Principal's Report

Presentation Day Assemblies

The presentation day assemblies provided an opportunity to acknowledge student achievement from over the year and it was great to have so many community members involved to celebrate with us. Sincere congratulations go to those students who were acknowledged for their achievements at one of the three presentations and to those who were announced as our Student Leaders and Sports Captains for 2016. I would particularly like to thank Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Souden and Mrs. Hickey for their coordination of these assemblies and our P&C who coordinated a lovely morning tea for our special guests on Monday. A big thank you also goes to our community sponsors:
Kincumber Rotary
Geoff Melville
John and Jean Irvine & Baycare.

2016 Class Organisation

I have included in today’s newsletter the school ‘Plan A’ indicating where classes and teachers will be placed in 2016. Please note: the organisation shared with you today is indicative of our current thinking – if our student numbers change significantly from what I understand them to be some changes may be necessary with a ‘Plan B’ being implemented. Student class placements will be announced in the first week or two back after the holidays.

BYOD classes

Students in grades 2, 3 and 5 received notes informing parents that a BYOD class is planned for their child’s grade in 2016. Parents only need to return the note if they would like to OPT OUT of the BYOD class. All notes are to be returned by this Friday. If your child is placed in a BYOD class, we will be advising parents on Monday of next week. Please see information below regarding BYOD classes at EBPS.

- Students participating in the programs are required to sign a Device Use Agreement to ensure the device is used to support learning and for no other reason while at school. Recess and lunchtime will be screen-free times and devices will remain secure at these times.
- Lockers or a secure storeroom will be provided to students to secure their devices. Students will be responsible for the safe-keeping of their iPad. A sturdy cover is recommended.
- It will be important for students to bring their iPads charged and ready to go – no charging facilities will be available at school as large numbers of cables could pose a safety hazard.
- Students will be expected to take their iPads home each day. They may be expected to complete homework using apps, and can also easily share
with parents and carers the work they have been doing at school on their iPad.

- Students will connect with our school WiFi network and be subject to the same security provisions used on all of our regular computers. Internet access will be subject to current DEC filtering.
- Students will not be permitted to share their device with any other students.
- Students will continue to work in a balanced learning program with technologies adding to the quality of that learning. iPads may not be used for every lesson – but will be integrated where it can enhance learning or provide opportunities for new experiences. We expect students will use their device for an average of 1.5 - 2 hrs per day. iPads are suitable to use with all Key Learning Areas and this integration will be coordinated by each classroom teacher and may vary across classrooms.
- The range of apps used will be selected by the classroom teacher. Our teachers have participated in training in the selection and use of quality apps and have explored current research on best approaches for integrating iPads in classroom settings. Some apps that may be used include Educreations, iMovie, Chrome Browser, Reading Eggs, Puppet Pals, Edmodo and Pages but further details will follow, specific to each class.
- Students will still be required to spend time developing handwriting technique. Although they will use a word-processing app for text construction some of the time, students will also write texts in hand-written form as well.
- We take Cyber Safety seriously at our school and require students to use technology safely and responsibly. We will continue to teach students safe ways to learn with technology and support them to be responsible and respectful users.
- Each device needs to be covered by home insurance as the school cannot replace lost, damaged or stolen personal equipment.
- At this stage BYOD at Empire Bay is only open to any iPad generation 2 or newer or any iPad mini device. An external keyboard is recommended, particularly for iPad minis. Headphones will be essential.

**Whooping cough**

We have had a reported case of whooping cough at EBPS. Please read the important information below from NSW Health regarding whooping cough in schools.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

**Reminder: 2016 School Planning/Enrolment**

At this time of year extensive planning is being undertaken for the following school year. If you know that your family are planning on leaving our school next year or one of your children will not be continuing at EBPS, could you please notify the office as soon as possible to assist with this process.

**Important Dates for End-of year celebrations**

As we near the end of the current school year I would like to remind members of our school community of some important school dates:

- 10/12 – K-4 Movie Day/Year 6 Farewell evening
- 14/12 – Talent Quest
- 15/12 – Talent Quest
- 16/12 – Talent Quest / Yr. 6 Graduation 2pm / Last Day of School for students
- 17/12 – SDD # 1 (staff only) – last day of year for staff

**2016**

- 27/1/2016 - Staff return
- Uniform shop will be open from 9-12
- 28/1/2016 - Students 1-6 return
- 1/2/2016 - Swimming Carnival
- 2/1/2016 - Kindergarten start

**Wishing Tree**

Once again, our Christmas tree is located in the office foyer, we would love to see many donations of gifts under our tree so we can help underprivileged children in our area.

If you would like to make a donation please wrap your gift and label it Boy / Girl and the age the gift is appropriate for e.g. Boy 9 -10 years.

We thank you in anticipation of your generosity.
K – 2 Workers of the Week

Term 4 Week 9

KA  Emily P  Olivia T
KMC  Emily S-L  Eva N
KS  Koen M  Keenan H
K/1M  Millie D  Mikayla K
1W  Kobi S  Davor M-B
1S  Ambar M  Taj G
2C  Hunter A  Ryon F
2SB  Harvey M  Jette G
2T  Ky VDW  Gabby A

3-6 Workers of the Week

Term 4 Week 9

3/4J  Chelsea S
3L  Harper S  3H  Harrison D
4/5H  Aidan A  4M  Georgia M
5/6L  Lachlan B, Brody W  5K  Jimmy S, Kieran D
6D  Jack L  6M  Joshua S

---Events Calendar – Term 4

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>Term 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 10th Dec</td>
<td>K-4 Movie Day to Avoca. Year 6 Farewell evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Monday 14th Dec</td>
<td>Talent Quest (Year 5 and 6)</td>
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<td>Tuesday 15th Dec</td>
<td>Talent Quest (Year K - 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 16th Dec</td>
<td>Talent Quest (Year 3 and 4) Yr. 6 Graduation 2pm / Last Day of School for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 17th Dec</td>
<td>SDD (Staff Only) last day for staff</td>
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2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Wednesday 27th Jan 2016</th>
<th>Staff return</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 28th Jan 2016</td>
<td>Students Yr 1 -6 return</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1st Feb 2016</td>
<td>School Swimming carnival for children Yrs 3-6 and children in Year 2 turning 8 in 2016, if they would like to attend and can competently swim 50 metres. Cost is $7.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2nd Feb</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2016 start</td>
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From the Canteen – Please ensure ALL Xmas Meal Deals orders are returned to the Canteen by THURSDAY 10TH. Note: As we get closer to the end of the year we will be running our stock out and therefore may have trouble supplying our full menu. At the moment there is no Fried Rice, mini yoghurts, honey soy chips, juices and frozen juice cups. All other stock available at this time. Thank you for supporting your School Canteen throughout the year and have a Very Merry Xmas and Happy New Year!

HELP WANTED for 2016: As little as ONE HOUR of your time in the mornings when you drop your children to school is a BIG HELP to us in the Canteen. Please consider becoming a volunteer if you have an hour to spare now and then. Your time is much appreciated! Drop into the Canteen and see Gaye or Michelle to put your name onto a roster for 2016.

Looking for a quick and easy way to order School Lunches - why not check out ON-LINE ORDERING AT FLEXISCHOOLS. It will take the hassle out of lunch orders and that school morning rush!

Work Health & Safety requires anyone working in the canteen to wear closed in shoes so your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

Baycare

Our beautiful handmade Christmas Banners are back this year at Baycare. They are available from the Baycare Staff in the hall before 8.30am and after 3pm for just $20.

Please help support our Service.

Uniform Shop

- Opening Hours
  - Tuesday 8.30am–9.00am
  - Thursday 2.30pm – 3.00 pm
- Uniform Shop is behind the hall

Become an Ethics Teacher at Empire Bay Public School

We currently have ethics classes for K-6. Ethics classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgment, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives.

http://www.primaryethics.com.au or contact Jenni Bourchier, Regional Manager - Gosford Region, Primary Ethics for more information: gosford-region@primaryethics.com.au or call her on 0411 198 483. We need an additional volunteer for an Ethics Teacher within the school. Members of the school community are encouraged to apply.
‘Free’ ROCK POOL RAMBLES by OCCI-Central Coast, January 2016

Come and explore the rock pools with OCCI’s expert guides and learn about the fascinating creatures who live there. Limited numbers. Walks are most suited to ages 5 years to adult.

Friday 8th at Terrigal Haven 1.30 pm
Saturday 9th at Norah Head 2.00 pm
Sunday 10th at Toowoon Bay 2.45 pm
Friday 22nd at Terrigal Haven 1.30 pm
Saturday 23rd at Umina Beach 2.15 pm
Sunday 24th at Toowoon Bay 3.00 pm

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL: To book, phone OCCI on 0450 990 995

XMAS HOLIDAY TENNIS CAMP NOTICE

Where: Peninsula Tennis, Umina
When: Mon 6th Jan 2016 to Fri 9th Jan 2016 & Mon 18th Jan 2016 to Fri 22nd Jan 2016
Time: 9am-3pm (gates open @ 8am), 3½ day 9am-12.30pm
Cost: WK 650, ½ Day 540, Full Day 850, ½ Day 515
Included: Racquets, Snack & Soft Drink Thursday, Prices Friday.

The camp will be predominantly tennis with other activities such as soccer, cricket, basketball etc. to keep the children occupied. The camps are held out of doors with indoor activities provided. Bookings recommended but aren’t essential. All enquiries can be made by phoning Kristy 0410 828 278.

ORDER YOUR LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE TODAY!

Order and Payment Options:
1) Telephone the Umina Campaspe Office on 40459498 to place your order and pay by credit card.
2) Visit the Office from 9am to 1pm, 7th December 2015 and pay by cash or cheque.

Order by 10th December 2015.

Extracted Text:

Has moved to Kincumber

Jan School Holiday Workshops
Jan 5th - 20th

Everything from weaving, tie-dye, dream catchers, terrariums, pinatas and jewellery

for details

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