CLO Lyn Thomson retires

Being a Community Liaison Officer is a unique role. To do it well a range of skills are required, not the least of which is developing trusted relationships. These are also qualities of a School Learning Support Officer (a teacher’s aide). Lyn Thomson has excelled in both of these roles in her time with us at Evans River. Lyn’s time with us started as a casual SLPO in August 2006. From October 2008 she also undertook casual work as our Community Liaison Officer. The CLO role is not a permanent position in NSW Education as it is reliant on sourcing funding each year (although the Gonski funding is providing support in this space). This said, the school has been able to make the role a temporary position and Lyn has filled this role since 2011. Lyn has developed trusting and valued relationships with students, parents, staff and many people in the community who support the school in a variety of ways – all benefiting the students of our school. Lyn has supported students in their learning, parents in their endeavours to support their child’s learning and formed an important communication link for staff with parents. She has seen that the P&C morning group provides an avenue for parents to be involved in their child’s education and has provided regular contributions at the afternoon P&C meetings – reports on her CLO work and sharing from morning P&C meetings. Lyn has been a great asset to the school in developing external relationships and attracting grant funding for school programs. Throughout her time she has contributed significantly to the leadership of the EcoWarriors and school environmental programs. Lyn has taken leave for the remainder of 2015 and has advised that she will then retire. We are grateful for her significant contribution and wish her well in her retirement – a time in which she will further pursue her passion for Landcare.

Rob Walker – Principal

SES Cadet Training

Evans River K-12 School held an SES cadet training workshop at the school for the first time ever, last week. This course is designed for students to gain skills in leadership, teamwork and communication. Twelve Year 9/10 students participated in this week long exercise. During the course the students were presented with different experiences and were challenged to operate as a team, to “take 5” and evaluate situations and to have patience. Over the week students visited the Evans Head Fire House to use the fire hoses and breathing apparatus. They visited the SES Shed and Mr Jim McCormack’s cane farm at Woodburn where they used communication, navigation and teamwork skills to rescue a “patient” who was trapped and build a stretcher from duct tape before travelling the Richmond River in the
Southern Cross University is a proud sponsor of RRISK, Reduce Risk Increase Student Knowledge, and would like invite parents and the wider community to attend the free Alcohol and Other Drugs session presented by key note speaker, Paul Dillion, the Director of Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia (DARTA). RRISK is a health promotion program that addresses risk-taking behaviour amongst teenagers in particular year 11 students in the North Coast of NSW.

Two Seminars are available: Southern Cross University Lismore campus, Thursday 12 November at 4pm and Murwillumbah Seventh Day Adventist Church, Tuesday 24 November at 4pm. Please find the attached flyers for full details or website http://rrisk.com.au/

Alcohol and Young People

Whilst more young people aged between 12 to 17 years of age are abstaining from alcohol than in previous years, almost 5 million people in Australia aged 14 or older (26%) reported being a victim of an alcohol-related incident.

Young people are less likely than adults to be concerned about potential negative consequences of alcohol and are at greater risk than adults (being both physically and psychologically vulnerable). Current research suggests the brain is not fully developed until about 25 years of age. Binge drinking alcohol during adolescence can result in permanent brain damage, affecting memory, learning, decision making and problem solving.

Recognising the serious impact of alcohol on young people, NSW Office of Liquor and Gaming have changed the laws regarding supply of alcohol to young people. Under Section 117 of the New South Wales Liquor Act 2007 it is illegal to supply alcohol to people aged under 18 years in a private home unless it is supplied by: the child’s parent or guardian, or an adult who had the approval of the child’s parent or guardian.

A person convicted of secondary supply in NSW can be fined up to $11 000 for each underage drinker involved.

For more information on the effect of alcohol on the developing brain, see: 

Mental health

Drinking at a young age increases the risk of mental health problems. For more information or support contact Beyond Blue www.beyondblue.org.au 1300 22 4636

Look for information about the RRISK Program and risk taking at our website www.rrisk.com.au

**Diary**

**This Week - Week 6 Term 4 - Week B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 09</td>
<td>Years 7-11 Academic School Rollover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kindergarten Orientation</td>
<td>9:30am-11am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 09-11</td>
<td>Year 10/11 PEER Support Training</td>
<td></td>
<td>Murwillumbah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>CHS Regional Open Beach Volleyball</td>
<td></td>
<td>Evans Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Remembrance Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 12 &amp; 17</td>
<td>(VALID) Science Testing Year 8 (Yr 9 2016)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Labs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 13</td>
<td>RRISK Seminar - All Year 12</td>
<td></td>
<td>SCU Lismore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next Week - Week 7 Term 4 - Week A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 16-27</td>
<td>Year 2-4 Intensive Swimming</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meetings Library/Admin Office</td>
<td>9am &amp; 4:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>K-6 Social - Crazy Hair</td>
<td>5:30 - 7pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 20</td>
<td>CHS Zone Volleyball Boys and Girls</td>
<td></td>
<td>Evans Head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 20</td>
<td>SES Cadets Graduation Assembly</td>
<td>1:05pm</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SES flood boats.

Students would like to thank Mr Will Fisher, Sue Brown and Rod Kinnish for sharing their time and experience and supervising them. This program has allowed the students to glimpse the importance of the SES in our community and opened the opportunity for them to become volunteers in the future. Photo of the SES cadets can be seen in the masthead.

**Hollie Roberts - Student**

**Year 8 Adventure Camp**

Last week Year 8 attended Thunderbird Park Adventure Camp at Mount Tamborine. What a blast! The students were challenged by raft building, the Tree Top Challenge high ropes course, archery and survivor mud course. Free time in the afternoons was spent swimming and jumping into a beautiful rainforest water hole and playing team games. One of the most enjoyable evenings was an impromptu games night which eventuated after the planned bonfire was washed out by a heavy rainstorm. Stuck in a dining hall for 3 hours has never been so much fun! The group amused themselves with a dance-off, trivia, celebrity heads, drama games and card and dice games. It was a great to see the students and staff laughing hard and bonding with some good old fashion fun. The excursion was topped off by a visit to Wet n Wild. Thank you to Mr Chris Gillespie, Mrs Tibbey, Deb Pawsey and Mr Clarke for supervising the group.

Thanks also to the students who had-a-go and who represented themselves and Evans River in such a positive way.

**Ms Greta Nagle - Year 8 Adviser**

**SCU Information Days 2015**

Southern Cross University is please to extend an invitation to attend one of our Info Days at the campus of your choice. SCU Info Day will provide the opportunity to find out more about our courses, university life and the types of services and support SCU offers to help students achieve their potential. You are welcome to bring along friends and family to explore our beautiful campuses and facilities, meet our staff and student ambassadors.

Coffs Harbour campus, December 7, Lismore campus, December 9 and Gold Coast campus, December 11.

More information is available on the SCU webpage: [http://scu.edu.au/scuinfolday](http://scu.edu.au/scuinfolday)

**RRISK - Free Presentation**
Science Trivia!

This Week’s Question: Which alkane, chemical formula CH₄, occurs naturally in oil wells, marshes and the emissions from cows?

Last Week’s Question: What is the igneous rock seen in hexagonal columns at the Giant’s Causeway and Fingal’s Cave?

Answer: Basalt

K-6 AWARDS Term 4 Week 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Award Winners</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder</td>
<td>Myriam Weekes, Hannah Forrester, Kobe Randall, Ashton Ward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Luke Corbett, Halle Mayes, Caleb Samuels, Mia Halliday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3B</td>
<td>Iris Hobbins, Charlotte Daly, Isla Williams, Koopa Hancock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2/3M</td>
<td>Kobi Mitchell, Blaiz Parasyn-Duffy, Kyla Flaherty, Lily Pollack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4C</td>
<td>Sunny Gillespie, Shenoah McKenna, Ryan Wynne-Newman, Ned Barany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6 F</td>
<td>Jordyn Trott, Marie Robinson, Taylah Fardy, Jessica Roche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6 E</td>
<td>Rose Evans, Krystal Bodley, Lilli Gillespie, Kellie Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirrawong</td>
<td>Hannah Forrester, Sienna Samuels, Honey Hodder-bell Sarphira Nelson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dirrawong Awards

Canteen Roster - Week B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>09 Oct</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10 Oct</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>11 Oct</td>
<td>Molly Forsyth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>Von Pickens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>13 Oct</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is Wednesday as I write this, my last Around the School. Today is my last day at Evans River School as I am retiring. It has been an amazing seven years. I have made many friends during my time here. I think I have at times worked with nearly everyone across the school. Thank you to all my great friends in the Learning Support Centre, I will miss all of you. Thank you Connie for all the advice, encouragement, support, laughter and understanding, you are a dear friend.

Thank you to all the staff, teachers and parents who have supported me over the years. Thank you to my EcoWarriors, there have been many wonderful students who have been part of the EcoWarriors over the years. Mr Grant-Frost is now the co-ordinator of the EcoWarriors with help from Mr Mulherin, I hope you keep coming up with more projects to make the school and world a more sustainable place.

Special thanks to all the office ladies and their leader Cheryl for their patience with my never ending questions. I have never missed a deadline for this column in the newsletter, but as the ever patient Kim knows there have been times when I have cut it very fine.

Over the years I have also met and worked with many parents and community members, together we have raised well needed funds for the school, I could not have done it without you.

I am please to introduce Kristen Gillespie to the community, many of you know Kristen from the school office and uniform store, Kristen will be acting in the CLO role. She will be out and about the school, say hello and make her welcome. The next morning P&C meeting is on the 16th November please go along and support Kristen.

Kristen’s contact is Kristen.gillespie@det.nsw.edu.au

Thank you again everyone

Bye for now

Lyn Thomson

Next Week is academic rollover for Years 7-11 so remind your children to follow their new timetables and come prepared for their new classes.
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS: 2015 UPDATE
A free professional development session
Delivered by Paul Dillon

This information session aims to provide those working with young people some basic information on current youth AOD trends in Australia. Attempting to sort out ‘Fact from fiction’, information on a range of both legal and illegal drugs, as well as current ‘hot topics’ of the day will be provided. Some of the issues that will be examined include:

- methamphetamine and the ‘ice epidemic’
- new trends in ecstasy
- changes in the ways people are purchasing drugs – i.e., the internet as a drug dealer
- roadside drug testing (RTD) and implications for the mid and far north coast of NSW

LISTMORE
4-6pm
32 November 2015
Southern Cross University Lismore campus
PLEASE RSVP TO Kelly.Williams@ncahs.health.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6670 2586

MURWILLUMBAH
4-6pm
24 November 2015
Murwillumbah Seventh Day Adventist Church
PLEASE RSVP TO Alana on abrooks@nswd.nsw.gov.au or (02) 6670 2586

Paul Dillon has been working in the area of drug education for the past 25 years and has been contracted by many organisations to give regular updates on current drug trends. He continues to work with many school communities across the country to ensure that they have access to good quality information and best practice drug education. In 2009 his best-selling book for parents was released titled ‘Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs’. With a broad knowledge of a range of content areas, Paul regularly appears in the media and is regarded as a key social commentator, with interviews on television programs such as Sunrise, TODAY and The Project.

2015 HSC Music or Drama Performance DVD’s

The DVD’s are available at the office for $10
All proceeds are used to purchase library books.

MS Office 2016 for Home Use
As part of the department’s Enterprise Agreement with Microsoft, MS Office 2016 is now available under work-at-home rights for DoE staff and students. Under this agreement, a single copy for use on a single computer is provided to NSW public school students for free and to staff for under $25.
More licences of Office 2016 will be made available for free to all students and staff during Term 1 next year under our MS Office 365 agreement.

WOODBURN WOLVES FOOTBALL CLUB
IS HOLDING A TRIVIA NIGHT
SATURDAY 14th November 2015, AT THE WOODBURN BOWLING CLUB
START 7:00PM $100 Entrance tickets on Sale From 6:00PM

Tables of up to 6 people, if you can’t get a full table together, don’t worry, rock up and team up with others. NO KIDS, SO FIND A BABYSITTER AND COME AND HAVE SOME FUN!

BISTRO OPEN FROM 6PM. BRING NIBBLES FOR YOUR TABLE.
For bookings,
Woodburn Bowling Club – 6682 2461
Coral - 0488997630
Christina - 0412845888

The Ballina Osteopath
Osteopath available in Evans Head Fridays and Saturdays.
Gentle and effective treatments with 10 years experience. Working out of Evans Head Physio at 31 Woodburn St.
For bookings please call
Jonathan King
on 6687 5179

P&C News
Our next meetings will be held on Monday 16th November. Our morning meeting takes place at 9:00am in the Administration Building and the second meeting is held in the Library at 4:30pm. Please join one of our meetings and bring along your ideas.