Welcome to the last week of term, Week 10! It has been a wonderful term, with our whole school community really starting to work together in the interests of our kids. Reports will go home on Thursday and many of the comments revolve around the completion of home work and home readers. This new focus has been a great way for our families to really engage in the learning process with their child, and it is becoming a really important feature of our school and community working together. Homework is specially designed so that all students can complete it each week regardless of how busy their afternoons are. 10 minutes homework and 10 minutes reading every night makes a huge difference to your child’s progress and it is just one of the areas where our parents and carers can, and are, making a real difference. Thank you!

By all accounts our infant excursion to Solitary Island and Urunga Boardwalk was a huge success. The kids had a great day exploring our local environments and seeing just how wonderful our local area is. What a great way to bring the curriculum to life for our community of learners! Thank you so much to the infants team who put in all of the efforts behind the scenes to organise this great trip.

Bernard Edwards and his team entertained our students in Years 3-6 with their healthy lifestyle choices program on Tuesday. The kids had a great afternoon investigating just what is good for us and how to unleash the super hero that lives inside all of us!

The finals of our District Multi-Cultural Public Speaking Competition were held here on Wednesday. Mrs Leahy had organised everything on the day and it was great to host this event and showcase our wonderful school to the many contestants from around our district. Our speakers did not progress through to the Regional Final but did themselves, and their school, proud. Congratulations to Keenan, Brooke, Lucy and Beau on your efforts.

Friday was action packed for our senior students, with the footy boys heading over to Kendall and the Year 6 students down to the high school.

Our mighty Dolphins put up a great fight down in Kendall, but ended up on the wrong side of a 24 to nil score line. Sammy Donovan and Jake Jones had to back up after a full week in Sydney at the State Championships, but it was not enough. The Kendall boys were extremely well drilled and tackled well. To our boys credit the 4 tries all came on the back of 2 or 3 penalties in a row that marched the opposition down onto our line. Rule interpretations from district to district can make travel quite challenging, but to the boys credit they stuck to their guns and tried right up until the final whistle. Mr Freebairn and I and the parents and carers who made the 2 hour trip down to Kendall were all very proud of their efforts. Thank you so much to our drivers on the day. The boys cannot afford to get away to all of these events without your support. It is especially appreciated when the opposition is 2 hours away.

Year 6 had a great day down at the high school on Friday. The medieval theme was exciting and I am sure that the Transition to Year 7 for our students in 2016 will be that much easier having spent some time in the grounds of the high school.

This week begins with our support class kids heading over to Coffs Harbour for a multi sports day.
Miss Baker and Mrs Parkins will be making the trip and I am sure that the kids will have a great day.

Tuesday is our NAIDOC Day. Aunty Nerida, Mrs Bekis and Mrs Smith have pulled together a wonderful day of celebration. The kids will be rotating through groups and we have a wonderful lunch planned with a sausage sandwich for the kids and some wonderful traditional foods for all of the parents, carers, nans, pops, aunties and uncles that we are hoping will join us on the day.

The day will start with a very special assembly in the quad at 10am. This will be followed by a quick recess/morning tea. Then we will have a special concert involving dancers and singers from all ages, followed by our community lunch and then group rotations from 1:00pm. Should be a great day!!

Wednesday evening is our K-6 Pirate themed disco. The night begins at 5:00 and will conclude at 7:00 sharp. ALL students must be picked up by an adult please. No one will be allowed to walk home in the dark no matter how close they live. This is just too risky in regards to our school policies and the safety of your children. This is an SRC initiative and all monies raised will go towards childhood cancers. The cost is $5 per child or $10 per family and this includes entry to the disco, a drink and a packet of chips.

Thursday will see our Dolphins back in action in Coffs Harbour at the NRL All School Carnival. Weather permitting the boys will play 3 to 4 Round Robin games against all of our local teams. Mr Freebairn is very keen to see the boys back in action again. The grounds have been a little hard to get onto these past few weeks, so the carnival will depend on the availability of Advocate Park.

Reports will also go home on this day. They will be in a manila envelope addressed to parents and carers. They will be sealed when they leave our school and students will be instructed to deliver to parents and carers when they get home. I have had the pleasure of reading each and every child’s report. Teachers put many hours into each individual report and I believe that you can see this in their comments. They are specific to the outcomes your child has achieved, whilst showing a real understanding of the individual student, their learning needs and who they are as a person. Please read the achievement scales very carefully as teachers have spent many hours agonising over just where your child’s skills sit in comparison to the rest of the state. Our school uses the State Literacy Continuum “PLAN” to place students in the appropriate skill level and this in turn helps us to know where they are now, how this compares to their peers across the state, and where they need it move to next. The comments for each of the Key Learning Areas are more important than the grade as they will tell you just where your child needs to move to next and what they can do at this moment in time. It is important to remember that grades are an indication of a child’s current achievement, not an indication of their full academic potential, rather a map of where they are at on their educational journey so far. Please feel free to contact myself or your child’s teacher should you have any questions, concerns or wish to help out even more at home.

Friday is not only the last day of school, it is also our School Athletics Carnival. This is a great day with the focus on participation and doing your best. Unfortunately we are not sure as to the availability of our oval just yet. Apparently, it is quite waterlogged. We will assess the grounds on Wednesday and make the call then. Wet and slippery grounds are not conducive to safe and fun-filled athletics carnivals.

Finally I would like to thank everyone in our school community for your support throughout the past 10 weeks. Schools are complicated places with, in our case, 220 little individuals running around each and every day. The willingness of our parents and carers to let us know of any minor issue and trusting us to follow through and act is the key to our success. We are working together to ensure that your child has the best opportunity to reach their full potential in all areas of their development. This is our goal each and every day. Your support with difficult issues, homework, home reading, attendance and communication is making a real difference to your child’s education.

Have a great break and we will see everyone back on deck on Tuesday the 14th July!
The Buffalo

I was running from the people who were trying to catch me. For days and nights I was trying to get away from this mob. I finally saw my mother standing on the open plain. She was looking from a distance and was looking angry.

“Buffo!” she said out loud. We started to run to our home land.

“How could you run off like that?” asked my mother. “You are a spirit animal, if you die our grass will also die.”

Twenty years on, the sun came up. My family is all gone. I started to make my way up the hills into the mountains. I looked over a grassy mountain and saw a herd of buffalos eating and grazing on the grass. I saw ten! Ten! There’s got to be more than that. I ran down the mountain.

“Look out!” I said to the buffalos. They turned and looked at the hunting mob that was coming.

“Run! Run, run!” Every animal was running a million miles an hour. Quickly, I tried to run but my leg was caught in a hole.

“Help…” I opened my eyes. I was flying but going up, up. When I reached the clouds I saw my mother, I hugged her and then I looked down. The men from the mob took my body away and I realised I was no longer there.

By Olivia Bowen 6/5L
Medieval Transition Day for Year 6 at Nambucca Heads High School.

Olivia Bowen ironing tie dyed shirts in readiness for Showtime.

Shaylee Farnsworth and Storm Whalen working on a mosaic stepping stone for the Yarning Tree.

Our new library furniture is a real hit with the students!

Bring out the super hero in you...by eating well and not smoking!
Caught Being Good
Durell Cohen 2/1W - Helping Kinders, Lyric Thompson SCT.


Congratulations

Community News

NAIDOC Day - Tuesday 23rd June
We warmly invite you to help us celebrate NAIDOC Day on Tuesday 23rd June at 10am.

This year will see our students perform, followed by a scrumptious Bush Tucker Lunch.

We hope to see you there for a deadly time!

We All Stand on Gumbaynggirr Homeland

WEDNESDAY

NAME________________
CLASS___________
BACON & EGG ROLL

PRICE: $4.50

THURSDAY

NAME________________
CLASS____________
CHICKEN MINESTRONE
SOUP & GARLIC BREAD

PRICE: $6.50

FRIDAY

NAME________________
CLASS____________
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
CANTEEN OPERATING AT
EJ BIFFEN FIELDS
OR
NORMAL CANTEEN
IF CARNIVAL IS CANCELLED

MONDAY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Happy Holidays!