We were very fortunate to have Steve Machell visit the school last week to conduct a sand sculpting workshop with the whole school. This time, Steve took advantage of the brand new piles of sand & did an amazing job of re-creating our school logo!

Students received some expert advice from Steve & had the opportunity to put their new found knowledge into practise! A huge thank you to Steve for the visit - students (& staff) had so much fun constructing some amazing creations!

Parent/Teacher Information Session

Thank you to those parents able to attend this week’s classroom information sessions as well as the session on helping your child with reading. It is important that teachers and parents have the opportunity to discuss particular teaching styles, expectations and student’s needs.

Parents Responses DUE

Ballina District Swimming Permission & levy
(qualifying students)
DUE - Overdue

Blue Bus Forms (Yrs 3 only)
DUE - Overdue

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

EOI Mobile Library Card
DUE - Tuesday 16th Feb

FNC Zone PSSA Cricket permission
(qualifying students)
DUE - Tuesday 16th Feb

EOI Year 6 Silk Art (yr 6 only)
DUE - Tuesday 16th Feb

Healthy Lunch Boxes

Please ensure student lunch boxes contain healthy lunch and snacks. No chocolate, lollies, chips or soft drinks are permitted at school. Below are some great tips to keep your child’s lunchbox healthy & fun to eat! Your assistance would be appreciated.

The simplest way
… to add healthy snacks to lunch boxes

Nutrition Snippet

Kids have little tummies and need small amounts of food often. Try these simple + healthy snack ideas in your child’s lunch box:

- Plain air-popped popcorn (without salt or butter) mixed with sultanas + dried apple
- Dried fruit snack packs: buy them ready made, or make your own at home in reusable containers
- Fruit salads: buy small tubs of diced fruit in natural juice, or cut up small pieces of fruit + make your own!
- Crackers + veg: Slice up some avocado or tomato + send with some rice crackers
- Little vegie bags: cherry tomatoes, capsicum, carrot and celery sticks
- Frozen fruit bags: freeze grapes, orange quarters or strawberries + then send to school!

Remember: kids love small portions, so cutting up fruit + veg will help make sure they don’t bring it home at the end of the day!

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit
Throughout 2016 we will be phasing out the printed version of the school newsletter.

Receiving your newsletter by electronic means will enable you to receive a colour version of the newsletter (handy when your child's photo is in the newsletter ☺) as well as being able to reprint permission notes as needed.

We will continue to provide the printed version in term 1 whilst we switch to the new system. Thank you for your assistance.

Please,
1) Download the School Stream App on your smart devices
2) Provide the school with your email address
3) Bookmark the school Website (The website is not as current as we'd like due to our satellite internet link. We do, however, endeavour to keep the newsletters current)

School Contributions

2016 General School Contribution update is attached. The General School Contribution is paid directly to the school and assists the school in supplying your child with items such as text books, pens, pencils, exercise books, sport affiliation fees etc.

Thank you to those families who have already paid this year’s General School Contributions. Please see attached payment envelopes for convenience, as well as receipts for those who've already paid – thanks ☺)

Mosquitoes / Sunscreen

Please apply insect repellent at home before your child comes to school if they are affected by this. It is Department of Education & Communities Policy that schools do not apply insect repellent to students.

Particularly in this hot weather, we would also recommend that parents apply sunscreen to their children as well, prior coming to school.

Ballina District PSSA Cricket Trials

On Monday, Ethan & Rohan B travelled to Teven Tintenbah P.S to participate in the Ballina District PSSA Boys Cricket Selection Trials. Well done to both boys & a special congratulations to Ethan who has been selected to compete in Far North Coast Zone PSSA Cricket Selection Trials at Brunswick Heads on Thursday 18th February. Best of luck Ethan!

Assembly – DATE CHANGE

A full school assembly is held (usually) in weeks 5 and 10 of each term, however there are occasions where rescheduling is required – this term our assemblies are in weeks 6 & 11. Parents and friends are invited to attend. Children are given the opportunity to present class items &/or work and teachers present awards earned during the term.

Assemblies are scheduled for Mondays in 2016.

Ballina District PSSA Swimming Carnival

Best of luck to the following students who have qualified to compete in the Ballina District PSSA Swimming Carnival at Ballina next Wednesday (17th). We know you will do your best.

Toby U  Molly W
Billy W  Tilea H
Owen G  Bella M
Ethan B  Rohan B
Erin G  Sally C
Snakes Alive!

As we all know, snakes are very active around this time of year. Just a reminder to all students to steer clear of snake-prone areas, & as a precaution, refrain from walking through gardens or lifting up objects where snakes may be hiding.

Suspension Procedures Information

The school is required by the Department of Education and Training to inform all parents that information regarding suspension procedures may be obtained from the school office if required. This information is designed to explain the processes of suspension & expulsion of students from school.

1800 55 1800
Kids Helpline is a service of BoysTown.

Up & Coming Events

February

Wednesday 17th (qualifying students)
District PSSA Swimming Carnival
Venue: Ballina Pool

Thursday 18th (qualifying students)
Far North Coast (Zone) PSSA Cricket
Venue: Brunswick Heads (boys)

Wednesday 24th
Debating Workshop
Venue: Lennox Head P.S

Friday 26th (qualifying students)
Far North Coast (Zone) PSSA Swimming Carnival
Venue: Murwillumbah Aquatic Centre

March

Wednesday 9th (qualifying students)
NC (Regional) PSSA Swimming Carnival
Venue: Kempsey

Guitar Lessons 2016

Students re-commenced guitar lessons this week with Michael Ward. It's great to see so many students continuing their lessons this year! All enquiries to be directed to Michael Ward on 0266 828 283 / 0457 682 638.

Attachments
- Homework–Term 1 2016
- Sandology Feature Page
- Yr 6 Silk Art Information letter
- General School Contributions
- FNC Zone Cricket (qualifying students)
- Safe Parking in School Zones flyer
- Bicycle Rider Safety Rules
Ballina Rugby Union
2016 Registration
Wed 10th & 17th February 5pm
From under 8’s
$95 includes shorts, socks and shirt
Kalinga St, West Ballina
Contact Kahli Milner 0415797494

New Combined High School Update

2016 promises to be an exciting year as we begin the transitioning process for the new school, which will open 2019. I am sure that many of you share the same questions that the staff at both schools have including:

Who will be the Principal?
What will the school be named?
What will the uniform look like?
What will the buildings look like?
How will the learning take place?
How will the build impact on my child?
How will the transition take place?

Over the year we will endeavour to seek clarity around these questions and more. In the next newsletter there will be two survey monkey links. One will be to continue the naming process for the school and the other will be to begin the process for designing the uniform.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Suzanne.page@nsw.edu.au or ring Southern Cross school on 66860503.