



Tuesday, 28 November 2017

Narrabri West

Public School



Newsletter

Week 8 Term 4

Narrabri West votes - 2018 school leaders election!

Our Year 5 students have been given the opportunity (in a secret ballot) to nominate students who they think would be suitable candidates for captain or prefects. The boys and girls who received the most nominations were invited to stand for election. This process allows those children who their peers believe are best suited to these important positions to have the opportunity to be elected.

Candidates standing for election are -

Girls: Jacqueline Collett, Mya Dansey, Isabel Graham, Chloe Mason, Rosie Ross, Bridie Russell, Mikayla Smetanin, Grace Westman

Boys: George Bennett, Jacob Cohen, Duke Farr, Noah Ghassan, Brock Gordon, Ethan Hall, Daniel Smith, Max Stoltenberg

All students in Years 2-6 vote, as do all staff members. All votes are equal and the students elected are the four boys and four girls with the most votes. The two with the highest number of votes are elected captains. A simple and fair process, so good luck everyone.

Elections will be held tomorrow, Wednesday 29th November following an assembly (9:30 in the hall) where all candidates will be able to speak about their personal qualities to the rest of the school. Results will be announced on Monday 4th December in the hall at 9:30am. No matter the result, we know that Narrabri West will have outstanding school leaders yet again in 2018.

We are now entering the 8th week of Term 4 and the year is disappearing quickly with school life starting to get very hectic. There are lots of great things to look forward to as we enter this busiest time of the year. We only have 13 days of school remaining this year!

Main photo: Everyone will have a lot of fun with the Year 6 present to the school.

Dates to Remember

November

29 2018 Captains and Prefects Elections 9:30am

December

- 1** Beach Party
- 7** Presentation Night 7:00pm
The Crossing Theatre
- 11** Year 6 Farewell
(Narrabri RSL @ 6:00pm)
- 13** Platinum Badge Assembly
12:30pm
- 15** Sausage Sizzle 11:30am;
Last day of school 2017
- 18-19** School Development Days

Student Reports

Staff are finalising these in readiness for their upcoming distribution on Friday 8th December. Semester 2 reports are an indication of your child's achievements during the past two terms and our teachers have been assessing students according to curriculum outcomes which generally allow two years for students to progress through each stage. The report will give you information about their academic, physical and social development at this point in their education. They will include:

- Clear, accurate information about the performance of each child;
- Information on what the student can do well and on areas still developing; and
- Information about the student's social skills and commitment to learning.

Learning is continuous and children learn at different rates. However all children need encouragement and praise to be confident, happy learners. Some children try very hard and find learning difficult. They deserve your praise and encouragement. Some children find learning easy and often don't try as hard as they could. Your encouragement here is critical as well. For those students who have no difficulty learning and put a lot of effort into their work, they need continued acknowledgement and praise to keep this level of enthusiasm and commitment. For those students whose effort is minimal, closer home and school partnerships are an important key to improvement.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of these, please arrange a suitable time with your child's teacher.



Pull out your favourite board shorts, grab your zinc and get ready for our fast-approaching Beach Party on Friday 1st December! We will have a sports afternoon of fun water based games at school - so we all need to wear our swimmers to school, (with beach type clothes of course), have a big hat, plenty of sunscreen and sandals or thongs (yes thongs will be allowed for just this one day!). Sunscreen and hats are especially important as Friday's temperature is predicted to VERY hot (41 degrees!). The day will also assist the Year 6 fundraising efforts as we are requesting a gold coin donation.

Most importantly, everyone will need to be prepared to get wet ... very wet!

This year attendance at our Beach Party is again through invitation only and students will have to earn this through appropriate behavior. Teachers will be handing out invitations on Thursday.

See the note attached to this newsletter for more details and don't forget the canteen's special meal deal. The notes regarding this have already gone home.

MAX FM broadcasts

In another sign that the end of the year is fast approaching, our captains and prefects will present their final news broadcast on MAX FM this Thursday.

They have done a superb job with this all year and are now very accomplished radio newsreaders!

2017 Music Shield Results

We held our annual music solo competition on Thursday 23rd November. We were treated to an afternoon of wonderful music. Congratulations to all students who performed on the day. It was obvious you had all put in many hours of rehearsals at home. Thank you to Rosemary Smith for all of your effort in teaching the students and also to the parents that were able to come in and watch.

Due to the shields being full and there no longer being sufficient room to add more names, we have renamed the contest to the Music Solo Competition and have purchased medallions to award the first place winners. This is a positive change and allows the students to have a memento of their achievement. Certificates and medallions will be handed out at Presentation Night.

The results are as follows:

Brass

- 1st Chelsie Smith
- 2nd Isabel Graham

Beginner Woodwind

- 1st Adison Hartog-Smith
- 2nd Ella Magann
- 3rd Taryn Kirk

Woodwind

- 1st Jacqueline Collett
- 2nd Zahli Olding
- 3rd Grace Hardy and Claire Graham

Percussion

- 1st Owen Balmforth

How we form our classes

We are presently organising our class structure for 2018. One part of this is the allocation of students to each of the new classes. We would like to point out a few facts about the assigning of students to class groups and ultimately, teachers to classes. This process is always a complex issue, which the school takes very seriously and parents usually understand how difficult the issue of assigning students to classes can be.

For those new to the school, it is worthwhile again to outline the school's procedures for this very important task. Literally dozens of hours of work go into the formation of classes and looking at the students that are placed

together to make a class. We ensure that all necessary factors are taken into account during this process and try to take into account the following factors:

- The number of classes in each stage of learning (ie Early Stage 1, Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3);
- An equal division of students as possible in each year level into the number of classes;
- Balance of gender in the class;
- Spread of students with additional needs;
- The issue of siblings being in the same class;
- Mix of independent and dependent workers; and
- Whether students have had the teacher before.

To ensure that we develop the optimal balance in classes, we also use a range of assessments and information to base our decisions on as well.

As you can see, the allocation of students to class groups is not a simple process where students are thrown together in a haphazard manner. It is a task which we tackle with great thought and consideration.

The development of class groups precedes the actual allocation of the teacher to the class, as often final staffing is only known in the last week of term or at the beginning of the year.

If you are not going to be at Narrabri West in 2017 could you please let us know ASAP as this may impact on our class plans for next year.

School Fees and Contributions Reminder

You are reminded that any outstanding amounts can be paid up until Friday 15th December. Thank you to all parents who have settled accounts since our last newsletter.

School Hats

Next year we will again supply all students in the school with a free blue broad brimmed hat. Caps are not permitted and only children wearing school hats will be allowed to play outside. Students representing the school in out of school events must also wear the school hat. We thank every student in the school for their continued support of this policy.

Library Books

Please make sure all library books are returned to the school library by the end of this week so our stock take can be undertaken.

A busy end to the year

It is that time of the year when everything is happening at once. The children are working hard to finish their years' work. The teachers are finalising their assessments and are finishing writing student reports. There are exciting things happening each day. Coming up is:

- Presentation Night (Thursday 7th).
- Platinum Badge Assembly (Wednesday 13th) - for any parents who may have to leave work to attend, please note that this time it is the turn to announce the awards in reverse alphabetical order, i.e. from Z to A!
- ... and our end of term BBQ and last day of school (Friday 15th).

We will all definitely need a well-earned rest after all of these activities!

While the school year finishes for students on Friday 15th December, our staff will be in attendance until Tuesday 19th. These will be two very busy and highly valuable days of planning and professional learning.

School recommences for children in Years 1-6 on Tuesday 6th February 2018. Kindergarten students will start on Wednesday 7th February.

Our 2018 swimming carnival will be held on Friday 9th February.

Beach to Bush Talk

On Monday the 20th of November, all students from Pre School to Year 6 participated in a beach and waterway safety information session. In a one hour session for each stage, three volunteers from the New South Wales Royal Life Saving Society travelled from Port Macquarie to share their knowledge about beach and sun safety.

Students were given the opportunity to dress like lifesavers, have fun using some rescue equipment and learn about what the different flags and signs mean at the beach. A few teachers were sporting some very fashionable zinc lines for the rest of the day after each session.

All students were given information booklets and stickers to re-enforce the information they learnt throughout these sessions, free of charge from the Life Saving Society.

These sessions were a valuable learning experience for all students with the Christmas holiday period coming up very fast.



Class News

Stage 1 News

What a fun term of learning we are having! The children have especially enjoyed learning about life cycles in English and Science this term.

We have learned about the life cycles of butterflies, sunflowers and sea turtles in English. The children have planned and written explanations of these life cycles. We formed groups to present 'elevator speeches' during our sea turtle unit. Each class has been researching a different species of sea turtle and we are looking forward to sharing the information we have gathered with the other Stage 1 classes. The students have enjoyed using Microsoft PowerPoint to publish their writing.

In Science we have enjoyed learning about how things change and grow. We have learned about the life cycle of meal worms. We even have actual meal worms in our classrooms and we have enjoyed watching them grow and change throughout the term. The children are now excitedly preparing animations of various life cycles and we look forward to seeing their finished productions.

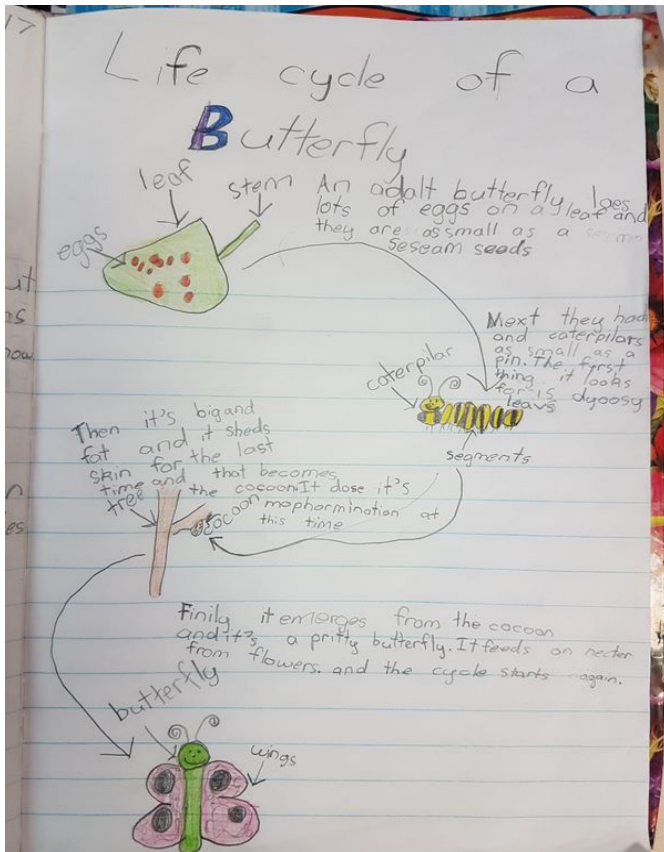
In Maths Year 1 have been focusing on money (identifying and totalling coins), measurement (informal units to measure capacity, mass and area), arrays and related facts in the past few weeks. The students have enjoyed the more practical aspects of these lessons using hands on materials. Year 2 have also been focusing on measurement (introducing formal units), multiplication and related facts. The students have particularly enjoyed going outside to measure length using metre rulers and trundle wheels.

We have created some beautiful and creative artwork this term including butterflies, sunflowers, caterpillars and our rooms all look fantastic! We hoped all the father's and grandfather's enjoyed their lovely gifts and cards, the children had lots of fun making them!

In PE and sport lessons this term we have been learning skills in athletics. We have enjoyed shot put, discus, long jump and relays.

We hope the children enjoy their rest over the holidays and look forward to another exciting and busy term of learning.





We enjoyed using egg cartons to make caterpillars.

PIC•COLLAGE

School News & Reminders



Presentation Night 2017

Don't forget this annual event will be held on Thursday 7th December, commencing at 7:00pm at The Crossing Theatre Narrabri. We hope you can join us.

Together our school community will celebrate the many successes and achievements of not only those students who will receive awards, but the achievements of all students who have worked so wonderfully, ensuring that 2017 was another highly successful year.

Class Requirements 2018

We have included with this newsletter the class requirements for each grade next year. This is so you can plan ahead and take advantage of the usual January back to school sales.

Sun Safety

Our school takes sun safety seriously and implements a range of strategies to support our school environment so that students are protected from the damaging effects of the sun.

We have a responsibility to provide a safe environment for students and staff and this includes providing adequate protection from the sun.

As we are now in the warmest time of the year, it is important that all students wear their hats when outside. It is also a great idea to pack some sunscreen into your child's bag so that they can apply this throughout the day.

If students do not bring their hats to school, they will be asked to seek shade and play under the covered areas of the school.

Canteen Roster

Wed 29 th	L Cohen
Thurs 30 th	G Westman
Fri 1 st Dec	J Howe, M Simpson
Mon 4 th	J Wilson
Tues 5 th	S Browning
Wed 6 th	C Lilliebridge
Thurs 7 th	L Booby
Fri 1 8 th	S Burley, N McCauley, J Wilson
Mon 11 th	C Hill
Tues 12 th	K Oakley
Wed 13 th	K Holman
Thurs 14 th	S Dodds
Fri 15 th	C Browning, A Anderson

Award Winners - Weeks 6 & 7

KC	Ali Watson, Mackenzie Cole & Cael Browning
KG	Savannah Hughes, Ruby Michell, Toby Longworth
KW	Jack Cole, Sasha Willis & Alexa Gordon
1/2F	Charlie Kebby, Shaun Hagar & Rya Knox
1/2H	Mavrick Croaker, Xanthe Kirk & Zander Kneale
1/2K	Isla Holman, Khushi Ghimire & Alexie Fitzgerald
1/2S	James Stuart, Ava Smith & Mia Bourke
3/4D	Holly Olding, Adison Hartog-Smith & Tiana Bradshaw
3/4K	Nate Browning, Lacey Bourke & Ashley Morris
3/4O	Caitlan Bourke, Nate Wilkins & Matthew Todd
3/4S	Ava Garbutt, Samantha Westman & Tahlia Dickinson
5/6D	Chelsea Wallace, Baylee Kelly & Trinity Palmer
5/6P	Ebonie Bruce, Damon Johnson & Angus McLean
5/6S	Max Stoltenberg, Abbey Williams & Montana Winter

Citizenship Awards & Stars of the Week

ELSIE GORDON

OLIVER EARLE

JACKY HAM

MILLIE DANSEY

K-2 Super Westy

JARRAD LAWLER

3-6 Super Westy

CAITLIN BOURKE

Community News

ML MINI DIGGER HIRE

- POST HOLE DRILLING
- TRENCHING
- LEVELLING
- GENERAL CLEAN UP

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1 of 1

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Bush to Beach Camp

Involves NHS students in Year 7, 2018

Cost per student is approximately \$260

Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 March

Information will be sent home early in Term 1

with regard to payment details etc.

Any questions please speak to Kathy Bailey

at NHS on 67921180.

Narrabri West



When: Friday 1st December 2017 - for K-6 & Pre School (Red & Blue Groups)

What to Wear: Your boardies (or swimmers), clothes to wear over your swimmers, a big hat, sunnies and thongs or sandals. Bring a towel, plus plenty of sunscreen, or your brightest coloured zinc!

What's Happening: We are having a beach party to have some fun and celebrate the end of the year. We are also making a gold coin donation to the Year 6 fundraising efforts.

Our plan for the day is:

- 11.00am - Recess
- 11.20am - K-6 Assembly
- 12.20pm - Lunch (the canteen has a special beach meal deal)
- 1.00pm - Beach Party Games
- 3.15pm - Assembly

Attending the Beach Party is by invitation only and children need to earn their invitation which will be given to them by their teachers.

(Mums and Dads are invited to join us for lunch and the Beach Party games!)

Narrabri West Public School
CLASS REQUIREMENTS FOR 2018

Item	Kinder	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<i>Pencil HB x 4</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Coloured pencils</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Textas</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Pencil case</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Ruler</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Eraser</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Glue stick x 2 per term – 60g Solid stick type</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Scissors</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Sharpener</i>	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Biro - Red **</i>	No	No	No	No	Yes x 2	Yes x 4	Yes x 4
<i>Biro - Blue **</i>	No	No	No	No	Yes x 2	Yes x 4	Yes x 4
<i>Library bag</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Paint shirt/smock</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Optional	Optional	Optional
<i>Box tissues</i>	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2
<i>Plastic envelope / doculope with fastener</i>	No	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 2	Yes x 1	Yes x 1
<i>Whiteboard markers x 2 per term</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

** NO FELT TIP PENS **

For Years 3-6, please provide the necessary items in a clearly labeled pencil case

Thank you for providing the items listed for your child's class.

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS SENT TO SCHOOL - CLOTHING AS WELL