Dear Parents / Carers

Again I write this message as a very proud Principal of Mullumbimby Public School. Again there were many moments last week highlighting so many positives about our school. Mollie Cheek performed with great distinction at the NSW PSSA swimming carnival in Sydney, completing her 50m freestyle in a personal best time of 34.01 sec – 26th in NSW! Mollie’s effort in 50m breast stroke of 47.04 sec saw her placed 27th in NSW. An incredible performance from an incredible young lady. We are all very proud of you Mollie.

School spirit was again on show at our ‘retro disco’. Many thanks to the effort students made with their costumes, to the multitude of ‘masterchefs’ with the donation of delicious curries, to our P&C for their coordination, packing up, cleaning up, to Tim Wild for acting as DJ and to staff for their participation and organisation. There are some photos to be enjoyed elsewhere in this newsletter and in the photo gallery section of our school website at www.mullumbimb-p.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

A big thankyou to the P&C and Andrew Edwards for installing our new bubbler on the exterior of the hall last week. When students are on our grass playing field, this will provide them with much easier access to water. I know this will be very useful resource.

ANZAC Day

This very significant day, ANZAC Day, falls during the school holidays on Thursday 25th April. I spoke to all students today about the meaning of this occasion. I encourage as many of our students as possible to take place in the Mullumbimby town march on ANZAC Day. We would like students to assemble by 10:10am at Apex Park (outside the old railway station). Students will then march down the main street to the cenotaph where the service will take place. Full school uniform should be worn. It would be great to see a record number of MPS students participate.

NAPLAN

In May the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all Australian government and non-government schools. The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. The tests are as follows: Tuesday 14th May – Language conventions and writing; Wednesday 15th May – Reading; Thursday 16th May – Numeracy. If you have any questions or enquiries regarding NAPLAN, please organise a mutually convenient time to talk to me.

Principal’s report continued over page....
Woolworths Earn & Learn

Last year our school benefited enormously from this program, gaining many valuable resources (total value in excess of $1000). I believe we can do even better in 2013. It is simple to participate – Between today and Sunday 9th June, when you shop at Woolworths you are given one Woolworths Earn & Learn point for every $10 you spend. Our school can then redeem these for fantastic educational resources. Simply collect your sticker sheet from your next visit to Woolworths. When it is full of stickers, return it to the box located in the front office at school.

Mr Towner

Mr Towner will be taking some well earned long service leave from the beginning of next term. He will return at the end of Week 6. We are fortunate to gain the services of Mrs Anne Kelly during this time. Anne taught Year 5/6 at MPS in Terms 3 and 4 of last year. We hope Mr Towner enjoys his time.

Term 2

Teachers from MPS will be working with their colleagues from other local public schools on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th April. The two days of professional learning will focus on the impending implementation of the national curriculum. English is due to be implemented next year with maths to follow in 2015. Other subject areas will follow from 2016. Students return to school on Wednesday 1st May.

The week ahead………

The final week of term doesn’t slow down in terms of opportunities arising for students. Tomorrow Miss Wright has organised a visiting performance titled “Excuse Me I Was Here First”. This is a show based on promoting positive ways to resolve conflict. There are some extremely powerful and relevant messages to be presented in this performance, and I encourage all students to attend. If your child has not yet returned their permission note and the $6 payment, I am happy for them still to do this first thing tomorrow morning as I believe it is important for as many children as possible to attend.

In sport, PSSA softball takes centre stage this week with our boys in action on Wednesday and girls competing on Thursday. We wish both teams every success.

Year 1/2 classes are walking to the museum on Thursday. Miss Petroni has organised an interesting educational experience for our students and I know they are looking forward to the day. If you are yet to do so, please ensure your child’s walking permission note (distributed at the start of the year) has been returned to school.

The last day of the term, Friday will see our Aussie of the Month assembly take place, followed by PBL reward day. Mrs Haywood is distributing information about this.

Reflecting on term one………

This newsletter continually outlines how busy we are at Mullumbimby Public School on a daily basis and highlights the diverse range of opportunities available to our students. As we enter the final week of Term 1, it is an appropriate time to reflect on some of our highlights since the 2013 school year commenced. Here are just some:

- The first week saw 23 eager new little students commence their ‘big school’ journey. Mrs Martin has been thrilled about the progress our youngest students have made over the past 10 weeks. The brand new literacy program, L3, has assisted in seeing reading and writing levels increasing rapidly.
- At the other end of the school, our Year 6 students have engaged in the new Middle Years High School experience. With two weeks of the program still remaining, students have had the opportunity to become familiar with secondary school routines, expectations, teachers and subject content through science, agriculture, cooking, drama, Indonesian and art classes.
- The formation of Year 6 enrichment groups in numeracy and writing and a Brunswick Valley Public Schools combined choir are extending and challenging our senior students.
- Our student leaders were inducted via a formal ceremony as they commence their very responsible roles within the school.
- The introduction of a lunch time drama club has opened new pathways for interested students.
- Students in Years 3-6 have engaged in the first ever ‘virtual excursions’ at Mullumbimby Public School. ‘Visits’ to the Great Barrier Reef and the Sydney Opera House have allowed students to gain knowledge and develop their understandings.

Canteen on Friday: Fruit cup & pikelets special $2 only.
Canteen Assistant: Sharon Wearne

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Open Wednesdays 8:30am to 9:15am. Donations of second hand uniforms greatly appreciated. School Hats $5.00 each available from the front office as well.
Email: mpsuniforms@yahoo.com.au
deeper thinking skills through questioning and exploration via cutting edge interactive technology.

- Students have attained outstanding results on a variety of sporting platforms and through community events such as the recent Bikes and Kites Festival and local photography competition.
- Students, staff and the wider community have engaged in the school through Grandparents Day, Harmony Day, Easter celebrations and a disco.
- Our P&C committee for 2013 was formed with a small, but very positive group enthusiastic about supporting students again throughout the year. Courtesy of the P&C, new readers were purchased to support the Kindergarten L3 program and a new shade sail and bubbler on the exterior of the hall have been fitted. More aluminium seating has just arrived and will be seen in the playground very soon.
- Staff continuing to be up-skilled and kept up to date with the implementation of the looming Australian curriculum and receiving training in asthma and anaphylaxis procedures.
- Our computer room has seen some enhancements with the arrival of 14 new computers, 28 new chairs, some new paint and the wall installation of an interactive monitor.
- The explicit teaching of literacy and numeracy remains our core business, supported by a well rounded education in all other key learning areas. Classroom teachers and students are supported by programs such as Reading Recovery, remediation and extension groups.
- Student welfare continues to be underpinned through our Positive Behaviour For Learning strategy (PBL), where very clear, consistent expectations are followed through the frequent reinforcement of RESPECT and how this is demonstrated on many levels through daily life.

I hope you are able to spend some quality time with your child/ren over the school holiday period. If travelling, please do so with care.

Regards
David Lees
Principal

MARVELLOUS MOLLIE - Mollie Cheek excelled at the NSW PSSA State Swimming Championships on Tuesday. Mollie swam a personal best (pb) in the 50m freestyle with a time of 34.01 seconds which ranked her 26th in the state. In the breast stroke Mollie swam a near pb of 47.04 which ranked her 27th in the state.

This is a fantastic effort from Mollie and we are all very, very proud of her efforts representing herself, her family, her school and the North Coast Region.

BOYS PSSA KNOCKOUT SOFTBALL - This coming Wednesday our boys PSSA Softball team will be playing Murwillumbah in their 2nd round match at 10.00am on the school oval. We would like to wish the boys the best luck in their endeavours to reach the next round and would like to invite any parents or carers to come and support the boys on the day. Thanks, Mr Lindsay

CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING - Our school cross country will be held in week 2 of next term. It has been difficult to do any training at school this year due to the continual wet conditions of our grounds. If it fines up during the holidays and you think your children need to burn off a bit of excess energy, then a cross country training run may well be a good idea. A few runs during the holidays would be great training and improve fitness.

STAGE 1 EXCURSION - Students in Years 1 and 2 will be walking to the Mullumbimby Museum on Thursday 11th April. The cost is $2. Children need to bring a big recess, a drink and wear our sports uniform please.

Parents are most welcome to walk with us. Robyn Petroni

FASHION PARADE WARM UP -

When: Thursday, April 11, 6pm -7.15pm
Where: school hall

You’ll get to meet other models, talk with the stylists, learn some modelling strategies from Malia Wright, meet the owners of dresses which have been offered to model. Bring Your Friends!

Bring your OpShopChic Clothes, create a visual Blast from The Past!

Wow the crowd with your Op Shop Bling, hats and Shoes!
RETRO THEME DISCO
GUITAR TUITION: Anyone interested in guitar lessons at school by an experienced, qualified tutor please phone PETER on 6684 5112.

MULLUMBIMBY PUBLIC SCHOOL: “Playgroup” for Parents and kids (under school age). Every Tuesday morning 9am-11am, during school terms. Join us for a relaxed and friendly morning of interaction and fun activities for the kids.

AFTER SCHOOL AND VACATION CARE: This service is Government subsidised & operates Mon-Fri (3pm-6pm) during School Term & Holidays (8am-6pm). Contact Jamie or Claudia: Ph: 0437 860 614.

MUSIC FOR KIDS – ENROL NOW: Offer your child the gift of playing music. Keyboard/piano lessons are continuing this term. They are creative, fun, and held at the school during school hours. New students are welcome. Lessons consist of music reading, composition, creativity, playing by ear and performances. African Drum and Dance lessons are also beginning this term. Introduce your child to the rhythms and moves of Africa. To enrol or enquire please contact Joanne Sloane on 0422 562 179 or email musicforkids.oz@gmail.com

P&C MEMBER PROFILE: Each week we will introduce you to a new member of the P&C.

Lettitia Towers; Uniform Shop Co-ordinator & School Banking Co-ordinator
Mother of Charlotte in 4/5C and Dylan in 1/2R

“I took on the Uniform Shop as my way of contributing to the school, with a background in Retail Management it seemed like a good fit. I love that the focus of the P & C is supporting our staff & children to build and maintain a great school.”

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

LEARN TO SWIM

Pleasingly
friendly staff
competetive rates
term courses/
privates/intensives
teaching pool now heated

Digital Electronics
REPAIR & SERVICES

AMEB and ANZCA Board Affiliated

Call Linda Armstrong (BME) 6680 5209