Term 2 School Captains!

Congratulations to our School Captains for Term 2 2014. We know Jade T, David B & Lillian G will do their best in being good role models and leading our students well this term.

Review - Anzac March

Anzac Day March, Ballina - Thank you to those parents and students who marched on ANZAC Day in Ballina. It is always pleasing to see our students pay their respects to our ex-servicemen and women and those who gave up so much to give us the great life we have in Australia.

Special School ANZAC Day Ceremony

The school will be holding its annual special ANZAC Day Ceremony this Thursday 1st May. Our senior students will be running the service along with officials & members from the Ballina RSL Sub-Branch & the Korea, South East Asia Vietnam Veteran’s Association. Student’s & staff take pride in this special service each year as it is a way of reinforcing the significance of ANZAC Day to the whole student body.

Call out for flowers! We would like to make a callout to families who may be able to send in some flowers TOMORROW (Thursday 1st), so that all students are able to lay a flower at the base of the flag pole during the ceremony, thank you!

Public Speaking Reminder

Just a reminder that Empire Vale P.S. is once again running our public speaking program this year. The program is designed to encourage students to develop their communication skills, and express themselves with confidence. Students from all classes are involved in the program. Please assist your child/ren with their preparation for the speech. Speeches are to be 1-4 minutes in duration depending on age group. All students will be presenting their speeches to their classes in weeks 4 & 5 of this term. The winners of each stage will present their speeches at a special assembly or public speaking event at the school, TBA
**Healthy Lunch Boxes**

Please ensure student lunch boxes contain healthy lunch and snacks. No chocolate, lollies or soft drinks are permitted at school.

**Pet Pictures Wanted**

As part of a whole school creative arts project we will be focusing on the importance of the role that animals play in our lives. Mrs Rantissi is asking for heart-warming or funny photographs of students and/or family with their pets and/or other animals. Could you please send your photo, which will be scanned or uploaded and returned back to you.

**Prac Teacher**

My name is Kate Petty & I will be completing professional experience for a Bachelor of Education: Early Years, through the University of Southern Queensland, at Empire Vale Public School in the K-3 class over the next five weeks. I am currently completing my final year of this course.

I currently live in Jakarta, Indonesia but have family in Ballina and the surrounding area and we spend most of our family holidays here. I have two of my own children; a girl and boy aged 12 & 11 respectively.

I look forward to getting to know all of the children at Empire Vale, and their families, during my time here. If you have any questions for me please do not hesitate to ask.

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**Up & Coming Events**

- **April**
  - **Wednesday 30th**
    - Debating Workshop (selected students)
    - Venue: Alstonville
  - **May**
    - **Thursday 8th**
      - District PSSA X-Country
      - Venue: Lennox Head
    - **Tuesday 13th**
      - P&C Meeting
      - Venue: EVPS (all Welcome)
    - **Tuesday 13th – Fri 16th**
      - NAPLAN (yrs 3 & 5)
    - **Monday 20th**
      - SXCSS CAPA Workshop TBC (selected students)
      - Venue: Newrybar PS
    - **Thursday 22nd**
      - EVPS Biggest Morning Tea
      - Venue: EVPS
    - **Friday 23rd**
      - FNC X-Country
      - Venue: Bangalow
    - **Monday 26th**
      - Whole School Assembly
Little Athletics Workshops

The Little Athletics Programs will begin this week on Thursday after recess! Workshops will be run on a weekly basis (usually Wednesday after recess) throughout Term 2. The students have thoroughly enjoyed this program in previous years & are once again excited to participate in this activity, which will give them new skills and expertise in many areas of athletics such as high jump, long jump, shot put, discus, relay & hurdles. Students are requested to wear suitable clothing for these sessions.

Guitar Lessons

Guitar lessons have recommenced and will be held each Tuesday morning unless otherwise notified by the guitar teacher Michael Ward. Please remember to bring in your guitars & payments. Payments are to be made directly to Michael Ward.

P&C News

Easter Raffle Winners

The winners for the Easter Raffle at the end of last term were:
1st: Renai Pearson
2nd: Millie Searle
3rd: Zarli Currey

We are sure none of that chocolate is left but I bet it was good 😊

The next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 13th at 7pm in the senior classroom. All welcome!!

Mother’s Day Raffle tickets are attached to this week’s newsletter. The prizes look fantastic. Don’t miss out on winning something special for your mum or grandmum and someother special mother in your life. The raffle will be drawn on Friday May 9th, the day of the Mothers Day Stall.

The Mothers Day Stall will be held Friday May 9th $3 per item. Children can purchase more than one item once everyone else has had a turn. (After all our sisters, grandmothers and aunts can be recognized too!)
HELPERS WOULD BE GREAT for wrapping and assisting students - Zoe coordinating stall from 9am. Thanks.

REMINDER – GIRLS NIGHT OUT!!! This Saturday Night...see attached flyer. Please let Zoe Walsh know if you will be attending ASAP, thank you!

Attachments

- District X-Country program (qualifying students only)
- Primary Homework requirements term 2
- NAPLAN information for parents (yrs 3&5)
- BSC Safe Parking
- Family Energy Rebate information
- P&C Girls Night Out Flyer
Ms Avery & Cheryl are running the iconic City2Surf in Sydney on August 10th. For those of you who don’t know this race, it’s 14kms through Sydney’s CBD finishing at Bondi Beach with around 80,000 people and for those who run, is on the list for many of 'would like to complete' someday. It includes 'Heartbreak Hill' which is about halfway and the hardest part of the course. They have both been training hard to be prepared but are also running the race to raise money for 2 organizations that are close to their hearts. Bonnie is running for Breast Cancer which her mum succumbed to more than 10 years ago & Cheryl is running for Cystic Fibrosis which is a disease that her niece has.

So what are they doing to raise money? Holding a Cupcake Stall at the Make it, Bake it, Grow it Market at the House with No Steps on May 4th from 9-1. You can purchase a cupcake and decorate it and eat it (yum yum) all in the name of two great causes😊

So please drop by and have cupcake and a chat. There will be tonnes of other stalls there as well so it will be a good morning.

We will keep you posted with other fundraising & training ideas along the way

Thanks so much for your support

Cheryl & Bonnie
Congratulations to the following students who have qualified to compete in the Ballina District PSSA Cross Country Championships at Lennox Head on Thursday 8th May.

12/13yrs girls: Maureen G & Jade T
12/13yrs boys: Jesse B & Anthony M
11yrs girls: Kirsty G-J
11yrs boys: Riley G, David B, Tom M, Liam O & Ryley M
10yrs girls: Jasmine C, Bella M & Millie S
10yrs boys: Ethan B
8/9yrs girls: Rohan B & Owen G
8/9yrs boys: Sally C, Molly W & Gypsy S

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PERMISSION NOTE

District Cross Country - qualifying students only
(Thursday 8th May 2014)

I give permission for my child ................................................................. to represent Empire Vale PS (Ballina Small Schools) at the Ballina District PSSA Cross Country Championships at Williams Reserve on Thursday 8th May 2014. I understand that transport will be by private car and is the responsibility of the family.

☐ I will be transporting my own child
☐ I have arranged for my child to be transported by ____________________________

Time: Students should arrive at Williams Reserve by 9.40am ready to walk the course at 10.00am.

Cost: $5.00 levy per student – paid at school.

Students with medical conditions that may be of concern during the trials should notify the Team Manager prior to the commencement of the trial. Team Managers should notify the convenor prior to the commencement of the trials.

Signed ........................................... Date ...........................................
Parent/Guardian

Please return permissions by no later than Tuesday 6th May, thank you.