Our K-12 School

Considerable positive feedback has been received regarding the Carnival operated by Year 12 on June 6. One of the features of the day being commented on, is the warm feelings generated by seeing Year 7-12 students supporting younger students in their participation in events. In some cases these were older brothers and sisters, in some cases friends of the family and in other cases just older students showing how community minded and caring they can be.

The K-12 nature of our school is also enhanced by a number of timetabled programs. One such program is Ms Warwick teaching of science to the infants grades of our school. On Wednesday morning Kindergarten make their way the Science labs for their Science classes with Ms Warwick. I know this is something that they look forward to each week. Also in today’s newsletter you will see a profile featuring Mrs McGeary. Mrs McGeary, who teaches science and agriculture at our school, provides learning experiences for younger students at our farm.

These programs are unique to our school due to our K-12 nature and the relationships which operate between members of staff and students.

Student Reports

Staff have been busy preparing student half yearly reports over the last few weeks. In reading the reports I am very pleased to see how well engaged and focussed on their work the vast majority of students are. Congratulations are due to students doing their best in their school work and being good school community members. Well done!

Parent Teacher Interviews - Years 7-12

Semester One student reports have been completed. Parents, with their children, are encouraged to attend parent-teacher interviews on Monday 23rd June in the gymnasium from 4:30-6:30pm to discuss student progress during semester 1. A note explaining how to book on-line times to see teachers has been issued this week. Families who are unable to access the internet at home or at friends place can call the office or call into the library and the staff will make the booking on-line for them.

Well Being Day

On Tuesday this week students in Years 7 and 8 participated in Well Being Day. Accompanied by Mrs D'Anna, I made my way around various groups operating to see students intently engaged in the activities. Students worked in gender-based groups on the day. They learnt of sexual health, mental health, martial arts, drug education, and looking after their general health, hygiene and personal presentation. Presenters from both inside and outside the school led the sessions. A fun aspect of the day was the Velcro wall – students wore a
velcro suit and ran and jumped at a wall – to which they stuck. It created much laughter. The wall came at a cost but this was funded by Connect. Well done Year 7 and 8 on your engagement in the day’s activities. Well done to the school welfare team led by Mrs D’Anna, in putting together such a worthwhile day.

Rob Walker – Principal

Science & Engineering Challenge
For the third consecutive year our Year 9/10 students enjoyed a fantastic day at the SCU as one of eight regional schools in the Science and Engineering Challenge. 23 students actively participated in eight team events, including Bridge Building, Mission to Mars, Ecohabitat and Who gets water, achieving a cumulative score to gain the runner-up award for the day. Our students brought home an impressive trophy and additionally this year, laboratory equipment valued at $500 for the school Science department. Beyond this, students came away from the day much richer for the experiences gained from competition and in meeting the practical challenges of each event. Many thanks to the organisers from Newcastle and Southern Cross Universities, Platinum Sponsors, the Environmental Analysis Laboratory and School of Environmental Science and Engineering, SCU, and to the Rotary Club of Alstonville for providing our young scientists a set of wonderful and challenging opportunities!

Questacon Science Show
24 students from Years 9, 10 and 11/12 Physics attended a terrific day of scientific investigation at the Southern Cross University on 6 June. The day consisted of presentations, displays and interactive exhibits, all coordinated by staff from the Questacon Science Center in Canberra and SCU. Scientists connected with students to tell of their careers in Marine Science, Entomology and Psychology and displays highlighted other career pathways in Science, including the NPWS, Rous Water, IT and Engineering. Students particularly enjoyed the opportunity to engage in a variety of exhibits shown in accompanying photographs. Some lucky Kindergarten students and their families may also have taken advantage of the free passes students brought back to school for the Questacon Science Shows in Ballina and Byron Bay last weekend.

Karen Warwick

Active After School
Thursday 19th June will be the last Day for Active After School activities for Term 2. Thank you students and parents for your participation and support. See you Term 3 Week 2

Lisa McFarlane
As a K-12 school we are lucky to have many teachers who not only work in their own area of expertise but also welcome the opportunity to work in other areas. At our Morning P&C meeting this week it was brought to my attention that many primary parents and also high school parents may not know who many of our teachers are. For example Kinder might talk about gems and Mrs Warwick (High School Science Teacher), while Kinder and Year 1 might talk about how Mrs McGearry let them hold the baby chicks.

I asked those at the meeting if they would like me to feature different teachers with a brief profile. The answer was yes, so when space allows I will feature a teacher, and who better to start with than our lovely Mrs McGearry.

Mrs McGearry started at our school in 2006 as a casual Maths teacher, she worked in this role for quite some time. In 2012 she was appointed full time as our Science/Agriculture teacher, which was her main area of training.

Each year a high school teacher can volunteer to take on the role of a Year Advisor. This commits them to 6 years with that year group. Year advisers help students through difficult times, have fun with them and generally nurture this group. Last year Mrs McGearry took on her first year group. They are now in Year 8 and will be with her until Year 12.

Mrs McGearry teaches Year 7 Agriculture, where students get the chance to raise their own chickens. At the end of Year 8 students choose electives (subjects they want to study). Mrs McGearry teaches Year 9 Agriculture, HSC Agriculture and supervises Equine Studies.

She has three children and they all attended our school; now they are grown up she indulges in her favourite hobby, running, taking part in half marathons. However, she has temporarily left the marathons to concentrate on a LITTLE walk for Oxfam of 100km. (this coming weekend).

Mrs McGearry will be joined by another teacher Sonya Price and locals Ann and Craig Tosomeen, the four walkers are known as the team, Evans Head Strong.

Good Luck from everyone here for the walk.

**CAREERS NIGHT** Wednesday 25th June, Year 10 students have the opportunity of talking to professionals from a large cross section of careers; finding out what it really is like to work in a particular career. The professionals will talk to the students about all aspects of their trades, how hard it can be, how rewarding it can be and the dedication needed to complete the training. Any enquiries see Mr Hayward.

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### Science Trivia!

**This Week’s Question:** What is the origin of the term “El Nino” (a term used to describe a series of climatic events that effect many continents around the world)?

**Last week’s question:** Name 3 branches of science?

**Answer:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics.

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### K-6 AWARDS Term 2 Week 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Caleb Samuels, Brilee Samuels, Wyatt Willows-Gillam, Chase Merrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1</td>
<td>Keely Somerville, Koopa Hancock, Sarah Li, Mair-Bella Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 1/2</td>
<td>Allie Macgregor, Tucker Barany, Tawny Azar-Thomson, Kiarah Butler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 2/3</td>
<td>Damon Walker, Ryan Stewart, Charlie Mills, Riley Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 3/4</td>
<td>Karlee Stothard, Jack Stevens, Sunny Gillespie, Eric Redman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 4/5</td>
<td>Luke Elley, Cooper Hinton, Shelby Willows, Jasmine Brednow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 5/6</td>
<td>Jakob Willows, Crystal Knox, Jordyn Trott, Blair Eyles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirrawong</td>
<td>Jasmine Deas, Sacha Boutle, Darren Stewart, Tucker Barany</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Canteen Roster - Week B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>23 Jun Charmayne Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>24 Jun Janine Hutley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>25 Jun Kathleen Motbey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26 Jun Donna Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 Jun Merey Turner</td>
</tr>
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### UNIFORM Store

Open every Friday 8.30—9AM

EFTPOS now available for purchases

The P&C would like to thank Kristen & Gayle for managing in the Uniform Store.

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### Around the School

Don’t forget the school is collecting SPAR BUCKS. If you have any please drop them into the school office.

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### Next Monday 23rd

Years 7-12 Parent/Teacher interviews 4:30 - 6:30pm

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### CAREERS NIGHT

Wednesday 25th June, Year 10 students have the opportunity of talking to professionals from a large cross section of careers; finding out what it really is like to work in a particular career. The professionals will talk to the students about all aspects of their trades, how hard it can be, how rewarding it can be and the dedication needed to complete the training. Any enquiries see Mr Hayward.
VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED
FOR TAX HELP 2014
Free Training provided
The Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre is looking for volunteer assistance in delivering the annual ATO Tax Help program.
Tax Help is a free, volunteer run, community service for people on low incomes. Volunteers will assist in preparing and lodging straightforward returns for eligible participants.
We can’t run it without you!
For more information google taxhelp volunteer
To register to volunteer phone the Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre on 02 6682 4334 or email catherine.ohalloran@mrnc.com.au

Chill Café Evans Head
Is holding a Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for cancer research.
The cost will be $12 per head, $5 of which goes to the Cancer Council.
This includes an espresso coffee or pot of leaf tea & selection of home made cake & sandwich platters.
DATE: 20th of June
TIME: 10:00am

Uniform Shop
Clearance Sale
Midford Brand Only HALF PRICE
Girls Shorts – Primary and Secondary
Girls Long Pants – Primary and Secondary
Girls skirt – Secondary Only
At the Uniform Shop:
Friday 8:30-9:00a.m

CASINO TAFE
Applications are now being taken for Semester 2. For more information on our courses please visit our website northcoast.tafensw.edu.au or contact the Campus on 66612000.

Please Note—The cut off time for information to be included in the newsletter is 2:00pm Tuesday
Newsletter will be printed on Wednesday afternoons.