PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

On Tuesday a parenting course called ‘Responding not Reacting’ was held at school and delivered by personnel from CRANES in Grafton. Normally these courses are only offered in town so to have them offer to provide them here, free of charge and with lunch supplied was very generous. Unfortunately I was left embarrassed as I had told the people from CRANES there would be 8 participants and only 3 attended. I know circumstances change and sometimes we need to cancel commitments we have made, but a phone call to let us know prior would be appreciated.

Today’s visiting performance, ‘Murri Kulcha in Education’ was a terrific show. Lewis entertained us with stories, songs and dances from his culture and amazed us with hid didgeridoo playing. All students attended and it would be appreciated if money could be sent in promptly for any who have not yet paid.

Mrs Watts returns tomorrow from leave and I would like to thank Ms Parnell who has filled in teaching the K/1 class in her absence. The children have enjoyed her fun and interesting activities and I’m sure they will be excited to have her return in the future.

During this term, Ms Sheena Mortimer has been completing her final teaching practicum with our 4/5/6 class. I’d like to thank her for her efforts and enthusiasm and wish her all the best as she embarks on her teaching career.

Our student toilet renovations have been completed 2 weeks ahead of schedule. I’d like to thank our builder Grant Squires and his team for their professionalism and consideration throughout the build. Yesterday Grant addressed our assembly and thanked the kids for being so polite, sensible and patient during the construction and as someone who works in many schools it was great to hear him say that he has met no better group of students than ours! Well done kids.

Thanking you, Andrew (a very proud principal)

COMING EVENTS

June 3  Small schools soccer match against Ulmarra Public School

June 5  Responsible Pet Education: the Program offers free visits by trained pet educators and their temperament tested pets. Visits cover the concepts of choosing a pet, registration, pet housing and in particular, safety around dogs in order to prevent dog attacks.

June 10 Community nurse Kate will visit the school to test the hearing & vision of kinder students. If you have a concern & would like your child tested please contact the office.

June 10  P&C Meeting

June 19 NAIDOC GALA DAY – Traditional Indigenous Games & Boomerang Art. Free sausage sizzle provided

June 20  Half Yearly reports go home.

WEEK 9 Parent Interviews

June 27  Last day of Term 2

July 14  Pupil Free Day

July 15  Students return to school

OUR ASSEMBLY AWARD WINNERS
Thursday, May 22nd 2014

K/1: Violet Yager & Wyatt Weinert

2/3: Nick Hay & Sophie Yager

4/5/6: Claire Fahey & Alijah Chown

Principal’s Award: Troy Koekemoer
What is National Reconciliation Week?

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between 27 May and 3 June. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort. The theme for this year is “Walk the talk” and aims to build community support for changing the Australian constitution to formally recognise Australia’s Indigenous people. More information about National Reconciliation Week can be found at: http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/

We fly the Aboriginal flag every day and acknowledge country and the traditional custodians, the Bundjalung people, at school assemblies and community events. This week at school, students have learned about Sorry Day and the apology to the many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people known as the Stolen Generation who were forcibly removed from their families. All staff and students have decorated footprints which include a short message of reconciliation to be displayed in the front foyer at school, and today we were treated to a great cultural experience with our visiting performance: Murri Kulcha in Education. Our school NAIDOC celebration will include traditional games and arts and crafts with Baryulgil students and will be held on June 19th.

Winter Clothing

Even though the weather is still warm, some of the kids are wearing jumpers to school. Please remember that our school jumper needs to be royal blue. We already have a huge stockpile of hats and jumpers without names on them in our lost property boxes. Please make sure all of your child’s clothing is labelled with his or her name – it makes it easier to get back. If you think a piece of unnamed clothing might belong to your child, please come in and have a look through the collection. From time to time we will give away unlabelled clothing that has been unclaimed for a while.

Building healthy habits

Children are learning habits that will often last them a lifetime. Consider the following:

* Breakfast is important. Children who eat breakfast have better concentration. Eating breakfast can reduce snacking on high-energy foods in the afternoon in both adults and children.

* Be realistic about the size of the serve you offer children. Forcing children to finish what is on their plate when they are not hungry may lead to overeating and/or strong food dislikes.

* Serve meals or snacks at a table rather than in front of the television. Children and adults can miss their body’s cues when they are full and are more likely to overeat. Limiting television also reduces their exposure to junk food advertising.

* Avoid giving children processed snack foods high in sugar. Encourage brushing teeth in the morning and before bed to develop good dental habits.

* You play an important role in promoting healthy habits. Set a good example by eating healthy foods and enjoying regular exercise. It may not be apparent, but your child is watching you!