GOOD LUCK STATE SWIMMERS!

The very best of luck to Kirsty G-J, Jasmine C, Riley G and Sally C who will be competing in the State Swimming Championships in Homebush TOMORROW! What an awesome achievement - the school community is extremely proud of our students reaching such a high level of competition!

URGENT!! ALL FAMILIES! (INFORMATION UPDATES REQUIRED)

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Student's current enrolment information was sent home last week. We require parents to check each one carefully & update where required AS A MATTER OF URGENCY!

It is CRITICAL that parents pay special attention to the parent employment section of your child's enrolment form as the schools funding is based on the information you provide in this section. Under the new school funding model introduced by State Government, part of the schools budget is allocated based on the occupation & education details of parents. More money is allocated to schools where parents are unemployed or employed in jobs that require fewer qualifications. For example, if you have become unemployed since enrolling your child, we need to know! Having this information may make a significant difference to Empire Vale P.S’s finances, so please return updated forms BY NO LATER THAN NEXT WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL. Thank you for your assistance.

Small School Cross Country Carnival

When: THIS Friday 27th March
Where: Teven Tintenbar PS
Cost: $6.00 per student
Transport: Bus
Alternate date: Friday 24th April (term 2)

The whole school will be participating in the Small Schools Cross Country on Friday 27th March, 2015 at Teven-Tintenbar P.S. K-2 students will be involved in tabloid games until recess. All competitors will walk the track at 10:15am. Running events commence after recess at approx. 10:40am.

Canteen: A canteen will be operating on the day, (no pre-orders this year). A sausage sizzle will also be available.

Students will need to:
• Wear sports uniform & hat
• Wear appropriate footwear (no spikes or football boots permitted)
• Bring a packed morning tea, lunch & drink bottle, if not ordering from canteen.
• Apply sunscreen before coming to school

Parking Information: For parents wishing to attend, you are welcome to park on the school grounds if you arrive before 9.30am. At this time, there will be a block at the front entrance. No one will be able to leave until the conclusion of ALL races - usually 1.30pm.

If you arrive after 9.30 or need to leave before the end of the races, you will need to park in the surrounding streets. Please don't block anyone's drive way. The road between the school and Fredericks Lane (near the rainforest entrance) is a private road - please do not park there at all.

Please note the fixed equipment is out of bounds for the duration of the carnival, including pre-schoolers, as there is no teacher supervision in this area.

Wet weather arrangements: Regardless of weather conditions, students are to come to school as normal. In the event of severe weather, a postponement will be broadcast on AM Radio Station 2LM from 7.30am. If this occurs, the bus will be cancelled & students will remain at school for classes. Please ensure they have a packed lunch.

Have a great day everyone!
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 1-5 minutes in duration depending on age group, see attached information. All students will be presenting their speeches to their classes in weeks 3, 4 & 5 of Term 2. The winners of each stage will present their speeches at a special assembly or public speaking event at the school, TBA.

**Information sheet has been attached.**

- **Round 1:** All students will be presenting their speeches to their classes in weeks 3, 4 & 5 of Term 2.
- **Round 2:** The students chosen from each grade will present their speeches to a visiting judge in week 6 (date yet to be confirmed).
- **Round 3:** The winners of each stage will present their speeches at a special assembly or public speaking event at the school, TBA. Trophies will be presented to the winners of each stage at our week 10 assembly.

**Round 4:** Two students from Stage 2 & 3 will represent the school at the Multicultural Public Speaking Competition to be held at Alstonville PS in week 8 (TBC). These students will also be assessed on their ability to speak on an Impromptu topic.

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**Library Books Return**

As the end of the school term is fast approaching, please ensure that all library books are returned to the school by the end of next week, thank you.

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**PARENT RESPONSES DUE**

Debating Workshop (selected students)

DUE - Tues 31st March

Enrolment Info Updates (ALL families)!!!

DUE - Wed 1st April

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**ANZAC March - Sat 25th in Ballina**

ANZAC Day March, Ballina - Parents & students are invited to attend the Anzac Day March through Ballina on Saturday 25th April.

In the past, parents have already kindly offered to march with those students wishing to attend - all parents are welcome to march with students if they wish. Please let the school know if you are able to march with our school group. Students are required to wear sports uniform & school hat. (Don't forget the sunscreen!)

The group is to assemble in River Street in front of Woolworth's to the Courthouse at approx. 9.45am. The march will commence at 10.15am & end at the RSL Memorial Grant St.

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**Casual Day - last day of school**

Students may wear casual clothing on the last day of school - Thursday 2nd April, for a gold coin donation. All proceeds will be donated to charity. Appropriate clothing must be worn, i.e. no shoe string strapped tops or thongs etc.

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**Attachments**

- Award System Information Sheet
- Debating Workshop EOI
- Public Speaking - ALL students
- Lismore Area Libraries School Holiday info. flyer

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**MOBILE LIBRARY**

Wednesday 1st April
Yesterday, the Senior Class Students participated in an Archibald exhibition tour at The Lismore Regional Gallery. The class were given a grand tour of the Archibald Portrait Prize from the very colourful Miss Peggy Popart, who helped the student to understand and appreciate the works through art discussions, creative movement, a dash of comedy and some fun art activities. They were also given an opportunity to voice their opinion by voting in the ‘People’s Choice’ Award.

Afterwards, the students admired the ‘Young Archie’ Portrait Prize which is currently on exhibition at The Lismore City Library. The students also had the opportunity of experiencing the Lismore Library’s unique ‘Living Book’ program, where they enjoyed listening to the inspiring story of Sara, who shared he story of fleeing the war in Sara Léon and how she is helping to make a positive difference to the lives of children in her home country, through donating books, toys and even shipping container sized mobile libraries!

Thank you for the students and the parent helpers for making this amazing educational experience possible. Mrs Rantissi

Congratualtions Rohan B, Sally C, Gypsy S, Tayla U, Ethan B, Jasmine C, Kirsty G-J, & Riley G who competed against eight other schools to come out triumphant at the Southern Cross Community of Small Schools General Knowledge Day last week. The team worked effectively together to solve problems & find answers regarding a wide range of topic areas. We are so proud of their sensational effort! A big thank you also goes to those parents who transported on the day! Well done Empire Vale!

For those who ordered chocolates as part of the senior school excursion fundraiser this year, chocolates will be distributed next week. Students are permitted to take 2 boxes at a time, however if families require more than 2 boxes over the holidays, we require a parent to pick them up and sign for them. Thank you.
Debating Workshop - selected students

We have 8 places for the debating workshop in term 2. I would like a mixture of year 5 & 6 so that we have year 5s being trained up and the experience of year 6 students assisting them. Whoever has their notes in first with transport organised will be entered to attend on the day.

Places will be filled by a ‘first in, first served’ basis. Please ensure your notes are in promptly.

When: Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} April
Where: Alstonville P.S.
Times: 9:15am register for a 9:30 start. Concludes at 2:45pm
Cost: NIL ($25.00 per student will be covered by the school)
Transport: Private car

A training day is being held for selected senior debaters. The debating training day will be held on Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} April at Alstonville P.S. Students will need to bring along a packed morning tea & lunch as well as some pens and paper, or better yet, a debating notebook in which they could keep all their tips and debating work for the year ahead. Parents must be able to organise transport for those students involved.

Due to short time frame & holidays approaching, permission notes & payments to be returned to the school by no later than next Tuesday 31\textsuperscript{st} March, thank you.

$5000 Classroom Makeover...

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who sent in newspaper tokens as part of The Northern Star $5000 School Makeover promotion! We will submit our 500 tokens & fingers crossed........

Up & Coming Events

March

Thursday 26\textsuperscript{th} (qualifying students)
NSW PSSA Swimming Carnival
Venue: Homebush

Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} (all students K-6)
SS PSSA X-Country
Venue: Teven-Tittenbar PS

Saturday 28\textsuperscript{th} (community)
State Elections
Venue: EVPS

Monday 30\textsuperscript{th} 11:30am
School Assembly
Venue: EVPS

April

Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd}
Last Day of Term 1

Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd}
Good Friday

Wednesday 22\textsuperscript{nd}
Debating Workshop (selected students)
Venue: Alstonville P.S

Health Alert! - HEADLICE

It is that time of year again! With the humid weather upon us, headlice become a problem. There have been reported cases of headlice in the school, particularly the K-3 classroom. Could ALL parents please check their child’s hair for any signs of headlice &/or eggs.

There are many over the counter treatments for headlice, however, smothering your child’s hair with a thick, cheap hair conditioner & combing all signs of headlice out, is also very effective.
PERMISSION NOTE / Expression of Interest

Debating Workshop - selected students only
(Wednesday 22nd April 2015) - FIRST WEEK BACK!

I give permission for my child ................................................................. to participate in the Debating Workshop at Alstonville Public School on Wednesday 22nd April 2015. I understand that transport will be by private car.

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

Signed ………………………………………… Date ………………………………….

Parent/ Guardian

Please return permissions by no later than Tuesday 31st March, thank you.

P&C News

Cake Stall Donations Sought for Saturday Elections – the P&C are looking for any donations of cakes/slices/biscuits, (ingredients listed please), to sell at the cake stall at the Saturday elections here at the school. Donations to be brought into the school this Friday or Saturday morning, thank you.

Easter Raffle tickets were attached last week, to be returned by Wednesday 1st April. Drawn on Thursday 2nd April.

Reminder – Lamington order forms & payment must be returned by today, Wed 25th March!

IMPORTANT CANTEEN NEWS FOR PARENTS!

CANTEEN Term 2, 2015

Just a reminder to parents that there will be NO CANTEEN in the first week back next term (Canteen does NOT operate on the first week back of EACH term).

Canteen will re-commence in WEEK 2, Term 2 2015!

Top Tips from DET

Safetytown website – A road safety education program
This innovative website reinforces the road safety messages that children are learning at school. It provides practical strategies to help families learn how to be safer pedestrians and road users. The seven key road safety messages cover pedestrian safety, car passenger safety, bus passenger safety and safety on wheels (bicycles, foot scooters, skateboards and rollerblades). For further details, visit https://www.safetytown.com.au

Back by popular demand
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

The practical use of maths in the classroom..... The challenge of constructing ballot boxes for this Saturday’s election!

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