The Spirit of Anzac

The spirit of the soldiers who fought to see that we could live in a free country, self-determining with a people cognisant of their broader responsibilities to Australian society and the world, is certainly alive today. Their sacrifice is a focus of our school and nation this week. At this centenary of the date of the Gallipoli landing, we will break from our traditional routines and hold our school service at the Evans Head War Memorial. On Friday morning Year 2-12 students will walk to the memorial and participate in a service which has been jointly planned by students and local returned and current servicemen. The school is also anticipating a large number of students meeting at the town library at 5:00am on Saturday morning then participating in the march to the War Memorial. All students are welcome to join this march. Students should be dressed in full school uniform if joining the march. A special component of our preparation for the ANZAC Centenary has been the work by senior history students with their teacher Ms Nagle. These students have selected a local digger to research. The result of their research is on display at the RSL Club and posters created by the students will be carried by them in the march on Saturday morning. Lest we forget.

School Development Day

Staff participated in a series of professional learning session on Monday. Topics included: the use of technology in learning programs, the new Performance & Development Framework (used to support teachers in meeting the requirements of their work), staff opinions relating to the provision of special education programs at our school, the use of professional education groupings to improve the quality of our work with students, and the use of technology to communicate with parents via SMS. A worthwhile day of learning.

Technology in Learning

As mentioned in newsletters during term 3 last year, the school is assessing the merits of using a specified device in learning programs. In a similar model to that used by the Federal Government laptop program, we are looking at requiring students bring to class a device to assist in their learning. We have not settled on the year level at which the program would be introduced but Years 4-7 were all highlighted as possible starting points in a staff opinion process conducted on Monday. At this time we call for parents to comment on the type of advice they would like to see students using. The school would particularly like parent preference for one of: a laptop, an iPad or an android tablet. Please email your thoughts to evansriver-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au The school is looking into a subsidised purchase plan and some of the devices are likely to be made available for day use by students where purchase by the home is not achievable.
How Parents Support Their Child
A few weeks back I made reference to a variety of ways in which parents support the education of their child. In an article in one of the Sunday papers research conducted by the US National Sleep Foundation was reported. Parents support children by ensuring they have adequate sleep on nights before attending school. In this way we work with sharp and focussed minds at learning time. The report provided the following sleep guidelines:

- Newborns (0-3 months): 14-17 hours
- Infants (4-11 months): 12-15 hours
- Toddlers (1-2 years): 11-14 hours
- Pre-schoolers (3-5): 10-13 hours
- School age children (6-13): 9-11 hours
- Teenagers (14-17): 8-10 hours
- Young adults (18-25): 7-9 hours
- Adults (26-64): 7-9 hours
- Older adults (65+): 7-8 hours

The report also noted that “none of us is exactly the same, so everyone’s sleep needs are different”. Just don’t buck the rules completely, it concluded.

Rob Walker – Principal

Nymboida
During Week 7, Year 7 and Year 11 went to Nymboida Canoe Centre. The bus trip was long but fun, when we got there we were allocated cabins with our friends and started doing activities. Some of the activities were: Rope course, kayaking down the rapids & river safety.

At night time we played games and on the last night we did skits which were absolutely hilarious.

On our last day we played a huge game of “44 home”, we got to spread out around the whole camp while the year 11 students tried to catch us, then we switched and we got to chase them it was really fun!

We also did a scavenger hunt where we had to find things like; a heart shaped rock, a feather, a rock as long as your tongue, cicada shells and all sorts of things. On the way home almost everybody slept, we got home safely and are all very glad that we went. It was a fabulous way to start Year 7.

Ella Gillespie and Tully Brednow

SRC Fundraiser
On Friday 24th April the SRC will be selling Sausage Sandwiches and drinks to raise money for Legacy. Legacy supports families of fallen war heroes. Sausages will be $2, cans of drink $2 and poppers $1.50. The Secondary BBQ will be held in the Senior COLA and a BBQ will be held in the Primary area for K-6 Students. Please try and support this fundraiser for Legacy.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Author Profile
Lachie Hume wrote his first book, Clancy the Courageous Cow, when he was twelve years old but it wasn’t published until he was older. Like his mother, Alison Lester, Lachie Hume illustrates the books he writes.

In 2007, Clancy the Courageous Cow was awarded the Children’s Book of the Year Award shortlist, and the Crichton Award for New Illustrators.

Clancy the Courageous Cow has a message about the value of being different. Clancy is different from the rest of the herd but wishes he could fit in. Clancy makes many unsuccessful attempts to appear like the other cows. Clancy ultimately discovers that being different can be an advantage and teaches us that we all have a place together.

Lachie Hume’s other book, Banjo Bounces Back is one of Mrs Piccoli’s favourite stories as she sees similarities between her life and Banjo’s. Banjo (like Mrs Piccoli) is a hoofball (football) star, playing every Saturday with his (her) team until he (she) sustains a sports injury and is off for six weeks. Bored and restless, he (she) is soon rather unfit and eating far too much. Lachie Hume’s books appeal to both young children and adults.

Both books are listed on the Premier’s Reading Challenge Booklist for K-2.
On Friday students from Year 2–12 will be walking downtown & assembling at the War Memorial at 10:00am, for a special ANZAC assembly. Many students will also take a prominent role during ANZAC Day Services commencing with the Evans Head Dawn Service at 5:20am, on Saturday 25th April.

The school is excited about the five grants of $1200.00 each that were recently awarded to our school by the Telstra Foundation through their Telstra Kids Fund. To apply for these grants we had to have a Telstra employee sponsor each application. Not only did we have one sponsor we had five Telstra employees who believed that sponsoring the grants to help our students was a worthwhile cause and we sincerely thank them. The Telstra employees who are sponsoring our grants are Susan Roche, John Hunter, Arthur Marrone, Kenneth Bate and Desmond Newton. Special thanks to Susan Roche who helped me coordinate all the applications. Huge thanks to Telstra who believes in what our school is doing for our students and granted all of our five applications; these funds will make a big difference to our students’ well-being. Each year the Telstra Foundation provides a million dollars to help kids across Australia to learn and play. Our five grants will be used for: 1. A specialised learning program to help students in primary with reading and writing. 2. A rowing machine for the high school gym. 3. Volleyball court nets and equipment for primary. 4. GOPRO cameras and equipment for Marine and Science. 5. Updated equipment for our school gym.

Before the holidays Mr Cook & Ms Barron took Year 9 & 10 students on a PASS Excursion. They tried a variety of activities, some favourites were the Bounce Trampoline Centre, the Professional Gym Sports Centre at Runaway Bay and the rock climb at Duranbah Headlands. Mr Cook said the students had a great time and their behaviour was excellent.

This year’s Learner Driver Course will be held at the school on Tuesday 5th May at 5:30pm. The venue is the school library. This free 2 hour workshop is provided by NSW Roads and Maritime Services. At the workshop you will be able to learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver.

I attended last year’s workshop and it is amazing how many things change. It’s a great workshop for parents or grandparents who are teaching a learner driver.

Book now on: www.etcltd.com.au/rms Ph. 6650 1969 Freecall 1300 359 968 or the School Office: 6682 6666

Thank You
Rod Blake Veterinarian

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre Assistance

The Australian Government Mobile Service Centre is supporting rural communities by providing convenient access to Australian Government payments and services. The specialised vehicle offers a wide range of face to face and self service assistance for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, people with disabilities, carers, farmers and self-employed people.

You can visit the Mobile Service Centre: in Front of the Council Office Woodburn Street EVANS HEAD Thursday 7th May 9:00-3:30

For more information, go to humanservices.gov.au and search for Mobile Service Centre or call 132 316

The Northern NSW Local Health District would like to remind parents and carers that the Child Oral Health Service offers FREE dental care to ALL children under 18.

Oral health is essential for health and wellbeing. It is recommended that children have regular dental checkups starting at 1 year of age. Regular dental checkups can prevent minor problems becoming major ones and prevent unnecessary pain and distress.

Dental visits can be fun for kids, treat these visits as normal, routine events so as not to develop fear.

Helping Hands — we will begin next week, Wednesday 29th April and if we do not have anyone needing assistance we will be at the community garden helping out. Thanks folks!
**Playgroup**

@ Evans Presbyterian Church

*When:* 10 - 11:30am on Wednesdays during The school terms  
*Cost:* $2 each week per family

Our playgroup is about connecting together as parents, providing a safe and welcoming environment, listening to stories, singing songs, doing craft activities and playing games. Morning tea provided (ALLERGY FRIENDLY) and tea/coffee for parents. Any parents/carers and kids under 5 years are welcome!

For further information, please call 0400 143 557 or 6682 4976

---

**Lismore Gemfest**

Lismore Gemfest, 16-17 May 2015, is the biggest annual event in the country devoted to lapidary and allied arts and is organised by the Lismore Gem & Lapidary Club Inc.

Exhibitors come from all parts of the country. Everything from rough stone for cutting, through to finished jewellery in all price ranges, along with mineral specimens, fossils, gold nuggets and meteorites can be found on display. There are gem sieving activities for children, demonstrations of jewellery making and other craft activities.

A range of food outlets are available, along with free parking in the Lismore Showground.

Sat: 9am-5pm; Sun: 9am-3pm, Fixed Price: Adult $5, Child $1, Lismore Showgrounds.