Principal’s Report

Parent Information Sessions
Parents are invited to attend information sessions where teachers will explain class procedures and other relevant information regarding the school year. Please feel free to explore the school grounds before the sessions commence to familiarise yourselves with our school environment. Please find attached a copy of the site to help you find your way.

Successful tips to starting the new year!
Establish connections – both for yourself and for your child. Children learn best when they are socially centred – set up regular play dates with your child’s friends; even better, make it a date which includes the parents and children. Establish a ‘connection’ with your child’s teacher.
Encourage/ motivate for “Personal Best” – we can’t all be ranked No 1 but we can aim for mastery. I like to suggest charting regular, personal ‘learning’ goals with weekly ‘sharing’ opportunities for all members of the family to engage in. This way, children learn that WE are all still learning (grown-ups as well!) and they start to look around for a wide range of personal learning opportunities on a daily basis (maintaining self-esteem and motivation).
Be a role-model - this includes being involved in your child’s school (research indicates parental involvement as being one of the key components of child’s successful academic and social outcomes); teach acceptance of others by modelling acceptance of others (kindness, consideration and inclusion of individuality and differences); speak positively about education, school, students/parents and teachers - avoid the negativity of media and Facebook gossip - your child will benefit. Life and learning are like roller-coaster rides. I hope you and your child have a wonderful ‘ride’ through 2016. Remember, when the ‘ride’ becomes too bumpy for comfort, we are here to support you and your child.

Road Safety
As a school, we constantly reinforce road safety concepts with our students, we discuss safe ways to travel to and from school, we remind children about the safe way to exit and enter a vehicle and we instruct our students on how to safely cross a road. Our community is in a powerful position to reinforce these important safety messages by modelling the same, safe & legal road behaviour. In that spirit, I ask all parents, grandparents and carers to observe state road rules, local parking restrictions and good common-sense – remember please ‘Safety before Convenience’ at all times!

Visitors to our school
Many people, for a variety of reasons, visit our school on a daily basis. I would like to remind all visitors of the procedures listed below in order to maintain a safe environment for the students:
• Reporting to our front office, introducing yourself to our office staff and declaring the purpose of your visit before going anywhere else in the school,
• Our office staff will then direct you to your desired destination and will provide you with the necessary paperwork. They will ask you to ‘sign in’ as a ‘visitor’ and only then is it appropriate for you to move to a classroom or other area within the school grounds,
• Once within the school grounds, I ask that you keep your interaction with other students to a minimum,
• It is inappropriate to discuss any issues, disputes or grievances directly with a student or another parent whilst on school grounds – such matters should be discussed with a teacher, Assistant Principal or Principal.

P&C Meeting
Our first P&C meeting for 2016 will be held next Monday 15th February at 2pm in Cooinda. The P&C is a vital element in the successful operation of the school. The purpose of the P&C is to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation and to assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school. Everyone is welcome.

Zone Swimming Carnival
The Southern Central Coast Zone Swimming Carnival takes place on Tuesday 8th March. Students who have qualified for a Zone placement will receive notes on Friday.
Events Calendar – Term 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 2pm in Cooinda</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th-19th Feb</td>
<td>Yr 6 Camp @ Kincumber</td>
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<td>29th Feb</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th March</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th March</td>
<td>Dr. John Irvine - Band Fundraiser</td>
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Huge congratulations to all the children who represented the Peninsula Junior Touch Football Association at the Peter Wilsons Memorial Cup in Nelsons Bay last weekend. Teams Hunter and Central Coast regions were represented. Our club achieved big points for teams that made the quarter finals. U10s boys won U12s girls won and U14 were runners up and that team had 6 players from Year 6 last year and Yr 6 in 2014.

Students Zac S, U10s winners, U12s girls winners Ava H and Charlie G. Other students also made quarter finals like Zane S, U12s boys and Brydee N-S, U10s girls.

From the students - NRL Visit to EBPS

Last Friday on the 5th of February we were lucky enough to have two Roosters players, Charlie and Daniel to visit our school. We answered some trivia questions about our wellbeing, sleep, hydration and food. Some people who answered the questions correctly won prizes such as lunch boxes, caps and wrist bands. Saxon was lucky enough to be chosen to go up on stage and put the Umina Bunnies jersey on while they were talking about the team. 6D were even luckier to have Charlie and Daniel come to their classroom and have a one on one talk about what it was like for them at primary school. 6D also had the chance to get some autographs.

We hope everybody enjoyed the Roosters visit.

Makayla and Seanna (Kookaburra House Captains)

School Banking will resume on the 11th February 2016.

We are in desperate need of helpers for the school banking. If you are able to assist please come to the school office at 9:15am on Thursday morning. Thank you in anticipation.

From the Canteen – 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.

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.

EAST COAST TAEKWONDO ACADEMY

Membership Includes FREE—
- Taekwondo uniforms
- One month training
- TKD Introductory DVD
(Conditions apply. Limited offer)

EMPIRE BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

TUESDAY 7:05-8:55pm

7 DAN MASTER GIRLS PENNINGTON

PH: 0416 102 667

eastcoastaekwondo.com.au

Woy Woy Peninsula Netball Club Registration Day

6th February 2016

Lemongrove Reserve

Lagoon St, Ettalong

Between 9am & 2pm

Further enquiries via email addressed to the Melissa McRae
0400279916 or wwpna@bigpond.com

DANCE & ACMO CLASSES

ENROL NOW 2016

COME ALONG FOR A FREE TRIAL LESSON (conditions apply)

TERRIGAL ETTALONG DAVISTOWN

www.dynamixdance1com
Being A Dad

This three-session program will help relationships with their children.

Course Content Overview

Session 1: Being a father today
- Embrace positive role
- Recognise the importance of being
- Learn to connect with your children
- Understand themselves as a Dad

Session 2: Bringing out the best in our kids
- Be a role model
- Understand children at different ages
- Learn ways to be a better Dad
- Set goals for spending quality time with their children

Session 3: The Power of Positive Parenting
- Improve communication skills
- Learn positive ways to discipline children
- Practice what they have learned

Wednesday, 10 February 2016

TKT Ocean Beach Netball Club 2016 Registration

TKT Ocean Beach Netball Club will be taking registrations on Saturday 6th February 2016 between 9am and 1pm at Lemon Grove Netball Courts. All past players and any new players are welcome. Players need to be turning 5 this year or older.

For further information please contact:
Joanne Ely - 0403 482 894 or email joannoe 1976@hotmail.com

School Band Fundraiser

You are invited to ‘An Evening with Doctor John Irvine’

Focus - Helping Young Worriers Beat the WorryBug

When: Thursday 10th March
Where: Empire Bay PS Hall
Time: 7.30pm
Cost: $20pp (Tickets available from Empire Bay School office – 43691796)

About Dr John

Dr John Irvine is one of Australia’s most renowned child psychologists. As a pioneer in his field, he has been read, viewed or heard throughout the nation. At the age of 18, he started his own one-teacher school and continued in the field, teaching in the New South Wales schools for many years before becoming a child psychologist. He is currently a consultant at the R.E.A.D. Clinic and has written several books including Thriving at School and A Handbook for Happy Families, which now has four accompanying DVDs.

What the evening will involve

Dr John acknowledges the growing problem of anxiety in kids - everywhere, which calls for immediate and timely attention. Dr. John has been invited to Empire Bay PS to help tackle the issue by presenting sensible advice for parents, educators and other caretakers. The evening will include background information on the origin of worry, an assessment guide to help determine the problem and an opportunity for Q & A session to answer any general questions you may have for Dr John. Paper will be available on the night for you to write your question anonymously if you prefer.

Dr John will introduce the WorryWoos which help children to open up and express their feelings in a positive way and understand that they are not alone. We have asked Dr John to bring along any books and support material for community members to purchase on the evening if they wish to.

We can guarantee a friendly, funny and informative evening!!