**Review – District X-Country**

Well done to all of our competitors who competed in the Ballina District Cross Country at Lennox Head last Thursday. Kirsty GJ has qualified to compete at the next level – a fantastic effort!

We are extremely proud of everyone’s efforts on the day, well done!

**The 13-Storey Treehouse**

Thank you for all the students who have been busy imagining and designing their very own The 13-Storey Treehouse. It would be wonderful for the students to hand them in to Mrs Rantissi so that they can go in the draw to win some cool prizes.

This week’s creative challenge is to design your very own special machine. Andy and Terry have invented a flying marshmallow throwing machine and a lemonade fountain for their tree house. Now it is your turn to create a weird and wonderful invention.

Your invention designs are due in next Wednesday; we can’t wait to see what you create!

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**Thursday May 22nd – Welcome to our Biggest Morning Tea**

11 - 12:30 Biggest Morning Tea

Parents & community members are invited to attend Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea hosted by Toni Caesar & Zoe Walsh with the assistance of the Empire Vale P&C. All proceeds to be donated to the NSW Cancer Council.

It’s time to put the kettle on!

Next Thursday the 22nd of May, Empire Vale Public School will be busy brewing up a very special morning tea to help raise money to help find a cure for cancer.

This year’s Morning Tea theme is ‘T is for….’ You could come dressed as a Tiger, T-Rex, Teletubbie, Titan’s Team Supporter or even a turtle! As long as the theme of your costume starts with the letter T, you’ll be in Theme!

Families are asked to bring a plate of morning tea to share, along with a gold coin to participate. All money raised will go to the Cancer Council.

After the morning tea we will enjoy some classic novelty games such as “Tug-a-war, Three-legged races, Teaspoon and egg races and Tunnel ball.

It is guaranteed to be a ‘Terrific Time’.

Everyone is welcome!

You will need:

- A plate of something to share for the Biggest Morning Tea
- Gold coin donation
- ***** Students can participate in the Biggest Morning Tea for the cost of a gold coin donation (or can bring their own recess as usual).
Up & Coming Events

May

Wednesday 14th, 21st, 28th (each Wed of Term 2)
Little Athletics
Venue: EVPS

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

Thursday 22nd
Biggest Morning Tea
Venue: EVPS

Friday 23rd
FNC (Zone) X-Country
Venue: Bangalow

Monday 26th
Whole School Assembly

Friday 30th
The 13-Storey Tree House
Venue: Lismore

June

Date yet to be confirmed
EVPS Public Speaking Judging
Venue: EVPS

Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
Little Athletics
Venue: EVPS

Thursday 12th (Alternative date 17th)
SXCSS Spelling Bee
Venue: Wardell Hall

Monday 16th
Multicultural Public Speaking
Venue: Alstonville PS

ATTACHMENTS

- Zone X-Country (qualifying students only)

NAPLAN – Years 3 & 5

Students have commenced their participation in the National Assessment Program – Literacy & Numeracy (NAPLAN) today as a national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9. Throughout the week, both our years 3 & 5 students will be participating in Reading, Writing & Language Conventions; (spelling, grammar & punctuation) & Numeracy tests.

Pet Pictures Wanted!!!

Thank you to the families who have sent in picture of their children with animals and pets or having an animal encounter. We are still waiting for many more photos to come in. It’s time to get out the camera and take some classic ‘happy snaps’ of your child with the family pet. If it is easier, you can email them to the school. Thanks!

Top Tips from the DET

Mental maths strategies

We teach children a range of different strategies to add and subtract numbers. By showing them several methods for solving maths questions, we’re helping them to look for patterns. All this builds a good sense of “number” which means they understand the relationships between different numbers and why different ways to add and subtract work well. The goal is that your child will understand many ways to approach a maths problem and will be able to choose a way that makes the most sense to them. School A to Z has a lot of resources, including help sheets on mental maths strategies.
Raffle Tickets - State Swimming

A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported our state swimmers by purchasing North Coast School Sport Association raffle tickets!

1st prize: $1500 worth of sport equipment
2nd prize: $750 worth of sport equipment
3rd prize: $500 worth of sport equipment
4th prize: $250 worth of sport equipment

Tickets to be drawn on 1st December 2014.

There are about half a dozen tickets left at the school if anyone is interested in purchasing the final few at $2.00 each.

Thank you to everyone who supported our state swimmers!!!!

Community News

Guitar Lessons

Guitar lessons for students have been progressing well this term. Don’t forget to contact Michael Ward if you are interested in your child receiving lessons or if you would like an update on your child’s progress.

Phone Number......66828283

P&C News

The winners of the Mother’s Day raffle were very pleased to get their prizes which were kindly donated by Diann Lannoy. Once again, a big thank you to Diann who takes it upon herself to help our little school with prizes for Mother’s Day. We really appreciate it.

1st prize Molly Walsh
2nd prize Kate Petty
3rd prize Allan Brown
4th prize Kim Gillham

Does a teacher at your school go above and beyond in their classroom?

A Day Made Better recognises exceptional primary school teachers across the country. Last year, we received 5,700 nominations for over 1,000 inspirational teachers. This year, with your help, we’re aiming to gather 10,000 nominations from every corner of Australia. Every nominated teacher will receive a certificate and gift to acknowledge their incredible contribution. And, if a teacher from your school is chosen as one of 10 winners, they’ll receive $2,000 worth of supplies and an Apple iPad for their classroom.

Put your school on the map by encouraging parents, staff and students to nominate one of your exceptional teachers today.

Support an exceptional teacher today at adaymadebetter.com.au