Dear Parents / Carers

After much anticipation, it is with great excitement that we welcome everyone to the 2016 school year. Everyone at the school is eagerly looking forward to another exciting and dynamic year of sharing, learning and growing at Mullumbimby Public School. Despite the fact that by far our largest group (in terms of enrolments numbers) in 2015 was our departing Year 6 group, our total enrolment numbers to commence 2016 are higher than what they were at the same time last year. This is a very positive outcome and we warmly welcome the significant number of new families who have joined our school community.

One of the features of the first few days has been the fantastic quality of school uniform. The wearing of uniform has a strong impact on school image and pride. We encourage all students to wear full school uniform every day. This includes school hats which are required to be worn in the playground at all times as part of our Sunsafe policy. Our Uniform shop is open on Wednesdays from 8:30am to 9:15am.

Classes

We were able to form classes for 2016 today. They are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>Danielle Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K/1P</td>
<td>Lena Patterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2A</td>
<td>Amy Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Joanne Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4M</td>
<td>Donna McFadden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Craig Lindsay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>Lyndal Barrett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6P</td>
<td>Peter Towner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher-librarian</td>
<td>Sue Austin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Mark Collinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Recovery, Learning Support</td>
<td>Jacqui Pick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Support</td>
<td>Lorraine Marshall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A special welcome to Donna McFadden, who joins us after spending a number of years at The Pocket PS. Donna comes to us with fantastic recommendations as a highly experienced and outstanding teacher. She has already made a most favourable impression at our school and has settled into this role with great enthusiasm.

Thank you to Danielle Haywood who was Relieving Principal whilst I was.
on leave last year to manage and coordinate Race Around Australia 2 and to Lena Patterson who was Relieving Assistant Principal. I thank both ladies for their leadership.

Swimming carnival
Our annual swimming carnival is tomorrow (Tuesday 2nd February) commencing at 5:00pm. This involves all students Years 3-6 and those students in Year 2 who have already turned 8 or are turning 8 this year. I encourage and expect all of the students mentioned to attend and participate. **Please note that when students arrive at the pool they are to go directly to their teacher to have their name marked on the roll. Year 2 students are to go to Mr Collinson.** A carnival is about fun, school spirit, house spirit and participation. Let’s see if we can have many participants at the pool tomorrow. **For those students who attend the carnival, they are not required to attend school on Wednesday 3rd February.** There will be suitable supervision provided for those students who are at school on Wednesday 3rd February. Information pertaining to the swimming carnival was sent home last week and is also available on our website under the tab ‘notes gone home’.

House captains and vice captains
Students elected their house leaders at meetings held last Friday. Their first major role for 2016 will be to demonstrate excellent leadership, enthusiasm and participation at our swimming carnival. Congratulations to the following students who were elected as captains: Tom C, Charlotte A (Bligh); TeRangi, Arlia (Hunter); Cooper N, Maddison W (King); Jack O, Taya F (Phillip). Congratulations to the following students who were elected as vice-captains: Joel L, Emma H (Bligh); Charlie D, Menna D (Hunter); Hani A, Jasmine D (King): Max S, Eva B (Phillip). Well done to all of you!

School times
Our school times remain the same as last year. Supervision for students commences at 8:30am. It is crucial that all students are at school **before** 9:00am, as this is when classes commence. Lunch takes place from 11:00am-11:50am and recess is 1:20pm-1:45pm. Classes conclude at 3:00pm.

We are a nut aware school
Because of the dangers nuts and nut products present to some of our students such foods are not to be brought to school. Thank you for your support of this important safety strategy.

‘Crunch and Sip’
Over the past few years it has been wonderful to see most students bringing in fresh fruit every day. Students remain in class for a 5 minute fruit break every day at approximately 10am. As this is a short break and fruit can be quite messy, I ask that all students bring in fruit (or celery / carrot sticks) that are already cut up in a small plastic container which is clearly labelled with your child’s name. Ideal items are grapes, berries, carrot/celery sticks, cut up apple/orange/pears that can fit into a container. The ‘sip’ part of ‘crunch and sip’ is water. Fresh fruit / vegetables and water clearly have a positive impact on everyone, with so many benefits including longer periods of concentration. Since the implementation of this program at our school last year it has been a huge success. Please ensure your child/ren is bringing their fruit/vegetables to crunch and a bottle of water to sip each and every day.

Newsletter
The MPS newsletter is distributed every **Monday** (or the first day of the school week). The collation of the newsletter is a significant administrative task and this is done on Friday. If you wish to submit something for consideration in the newsletter, it must reach the office by NO LATER than 9:00am on Friday. I am aiming to have our newsletter formatted and compiled by Friday afternoon and ready for distribution on Monday morning.

Parent –teacher information sessions
Effective communication between home and school is crucial. A great opportunity will be available soon for all parents to meet their child’s teacher for an individual discussion. You will be informed of dates as soon as they have been organised. I encourage all parents / carers to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Kindergarten Best Start assessment
Our newest and youngest students officially commenced their school journey today. Last week they undertook their **Best Start** assessment with with Mrs Haywood and Miss Patterson. This assessment looks at early reading and
writing skills, their ability to communicate with others, and how they recognise and work with numbers, groups and patterns. This is highly useful information for the class teacher and is used to help design learning programs to cater for all students. Parents will receive a detailed report in coming weeks after all information has been collated and analysed.

Following us on Facebook
Are you on Facebook? To get all of the latest breaking news and previews of the coming school day ahead, like our school Facebook page and join over 230 followers who stay up to date with our school happenings via social media.

Finally, as always, if you have an issue or concern please contact the classroom teacher, the appropriate Assistant Principal (Mrs Haywood or Mr Towner) or myself. From time to time issues arise at school. This is perfectly normal for any school setting (or in fact any work place), so if you have any questions, issues, enquiries or you want feedback on any aspect of your child’s schooling please ring to make a mutually convenient appointment time with your child’s teacher, or myself.

Have a great week.

David Lees
Principal

Offer your child the gift of playing a musical instrument during school hours. Keyboard/piano lessons are on offer as well as African Drum and dance. The lessons are Creative, Fun, and held at the school during school hours.

Lessons consist of music reading, composition, creativity, playing by ear and performances.

Email musicforkids.oz@gmail.com or call Joanne Sloane on 0422562179 to enrol your child now.
All enquiries are welcome

CLUB SIGN ON DETAILS
BANGALOW: WED 3RD & 10TH FEB 3.30 TO 5.30PM. BANGALOW BOWLING CLUB. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ELLIE 0429 855 399
BYRON BAY: WED 10TH 3-30PM TO 5-30PM & SAT 13TH FEB 9 TO 11AM AT BYRON REC GROUNDS. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT BROOKE 0418 628 353 JACQUI 0421 319 027 MAIN ARM: CONTACT NOREEN 0438 181 219 OR SARAH 6684 1487 BY THE 6TH FEB
MULLUMBIMBY: 6TH FEB 9 TO 11AM AT BRUNSWICK BYRON CLUBHOUSE. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT NARELLE 6684 3870
OCEAN SHORES: 6TH FEB 9 TO 11AM AT OCEAN SHORES SHOPPING VILLAGE. FOR MORE INFO CONT: JOANNE 6680 1857 AH OR JANINE 6680 5067 AH OR 0438 649 061 REGISTRATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR AGES 5-10 YEARS WWW.NETSETGO.ASN.AU OR 11-100 YEARS WWW.MYNETBALL.COM.AU
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PLAYING BUT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SIGN ON DAY OR UNABLE DO YOUR REGISTRATION ONLINE PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB OFFICIAL SO YOU DO NOT MISS OUT. THANKS JANINE BURGER SECRETARY BRUNSWICK BYRON NETBALL ASSOCIATION

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS
AFTER SCHOOL AND VACATION CARE:
This service is Government subsidised & operates Mon-Fri (3.00pm-6pm) during School Term & Holidays (8am-6pm).
Contact Jamie or Zahra: Ph: 0437 860 614.

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.
All enquiries are welcome.