Interrelate Family Centres, in conjunction with EVPS, is offering a course for students in Years 5 & 6 to prepare them for High School. “Moving into the Teen Years” explores a range of adolescent issues and offers a comprehensive sexuality and relationship education program designed specifically for this important time in life.

**Transport:** Private transport is required for this 2 day program.

**Wed 8/10:** VENUE: Cabbage Tree Island P.S

**Mon 13/10:** NEW VENUE: Wardell P.S

**Wednesday 8th October:**

**Year 6 students:** Cars will need to leave the school at 9.00am for a 9.30am start, leaving CTIPS at 1.00pm to return to school.

**Year 5 students:** Cars will need to leave the school at 1.00pm for a 1.30pm, leaving CTIPS at 3.00pm to return students HOME, not the school, due to the late finish time.

**Monday 13th October:**

**Year 6 students:** Cars will need to leave the school at 9.00am for a 9.30am start, leaving Wardell at 1.00pm to return to school.

**Year 5 students:** Cars will need to leave the school at 1.00pm for a 1.30pm, leaving Wardell P.S at 3.00pm to return students HOME, not the school, due to the late finish time.

We realise that we are relying heavily on parents organising transport for these various time slots, however this is a very worthwhile program. Your assistance is much appreciated in getting our students to & from both venues over the two day program!

Unless otherwise notified, permission will be transferred to cover the venue change of Wardell P.S on the 2nd day of this program.

**BHS Swimming (yr 5/6)**

**When:** Each Thursday 16th Oct - Nov 27th

**Where:** Ballina Pool

**Times:** 10-12 TBC

**Cost:** NIL cost for pool

**Transport:** PLEASE NOTE - Private transport

Our Years 5 & 6 students have been invited to participate in The Black Spot Swimming Program, (run by Ballina High School utilising the skills of Francis Quinn). The program will be each Thursday between weeks 2 & 8.

We have just been notified that although there will be no cost for the pool & swimming instruction, organisers funds are now not able to extend to cover the cost of a bus to transport our students to & from the venue. Rather than not go ahead with this program, (due to transport issues), we would still like to extend to families the opportunity to take advantage of this program. IF you ARE ABLE to transport your own child or car pool with another family once a week, between weeks 2 & 8 next term, please return the expression of interest/permission note by this Friday 19th Sep, THANK YOU!

**Casual for a Cause**

Students will be permitted to dress casually on the last day of school this term - Friday 19th Sept, for a gold coin donation. All proceeds will go to a nominated charity. Appropriate clothing must be worn ie. no shoe string stapped shirts or thongs etc.
Whole School Assembly Review

Well done to those students who were recognised as high achievers this term. There was plenty of Bronze awards in the junior and senior classes and even a few Gold awards earned! Well done to all.

Review - Mid Year Spring Concert

Wow!! What an awesome effort by students & staff at both the Matinee & evening performances last week! We were joined by students from Southern Cross K-12 School Learning Support Unit, Sugartowns Pre Schoolers, as well as parents & community members!

A huge thank you to everyone who has been helping out with the concert in regards to costumes, props, backdrops etc, & a big thank you to the P&C for organising the tea, coffee & light lunch after the matinee & for the fabulous BBQ prior the evening show!

Please see the attached photo page 😊

Review - Premier’s Spelling Bee

Well done to Jesse B, Jade T, Ethan B & Owen G who represented our school at the 2014 Premier’s Spelling Bee regional Finals held at Alstonville P.S on Monday.

Congratulations to Ethan who ranked third in the competition - we were very proud of the way all of our students competed on the day.

Thank you to those parents who transported students to & from this event.

Parent Responses Due

Interrelate Permision & Payment (Yrs 5 & 6)
Due - TODAY

Black Spot Swimming Program Permission (Yrs 5 & 6) - optional
Due - THIS Friday 19th Sep

Senior School excursion permission notes & $100 deposit
Due - THIS Fri 19th Sep

Special Swimming Scheme (ALL)
Due - Tues 21st Oct
Review - SXCSS Public Speaking

Well done to Ethan, Owen G, Sally C & Rohan B (stage 2) Anthony M, Jade T, Jesse & Lillian G (stage 3) who competed in the Southern Cross Community of Small Schools (SXCSS), Public Speaking Competition at Tregeagle P.S yesterday. Congratulations to Rohan B, stage 2 winner who received a gold medal, to Jade T, stage 3 runner up who received a silver medal & to Jesse B for receiving an honourable mention for stage 3 on the day! Rohan & Jade have qualified to compete in the Rivers Final in Lismore next term. Congratulations to all of our winners - what an outstanding effort!!

Senior Excursion DUE DATES

Just a reminder to parents that all permission notes & a minimum $100 deposit is due THIS Friday 19th September (last day of term), for the senior school excursion. It is extremely important that notes & deposits are sent in by this due date so that we can confirm numbers with the various destinations BEFORE we go on holidays! Your assistance would be greatly appreciated!

Swimming Scheme

The whole school will be participating in the Department of Education & Training Special Swimming Scheme next term. This 10 day program is an intensive learn to swim program which develops water confidence and provides students with basic skills in water safety and survival.

The dates for our swimming have been confirmed... We are scheduled for weeks 7/8, (17th to 28th Nov), and were unable to negotiate a change to weeks 5/6. Please put the 17th - 28th in your calendars.

Please return permission & payment by the new due date of Tuesday 21st October.

Plastic is not so fantastic!

The Senior Class at Empire Vale Public School have enjoyed learning about local environmental issues throughout their work with The Jane Goodall 'Roots and Shoots' Program.

The students were all concerned about plastic bags polluting our waterways and damaging marine life. Two of our environmentally aware students Lillian Gillham and Jade Tanner took time-out after school to collect rubbish found along the banks of the Richmond River. They were shocked at how many plastic items they found in their rubbish collection, after conducting a litter audit.

The students discussed what they could do make a positive step to reduce the amount of plastic bags they used. As an environmental inspired art project the students decorated reusable bags using paints, crayons and decorative items.
Decorating reusable environmental bags was a rewarding project as the students got to create some funky usable art, whilst also making a difference to the amount of plastic bags in circulation.

You will be able to check out their fantastic art at the local check-out!

**Up & Coming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>September</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
<td>Casual for a Cause (gold coin donation please)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>First Day of Term 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; &amp; Monday 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Interrelate (yrs 5/6)</td>
<td>Venue: CTI (8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;) &amp; Wardell (13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 16&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>BHS Swimming (yrs 5/6 'Blackspot' program)</td>
<td>Venue: BHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Rivers Public Speaking Finals (qualifying students)</td>
<td>Venue: Lismore</td>
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**KIDS HELPLINE**

Kids Helpline is Australia’s only free, national telephone service for children & young people between the ages of 5 & 18. It promotes a non-judgmental, confidential service where no problem is too small, too embarrassing or too “out of bounds” to talk about. The service is available 24 hours anywhere in Australia.

(Free call: 1800 55 1800)

**Mobile Library**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct**

(Second week of holidays)

**School Security**

During previous school holidays, several young people were on school premises without permission. They were participating in unsafe practices and damaging school property. It is unfortunate that this has happened and I would like to take the opportunity to remind all parents and community members that all schools are covered under the ‘Enclosed Lands Act’ which means that the school grounds are private property and permission by the school principal must be obtained for anyone to be on the grounds.

This was put into place by the Dept of Education to protect not only the school and its property but also anyone else who might be on school grounds. It would be very helpful if our parents, students and community members could be vigilant, especially during school holidays and ring the police if they suspect there are people on school grounds without permission. I would like to thank you for your support in this matter.

Help Protect YOUR school, your children deserve it!

Phone: 6681 8699 (Police)

Phone: 1300 880 021 (School Security)

Please note that ALL incidents of trespass are referred to the School Security Directorate for recording and /or appropriate action.

**Last day of Term 3**

This Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Sept

**First day of Term 4**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct

Have a safe & happy holiday everyone, see you all next term!
Top Tips from DET

Reduce, reuse, recycle

Australians throw away 3.3 million tonnes of food every year – up to a quarter of the country’s food supplies - mainly because we purchase too much. Consider planning your meals and only buy what you need. Reduce packaging in your child’s lunchbox and use re-usable containers rather than plastic wrap where possible. It also leaves our school grounds much cleaner!

Mobile Maths Games

Channel your child’s interest in playing mobile apps into a chance to improve their maths skills and recall. The free School A to Z app has a Maths Monkey game to help test times tables and the follow-up app, Maths Monkey’s Quest ($1.99), challenges kids from Yr 2 to Yr 8 with addition, subtraction, ratios and percentages. Both apps are created by the NSW Department of Education and are available for Apple iPhones and iPads, and Android phones and tablets. You’ll find links to both here: http://bit.ly/oSREYV

Attachments

• Concert photo page
• Ballina Presbyterian Church 100th Birthday Party Fun Fair Flyer

PERMISSION NOTE

The Black Spot Swimming Program - (Yrs 5 & 6)
Ballina Pool, (Weeks 2 - 8, each Thursday)

I am able to organise transport for my child to attend the Black Spot Swimming Program each Thursday, (weeks 2 - 8 in Term 4).............. YES / NO (please circle)

If you circled YES, please complete permission & return to school URGENTLY ie. by THIS Friday 19th September.

I give permission for my child/ren........................................................................................................ to participate in The Black Spot Swimming Program at Ballina Pool each Thursday between 16th October & 27th November 2014. I understand that transport is by private car.

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