P&C news

We will be running a cake stall on election day for a few hours in the morning. Could parents please send in cakes and slices on Friday, 27 March or bring them in on Saturday morning if you’re coming in early to vote.

Raffle tickets have been sent out for the Easter raffle. Please support your school and return all tickets by Tuesday, 31 March which is our Easter Hat Parade day. We will be selling an Easter pack for recess (order form enclosed).

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 5 May 2015 (Week 3, Term 2). All positions will be declared open and nominations made, followed by voting by current members.

Skin health checks

Medical staff from Durri will now be visiting the school sometime soon to talk to children about skin health as well as giving each child a check over. Permission notes were sent out on Friday and must be returned by Thursday this week.

Dental staff have not been to the school yet as their notes were sent out on Friday and must be returned as well as giving each child a check over. Permission notes were sent out on Friday and must be returned by Thursday this week. This will happen shortly.

The senior maths group has been learning time. Here we are playing a loop card game about converting time between analogue, digital, 12 hour and 24 hour time.

The Daily Five in K-2

The Daily Five is a structured way of engaging every student with meaningful literacy tasks and helps foster a love to read and write.

Students are given group instruction and then given independent practice time while teachers provide intense instruction to individuals and small groups.

We are in the early stages of the Daily Five and learning about each child’s strengths and needs. When the program is up and running smoothly, each child will be engaged in:-

The Daily Five: Read to Self; Work on Writing; Read to Someone; Listen to Reading; Word Work.

The Daily Five in K

All our chickens have hatched!

We are happy to say that we had 14 chickens hatch from the incubator. We got to watch them crack out of the shell and change from little wet creatures into fluffy little chicks. They change so quickly, in just a week they have grown small wing feathers. If you have not seen them yet, feel free to call in and have a look before they grow up.

The senior maths group has been learning time. Here we are playing a loop card game about converting time between analogue, digital, 12 hour and 24 hour time.

Special places

K-2 are learning about special places with Mrs W on Tuesdays and we have been talking about what makes a place special. We read a story from the Wiradjuri Nation called “The Big River”. This book described why the river is special for these people and discovered that there are many reasons including fishing, stone skimming and wildlife watching. As part of this learning we went on a walk down to the river to see if our river resembled the river in the book. The children loved this experience and couldn’t wait to get back and share what they discovered with Mrs Mitchell and Miss Syd.

Special thanks to Aunty Annette for sharing this experience and her own experiences with the children. Boy can she skin a rock!!

Mahteece went home and drew a picture of the class on the bridge at the river (which is enclosed).

Cosmic yoga

Last week in K-2 we have been using cosmic yoga to help with transitions between math groups and handwriting lessons. Cosmic Yoga has a variety of multi-modal texts which entertain through story and actions. These have been great for stimulating our brains and calming our bodies ready for further learning.

Miss Syd gets to have a little laugh as we try moves like “Downward Facing Dog” pose and “Cat Cow” pose. We laugh at her also

Some of the cosmic yoga poses are very challenging!

Loieka used a pattern sheet to construct her duplo critter in our Thursday afternoon interest groups. A reminder if you have a special skill or hobby that you would like to share with students next term, please contact us.

A proud member of the Macleay Educational Community of Schools
School & Community News

Kempsey Show is on Tuesday, 14 April and Wednesday, 15 April 2015. Contact the Secretary on 6562 4178 for details to enter exhibits and competitions.

Tamika, Margaret and Genevieve competed in the Macleay Soccer Trials last week. Congratulations to Genevieve who has made it through to the Lower North Coast Trials on Friday in Kempsey.

Choose green menu items from the Bellbrook Healthy School Canteen Menu and go into the draw for a free lunch each fortnight.

Winner: Christy

Principal’s news

Annual School Report - Please take the time to read the 2014 Annual School Report enclosed. It is a great reflection on what was a very busy year. Sometimes we forget how many good things happen over twelve months. There are plenty of photos of the students doing all sorts of school activities and it’s a great keep sake to show them when they turn 21.

What to do when we can’t get you! - Last year we surveyed parents on their top three school priorities and safety was one of these. Being able to contact parents quickly and easily makes students feel safer at school. As a part of keeping our students safe, we need up to date contact numbers. If there is an emergency, late pick up or parent permission is required we need to be able to contact you. Individual families will be contacted in writing if we don’t have a number that works.

We have purchased a school mobile so we have quick and easy contact with parents. We will send out reminders about school events that are coming up or when they have been cancelled due to bad weather. Parents will also be able to send a text to explain student absences instead of leaving a message on the school’s message bank.

Staff training - Last week Mrs Walder, Aunty Annette and Aunty Linda attended training in the Multi-Literacy Program which will enable staff to do more intensive literacy work with students. The program will start as soon as our new resources arrive.

Term 1 - 16 March 2015

WHAT’S ON

TERM 1

Week 8

Mon 16 Mar  Growth & Development Talk @ Willawarrin School Years 5/6

Tues 17 Mar  Skin Health Postponed

Thurs 19 Mar  Years 5 & 6 Netball Gala Day

Fri 20 Mar  Harmony Day Millbank School SRC Lower Nth Coast Soccer Trials

Week 9

Thurs 26 Mar  Ride2School Day and Camp

Fri 27 Mar  School Camp 2nd day

Week 10

Tues 31 Mar  9.00 am Assembly 9.30 am Easter Hat Parade 10.30 am Scripture

Thurs 2 Apr  Recess P&C Easter Pack

Term 2

Week 1

Mon 20 Apr  Staff Development Day

Tues 21 Apr  Students return

Thurs 23 Apr  Whole School Excursion Kempsey

Fri 24 Apr  North Coast Soccer Trials Yamba

Sat 25 Apr  ANZAC 100 Years Commemoration

A big congratulations to the following students who received certificates for attending school every day from Week 1 to Week 5.

Fred  Ari  Mamey  Nikia

Hannah  Nemani  Christy  Genevieve  Isimeli

Remember, it’s not OK to stay away.

Carrot, iceberg lettuce & chickpea Salad

Preparation 20 mins | Cooking 5 mins + cooling time | Serves 4

1 tbsp olive oil
1 tsp ground cumin
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
400g chickpeas, drained and rinsed
½ cup currants
1 tbsp honey
2 carrots, peeled and shredded (or grated)
½ small iceberg lettuce, shredded
Tahini & orange dressing
½ cup Greek style natural yoghurt
1 tbsp tahini*
2 tbsp orange juice

* Tahini is a creamy paste made from sesame seeds, it’s available from some greengrocers and supermarkets.

Step 1  Heat oil in a medium frying pan over medium heat. Add cumin, garlic, chickpeas, currants and honey. Cook, stirring often, for 4-5 minutes until chickpeas are warmed through. Set aside to cool for 20 minutes.

Step 2  Place carrots, chickpeas and lettuce into a large bowl. To make dressing, whisk yoghurt, tahini and orange juice in a small bowl until well combined. Drizzle dressing over carrot mixture, gently toss and serve.