Welcome to Week 2 of Term 4. I hope everyone had a great weekend!

Lots of wonderful feedback from our attendance at the Macksville Indigenous Maths Day organised by Mr Ron McDonald. Our students had a great day, investigating numeracy problems and solving them as a team. The kids reported that it was lots of fun and that the maths wasn’t all that hard! Mrs McArthur and Aunty Nerida were very proud of our FPVC kids who engaged in all activities and worked hard to solve the many challenges. A big thank you to Mrs Leahy for all of her work behind the scenes.

I was involved in a mandatory planning meeting for Principals on Friday. A big part of our school plan 2014 - 2016 will involve gauging the thoughts and opinions of parents and carers. We will do this through 4 main avenues; the newsletter, P&C, our school website and stand alone notes/surveys being sent home. Should you have any other thoughts on the best way to access your ideas then please contact me throughout the week. All documentation in regards to school targets and plans will be sent home through these channels for your comment. Our school and our kids need your support and input if we are to continue to improve across all areas and provide the very best education for each and every individual student. I look forward to developing and sharing our school vision statement with you early next year.

This Wednesday is our next Year 6 Parent and Carer Meeting in regards to the Year 6 Farewell. Our numbers are slowly growing but we still need more help. If you cannot make it to the meeting but are willing to help out in any way then please contact Mrs Leahy, Mrs Smith or Miss McArthur and let them know. This is a very exciting time for our Year 6 students and we cannot set up this very special night without your help.

This Thursday is the first Transition “taster” at NHHS. Year 6 students will head down to the High School from 12:00 noon to meet some of the teachers and learn how to find their way around. Lunch is provided on the day. Please ensure your child is in full school uniform. There will be a special parent meeting at 5:30pm at the High School. Ring their Front Office for more details. Very exciting times for our Year 6 kids but a little sad for our Stage 3 teachers as we prepare to bid farewell to our 2014 School Leaders.

This Friday our Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 kids will be involved in a special NRL Literacy Day. This special program involves engaging students in Literacy through sport and I am sure that the kids will have a great time. I have never seen this program before and look forward to finding out just how it works.

Our canteen is running desperately short of volunteers. Many of our regulars have obtained full time employment elsewhere and Sharlene needs help if we are to continue to offer the wonderful menu that currently exists 4 days a week at our canteen. Please contact the school or canteen if you can help out in any way.

Over the weekend I completed an e-learning module on bush fires and schools. We have several strategies in place to keep our school safe in the event of a bush fire. We will be practicing an
evacuation this week. Many parents and carers may not be aware that if weather CONDITIONS develop to a level that the DEC and Rural Fire Service deem extremely dangerous then they will shut the school. I will receive a phone call at 4:30pm in the afternoon informing me to close the school on the next day. The key to our strategy working is being able to contact our parents and carers. PLEASE ensure that we have your current mobile phone number and an emergency contact in the office at school. If you are unsure of when we last recorded your details then please ring and let us know so we can ensure all of our information is up to date and correct.

Please congratulate your kids on the great way in which they have started Term 4. They have returned to school ready to have a go at all activities placed in front of them. It’s great to be working with the best kids in the State!

Have a great week.

Todd.

Library News

Congratulations to Anthony and Lawrence, our chess club finalists for 2014 and well done to all competitors. Anthony warns Mr Potter he is at his best for the playground challenge match at recess on Thursday!

With so many new library books on our shelves to love, I remind students to maintain regular, weekly borrowing habits throughout Term 4. Books are purchased with a variety of interests and abilities in mind. I do believe that even as our students have access to technology so readily, the quality and variety of new books on the market is impressive. I must admit that one of my favourite pastimes is browsing in bookshops for new library stock for our students!

Term 4 borrowing limits are as follows; K-4: 2 books, 5-6: 4 books. K-2 students are required to have a library bag please. An old pillow slip or clean plastic bag is fine.

Class library days remain unchanged;
Tuesday: 6/5M, 6/5S, 2/1H
Wednesday: 2/1E, 2/1C, Support Classes, 4/3M

The last Book Club order forms for the term were issued to students last week. Please enclose order forms and correct money or credit payment details in an envelope clearly marked with student name and class and send into our school office. Orders must be in by Thursday 23rd October. Many thanks to families who have supported Book Club over the year. We have earned reward points for new purchases!

Mrs Coulter
I liked problem solving in the hall. We worked on questions that are used in NAPLAN. I also liked the food. We had a sausage sandwich and orange cordial. It was a fun day.

Martina Wellington

I liked doing the tally because it was good to watch the footy and do maths at the same time.

Jonah Edwards

Aboriginal Numeracy Competition Day at Macksville Public School

My favourite part of the day was doing the tangrams. A tangram is a traditional Chinese art with 7 different shapes. We had to make a picture using all 7 shapes. I also liked watching the Indigenous All Stars football game versus NRL All Stars. It was a great day of having fun using maths.

Edmund Hurley
**Community News**

**The Smith Family Saver Plus Program**
Would you like $500 to help pay for school uniforms, excursions, sports, swimming lessons, tuition, speech therapy, music lessons, an iPad plus more?
Saver Plus is a community program and will match your savings dollar for dollar, up to $500, to help with these costs!
To be eligible you need to:
- Have a Health Care Card
- Have a child at school now or starting next year
- Have a capacity to save up to $12.50 a week
For further information please contact Graeme Grice, Saver Plus Coordinator:
Phone: 0266513378 or Mobile: 0428428444 or Email: Graeme.grice@thesmithfamily.com.au

**Positive Partnerships**
Is offering a FREE two day workshop and information sessions for parents and carers of school age children on the Autism Spectrum.
Where: Australis Sanctuary
250 Pacific Hwy (South) Coffs Harbour
When: Two Day Workshop
1st Day: Wednesday 12th Nov 9am-4:30pm
2nd Day: Thursday 13th Nov 9am-3.30pm
Registration available from Wednesday 1st October.
Online registrations are preferred directly through our website
Www.positivepartnerships.com.au

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**2014/2015 Family Energy Rebate**
The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children.

In 2014/2015 the rebate gives:
A $150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer.
A $165 direct payment to nominated bank account for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

**APPLY BEFORE 16th JUNE 2015**
It takes 2 minutes to fill in the form.
For more information and assistance
Phone: Service NSW 137788
Email: fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au