Welcome to Week 2 of Term 2. My apologies for missing the first 2 days of school with the kids. A special thankyou to all of our staff who stepped up and started the term smoothly and without a fuss. Our school is nothing without you!

Letters regarding NAPLAN were sent home by Mrs Leahy last week. The tests will be held on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May and only involve Year 3 and Year 5 students. All students will be expected to attempt the National Assessment Program unless an exemption has been granted. Please ensure your child is not absent on these days, even if they only attend for the testing session. It is so important that they have the opportunity to show us just what they are capable of and more importantly, where we have to improve as a teaching and learning team.

Students should not be intimidated by the process. Results are NOT an indication of intelligence and as a whole school we all need to talk to your students about what these tests mean and why they have to do them. If each child tries their best and does not worry about their score then we will have done our job. So please talk to your child about the test, put their fears to rest, let me know if they are stressing and I will help them here at school, as will their teacher and our other support staff. If you have ANY questions or concerns please do not hesitate to give me a ring.

It was such a pleasure to drive our young debaters over to Coffs Harbour for their Debating Clinic on Thursday. My car load kept me well and truly entertained. Apparently Edmund Hurley is going to be our first Indigenous Prime Minister. I have no reason to doubt him either! Anthony, Sonja, Brooke, Edmund, Patty, Emma, Zara and Jeremy all had a great day and we look forward to seeing them in action in the Premier’s Debating Challenge later in the term.

On Friday our school hosted the District Netball Trials for the first time. Under the watchful eye of Vanessa Bekis and Cass Notley, 3 of our girls, Belle, Paris and Lewina, were successful in making the Bellingen and District team. They will join other players from our valley and play in Coffs Harbour on Wednesday. Congratulations to all of the girls who trialled. Ella, Jamison, Jade, Lewina, Kailee, Belle and Paris. You girls should be very proud of their efforts.

Miss Baker and her team presented a very powerful and moving ANZAC ceremony for our school on Friday. Several community members, parents and carers came along and the ceremony was incredible. The kids really showed great respect throughout the morning and it was noticed by several community members who have served their country. I was very proud of all of our students and the respect they showed on this very special occasion. Thank you so much to Mrs Baker and her team for all of the work behind the scenes.

I would also like to thank the 60 kids who came to Bowraville to participate in the march on Saturday. Also thanks to Mrs Parkins for setting up our display, and all of the parents and carers who made the effort to get the kids out there. They looked great and did our school proud. It was wonderful to see so many of our staff giving up their time on Saturday to support and represent our school at the march. Several of our staff attended marches in other towns as well.
The main event next week will be our school Cross Country. All of the kids will be participating in this event with the 8 year olds and up trying to qualify for District Cross Country in Bowraville. This is a tough and grueling event and not for the light hearted. We will only be sending students on to District level if they can jog for the entire time. Last year several competitors from our school walked the entire Bowraville course and this is not what the event is for. We do not care about places, but we do care about effort and endeavour, so please remind your child or children that if they are keen to represent their school at the District level then they will need to keep up a steady pace throughout our school Cross Country to gain selection.

We have ended up with a bit of a clash involving the North Coast Rugby League Trials on Friday. Any of the boys playing who have a particular desire to also represent their school at District Cross Country will need to see Mr Freebairn or myself prior to Friday. Previous Cross Country results will be a requirement. Congratulations to the boys involved in the North Coast Trials. In the under 11’s we have Rangi, Zane, Jonah, James and Will. In the Opens we have Jake Jones and Samual Donovan.

It’s been great to see the round ball make an appearance in our playground thanks to the efforts of Mr Lambert and Mr Heward. Some silky skills are in evidence each break and I look forward to getting a school team up and running next year.

Have a great week.

Todd.

Library News

Our school Library welcomes students back for Term 2.

To start the term students have shared some beautiful new books about ANZAC Day. Our younger students learnt of the courage and loyalty of soldiers and families during wartime through shared reading of ‘ANZAC Biscuits’ and ‘ANZAC Ted’. Stage 3 students learnt of the bravery and sacrifice of the ANZACs at the small French village of Villers-Bretonneux in ‘The Poppy’. I wonder if you saw the telecast on Saturday, the ANZAC Day service from this same village.

Book club order forms were issued to students last week. Please send orders in an envelope, clearly marked with student name and class to the front office by Wednesday May 6.

Jumpers

With the cold mornings, children are beginning to wear their jumpers to school, and then taking them off as the day gets warmer. Please make sure your child’s name is written in their jumper.

Cross Country

Our School Cross Country is on this Friday starting at 12:15pm. Normal classes will be held in the morning. All welcome!

Easter Raffle Winners

1, M.Lamb, 2, Bus Driver, 3, Olivia Bowen, 4, Jake Williams, 5, Tracy Griffis, 6, Graham Cass, 7, Josef Keizler, 8, Burke, 9, L.Gordon, 10, Jacob Gordon, 11, Dianna Rixon, 12, R.Neal, 13, Waza, 14, Rita Smith, 15, Sam Murphy, 16, Cohen Johnson, 17, Brennan and Bianca Wilson, 18, Thomson, 19, Scott Brown, 20, J McKinnon, 21, G Heather, 22, Rachael Elphick, 23, G Heather.

Community News

Muurrbay will be delivering the Certificate III in Gumbaynggirr Language and Culture Maintenance

This course is for Aboriginal people and will help you to understand and speak in Gumbaynggirr, understand the way the language works, access information on language and culture and support you to teach the language. This course is currently with Australian Skills Quality Authority for accreditation, and it is expected that Muurrbay will begin to teach it in July 2015.

Please email your interest to: admin@muurrbay.org.au or call 0265694294.

Mid North Coast Tutoring
Caryn Godwin
ABN: 27225153394

Does your child need help with reading, spelling or writing?
Are they having difficulties with Maths?
Do they need help with preparing for tests or completing homework?
I am a Qualified Teacher with 20 years experience who can assist your child to be better equipped with the skills and knowledge to improve their educational development.
Ph: 0437 300 827
email: mnctutoring@outlook.com

PLEASE COME ALONG TO SUPPORT OUR TEAM DOING THE KO-KODA CHALLENGE - Kokodachallenge.com

BOWLS DAY FUNDRAISER
Nambucca Heads Bowling Club 11am, Sunday 3rd May
All welcome, bring the kids!
Our team are taking on one of Australia’s toughest cross country endurance events. A 96km hike (across 12 creek crossings through the Gold Coast Hinterland to an elevation of 5000m) in under 39 hours to raise money for the Kokoda Youth Foundation. Come along to our Bowls Day to help us fundraise.$10 per individual, or enter a team of three. BBQ lunch, prizes, raffle, treats for kids. To enter contact: Danielle Green 0431 671 782 Melinda Davies 0457 147 186.
If you are unable to make it to our event but would like to donate money directly to our team, please use the following link, https://kokodachallenge.com/team-profile-the-y-nots-8919

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WEDNESDAY

NAME_________________  
CLASS_________________  
SPAGHETTI BOLOGNAISE WITH GARLIC BREAD  
PRICE: $3.50 SMALL  
$5.50 LARGE

THURSDAY

NAME_________________  
CLASS_________________  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE WITH SAUCE AND/OR ONION  
PRICE: $2.50

GOOD FRIDAY

NAME_________________  
CLASS_________________  
HONEY SOY CHICKEN WITH FRIED RICE  
PRICE: $4.00 SMALL  
$6.50 LARGE

MONDAY

NAME_________________  
CLASS_________________  
6 CHICKEN NUGGETS SAUCE  
NIPPY FLAVOURED MILK (CHOC/STRAWBERRY)  
PRICE: $5.50