in their new roles. Congratulations to:
Gannett  -Captains Jack and Miah
       -Vice-Captains Diesel and Eva.

Penguin  - Captains Liam and Akaysha
       - Vice-Captains Connor and Sophia.
Shearwater - Captains Lochlan and Ellie
- Vice-Captains Tom and Ella.

Albatross - Captains Eli and Kyra
- Vice-Captains Chris and Sarah.

Stage 3 sport will remain on Tuesday afternoons this year with all sports being conducted inside the school grounds.

Stage 2 sport will be held on Friday afternoons and all sports will be held inside school grounds, with the exception of Intensive Swimming held later in the year at the Aquatic centre.

Our core values at Forster Public School of Respect, Safety and Personal Best are reinforced in our sporting programs. We encourage the children to participate in all activities and achieve their Personal Best and show Respect by playing fairly and encouraging their peers. All classes participate in daily fitness programs and weekly sport, achieving the total two hours of recommended physical activity per week.

The Cross Country carnival is on the horizon being held at Pebbley Beach on the 27th of March.

Paula Drew
Sport Organiser

P&C News

The P & C would like to welcome everyone back and extend a warm welcome to all new families.

As many of you will know, we ran out of polo shirts in the Uniform Shop this term. We do apologise for any inconvenience this has caused. We hope to have our next delivery of shirts by the end of this month. A special note will go home advising you of their arrival.

Thank you to all parents and grandparents who have put their name down to help in the canteen. As the saying goes "Many hands make light work." If you are able to volunteer, even one day a month, please contact Karen in the canteen.

The P & C Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 17 March at 7:00pm in the staffroom. All parents are invited to attend.

Community News

Country Connection Netball Club would like to invite you to play Netball in 2014

For those that haven’t played before, netball is a fun sport that will help you to learn new skills, get fit, make new friends and have fun...so why not give it a go!

Netball is played each Saturday, always at Boronia Park Netball Courts (near McDonalds).

Netball begins on Saturday 3rd May 2014.

Country Connection Netball Club Registration Day Details
Date Tuesday 11/2/14
(Note: All players must be registered by this day)
3.00pm to 5.30pm
Holy Name School, Lake St Forster

Registration Cost (must be paid on registration day)
Senior 18yrs+ $135
Junior 11yrs to 17yrs $115
Netta 8yrs to 10yrs $90
Fun Net 5yrs to 7yrs $70
Players with Disabilities $40

If you have any questions please contact Club Registrar Kylie Wood on 0432 686 225
If you would like to sponsor your team please contact Kellie Richardson on 0414 857 274

YOUR LOCAL PCYC PRESENTS
BLUE LIGHT DISCO
TUNCURRY BEACH BOWLING CLUB
FRIDAY 7 MARCH
6:30PM - 8:00PM
FOR PRIMARY STUDENTS YEARS 3 - 6

Next Newsletter: Week 6, Friday 7 March 2014
KIDS CAFE  

**BREAKFAST**  
Fruit toast $0.50  
Pikelets (made daily) $0.50  
Ham and cheese ½ toastie $0.70  
Fresh fruit in season $1.00  
Ham and cheese muffin $1.00  
Hot chocolate $1.00  
Cold milo $1.00  

**DRINKS**  
Fruit toast $0.50  
Pikelets (made daily) $0.50  
Ham and cheese ½ toastie $0.70  
Fresh fruit in season $1.00  
Ham and cheese muffin $1.00  
Hot chocolate $1.00  
Cold milo $1.00  

**RECESS**  
Popcorn $0.20  
Dino nuggets (Tues/Thurs/Fri) $0.50  
Garlic bread $0.60  
Fruit sticks $0.60  
Pizza bread $1.00  
Fresh fruit in season $1.00  
Jelly and yoghurt cups $1.00  
Chocolate mousse $1.00  
Red rock chips $1.20  
Yoghurt $1.20  
Soup of the day (term 2&3 only) $1.50  
Plus a variety of fresh healthy treats made daily e.g. pastry scrolls, quiches ($0.80 to $1.50), ham and cheeses ( ½ $0.70 or full $1.40)  

**FROZEN**  
Popcorn $0.20  
Dino nuggets (Tues/Thurs/Fri) $0.50  
Garlic bread $0.60  
Fruit sticks $0.60  
Pizza bread $1.00  
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Soup of the day (term 2&3 only) $1.50  
Plus a variety of fresh healthy treats made daily e.g. pastry scrolls, quiches ($0.80 to $1.50), ham and cheeses ( ½ $0.70 or full $1.40)  

**LUNCH**  
NO PIES, SAUSAGE ROLLS OR DINO NUGGETS ON MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS  

**BREAKFAST**  
Fruit toast $0.50  
Pikelets (made daily) $0.50  
Ham and cheese ½ toastie $0.70  
Fresh fruit in season $1.00  
Ham and cheese muffin $1.00  
Hot chocolate $1.00  
Cold milo $1.00  

**DRINKS**  
Fruit toast $0.50  
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**PLACE ORDERS BY 9AM**  
Kids Cafe volunteers needed  
please phone Canteen on 6554 5409 if you can help  

All food and drink sold at the canteen are approved by the Healthy Kids Association.  
The canteen is run by the P&C and all profits remain in the school.