Principal’s Report

Parent Teacher Interviews- Notes go home today, inviting you to attend an interview with your child’s teacher during Weeks 9 & 10 of this term.

We love to discuss our student’s learning! This invitation gives you a specific opportunity to sit with your child’s teacher for a 15 minute interview and discuss your child’s personal progress so far this year.

Our Parent Teacher Interviews provide important information about Programming Literacy and Numeracy (PLAN) Reports, the lead up to National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) and Semester One reports, ensuring there are no big ‘surprises’ for you at the end of Semester One.

It is important that we see the parents or carers of ALL of our children during this time. If you are unable to attend any of the interview times offered, please contact your child’s teacher to arrange an alternate time.

You are always welcome to seek additional interviews at other times throughout the year. Please use our Approaching Your School procedure (available on the school’s website and from the Office) when arranging a suitable meeting time.

The Wollongbar Alstonville Fun Run is on this Saturday. Even if you can’t compete, please drop in and show your support by buying some food prepared at the Alstonville High School Canteen by their Hospitality students.

The organising committee, led by Catherine Black, work really hard to support both Wollongbar Public School and Alstonville High School. All funds raised directly impact on every student in each school. For us it will be purchasing more fixed playground equipment, including basketball hoops, for the students to use at recess and lunch times.

Grandparents and families shape our school and community culture and nurture the development and wellbeing of our children.

We would like to welcome and invite our grandparents and families of Wollongbar Public School to join our students and staff in activities on Friday 27th March.

Our activities include:

- **11.35am** Attending our Grandparent and Families special school assembly in our hall
- **12.15pm** Visiting your child/children’s classroom - participating and helping out during classroom activities
- **1.00pm** Enjoying lunch with your child/children - bring a Picnic Lunch and rug along.

Our Pop Up Book Fair will be open from 8.45am – 3.45pm for browsing and the purchasing of books and stationery.

SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 2015

The Alstonville Wollongbar Fun Run makes a difference to ALL the children at this school. Your participation directly affects your child’s schooling.
Pop Up Book Fair

This year we have the special treat of having an additional Book Fair!

As we are running a Pop Up Book Fair at the Wollongbar Election Polling Station on Saturday 28th March, I would like to extend the opportunity for our school community to have the chance of purchasing books and stationery before that event.

On Friday 27th March, we will be opening our Pop Up Book Fair in the Library from 8.45am – 3.45pm. Depending on the timeframe of the arrival of the books, students will be able to browse during their library lesson before the Friday sale day.

The 2015 NAPLAN test timetable for Years 3 and Year 5 is:

- Tuesday 12 May  Language Conventions, Writing
- Wednesday 13 May  Reading
- Thursday 14 May  Numeracy

A handout providing more information about NAPLAN is included with this newsletter.

Jennifer Thomas
Principal

Assembly Awards and Birthdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Platinum</th>
<th>Birthdays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Payment Due Date</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K/1W, 1/2R &amp; 1/2T</td>
<td>Science Visit</td>
<td>20th March 2015</td>
<td>$2.00 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Excursion to Sydney/Canberra</td>
<td>Friday 24th April</td>
<td>$200.00 deposit (non-refundable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 15th May</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 12th June</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Friday 17th July</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unfortunately students who have not paid and brought in a permission note for these events will not be able to participate. Please see the school website if you require a permission note. is available at our school from 8.30am-1pm

Would you like to Volunteer at our School?

- Volunteers need to complete a Working with Children Declaration – Volunteer details must be updated every 12 months.
- Volunteers must also provide 100 Points of Identification - This is a requirement of DEC for all volunteers working in schools.

For more information please see the ladies in the front office.

Please Note: Before you are able to volunteer at Wollongbar Public School you must fill out a Working with Children Declaration and provide 100 points of Identification to our school.
North Coast Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all the students who competed at the North Coast Swimming Carnival last week.

Meggan competed in Jnr Backstroke for Multiclass competitors, coming in 3rd. This means that Meggan now competes at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre in Week 9. Good luck, Meggan!

District Winter Sports Trials

Good luck to the students who are competing at District Winter Trials today in Ballina:

Netball – Georgie, Chloe, Kiara, Georgia and Jade
Soccer – Sarah, Jade, Toby, Rory, Korin and Sam
Rugby League – Coen

Due to a lack of numbers for a trial, our hockey players have all been selected to compete at the Far North Coast Zone.
Hockey – Lewis, Aeryn and Georgia

Julie Woolfe
PSSA Coordinator
**Extra-Curricular Opportunity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the activity?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• LISMORE PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL CONCERT BAND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• This band gives students the opportunity to perform in a concert band which is not available to them in their school.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who is it open to?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Open to all students who are learning an instrument appropriate to a concert band eg sax, flute, trumpet, either at their school or privately</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How will it be offered to students / families? How do students apply?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Selection by Specialist music teacher – Mark Earl – return note to Mrs Green by Friday 13 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Students indicate interest by taking home a note – return note to Mrs Green by Friday 13 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Note inserted in newsletter – return note to Mrs Green by Friday 13 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Interested students names will be passed on to the co-ordinator Leone Cox</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are the criteria for selection? (inc. who is selecting?)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Students must have some sight reading skills and some experience with the instrument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must be an instrument appropriate to a concert band eg: saxophone, flute, clarinet, horns, trumpet. Please note – no acoustic guitar or keyboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Leone Cox, teacher at Goonellabah, will be responsible for selecting the band members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are the performance expectations?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• <strong>Parents</strong> will be responsible for all travel to rehearsals and performances – there will not be a teacher from Wollongbar Public School responsible for any part of the Concert Band once it is formed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• There will be two full day tutorials @ Goonellabah PS on Tuesday March 17 and Tuesday May 26 - students must attend both days and practice the music at home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Students will be performing at 2 evening concerts and a matinee concert and are expected to be present at ALL performances. Dates are Monday 24 August – Thursday 27 August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How will the outcome be communicated?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Once the band has been formed, successful students will be informed by Mrs Green and a note will be communicated to the parents outlining their responsibilities once again.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your child has shown an interest in being a member of the Lismore Performing Arts Concert Band. If you would like your child to be a part of this band, please fill in the details below and return them to school by Friday 13th March.

Thank you
Kim Green
Co-ordinating Teacher

---

**Concert Band Expression of Interest**  
Name: ______________________  
Class: ____  
Instrument: ______________________  
Years played: ____________  
Signed: ______________________  
Parents Name: ______________________  
Date: ____________
Many thanks to our local supporters providing coffee vouchers for the next few months for our lucky volunteers:

QUATRO COUNTRY AND ALSTONVILLE GARDEN HOUSE.

We are still looking for someone to fill the President position on our P&C. If you are interested please contact Dan on: 0417 688821

Our next meeting is the 1st April 2015 at 7pm in the Staffroom. We hope to see more wonderful parents and carers come along and join the team and welcome a New President for 2015.

Alstonville Wollongbar Fun Run Is This Saturday!!!

No more excuses! Get your entry in today and support your school.

There is something for all!!

Have you entered our Fun Run yet? It’s a great way to help support the P&C to raise funds to support the school. It’s a great fun day for family and friends!!

Alstonville Wollongbar Fun Run Challenge will be held this Saturday 14th March 2015.

We would also like to thank our wonderful sponsors:

Wollongbar Pharmacy for the 5km Walk
Summerland House Farm for the 1km Junior Dash
Summit Sport and Fitness Centre for the 5km Run
and Elders Alstonville for the 10km Run.

Entries are now being taken online. Please go to www.alstonvillewollongbarfunrun.com.au or get an entry form from the office.
**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform shop is open on Fridays from 8.45am to 9.15am.

**Fund-Raising**

It’s that time of year when we need to start making preparations for the Wollongbar Fair to Remember. If you would like to be involved in this fantastic community event please come along to our first Fund-Raising meeting of the year next Wednesday, 15th March, at the Wollongbar Tavern at 7.00pm. We’d love to see you there!

**News in the Canteen**

Our new Price List went home in last week’s Newsletter, so please throw away any old copies you may have. From tomorrow if your child doesn’t have the correct money in their order a note will be sent home. Monies owed can be paid directly to the Canteen on a Monday or Friday, or alternatively at the office. Thanks for your ongoing support.

The canteen is open on both Monday and Friday of each week. Although we have filled the Fridays with volunteers we would still like to have more volunteers in case someone cannot come on the day. If you are available please contact us as soon as possible.

The canteen contact details are:

Leigh on 0412 716 991
Anna on 0410 594 676 Email: madmods@bigpond.com

Thanks
Anna and Leigh

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### Canteen

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Anna K</td>
<td>LeAnn B</td>
<td>Tash C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna K</td>
<td>LeAnn B</td>
<td>Belinda H</td>
<td>Mary Ann B</td>
<td>Roz P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belinda H</td>
<td>Mary Ann B</td>
<td>Wendy R</td>
<td>Jocelyn P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy R</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yasmin G</td>
<td>Hayley T</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Uniform Shop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13th March</td>
<td>8.45-9.15AM</td>
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</table>

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### P&C Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P&amp;C</th>
<th>When?</th>
<th>Where?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th March 2015 – 7pm</td>
<td>Wollongbar Tavern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C</td>
<td>Wednesday 1st April 2015 - 7pm</td>
<td>Staff Room</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collect tokens in the Northern Star from Saturday 14th February until Monday 16th March.

The school with the most tokens per student wins.

Help your children by collecting as many tokens as you can for our school!

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Musical Theatre and Youth Choir classes are available with One of Australia’s best music and dance teachers

(Singing and Pianoforte)

Class consists of Voice Production & Aural Training, Songs from Stage Musicals, Stage-craft, Drama Skills, Tap dance, Performance Skills, Movement & Dance

*(Parents may join the Body-toning/Dance Skills section from 5.45pm for no charge)*

**When:** Every Friday from 4.30-6.30

**Where:** Wollongbar Hall. Hall Court off Simpson Ave

Wollongbar

**Cost:** $15

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SPECIAL TUTORING CLASS FOR YEAR 9/10 AND YEAR 11/HSC DANCE CANDIDATES
AVAILABLE FOLLOWING CHOIR/MUSICAL THEATRE CLASS at 6.30PM

**ENQUIRIES:** 0427 061 522 or

Email Miss Jill: **jill_43@bigpond.com**
Entertain the kids these school holidays with one of our kids’ camps. They’re a great way to get the kids outdoors learning new skills while making new friends. From day programs to residential camps, our kids’ camps help grow an independent spirit that is self-reliant, confident and responsible.

Choose from a range of fun and exciting camps led by qualified instructors and rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands.

Activities include abseiling, snorkeling, raft building, kayaking, archery, challenge ropes course plus much more.

We also offer accommodation, programs and facilities to suit every budget:

- Self-contained accommodation
- Group getaways
- School camps

Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kids’ Club (day only)</th>
<th>Adventurer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7-10 Apr</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
<td>7-12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-17 Apr</td>
<td>$195</td>
<td>$225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents must arrange transport to and from the Centre each day.

fb.com/NSWSportandRecreation
dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps  13 13 02
What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. The content of each test is informed by the national Statements of Learning for English and mathematics, which underpin state and territory learning frameworks. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

Where can I get more information?
For more Information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2015 tests timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tuesday 12 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 13 May</th>
<th>Thursday 14 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Will I receive a report on my child’s performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.