School Captains Term 1

Congratulations to our two School Captains for Term 1, 2016. We know Owen & Ethan will do their best in being good role models and leading our students well this term.

Welcome to our new Kinders!

Our new kindergarten students are settling in beautifully & are enjoying being part of the school community! Their bright smiles and enthusiasm are enough to make everyone smile! A big welcome also to new students; Lucia, Liam & Bella who have joined our school this year!

PARENT RESPONSES DUE

District Cricket Trials (selected students)
DUE – Friday 5th Feb

EOI Parent/Teacher Information Sessions
DUE – Friday 5th Feb

Ballina District Swimming Permission & levy
DUE – Tues 9th Feb (qualifying students)

Blue Bus Forms (Yrs 3 only)
DUE – Tuesday 9th Feb

Debating Workshop (selected yrs 5&6 students)
DUE – Tuesday 16th Feb

EOI Mobile Library Card
DUE – Tuesday 16th Feb

Parent/Teacher Information Session

As per the beginning of each year, many of our students not only advance to a new grade but also to a new teacher. It is important that teachers and parents have the opportunity to discuss particular teaching styles, expectations and student’s needs.

Information Sessions are most important for parents who are unsure of the expectation for their child in the new class setting.

As a result the school will be holding a parent/teacher information session for both the K-3 & 4-6 classes:

Monday 8th Feb

K-3 : 11:30am-12:15pm (M. Spencer)
K-6 : 12:15-1:00pm (K. Rantissi)
Reading/Library

4-6 : 1:15-2:00pm (B. Avery)

Please return the attached expression of interest, indicating your preference by no later than Friday 5th Feb, thank you.

Please Note - These are a group meeting not an individual meeting. Individual meetings can be scheduled through the front office as the need arises.
Review - Swimming Carnival

Eligible primary aged students swam their hardest at the 2016 Small Schools Swimming Carnival at Ballina Pool yesterday!

It was a huge day with 5 of our students being awarded age champions!!!

Congratulations to the following students who have qualified to compete in the Ballina District PSSA Swimming Carnival at Ballina Pool on Wednesday 17th Feb.

**Junior Boys**
Toby U: 50m freestyle
Billy W: 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke & butterfly, jnr relay

**11yrs Boys**
Rohan B: 100 freestyle, 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke & butterfly, snr relay (res), PP5 relay
Owen G: 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke, butterfly, 200m medley, snr relay, PP5 relay

**Senior Boys**
Ethan B: 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke & butterfly, snr relay, PP5 relay

**Junior Girls**
Erin G: 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, backstroke & butterfly, jnr relay, PP5 relay (res)
Sally C: 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke & butterfly, jnr medley, jun relay, PP5 relay
Molly W: 50m freestyle, backstroke & butterfly, jun relay

**Senior Girls**
Tilea H: 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke & butterfly, snr relay
Bella M: 50m freestyle, breaststroke & backstroke

**Age Champions**
Jnr Boys - Billy W
Jnr Girls - Sally C
11yrs Boys - Owen G
Sen Boys - Ethan B
Sen Girls - Tilea H

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**Ballina District PSSA Swimming Carnival**

**Date**: Wednesday 17th Feb  
**Start**: 9:00am  
**Finish**: approx. 1pm onwards.  
**Venue**: Ballina Pool  
**Transport**: Students will require private transport on the day which will need to be organised by each individual family.  
**Pool entry**: The cost will be $3.50 per student or parent/spectators to be paid directly to the pool on the day.  
**Permissions notes & levies are yet to be confirmed & will be sent home to qualifying students ASAP.**
Bus Passes: Student bus passes will be issued over the coming weeks, the distribution of bus passes can often take up to several weeks. If there is a change to your child’s regular bus route, please send a note in to the school.

Students entering Year 3 in 2016 are required to apply for a new bus pass. Please complete the attached blue bus form & return it to the school by no later than Tuesday 9th February to ensure uninterrupted bus travel, thank you.

Change to bus run

The bus run, (mornings & afternoons), will now be only ONE RUN - first & second bus runs have been combined. This should make little difference to the pickup/drop off times, however, we will inform you of any possible time changes if they occur.

Just a reminder to parents that students are not to be dropped off at school prior 8.30am, as there is no teacher supervision prior this time & students are to be picked up by 3.00pm.

Empire Vale School Stream App

The School Stream App is available for free download from the App Store. The app is designed to help keep families updated on important school information including our weekly newsletter.

The School Stream App will keep families informed of up and coming events and offers the benefit of sending out ‘multiple audience’ alerts regarding issues such as bus breakdowns and unforeseen school closures.

We are encouraging all families to install the School Stream App and ask for those who are unable to use the device to inform the school, so that they can be listed as needing to be contacted in alternative ways. Please see attached info/instruction regarding this app.

District Cricket Trials

Best of luck to Rohan & Ethan B who will be competing in the Ballina District Cricket Trials on Monday. Good luck boys! Permission note attached - to be returned Friday 5th Feb.

Attachments

- District PSSA Swimming permission (qualifying students)
- Best Start Feedback for Parents (Kinder)
- Application for Tweed-Richmond library cards (new students only)
- Music Tuition Expression of Interest
- Blue Bus Forms (Yr 3 students only)
- School Stream App Instructions
- Canteen Roster – Term 1
Mobile Library Borrowing

The mobile library visits the school every second Wednesday & all students are given the opportunity to borrow if they wish.

An application for a Richmond-Tweed regional library card is attached for new students & kindergarten (Year 4 students that are now in Ms Avery’s class may already have one). **Please return application for Richmond-Tweed library cards no later than Tuesday 16th Feb, thank you.**

Mobile Library procedures:

Students will be able to borrow and return from the mobile library and can also use the same card to borrow and return from other local Richmond-Tweed Libraries. (Alstonville, Ballina etc.)

Parents and community can also utilise the mobile library to return books they’ve borrowed from town to borrow or reserve books. The mobile library is parked outside the school each second Wednesday from 9:30-10:30, including holidays.

4-6 Class: Senior students are responsible their own library card & take their books home until the next visit. Books may alternatively be returned to other branch libraries including Ballina, Alstonville, Lismore, Lennox etc.

K-3 Class: Student library cards are held by the class teacher for safe keeping & are distributed to students on Mobile Library Day. (Please note that you may access your child’s card at any time). Infants students are encouraged to leave their books with the class teacher for the duration of the loan, where they will be accessed during free reading time.

**Please Note:** By signing your permission for your child to receive a card you are showing that you understand that all returns, outstanding loans &/or fees are the responsibility of the parent.

Debating Workshop - selected students

When: Wednesday 24th Feb  
Where: Lennox Head 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 24th Feb at Lennox Head Public School. 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.

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.

Permission notes to be returned to the school by no later than Tuesday 16th Feb, thank you.

Guitar Lessons Info for 2016

Qualified music teacher, Michael Ward, will continue to teach guitar, keyboard & voice this year. For interested new students, an expression of interest for music tuition is attached.

All enquiries to be directed to Michael Ward on 0266 828 283/0457 682 638. Lessons will re-commence next Tuesday 9th February.
EMPIRE VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
Principal: Ms. Bonita Avery
Expression of Interest - Parent/Teacher Information Session

Parent/Caregiver Name………………………………………

I am able to attend Parent/Teacher Information Sessions on:

Mon 8th Feb between 11:30am-12:15pm (Mr Spencer - K-3 only) YES / NO (please circle)
Mon 8th Feb between 12:15-1:00pm (Mrs Rantissi - Reading/Library) YES / NO
Mon 8th Feb between 1:15-2:00pm (Ms Avery - 4-6 only) YES / NO

I/we would like to meet with Mr Spencer / Mrs Rantissi / Ms Avery (please circle), for a one-on-one meeting at an alternative date.

Signed…………………………………………………… Date………………………………………………

Parent/Caregiver

Please return expressions of interest to the school by no later than next Friday 5th Feb, 2016. Thank you

Richmond Tweed Regional Library Card Application (for new students)

Student Name………………………………………………

I have completed an application for Richmond-Tweed library card. I understand that all borrowings, outstanding loans & overdue fees are the responsibility of the parent.

Signed…………………………………………………… Date………………………………………………

Parent/Caregiver

Please return application for Richmond-Tweed Library Card by no later than Tuesday 16th Feb, 2016. Thank you

Debating Workshop – Yrs 5 & 6
(Wed 24th Feb)

I give permission for my child……………………………………to attend the debating workshop at Lennox head P.S on Wednesday 24th Feb. I understand that transport is the responsibility of the parent.

Signed…………………………………………………… Date………………………………………………

Parent/Caregiver

Please return permission by no later than Tuesday 16th Feb, 2016. Thank you