Bus Shelter Opening
In a simple ceremony on Monday at 10:15am we will acknowledge a Government grant, Richmond Valley Council’s forethought and the work of at least two contractors in constructing our bus shelter. Designed to fit with the presentation of our school and as long in length as the funds would permit, the construction will provide shelter from sun and poor weather for our students when boarding and dismounting buses. It will also serve as a structure which can be used to guide safe routines around the buses. Mayor Ernie Bennett will attend and together with the two youngest bus students cut a ribbon to signify the opening of the shelter. Some words will be shared by the Mayor and one of our school captains. Our SRC members, representatives of the School Council and P&C, staff, and our Kindergarten class will attend. Kinder students will be presented with a ribbon during the opening. A morning tea will be held in the Common Room afterwards. Parents and member of the community are welcome to attend.

I also take this opportunity to clarify that the school only has one bus zone (which will take five buses at a time). There is also a ‘no parking zone’ area (nearer to the Performance Hall). The ‘no parking zone’ is there to provide parents with a ‘kiss & good bye’ zone in the morning and a pick up point in the afternoon. The bus shelter has been built to service the bus zone.

School Fees
During the last week you may have received a letter from the school about school fees. The letter provides advice about the funds due for your child. There are two fees identified. The first is the general school contribution, which is voluntary, and if paid contributes to the acquisition of library books, sports equipment and other items the students share. The other fee is described in two ways – a ‘book pack’ for K-6 and a ‘subject contribution’ for 7-12. In either case the fee covers items the students will take home and keep. The items provided through this payment become the student’s property as they have bought and paid for them through paying their school fees. In the case of book pack items they are placed in a student’s tote tray in the class room and taken home at the end of the year. In the case of 7-12 subjects they are usually consumed within a lesson or a series of lessons, then taken home. Photocopied notes in English or HSIE courses; in subjects like food technology, the food is consumed by the student. In days gone by the school would provide a list of books and other materials that students would need to bring from home. Following negotiations with the P&C it was resolved the school would buy the items rather than give parents the list and in this way attract bulk buy pricing and lower the cost to parents. If parents do not pay for these materials the school is out of pocket. If a number of parents do not pay, this can become a substantial issue in trying to manage the school budget and compromises to the quality of our work with students can follow.
The issuing of the letter was timed with the receipt by many families of the government’s School Kids Bonus payment. Assisting parents in making these school payments is one of the key reasons the grant is provided. In situations where the parents fail to make these payments the quality of resources around the child for learning can be compromised, but the delivery of the education, the teaching, remains free.

State Champions
Congratulations to Mrs Sue Hunter (School Learning Support Officer) and Mrs Connie D’Anna (Learning & Support Teacher) who, as members of the Far North Coast Womens’ Hockey team, won the over 50s division at the State Championships in Newcastle last weekend. A wonderful outcome. Congratulations are also due to Mrs Hunter who was a member of the NSW team which won the Australian Championships. Another Australian Champion in our midst! Congratulations, Sue.

Rob Walker – Principal

Yr 9 Agriculture
Year 9 Agriculture students were involved in Planet Ark’s National Tree Day on Friday 25th July. The students worked to create a citrus orchard at the Ag plot and planted finger limes, lemons and oranges. It was lovely weather for working in the garden and hopefully next year we will be rewarded with the fruits of our labour - literally!

Mrs McGeary

Cows Create Careers Presentation
The Year 9 Agriculture students attended a presentation ceremony in Lismore on Thursday, 24th July. This was to celebrate the culmination of their work this term for the “Cows Create Careers” program. All students raised two dairy calves for three weeks, created a Mootube Moovie to present their understanding of the dairy industry and completed a variety of other tasks. Our school entered two teams into the event and the “Moovers” team (Daniel Writer, Taylor Cartwright, Sam Trustum, Nathan Campbell, and Thomas Pollock) took out second place overall. This was an excellent result, as nine schools were represented in our region and each school had at least two teams participating. I would like to congratulate the students on their efforts and their outstanding behaviour on the day. The students would like to thank Mr Moreman, Mrs Moreman and Mr Chips for their assistance during the term’s work. Also, a big thanks to Matthew Moyle and Peter Graham for ensuring our participation was an enjoyable experience.

Mrs McGeary

Byron Bay Writers Festival
Groups from both primary and high school will be attending sessions at the Writers Festival this week. Authors including Andy Griffiths will work with the students inspiring them to further develop their writing skills. Students will write about their experiences in next week’s Newsletter.

Thank You to the Green Team
Last Friday the Green Team installed the long awaited goal posts in the Primary playground. Students are already enjoying the new soccer field. Many thanks goes to Mr Moreman, Mr Gillespie and the Green Team for their efforts.

Science Trivia!
This Week’s Question: The moon is about one quarter the size of Earth and the gravity on the moon is much less than that on Earth. How much less is the gravitational pull of the moon than that of Earth?

Last Week’s Question: What does the + or – indicate in a blood type?

Answer: The presence or absence of a particular protein that will protect against a haemolytic disease in the newborn.
Next Monday 4th August is the official opening of our new Bus Shelter. Our Mayor, Mr Ernie Bennett will officially open the shelter along with assistance from our youngest two bus travellers from Kinder, Alexia Perryman and Ursell Barber. The event will take place at the bus shelter in Cypress Street at 10:15am. Come along and join in the celebration.

The school would sincerely like to thank Richmond Valley Council for funding the bus shelter, which cost approx. $80,000. The council obtained these funds through a NSW State Government grant. We would especially like to thank Graeme Robertson from RVC, without whose help this project would never have happened. We would also like to thank Ben Tucker the project manager from COMPLETE Urban for all his patience and assistance in harmonising the shelter with our school.

Thank you to Marty and his team from Boral Concrete for all their assistance with our recent concreting needs. The soccer goals are now concreted in place and will stand up to all the goals that will take place over future years. Concrete was also laid in the Ag plot to extend our hen houses.

Eight students from Year 9 will be taking part in a heart warming project called HAPPY HELPING HANDS. Every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 – 3:30pm the students will be working alongside Youth Workers from the Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre. The group of students along with a youth worker will be available to visit homes of community members who find some jobs just too difficult for them to complete for various reasons. Some of the jobs they can help with are Technology, tuning TV, computer, phone etc. Odd jobs such as changing a light bulb, rearranging furniture, shopping, reading from the paper etc. Anything within reason. So if you need a hand contact the Neighbourhood Centre at 6682 4334 or 0417 178 967.

Don’t forget to send in your expressions of interest for school banking. It’s pleasing to see how many students have returned their forms and are interested in banking.

Congratulations to Connie D’Anna and Sue Hunter for being part of the winning team that won the over 50’s State Hockey Championship last weekend. During the school holidays Sue was also part of the over 50’s team that won the National Hockey Championships.

After the great success of our Student Art Competition in 2013 it’s back bigger and better in September 2014. So start painting, drawing and snapping photos to be in line for one of over 50 prizes to be won.
Casino Driving School is celebrating its 10th Birthday. We are passing on the gifts to your students. We have already given 10 lucky students from Evans River a free driving lesson. For the next 10 weeks we are also offering a birthday special of $40 for one driving lesson.

These lessons are normally $50 (this is a $10 saving)

To book a Lesson
Phone: 6662 6651 or 0418282750

It’s that time again!
TAX RETURNS WE CAN HELP!

Tax Help Program
Did you know you could be eligible for free Tax Help if your income is around $50,000 or less?

If you are on a low income and want some free and confidential help filling out your tax return the Australian Taxation Office trained Tax Help volunteers may be able to assist.

For appointment times and availability contact our office
Available from the 21st July to the 31st of October 2014

Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre
Shop 5/6 Oak Street EVANS HEAD
Phone (02) 6682 4334

Express Yourself
Youngest child turning 8 this year? Need to work or study to receive Centrelink benefits?

North Coast TAFE offers courses in growth areas such as retail, pharmacy and warehousing which may meet your needs.

For more info contact North Coast TAFE on 1300 628 233