Whole School Assembly

The K-3 class sang a wonderful rendition of the Beatles classic ‘Octopus’s Garden’ complete with props & actions at the Whole School Assembly on Monday. All teachers also handed out awards and it was lovely to see some parents/grandparents come along as well.

Senior Class Bootcamp

The Senior Class got their new ‘Sweat Success’ Bootcamp T-shirts last week and got them sweaty at their session on Thursday. The students are also doing boxing and circuits with Ms Avery and Cheryl on Monday mornings. If the students could bring their T-shirts on Monday as well, that would be helpful. So far all the students have surpassed our expectations showing us their tough spirits and positive attitudes to fitness.

Responsible Pet Ownership

This Friday, the K-3 class will be treated to a visitor of a special kind with Maree & Munroe who are coming to teach our children important pet safety lessons as part of a program specifically designed to minimize the risk of dog attacks.

Expression of interest Forms for 2015, Year 7 Students

Parents of Year 6 students!! Please find attached a booklet which provides information about government secondary schools & includes Expression of Interest forms for placement in 2015. Expression of Interest Forms for high school next year, need to be returned to the school by NO later than next Tuesday 18th March, please.
Well done to the following students who will be representing the school at the Ballina District PSSA Winter Sport Trials on Friday March 21; Millie, Kirsty & Jasmine (girls netball), & Jesse & Anthony (boys soccer).

Best of luck competitors! (Permission notes to be returned by no later than Tuesday 18th March).

**PSSA Swimming**

Well done to those students who competed in the Far North Coast Swimming Carnival at Ballina Pool yesterday. Congratulations to Sally & Jasmine C, Jade T, Jesse B & Kirsty G-J who have qualified to compete in the North Coast Swimming Championships on Wednesday 12th March! Go Empire Vale!

**Chocolate Fundraiser**

We would like to get an indication of how many families are interested in selling chocolates again this year in preparation for the 2014 senior school excursion. As per last year, the school will be placing an "early bird" order in Term 1 & if there is sufficient demand, parents will have the opportunity to place a second order in term 2.

At this stage we have not booked a venue or organised any excursion activities. This year we would like to take Year 4, 5 & 6 students.

Could you please return the attached Chocolate Fundraiser Expression of Interest Form by Tuesday 18th March, thank you.

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**Up & Coming Events**

**March**

- **Friday 7th** (Junior class only)  
  Responsible Pet Ownership  
  Venue: EVPS

- **Tuesday 11th**  
  P&C Meeting  
  Venue: EVPS Senior Classroom

- **Wednesday 12th**  
  Quiz Works

- **Thursday 20th**  
  Students in the 2013 school group (Yrs 1-7)  
  **Sea World Excursion**  
  Venue: Sea World, Gold Coast

- **Friday 21st**  
  PSSA Winter Trials (nominated students only)  
  Venue: Various

- **Tuesday 25th** - **Thursday 27th**  
  Art Smart (nominated students only)  
  Venue: Alstonville P.S

- **Friday 28th**  
  SS PSSA X-Country  
  Venue: Tevan Tintenbar PS

**April**

- **Monday 31st** 11.30am  
  Whole School Assembly - All Welcome

- **Thursday 3rd** (selected students only)  
  SXCSS General Knowledge Comp  
  Venue: Ballina Public School
**PARENT RESPONSES DUE**

**E.O.I Yr 7 High School 2015**  
**DUE - Tues 18th March**

**E.O.I Chocolate Fundraiser (yrs 4-6 only)**  
**DUE - Tues 18th March**

**Winter Sports Trials permission**  
(Selected students only)  
**DUE - Tues 18th March**

**Art Smart Workshop permission**  
(Selected students only)  
**DUE - Tues 18th March**

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**Art Smart Visual Art Workshop**

“ARTsmart Visual Arts Student Workshops” for talented stage three students will run from Tuesday 25th to Thursday 27th March 2014 at Alstonville P.S.  
**Congratulations to Kirsty G-J, Jesse B & Lillian G who have been selected to attend this 3 day workshop along with other small school students.**

For three days students focus on completing a major art work and (if that student desires) the artwork is exhibited in a major public exhibition at the end of the school year, before being returned to the artist. Transport is the responsibility of the parent. Students are to wear comfortable clothing including a hat & bring along plenty of water & food for each of the days.

Information and consent forms have been sent home to selected students this week.  
**Please return consent notes by no later than this Tuesday 18th March, thank you.**

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**Top Tips from the DET**

**Good number sense**

Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don't add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.

Find out more:  

**Essay planning**

Kids often rush headlong into essay writing tasks without thinking through what is required. Effective essay planning can involve brainstorming, mind-mapping, and organising notes depending on the question and type of response required. These factsheets explain everything.

Find out more:  

**Reading with your child at home**

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.

Find out more:  

**Removing head lice and nits**

Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they’re not dangerous. Here’s everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.

Find out more:  

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**P&C News**

The next P&C meeting will be held Tuesday March 11th at 7pm. All welcome.

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**Attachments**

- Year 6 High School EOI for 2015  
- E.O.I Chocolate Fundraiser Order form for senior school excursion (Yrs 4-6)  
- Art Smart permission & information notes (selected students)  
- Winter Sport Trials permissions (selected students)  
- Best Start reports (kinder only)
Senior School Excursion Chocolate Fundraiser
Chocolate Order Form (Round 1) - Years 4, 5 & 6

We are in the process of organising an early bird order for chocolates as part of the senior school excursion fundraiser, (provided we get a minimum order of 15 boxes).

Chocolate prices remain the same as last year..$2.50 per chocolate bar, confectionary prices are $3 per bag. This means that each chocolate box sold brings in $60; ($30 of which goes towards your child’s excursion expenses), however each confectionary box sold brings in $60; ($25 of which goes towards your child’s excursion expenses).

As we cannot return unsold boxes, it is extremely important that the number of chocolates that each family has pre-ordered, be completely sold so that your child can receive the full benefit of having their excursion costs reduced.

Boxes cannot be returned to the school unsold or partially sold as we have already outlaid the funds to purchase to boxes. In the event that you are not able to sell the required number of boxes you have committed to, funds from all boxes you have sold will need to cover the cost of your full commitment before profits are able to be directed to reducing your excursion cost.

i.e. commitment 10 choc boxes and 10 boxes sold ($600.00 brought into the school)...
   = $300 for purchase of the chocolate boxes and $300 to reduce the cost of your child’s excursion.
Commitment 10 choc boxes and only 8 boxes sold ($480.00 brought into the school)...
   = $300 for purchase of the chocolate boxes and $180 to reduce the cost of your child’s excursion.

NOTE: This change of policy has been brought about through past difficulties of the school in dealing with unsold boxes that have been returned. Families that sell the committed number of boxes will be unaffected by this change.

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Senior School Excursion Chocolate Fundraiser
(Round 1) Chocolate Order

Name: ........................

Commitment __________________________ (quantity of chocolate boxes)
Commitment __________________________ (quantity of lolly boxes)
Total ____________________________ (TOTAL quantity choc/lolly boxes)

(Orders to be returned by no later than next Tuesday 18th March, thank you)