Another Win for Sustainability

Another tremendous achievement for our school last week as we were announced the winners of the Clarence Valley Council’s Sustainability Awards for Education, 2015. Once again the judges were thrilled with our environmental education programs and activities. Particular highlights for the judges included our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden, community initiatives to promote healthy eating, recycling procedures and our new bin system to sort rubbish at school.
Conservatorium of Music
On Monday 4th August we travelled to Dorrigo Public School to attend a performance by students from The Sydney conservatorium of Music. Students were enthralled by the range of instruments played and the amazing ability of the performers.

Week 5
In gardening we planted carrots, fennel, pak choi, cos lettuce and another green manure crop. Students also watered fruit trees, weeded and started cleaning up our berry patch. We harvested carrots, shallots, herbs, celery, lettuce, spinach, silverbeet and carrot tops.

Thank you to Melissa for donating more eggs and more pak choi. In the kitchen we cooked vegetable lasagne, carrot and orange soup, tabbouleh and raspberry oat bars. Thank you to Gail who volunteered in the garden and kitchen.

SAKG Gardening & Cooking
Week 4
During gardening students planted tomato, chilli, capsicum and eggplant seeds in hot houses made out of plastic bottles. We harvested herbs, shallots, micro greens, a variety of Asian greens, silverbeet, spinach and lettuce. Thank you to Melissa for donating lemons and pak choi. In the kitchen we cooked silverbeet and coconut pepper soup, skordalia, cucumber salad, lemon delicious pudding and for the lunch box we made mini vegetable pasties.

Message from Jim-Variation to morning bus pick-up
Due to road works near Wiriri Road Jim’s bus may be a few minutes late to collect students on the morning run. The afternoon run will be as normal.

Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) – Final Reminder
Some students are still busy reading for the challenge. They will need to have their reading logs completed by THIS THURSDAY to allow time for online entry.

Video Conference - Captain Cook – This Thursday 20th August
The 3-6 class will join into a Captain Cook video conference this Thursday 20th August at 9.30am to support the British Colonisation of Australia unit of work their doing in class.
Mid North Coast Athletics
Congratulations to our P6 relay team - Ronny Baff, Joe Wykes, Lucy Not and Jazmin Horwood who have qualified for the North Coast athletics carnival to be held at Lismore on Friday, August 28th. They competed at the MNC Athletics Carnival last Friday where they placed third. Also, congratulations to Joe Wykes for his efforts in shot put and discus. Although he did not qualify for these events he has represented our school with great athletic ability. Thank you to Darren and Becky Wykes for transporting the team to and from Coffs Harbour safely.
Consent notes were sent home with these students at the MNC carnival last Friday. Please sign and return them to school as soon as possible so that they can be faxed.

Chess Competition
Students have been enjoying chess this term. Skills and strategies have been developing over the seven rounds. Semi-finals and finals will be held this week to determine our school champion. Well done to all students who have participated.

Kindy Orientation – Monday 24th August – 9am-12noon
We welcomed Tyson for the first morning of Kindy Orientation. He joined in with all class activities like an old hand and made a ferocious crocodile to take home. Our next Kindergarten orientation will be Monday 24th August from 9am to 12noon. Any child who will be turning 5 years old is welcome to come along for the morning and participate. We look forward to meeting our new Kindergarten students.

K-2 Spelling
The K-2 class had fun with Mrs Parkin last week practising spelling in shaving cream on their desk. This is only one of the ways children learn spelling at school.

Preschoolers Morning – Monday 24th August
Join us for our next preschool morning on Monday 24th August from 10am to 12 noon. There will be educational activities that help develop gross and fine motor skills as well as art and craft. All preschool children aged 1-5 are welcome.
**Special Canteen Lunches – Friday 28th August**
Friday 28th August we will have a special canteen lunch. Lunch orders are attached; please return them by Monday 24th August.

**Fruit and Vegie Month**
Next week marks the beginning of Fruit and Vegie Month. Students will participate in activities at school to promote healthy fruit and vegie consumption.

**Milo T20 Blast Cricket Gala Day – Bellingen**
Wednesday 9th September
Year 3 to 6 will be travelling to Bellingen on Wednesday 9th September to participate in the Milo Cricket T20 Blast School Cup hosted by NSW Cricket at Connell Park in Bellingen.

We will be travelling by Jim’s bus to and from Bellingen. We will need to leave Tyingingham Store by 8.00am. Students who catch the bus normally may get on the high school bus in the morning; all other students are to be at the shop by 8am. There is no cost for this excursion. We will need to be at Connell Park (soccer fields) Bellingen by 9am. The day should finish approximately 2pm. Students will be back at school for normal afternoon pick up / bus routine. The day will be loads of fun for children to enjoy playing the game of cricket which is non-contact, inclusive, skilful, fun and social! Parents are most welcome to attend. Students are to wear full school uniform (sport shirts) and bring their recess, fruit, lunch, plenty of water and hat. All equipment is supplied. Mrs Keough will be accompanying our students on the day. Please fill out the consent note and return to school if attached.

**Changed Bus transport for K-2 Students**
Wednesday 9th September Students to be driven to school
Due to the Milo Cricket T20 Blast School Cup Day at Bellingen where students in Years 3 to 6 are utilising Jim’s bus, there will be no morning bus run for this day. We are asking all parents with children in Mrs Sangster K-2 class to please drive their child/ren to school in the morning. Jim will be back in time to do the normal afternoon bus run. Thank you for being understanding and co-operative.

**Term 3 Assembly - Thursday 17th September**
We will be holding our Term 3 Assembly on Thursday 17th September at 2:30pm. Parents and community members are welcome, so please come along and enjoy watching the children perform.

**Woolworths Earn & Learn Program 2015**
We are taking part in the 2015 Woolworths Earn & Learn program. It runs until Tuesday 8th September 2015. For every $10 you spend at Woolworths you will receive a sticker. These stickers can then be dropped at the school. The more points we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 7,000 educational resources. We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program.

**SAKG - Weekly Contribution of $1 per student**
The kitchen garden program has ongoing costs each week, such as cooking ingredients, seeds and seedlings. We are asking that parents help contribute towards these costs by sending in $1 each Friday per child. The cost for Term 3 is $10 per student. Invoices for amounts owing by students are attached. Thank you those families that have paid already.

**Reminder - 2015 Hernani Sport & Workbook Fees**
Invoices are attached for those families that have not yet paid their workbook fees for 2015 and/or Hernani Sport Afternoon Bus Costs. Please pay as soon as possible. Remember all excursions should be paid for fully before the event on the day. Thank you those families that have paid already.

**BookClub Issue 6 – Due back Monday 31st August**
Attached is Issue 6 Bookclub brochures. If you wish to place an order from this issue, please have your order forms and money (cash/cheque made to Scholastic) back at school by Monday 31st August.
P&C News & Community Notices

July Firewood Raffle

Congratulations to Kelli-Jo Weendon who was the winner of our July firewood raffle last week.

P&C Wood Raffle Tickets – Last One – Double Load

First Prize: Two Trailer loads of split Firewood (Delivered locally)

Drawn: Friday 28th August.

Tickets: $1.00 each (book sent home last term). Please have all tickets sold/unsold and money returned to school by this Wednesday 26th August.

Thank You

Thank you very much to Alice McLennan for donating a large box of yummy, healthy ice blocks for P&C Special Lunches. The school really appreciates this generosity.

Parent Direct, Chalk & Educational Experience Toy Catalogue Fundraisers.

The P&C are participating in Parent Direct, Chalk and Educational Experience Toy catalogue fundraiser again this year. Three catalogues were sent home last week for you to browse through. If you would like to purchase anything from these catalogues, please return your order form and payment to school by Friday 18th September. Once orders are returned to school we will send them off. The orders will be processed, packed and delivered to school (all orders will be individually labelled with the purchasers name) and then can be collected. Alternatively, you can choose to have your order delivered directly to your home. The school will receive a voucher for 20% of our total value for all orders, which can then be used to purchase educational material. This is a great way to do some stress free Christmas shopping!!!

Keeping Sstudents Safe Online

The ubiquity of connected technologies – desktop computers, tablet devices and mobile phones – means cyber safety is an ongoing issue. A key question for parents is often, should their children have access to the internet in their bedrooms? Education and child safety experts recommend against it. There are handy articles on the School A to Z website which provide some straightforward advice on the matter. School A to Z also has other useful information on cyber safety such as Keeping Facebook private, Keeping kids safe online and Ten cybersafety tips every parent should know. It also has helpful information for parents/carers on everything from homework to lunch box ideas. So if you have time have a browse at www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au

Children’s Book Week - Saturday 22 August to Friday 28 August.

The Link for Children’s Book Council of Australia website http://cbca.org.au/index.htm This site gives you:

- a list of the Shortlisted Books for 2015,
- ideas for Book Week activities
- links to authors information

Bellingen Shire Libraries are holding a colouring competition for Children’s Book Week. See attached. Please return completed entries by 21st August, any arriving after that time will not be displayed.

Rural Fire Brigades on the Plateau Facebook Page

The Rural Fire Brigades on the Plateau now have a Face Book Page. If you are on FB, please like our page Dorrigo Plateau Rural Fire Brigades. We’ll be posting useful information to help the Community prepare for the fire season.

Winter is almost over and many people are looking towards spring and summer. Smoke is in the air and it’s probably a good time to remind everyone of their responsibilities when burning off. All fire lighting requirements in force during permit times apply throughout the year EXCEPT in non-permit time you don’t need a permit.

Some of these requirements are-

- Before lighting a fire you MUST notify your neighbours and your fire control centre in Ulmarra 6644 5135. You will need to tell them your name, contact details, where and when you will be lighting the fire. Although not mandatory, letting your local brigade know would be courteous.
- You must NOT light fires on land you do not own. This includes the roadside verge. Lighting fires on land you do not own is called arson and is treated as a serious matter by the RFS and the Police.
- You must not let the fire leave your property. It’s a good idea to keep fires as small as possible. If a fire you have started escapes and does damage to a neighbour’s property you will be held responsible. As was seen in the Blue Mountains recently fires can get out of control very quickly.

If you are unsure of your responsibilities look at the RFS website, talk to your local Fire Control Centre or local Brigade.

The Combined Brigades will be holding a street stall in Dorrigo on Friday the 14th Aug and will have an Information van there, so drop in and talk to us.
Notice of change to Young Carer Program Guidelines

I am writing to you in regard to the change in program guidelines for the Young Carers At Risk program. Over the years the Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre has provided a broad range of supports to young carers and their families such as transport, housework, meal preparations, gardening, as well as assistance with tuition, school resources, access to recreational activities, adventure camps, and other activities organised by our Centre. We have just received notification that the Guidelines for this program have changed, which means we are limited in the assistance and support that we can provide in future. To be eligible for the Young Carer Program the person must be under 18 years of age; provide a significant caring role and need assistance with their school education. Any support that our Centre provides must be related to the young person’s education. A formal assessment must be completed on the needs of the young carer prior to any supports being put in place. If assessed as eligible for the Program then we can provide supports such as:

- Planned, flexible respite care in the home to free the young person to do their school work.
- Short-term interventions, which support the young person’s educational needs (e.g. tutoring), transport to school, provision of educational resources and assistance with school based activities.

We are very disappointed that we are unable to continue with the activity days and adventure camps, which have been very popular. But we are happy to say that we can continue with some of the planned activities for this year, which have an educational component like the First Aid Courses.

Sandie Downs borough - Program Manager