The first P and C meeting of 2016 will take place on Monday 1 February at 7pm in the school library.

All parents/carers are welcome. Hope to see you there!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer break with time for rest and relaxation and being with your family and friends. I am looking forward to a great school year. Bellingen Public is an outstanding school for students to grow and prosper in a creative and nurturing environment. A special welcome is extended to our many new families, and of course to those families who are returning to Bellingen Public School. I hope that you all feel at home here.

The beginning of every new school year is an exciting time. It is a time to renew acquaintances and catch up with old friends. It is also a time for new beginnings and facing and embracing changes such as a new class, new teacher and the opportunity to make new friends and help new students to feel welcome and included. Adopting a ‘you can do it’ attitude and being positive and optimistic about the great year ahead will go a long way to helping your child settle quickly into routines and their new class.

The staff at Bellingen Public School is looking forward to making this a successful, productive and happy year with challenging opportunities and engaging learning experiences allowing students to achieve their personal best.

Elizabeth Mulligan
Rel Principal

Classes

Students, parents and teachers alike look forward to students starting the new year in their new class from day one. Last Thursday all students started in their new class with their new teacher. However, the high number of new enrolments will necessitate movement of students this week to reduce high class numbers, especially in stage 3. While not ideal, it is better for this movement to happen now so that the core business of teaching of learning can begin in earnest for the year.

Staffing 2016

Kindergarten
Mrs Sutherland (Assistant Principal), Mrs Matthew, Miss Cowan

Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)
Mrs Mellalieu, Miss Byrne, Mr Hurley, Mrs Jones, Mrs Varadabssso

Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4)
Mrs McFarlane (Rel Assistant Principal), Miss Bugden, Mr Ellem, Mrs Taylor

Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6)
Mrs Sommerville (Rel Assistant Principal), Mrs Head, Mrs Everson, Ms Lee

Release from Face to Face (RFF)
Mrs Wilton

Library
Mrs McFaul

Learning Support Teacher
Mrs Pregnell, Mrs Nelson

Reading Recovery/Music
Ms Hain

School Learning Support Officers (SLSO)
Pauline Taylor, Kristy Livingstone, Lawrence Pastro, Sally Bird, Max Storm, Maree Savedra

A Merit Selection Panel is currently working towards selecting a new Assistant Principal for our school. Mrs Taylor is filling this teaching position for term 1 until this appointment is made and Mrs McFarlane is relieving as Assistant Principal.

It is expected that Mr Ross will return as Principal in term 3 and that Mrs Mulligan will take up RFF.

VALUE FOR THE WEEK
EXCELLENCE

Always try your personal best
Celebrate your achievements & the achievements of others
Be proud of your school

Student Welfare Changes

Classroom Management and Awards
The new Classroom System is shown below. This is the result of many collaborative staff and parent meetings to redesign the existing system. Students and their teachers have already started discussing, listing and actively practicing what “READY TO LEARN” looks like, sounds like and feels like. This would be an
interesting discussion for you to have with your children also. Discuss how this works with your children. A more detailed explanation of this system next week.

**AWARDS** will be value based to align with our fortnightly “focus” value and will be handed out at stage assemblies. These awards aim to give specific feedback and acknowledgement to the students of how they have demonstrated one of our 9 Core Values. The Core Values which we encourage our students, teachers and parents to live by are: Respect Responsibility Cooperation Care Fairness Integrity Excellence Participation and Democracy.

If your child receives a Values Award it is important to “Open up and talk about it with them at home.” You can ask your child when they receive their award ~

What value were you demonstrating to receive your award?

How were you showing that value?

How do you think that made others feel?

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**MUSIC NOTES**

Fantastic news of our acceptance into the 2016 Festival of Choral Music.

30 singers will accompany me to the Opera House on August 31 to take part in the 700 strong choir made up of students state wide. The repertoire is challenging and students from our school will meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons during school time to prepare for this event. I will begin the audition process tomorrow. If your son or daughter wishes to audition the commitment is year long and involves students from stage three. Please
Term 1 – Week 1

Monday, 1 February 2016

encourage your children to audition if you know they have a love of singing. Their pitch must be true and the excursion will cost approximately $300 dollars. In previous years, children have enjoyed this opportunity.

A special thanks to members of 2015 Bellingen Public Choir for their professional audition song which enabled our involvement in this year’s festival.

Kind Regards
Liz Scott, Music Co ordinator

CANTEEN NEWS

Happy New Year to all readers of this auspicious publication. A new school year has begun and 400 odd young impressionable minds (that is approximately 400, not 400 children with odd young minds) come flooding into this institution thirsting for knowledge and keen to broaden their horizons. The canteen is almost ready to go to provide these future scholastic successes with the sustenance they require.

Sadly almost is an apt description as with the passing of time many of the canteen’s volunteer helpers have moved on to other activities and have left the canteen with too few helpers to function effectively. So if anyone reading this finds themselves with some time on their hands on school day mornings your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

To help out in the canteen, please contact the charming and helpful staff in the office or just pop into the canteen and see the charming and helpful canteen supervisor.

Tuesday, the 9th, is Shrove Tuesday sometimes known as “Pancake Tuesday”. The canteen will be selling pancakes at 10 cents each, in the morning before school for a hearty breakfast.

With Chinese New Year on Monday the 8th, the canteen’s weekly special this week will reflect this upcoming celebration. The special will be a selection of wonton and mini spring rolls served with Asian style noodles. The special will not be available until Thursday and Friday when it will sell for $3.50 or $5.00 with a drink

Feeding your children to a better education,
Eddy Vardabasso, Canteen Supervisor

STUDENT BANKING

Welcome back to super savers.
Student Banking starts tomorrow and this year there are great new prizes to redeem your tokens for. If you are not a super saver yet please come to the office and find out how you can start.

Remember banking day is TUESDAY.

AMART SPORTS – COMMUNITY KICKBACKS

Don’t forget if you are purchasing sports equipment nominate “Bellingen Public School” at Amart Sports located at the Bailey Centre in Coffs Harbour. Last year we purchased over $2000 worth of sports equipment through the Community Kickbacks promotion.

Nominating our school if you are purchasing from Amart will benefit the school and your children.

BUS APPLICATIONS

Is your child in year 3 this year and did they previously have a bus pass?
All students progressing into year 3 this year MUST submit a new application form. Students may reapply if they fall under the following criteria.
- The straight line distance from their home address to school is 1.6 km or further.
- The walking distance from home to school is 2.3 km or further.

Students who do not fit this criteria may contact the office for details on how they may appeal and apply for a bus application.

LIBRARY NEWS

Bookclub Issue 1 is being distributed to students this week and is due back at school next Wednesday 10th February.
Library lessons begin this week, students will be told of their library day. Please encourage children to borrow books and provide a library bag for protection of books. Library bags can be purchased from the school library. We still have over 300 books not returned from 2015. Please keep searching for these and return. A big thank you to those who have done this already this year.

Carole McFaul, Librarian

Canteen Roster – February

We are currently seeking new helpers in the canteen. Please call into the office or the canteen if you can volunteer your time.

Diary Dates

February

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1</td>
<td>Kindergarten – Best Start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 1</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting, 7pm School Library</td>
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<td>Tue 2</td>
<td>First day for Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Fri 5</td>
<td>Return date for swimming note</td>
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<td>Fri 12</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
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Bellingen Karate – Wednesday’s
Brett Hannaford will be the black belt teacher at the Shotokan Karate Dojo in Bellingen on Wednesday evenings. Classes match the school terms and the club is a welcoming place for everyone to enjoy the martial art of Karate.
Classes are held at the (air conditioned) Uniting Church Hall in Ford Street Bellingen, with Children’s class running from 5.30pm - 6.30pm, Adults class runs 6.00pm till 7.00pm allowing for shared training for 30 mins. Enquiries can be made to Brett on 0497 336 777, or go to our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/BellingenKarate to keep up with events and activities for 2016.

BELLINGEN FC
SOCCER REGISTRATION FOR 2016
The 2016 soccer season kicks off at the beginning of April and Bellingen Football Club has announced that online registration is open from Feb 1st.
Registration is on-line at www.myfootballclub.com.au
Payment can be made online during registration or in person at the following dates and venues
- Saturday 6th and 13th February at Connell Park from 10am-12noon
- Wednesday 17th February at the Gelato bar from 4pm-6pm.
Check the club website at www.bellingenfc.com.au for all 2016 registration fees.
Also if you have any questions or need help with the online registration please come and visit us at the registration days.
BFC will give you a 10% discount on the fees of the second registration and 20% discount on the fees of the third or more registration per family (the highest age group will count as 1st registration).
Registration will only be complete and accepted if you have paid the fee in full. Late registrations after the 28th of February will incur a $25 late registration fee.
If you would like to help out as a trainer/coach or by volunteering to assist with other club activity, please come along and express your interest. The club is also interested in hearing from young people interested in becoming referees or coaches of youth teams.
For further information, please see the club website at www.bellingenfc.com.au or call Lucas on 04 1309 3304
Please bring any unwanted boots and shinpads to the registration days at Connell Park and the Gelato Bar. These will be sold at a later date for a small fee to any players who have outgrown their old gear.