**Review - EVPS ANZAC Ceremony**

The school held its annual special ANZAC Day Ceremony on Thursday 1st May. Our senior students ran the service along with members of the Ballina Ex-Army Association of NSW. The students and staff were proud to participate in the service. A big thank you to the P&C who organised the morning tea & to those families that brought in flowers for students to lay at the base of the flagpole.

**URGENT! Pet Pictures Wanted**

As part of a whole school creative arts project we will be focusing on the important role that animals play in our lives. Mrs Rantissi is asking for heartwarming 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, thank you!!!**

**Ballina District Cross Country**

Best of luck to the following students who will be competing in the Ballina District Cross Country at Lennox Head tomorrow.

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

**Wet Weather arrangements**—listen in to 2LM radio station tomorrow morning from 7.30am for possible postponements.
Little Athletics up & running!

The Little Athletics Program has begun and the children are enjoying their instruction from Jenny Duffield. So far students have been honing-in on their shot put techniques as well as their high jumping skills!

Guitar Lessons – Monday Next Week!

Due to the Yrs 3 & 5 NAPLAN assessments or Yrs 3 & 5, guitar lessons will be held on Monday 12th May next week only (for ALL guitarists), instead of the regular Tuesday.

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 3, 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.

Senior School Excursion Chocolate Fundraiser

Just a few reminders to those parents who are participating in the senior excursion chocolate fundraiser this term. Students are given 2 boxes at a time & are issued further boxes upon payment of the previous two. Parents are able to pickup any number of boxes at a time on either Tuesday or Wednesdays when Kimmy is in the office. Please ensure all monies are in a secure & sealed envelope to avoid lost coins and that envelopes are clearly marked with your child’s name. Thank you!

Up & Coming Events

May

Thursday 8th
District PSSA X-Country
Venue: Lennox Head

Tuesday 13th
P&C Meeting

Tuesday 13th – Fri 16th
NAPLAN (yrs 3&5)

Monday 20th
SXCSS CAPA Workshop TBC (selected students)
Venue:Newrybar PS

Thursday 22nd
Biggest Morning Tea
Venue: EVPS

Friday 23rd
FNC X-Country
Venue: Bangalow

Monday 26th
Whole School Assembly

Friday 30th
13th Storey Town House
Venue: Lismore
P&C News

Mother’s Day Raffle tickets were attached to last week’s newsletter. The prizes look fantastic. Don’t miss out on winning something special for your mum or grandmum and some other 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.

CUPCAKES GALORE

A huge thank you to all the students, staff & visitors for supporting Cystic Fibrosis & Breast Cancer by ordering a cupcake today. We made a whopping $103.10 and everyone seemed to enjoy their cupcakes 😊