Welcome to Week 5 of Term 1 2015. Hopefully your child’s homework and home reading is coming home each week. We have had a real focus on these two programs as they are a great way for parents and carers to become actively involved in their child’s education. Homework consists of 2 parts: compulsory and optional. It is linked to class work and is designed to be quite easy for your child. Please be sure to contact your child’s teacher should you have any questions or concerns.

I do hope that many parents and carers will make the most of their opportunity to sit down with their child’s teacher and consider their goals for the year. Teachers have put a great deal of time into developing an interview framework that will keep you informed and up to date in regards to where your child is at and where we would like them to move to throughout 2015. Mrs Smith has already completed her interviews with just over 50% of parents and carers attending. Mr Lambert and Mrs Leahy have completed theirs yesterday. Jayne Morrow and David Mosely will be holding their respective meetings this Friday. Please feel free to ring if you have lost your time.

Lee Symington has been working to develop a Facebook page for our school to further improve on our community communications, and to bring what we do each day to our families in a user friendly format. Stay tuned for more information on how to find us once we are up and running. Our media permission notes apply to Facebook so if for any reason you gave us media permission, but do not want your child’s image used on Facebook could you please contact the school as soon as possible. Our page should be up and running this week. Just look up ‘Frank Partridge VC Public School’ and like our page. Ours is the one with the school logo. This will give our school a multitude of communication avenues: the sign in our driveway, Skoolbag, our newsletter, our website and now Facebook.

A reminder to all of our bus kids that your bus pass only works on your designated run. Anyone wishing to use our school bus service as a one-off or on a different route, must bring a note from home for the bus driver and money to pay for the fare. This can often be a problem when students attend a birthday party after school or need to catch the bus to someone else’s house to be picked up.

Students also need a note from home or a phone call to the office should there be a need to vary their afternoon travel in any way whatsoever. If a child usually catches a bus then in the absence of any other communication from their parent or carer, this is what we will expect them to do. A message from a student is just not reliable enough for us to keep your child safe. We must have some form of communication from the parent or carer. Please give me a ring should you have any further questions.

I had the pleasure of working for Miss Morro at the District PSSA Carnival on Monday. Miss Morro does a wonderful job of organising these complicated events, and a great day was had by all. Jake Jones is now off the next level. Well done Jake.

Our evacuation drill on Thursday went off without a hitch, despite the rain. All of the kids were
very sensible and we were all assembled at the evacuation point, safe and accounted for within 5 minutes. Well done to all of the staff and kids. Mrs Smith does an incredible job of coordinating our Work Health and Safety activities. It is a massive job but the safety of our staff and students is of the highest priority.

Our Pink Stumps Day was held today. Kids were encouraged to wear pink on the day and bring a gold coin donation to go towards the McGrath foundation and Breast Cancer research. My team took on Cass’ Pink Panthers in a lunch time cricket match to celebrate the day. Winner will be announced in next week’s newsletter.

Christie Williams, our Instructional Leader, has organised a trip for our Stage 1 and Kindergarten teachers this week to visit and observe best practice in an L3 classroom. This is a great opportunity for our staff to get out and see Best Practice in action and then bring those skills back into the classroom. Professional learning is a key ingredient in all successful schools and this initiative will give our teachers the chance to develop and refine their skills, ultimately providing an even better learning environment for your child.

Finally, an explanation in regards to the “Principal” feature in last week’s paper. They did not forget me, I declined the opportunity as it was quite an expensive exercise, and I did not feel that there was any great advantage to be gained for our kids or our school. This feature was not a free community piece. It was effectively paid advertising and I did not feel as though the cost benefit was there for us. Feel free to give me a ring should you have any opinion in regards to the media and the profile of our school.

Have a great week. Todd.

P&C News

In a little over a month now, we will be holding our much anticipated fete! We will also be having our Easter raffle again this year. Donations of Easter eggs will be very much appreciated. The raffle be drawn on 2nd April and tickets will be sent home soon.

We asked students if they could create a poster to use as advertising for our fete. After receiving only 5 entries, we have decided to give all of those students a prize. Well done!

Class Merit Awards


Class of the Week - Kindergarten

Congratulations
Look How Busy We’ve Been!

Milo Cricket
Ritchie’s Stage 3 Group
Stage 2 Men’s Group
Gaagal Jinda (Ocean Sister)
Girl Talk
2/1H News
Skipping
Library
SRC
WEDNESDAY 25th February

Name_________________
Class_________________

Bacon & Egg Roll
with sauce

Price: $4.50

THURSDAY 19th February

Name_________________
Class_________________

Beef Burgers
(BEEF MINCE, LETTUCE, TOMATO, BEETROOT, COOKED ONION & SAUCE ON A BUN)

Price: $5.50

FRIDAY 20th February

Name_________________
Class_________________

Teriyaki Chicken & Fried Rice

Price: $3.00 small
$6.50 large

MONDAY 23rd February

Name_________________
Class_________________

3 Party Pies
Sauce
Nippy Flavoured Milk
(Choc or Strawberry)

Price: $5.00

Canteen volunteer for February is Charles Lamb. Please pick up your $5 voucher! Thank you.

Community News

Get off your screen - try Scouts!

Parents – do you want your son or daughter to get away from a screen and be more active? If so, talk to them about joining our local Scout group. Scouts meet each Tuesday during term time from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at the Scout Hall in Partridge Street, Macksville. Scouts do lots of fun things like camping, canoeing, hiking, map reading, first aid, cooking and craft. Why not contact us now to find out how to get started - we offer a four week try out period for a single payment of $30 (which provides insurance cover).

Scouts is for kids aged 10½ to 15 years. If you are younger you can come join the Cubs section (aged 7½ to 11 years, who meet on Thursdays from 5.30pm to 7.30pm) or if older, the Venturers section (aged 14½ to 18 years, who meet on Wednesdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm).

Want to know more? Call our Group Leader Anissa Ruitenberg 6569 6157 (ah) or 0417 448 204 or visit www.nambuccavalleyscouts.org.au for more info!

Beaches Netball Club 2015 Registration

Saturday 28th February 9am-12pm @ Nambucca Plaza

Ages 5 and up (hoping to form a ladies’ team this year for NVNA’s new division!)
All interested players and coaches welcome -
For further enquiries please call
Meg - 0402788382 or Tilly - 0407455873 or search Beaches Netball Club on Facebook.
Remember if your uniform no longer fits, bring it with you in good condition to take advantage of our exchange program. Come along and join the fun!

INDIGENOUS ATHLETE TALENT ASSESSMENT

The QBE Sydney Swans Academy are holding an Athlete Talent Assessment for talented Indigenous males aged 11 – 15 years.
The assessment will be conducted by Academy Head Coach Michael O’Loughlin. Sydney Swans players and coaches will also be in attendance.
The assessment will not be AFL specific and participants will be tested on their skills over a variety of sports.

When: Thursday 5th March, 2015 from 1:30pm – 3:30pm.
Where: C-ex Coffs International Stadium
How: Athletes must register via phone 02 9339 9150 or email academy@sydneyswans.com.au) with the Sydney Swans Academy or through their school Sports Master.
Registered players will be provided transport to and from the assessment from their local school.

SYDNEY SWANS ACADEMY- Email: academy@sydneyswans.com.au or phone: 02 9339 9150

EP Physical Culture Urunga

EP Physi has commenced at the Urunga Senior Citizen’s Hall (behind the Seafood Takeaway) for pre-schoolers through to ladies classes. A fun and affordable way to keep fit.
For details contact Sue on 66500717 or www.epphysi.com.au