Surfs up! Last Friday the primary class enjoyed a perfect day at the beach with Let’s Go Surfing, otherwise known as, Ocean Life Education Program. Some of the students were a bit nervous in the beginning, but wow did some of them surprise us!

The whole school will be attending the Small School Cross Country tomorrow at Newrybar Public School. A bus was booked for this trip as it is the first whole school excursion for the year. We are hearing that some parents feel there have been too many excursions and costs. We are taking this feedback on board and reviewing future planning as a school and as part of the VoSS (Valley of Small Schools). However we are committed to many events and need to see these through.

We hope you can join us for our Harmony Day Concert and Community Lunch this Thursday. Followed by our Year 6 Student Leader Assembly at 2pm.

Tell Them From Me student survey is underway at the moment for students in the primary class. This new statewide survey will be a valuable tool providing a snapshot of student, parent and teacher views from our small school right through to State level.

C-C-Crazy Hair Day last Wednesday was a hoot. The students and Mr Squires really went to town and lots of laughs were had. All the while we raised $76.80 to donate to the Vanuatu Appeal.

Congratulations to these primary students for 100% homework commitment for Term 1! Bella, May, Tarquin, Carita, Nyha, Yemaya and Nicky will receive a reward this week.

While busy winding up the last few school days on first term the staff will still be busy working on our School Plan, Annual School Report, student reporting and data entry, professional learning, interpreting and teaching the new Australian curriculum, and ensuring our students are receiving the best education and opportunities possible.

Today we are sending home a draft Family Term Planner for Term 2 and 3. This lists the activities and excursions we have planned and costs listed where we know them. Pin this on your fridge and hopefully it helps with your future family budgeting.

Mandi and I would also like to thank students and parents for an improved rate of note and payment returns. We still have a ways to go and will focus on 100% return BEFORE the due day next term.

Wishing you, family and friends a safe and happy Easter break. See you all back refreshed and raring to go.

Tracey Barnes, Principal

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<th>Important Dates</th>
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<td>Tue 31 Mar</td>
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K-2 Corner

K-2 had a fantastic time at Spaghetti Circus on Friday, working through a variety of activities in groups with children from The Pocket, Newrybar, Coorabell and of course, their peers from Goonengerry Public School.

A great deal of fun was had with students learning and experiencing the huge trampoline, trapeze skills, mini tramp / balance obstacles, hula hooping, skipping, co-ordination and paired co-operative activities.

A big thankyou to the Spaghetti Circus team, group leaders and other assistants for a rewarding day, shared experience catering to our unique small schools.

Many thanks to the parents who assisted with transport on the day - hugs.

Regards, Matthew Squires

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the following students for Week 8/9...

‘Rapid Response’ impressive return of notes Nicky

‘Thanks for Coming’ perfect attendance Marley

‘Good on You’ great school citizen Delilah & Simon

K-2 Star Student to Tashi for great writing.

3-6 Star Student to Nicky for organisation skills.

Happy Birthday

5th April  Lucas

NO CANTEEN THIS WEEK due to Harmony Lunch on Thursday.
Newsletter Briefs

Easter reading

Have your kids signed on for the Premiers Reading Challenge? Get a head start with Easter reading time. Booklists are here: What’s your child reading right now? Find out more: https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html

April school holidays

Have you got April school holidays organised yet? It’s not too late to book for a Sport and Recreation Kids’ Camp. Watch the video to see how much fun these kids are having. Find out more: http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps/

Parent-teacher interviews

Have you got a parent teacher interview coming up? Here are some tips for getting the most out of these important meetings. Prepare a few questions to ask, and walk away with a plan. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/en/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/parent-teacher-interviews

School calendar

What’s on when? Stay on top of school holiday, term and state examination dates across NSW. Find out more: http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/calendar/?do=setViewPeriod&categoryid=2&viewType=yearView

P&C News

The Music Program Committee has been hard at work preparing for changes to the way we manage our fabulous music tuition. A letter will come home with each family later this week.

QUICK CHECK:

- Return note: Cross Country tomorrow
- 2015 Book Pack $50 per student due Term 1
- Guitar Hire $20 due Term 1
- Finalise Term 1 accounts please

Join us in Celebrating and promoting great Australian Children’s Authors - In Lismore!

Do you have a young person in your life who loves to read? Then bring them along to meet three of Australia’s best children’s authors right here in Lismore at The Book Warehouse, Keen Street Saturday 18th April from 10.30 am.

Samantha Turnbull is the author of a great new series called The Anti-Princess Club. These girls definitely don’t need rescuing! In her spare time Sam is a slam poet and a journalist.

Tristan Bancks is a writer and film maker. His latest book My Life and other Stuff I Made Up is hilarious and will have you giggling and reading and reading and giggling.

Jesse Blackadder is an award winning author of books for grownups and kids. Her most recent is Dexter the Courageous Koala.

This a free event and we’re very excited. Come and support your local writers and local indie bookshop.
Community News

This could be a big help to low income families trying to cover the cost of the music program for this term and into next year:

Schoolkids Bonus

Important update about the Schoolkids Bonus

Legislation has passed to end the Schoolkids Bonus payments. The Schoolkids Bonus will continue until the end of 2016. This will allow families time to adjust to the change. The last instalment will be paid in July 2016.

An income test will also apply to the Schoolkids Bonus starting on 1 January 2015.

Any updates and news will be published here on the DSS website and the Australian Families Facebook page.

The Schoolkids Bonus aims to help eligible families and students with the education related costs of primary and secondary school studies, such as school fees, uniforms, books and sports, music or other lessons.

Each year, eligible families and students will receive up to:

- $422 for each child in primary school (two instalments of $211)
- $842 for each child in secondary school (two instalments of $421)

Half is paid in January and half in July