Whole School Assembly

What a fantastic assembly. It was wonderful to see so many parents and grandparents attend as well as special guest Joanna Wilkinson from Ballina Fair Shopping Centre who announced that 5 Empire Vale Students had won prizes in the Ballina Prawn Festival Art Competition. In addition our school was selected to win a $250 Book vouchers courtesy of Ballina Fair and the Book Warehouse.

We also saw many students receive school awards and we had a fashion parade by those senior class students who designed and made their own Christmas t-shirts.

Casual Day – last day of school

Students may wear casual clothing on the last day of school - Wednesday 19th December, for a gold coin donation. All proceeds will be donated to charity. Appropriate clothing must be worn, i.e. no shoe string strapped tops or thongs etc.

Final Newsletter

The final newsletter of the year will be sent home next Tuesday (not Wednesday) and will have the student reports attached.

Parent Responses Due

Principal’s Award - OVERDUE
Yr 6 Farewell (Bubble Night) – Fri 13/Dec

Carols Evening

6:00pm BBQ
6:45pm Children assemble
7:00pm Carols
   Kinder Presentations
   Yr 6 Presentations
   P&C Thanks & raffle
  Carols continued
8:00pm Santa arrives
8:20pm Thanks and goodnight

We would like to invite everyone to attend our Carols evening TONIGHT 11th December starting at 6pm. The BBQ will be open from 6.00pm sharp, as it is extremely popular, please be prompt in making your purchases as we usually have a big crowd to cater for!

In the event of inclement weather, the evening will be postponed until Tuesday 17th. If a postponement is required, a notice will be sent home as well as being displayed at the post office for community members.
Carols Evening Parking

It would be appreciated if parents/community members could avoid parking along the front of residential properties on either side of the school on Carols night - as the grounds can be quite wet, front lawns can become quite damaged. Parking is available:

- along the front of the school (no further than where the old senior class demountable was situated, as this is private property & not suitable for parking) and
- the back paddock behind the school (which provides ample parking & easy access to the school's grounds)

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated, thank you.

Year 6 Farewell - Bubble Night

**When**: Saturday 14th December 2013

**Where**: Ballina Pool

**Times**: 5:00 - 7:30pm

**Cost**: $13.00 per student or parent

(Adults - spectator $2.60)

(To be paid to the pool on the night - payment not required by the school).

Year 5 are invited to attend the Bubbles Night to farewell the year 6 students. Students will be supervised by Empire Vale staff and by the Ballina pool staff.

Other students from the school are also welcome to attend but will need to be supervised by their parent or guardian for the duration of the evening. These students will not require a permission note, however, will need to indicate at the bottom of the permission slip of their attendance, so that the pool has an idea of numbers.

**Permission notes required URGENTLY!!!**

**Wet weather** - please check with the pool directly if you are unsure of the weather conditions on the night.

Principal’s Awards

Those students who received a Gold Principal’s Award in 2013, will be treated to ten pin bowling

**Congratulations to**: Ellie C, Jesse B, Jade T, Anthony M, Kirsty G-J, Jasmine C, Sally C and Ethan B

Don’t forget to save all your awards so that they can continue to accumulate, we look forward to more deserving students joining us next year.

Guitar Lessons Info for 2014

Guitar teacher, Sam West, will be starting his teaching career as of next year so will no longer be able to teach guitar lesson at our school. Luckily for us Michael Ward will be able to step into Sam’s shoes. Michael is a qualified Music Teacher with many years experience. Please see the attached information sheet. **Michael requires an Expression of Interest for guitar lessons in 2014, as a matter of urgency please!** Please complete the attached form and send it in before the end of next week so Michael is able to schedule Music Lessons at the school.

Attachments

- Guitar Lessons 2014 - Expression of Interest
- Permission Note Bubble Night (Oops… missed the newsletter last week 😊)
Zero Tolerance - School Security

Please be advised that the school grounds will be out of bounds for the duration of the school holidays and at all times that school is not in session. We ask that all community members be vigilant in the holidays to help us keep the school property secure. We have been advised the police are:

Conducting a zero tolerance operation targeting schools to reduce the frequency and intensity of malicious damage, arson, break and enter & trespass offences that impact upon schools. Police will document names and offences and utilise the move-on legislation to send a clear message that the current level of malicious damage, trespass, arson and break and enter offences in schools is not acceptable and the risk of detection and apprehension by Police is at maximum.

Please help protect our school, should you see anyone on school property during the school holidays, please call the 24hr School Security Unit hotline on 1300 880 021 or the local police. We thank you for your co-operation.

Up & Coming Events

December

- Tues 17th 6pm Alternative date (wet weather)
  - Carols Evening

- Wednesday 18th
  - Last Day for students in 2013!!

January

- Wednesday 29th January
  - First day of school for 2014
    - Grades 1-6

- Thursday 30th January
  - First day of school for 2014
    - Kindergarten students

P&C News

Canteen News!

The canteen will run right through until the end of term.

Sausage Sizzle & Ice Cream Day!!

The canteen will be holding a sausage sizzle and ice cream day on the last Wednesday of term 18th Dec, (canteen day) - ($2.00 for both sausage sandwich & ice cream). Recess items will still be available.

Permission Note

Bubble Night (Saturday 14th December, 2013)

I give permission for my child/ren…………………………………………………………………………….. to attend the Bubble Night at Ballina Pool on Saturday 14th December. I understand that transport is by private car and is the responsibility of the family.

Signed ………………………………………….. Date …………………………………………..

Parent/Guardian

Due Friday December 13th