



Murwillumbah Public School

Promoting Excellence in Education

Newsletter

23rd November 2016 Term 4 Week 7



Principals Message

On the eleventh day of the eleventh month, at the eleventh hour we remembered them at Murwillumbah PS.

Thank you to all of the parents, staff and students who participated in the Remembrance Day Ceremony on Friday 11 November both at school and at the town Cenotaph.

The School Captains, Vice Captains along with Maddi and our choir did a wonderful job hosting the town commemoration to acknowledge the extraordinary men and women who have served and continue to do so in the services. We are indeed fortunate to live as we do. Thank you to all the students who donated flowers for the K-2 service and to Mr Stowe and Mrs Armour for their support and organisation.

We continue to focus on ensuring our classrooms and playgrounds are places where we uphold our school rules. We are consistently reinforcing our rules to ensure our classrooms are places where all students have the opportunity to achieve their personal best and shine academically and on the playground students are to feel safe and happy and enjoy the company of their friends. One of our school values is RESPECT - Students at our

school show respect by actively listening when teachers and others are talking. We know it is very important to respect and accept the rights and differences of others. Caring and treating others the way you would like to be treated is a kind and respectful thing to do. Students can also respect their class members by allowing others to learn. Keep up the good work, kids.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents who met with teachers this week to follow up on the progress of your child. I know the staff appreciated the chance to talk to you about the progress around individual goals that were set by children, parents and teachers back in term 1. We had 78% of families respond to interviews. Thank you for your support and finding the time to meet with staff.

Yesterday I met with all our year 5 children who have been nominated to run for a school captain/leader in 2017. We had discussions around the skills that each student would bring to the position, what they perceived as important issues at our school and why they would make a strong leader. This is part of the new process to elect our leaders. Next Monday at 11.30am all

Principals Message Cont

14 children will present their speeches to the entire school in the hall, this is the second part of the process. Parents are welcome to attend. Our captains and leaders will be announced at the 3-6 presentation evening on Tuesday 6th December after all children have voted (third & final step in the process). All three steps are taken into account when leaders are announced. There will be 2 boy and 2 girl captains announced. The final 4 leader positions can be a mixture of boys and girls, all boys or all girls.

Our year 6 children are eagerly looking forward to their farewell dinner on Monday 5th December in the school hall. Dinner, dancing, speeches, cake cutting and lots of laughs will be on the agenda for the evening. They will be joined by year 5 on the night along with staff. Parents are invited to join us at 7.30pm for presentations and cutting of the cake. Notes to parents were sent out last week.

I hope you can all join us on Tuesday the 6th December for our presentation assemblies. Our K-2 presentation will commence at 5pm in the hall and should finish by 6pm. This will be followed by our 3-6 presentation commencing at 6.15pm. Our music and sport assembly will take place the following day, Wednesday 7th at 9.15am. Please note there will be no afternoon assembly on this day. At the conclusion of the assembly, we will be holding a parent helper morning tea for all parents who have supported our school throughout the year. It is an opportunity for us to show our appreciation to you and we hope you can find time to join us. This will take place outside the hall.

Families would be aware that each year schools have specific days set aside for staff to attend professional learning. These days are usually at the beginning or end of the term. At the beginning of the year families were informed of the proposal for staff to trade off their last School Development Days and instead attend workshops during evening

sessions throughout Term 1, 2 & 3. This was done strategically so our staff could use the professional learning gained, throughout the year, in support of our students.

This year the students will finish school on Friday 16 December. Staff, having already used their School Development Days will also finish on this day.

These changes to the staffs' timetable DO NOT affect dates for our students.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Teachers are in the final stages of completing students' Semester Two reports. A five point scale is used to describe the achievement of each student – outstanding, high, sound, basic, and limited.

These grades are used to show how a student is achieving against the material taught in each subject. They describe the quality of the work a student has produced not the student's ability. These grades are not a pass or fail.

If a student receives an "Outstanding" achievement it is indicating that the child is performing extremely well and is regularly applying their skills, extensive knowledge and deep understanding to new situations.

A "High" achievement may be awarded if a student is performing very well and has consistently met the outcomes at a high level for the reporting period. This will have been evident across a number of assessments and tasks. These students will also demonstrate the confidence, skills and understanding that are going to enable them to easily extend their learning in the area.

A "Sound" achievement means that your child is learning what he or she is expected to learn at the level appropriate to their grade. These students are where they "are supposed to be" in terms of achieving the expected curriculum standard at this stage of their learning.

A "Basic" achievement is telling parents that a

Principals Message Cont

student has achieved some of what she or he is expected to achieve, but that there are some gaps in knowledge and skills. These students are not quite where they “are supposed to be” at this point in time.

A “Limited” achievement indicates that a student has demonstrated only a limited amount of what is expected for students at this point in time and that there are very significant gaps in their knowledge and skills. This indicates that students achieving this grade are quite a way from being where they “are supposed to be” at this point.

What I do want to stress is the EFFORT mark your child receives. Not every child can receive an outstanding, high, etc. for achievement. What they can achieve is a strong EFFORT mark for their application towards class work and application on a daily basis.

We would appreciate a greater emphasis placed on the EFFORT your child receives

on their report. Discussion around this will ensure both the school and home are working together to enable each child to work to the best of their ability.

Have a great week

Les Daley
Principal



Merit Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 6 TERM 4:

KA:	Jara, Kye	3/4L:	Noah, Xanaia
KP:	Willis, Kirra	4/5H:	Sienna, KD, Ryan, Josh
1K:	Poppy, Brooke	5/6G:	Brielle, Rose
1/2S:	Peppa, Eli	5/6P:	Lachlann, Skye C
2P:	Danika, Coby, Chloe	Mrs Taylor:	Jake, Thomas
3W:	Bruno, Blake	Music:	Abigail, Lachlan H
3/4K:	Lauchlan, Sarah		

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MERIT AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 7 TERM 4:

KA:	Eben, Aedan	3/4L:	Robert, Hayleigh
KP:	Aleah, Cash	4/5H:	Vanessa, Kaitelyn, Charlie S
1K:	Nathan, Frankie	5/6G:	Zali, Sunny
1/2S:	Jai, Jack	5/6P:	Molly, Maddi
2P:	Finnian, Danika, Ariana	Mrs Taylor:	Finnian, Sienna R
3W:	Eryn, Lily B	Computers:	Cooper G, Zavier
3/4K:	Ellie, Rishabh	Music:	Lily D, Lynda

Around the School- 5/6G & 5/6P

In 5/6P and 5/6G we have been focussing on giving peer feedback to one another to improve our work. In writing we are using the TAG feedback model where we;

Tell something we like

Ask a question and

Give a suggestion

After receiving feedback from a peer, students edit their work to make improvements. Next they receive feedback from their teacher and make more changes in a final edit.

Students evaluate their writing by using their work and feedback to plot themselves on a cluster wall. They place a marker showing the skills they think they are achieving, and look ahead to see the skills they can work towards next.

In Science students are combining skills in research, technology and communication to produce interactive presentations about space and the solar system.

Once again students will be giving peer feedback to one another, completing marking matrixes where they will evaluate each other's research, technology and presentation skills. Of course they will receive teacher feedback too.

Receiving peer feedback, teacher feedback and completing self-evaluations allows students the opportunity to think critically about their own work and identify their own strengths and weaknesses. We find this process to be more motivating as students enjoy receiving feedback and advice from one another, rather than simply getting a grade from their teacher. It also helps students to honestly reflect on their learning and identify where they need to go to next.



CALENDAR

Term 4	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7	21st November Stage 1 Follow up Goal Setting Meetings	22nd November Stage 2 Follow up Goal Setting Meetings	23rd November Stage 3 Follow up Goal Setting Meetings	24th November	25th November
8	28th November School Band Concert	29th November Band Wet'n'Wild Excursion	30th November Murwillumbah HS Orientation Day for Yr 6	1st December Murwillumbah HS Orientation Day for Yr 6	2nd December Reports Home
9	5th December Year 6 Farewell	6th December Presentation Evening K- Yr 2 - 5pm Yrs 3-6 6:15pm	7th December 9.15am Sport & Music Presentation Yr 6 Parent Meeting Wollumbin HS	8th December Wollumbin HS Orientation Day for Yr 6	9th December
10	12th December 4/5/6 Pottsville Camp	13th December 4/5/6 Pottsville Camp	14th December 4/5/6 Pottsville Camp	15th December 4/5/6 Pottsville Camp returns 2pm - Yr 6 Bell Ringing	16th December Last Day of Term 4 for Students

This Calendar is updated as new information becomes available, so please continue to check over the course of the Term.

Canteen Roster

MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
		25th November Kylie S
28th November Helper Needed	30th November Mandy R	2nd December Lesley L
5th December Noriko H-K	7th December Lizzie L	9th December Kylie S

Community News

LOCAL LIBRARY NEWS - RICHMOND TWEED REGIONAL LIBRARY
Summer Reading Club 2016 - HEROES AND VILLIANS

Reading is an essential skill for every child. It is the vital foundation of a child's learning and engagement in their school years and for life.

The Summer Reading Club encourages children and young people to discover great authors and illustrators of picture books, junior and young adult fiction and non-fiction.

Summer Reading Club activities will run from Thursday, 1 December 2016 until Tuesday, 31 January 2017. Registration is FREE!

Everyone who joins the Summer Reading Club will receive a free Summer Reading Club activity pack to get them started, as well as the opportunity to win the major prize of an iPad Mini. All you have to do is read 10 books or listen maybe even download an eBooks or an eAudiobook for ten hours to enter.

Visit your local library and register NOW!

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