



From the committee

The school year is well on its way as we move into Week 5.

Pamper the Parent Day is on Wednesday 14 March and starts after lunch at about 1.45 pm. It is a wonderful way for students to look after their parents with food and pampering. Please put this in your diary as I know from past experiences the students really enjoy the afternoon. Thanks to Tao for his beautiful invitation.

Please look at home and see if they have any **library bags** or **books** at home and bring them in.

For new parents and carers, and those of us who forget - **school starts** at 9.05am and ends at 2.45pm.

Jessica and the lower class are having a **reading morning** this week on Wednesday from 9.30 to 10.30am. This is a great opportunity to come in and be a part of your child's classroom experience, nurturing the love of stories and books. Parents, carers, grandparents or siblings bring a favourite book to share.

The **roster board** is up and ready to go. Have a look and see if there is something on there that may fit into your routine. Put your name next to a job you can do and sign off when you have done it. Some of the jobs can be as little as an hour. So, if its something that can be done on drop off or pick up then that could be a way to fit it in.

The **garden** is coming along beautifully with students weeding, mulching paths and planting both food and flowers. The students get so much joy in placing their gnomes and fairies in their allocated gardens. Friendships are being formed and imaginations developed as they tell stories with their creatures. Nicola would love some more cardboard boxes and newspapers bought in to keep the

weeds at bay along the paths before mulch is laid down.

Nicola is in on Wednesdays and Thursdays and I know that even if you had only an hour to spare she would love your support in the garden. A perfect way to add to your roster hours.

Cheers, *Nicole*



School calendar

Lower's Reading Morning

Families welcome
9.30-10.30am
Wed 28 Feb

Teachers PD

Relief staff:
Kindy – Cath
Lower – Max
Upper - TBA
Tues 13 March

Pamper the parents

1.45 – 3.45pm
Wed 14 March

Upper Kononia Camp

Mon-Wed 19-21 March

Recycling Centre visit

Wed 28 March

Team building

Committee and staff
Thursday 29 March TBC

Karate by the Sea

Wed 4 April TBC

Easter holiday

30 March – 2 April

Last day of term

Friday 6 April

Holidays 7-29 April

Family work day and meeting

29 April

Term 2

Start: Monday 30 April

End: Friday 6 July

Term 3

Start: 30 July

I have loved being a part of the lower class' Thursday activities with Leif and Simon. It is no wonder that the lowers love the day the way they do.

As a part of the parent evaluations last year, it was noted that many parents would like to know more about what goes on in subjects such as music and circus.

Music

This year, Leif is incorporating drama into his music lessons. He begins his class with warm up activities and ventures into Theatre Sports/Games.

The students, through these games will be developing coordination, cooperation and communication skills within the group. The many games of improvisation encourage students to develop and use their imagination; one minute they could be an old man at a bus stop conversing with a ballerina late for rehearsals and the next they could be a translator for someone talking in gibberish.

They need to be quick to make offers and just as quick to accept and continue the improvisation. They are very funny and I look forward to the next show where they will get the opportunity to show off their skills.

The music lessons are student led and give the children the opportunity to explore an instrument of choice, working individually, with a partner or group of students to create a composition.

Once again, the students will be working towards a major performance in Term 3 to demonstrate their efforts.

Circus

Its full steam ahead in Simon's circus class with a great team of talented and experienced individuals, including kindy parent Emma and Freya.

Focus is on core strength, posture and healthy bodies. These aspects are being developed using the mini tramp, ropes, trapeze, acro balancing and tumbling activities.

Simon will also be exploring plyometrics exercises that will increase students speed and strength. Activities such as hoops, juggling, jumping and skipping help to develop that fast twitch tissue that we lose as we get older ☹️

If you want to participate in one of Simon's classes, turn up on Monday morning at 9.30 at the Tuntable Community Hall to see what its all about. It really is a fabulous class. He also has an after school class for kids on Thursdays from 3.30-4.30pm.

Cheers, *Nicole*



Kindy news

Dear Kindy Parents

I am sure that you have enjoyed watching your children settle into big school over the last four weeks. This they have done very smoothly, quickly learning the expectations of the classroom and the playground.

We are travelling along our learning journey of Belonging and Friendship and this also includes our home visit program.

Thank you to Frankie, Sebastian and Ruby who have so far shared their homes and family history with us. A big thank-you to their parents and grandparents for being so patient and welcoming of us!

This week we will be driving to Bella's house on Rose Road. Drivers include: Cath, Mim (Ruby's Grandma) Tiger-Lilly and Deborah. We will need at least five car seats to add to the class ones. Please try to have children at school by 9am.

Our focus in Maths is Number. For the Kindies this means that they are learning to count, recognise and represent numbers from 1-30 and beyond. As many of them have come with knowledge in this area, I have been able to begin introducing early knowledge of place value using Montessori materials and ideas. This has the added advantage of reinforcing their understanding of early number concepts.

We are also using 10 frames as a foundation for number sense. This is basically, two rows of five squares filled with dots or counters to represent the number. And for those children needing extension, more frames are used.

You might have heard their letter-sound chants, a much-loved part of our day! So far we have learned: a, m, t, s, i, f, d, r. This means – great joy – they are just beginning to read and write 2 and 3-letter words!

Most of the children are now taking home readers. Please help your child return her/his bag to school each Tuesday and Wednesday. New readers will be sent home Monday and Tuesday night only.

We are entering our second and final week of Chinese New Year festivities. Lots of fun as we act out various stories and produce beautiful art pieces. Look out for the class dragon, which is about to make its appearance on the locker room wall.



It would be great for the children to wear mostly red on Wednesday for our Dragon Dance. Please don't worry if this is not possible as we do have red fabric.

Do come in and visit us whenever you feel to and if you have any concerns, please arrange a time to meet with me.

Summer Blessing, *Deborah*



Lower news

I hope you have received your invitation to our Reading Morning on Wednesday 28 February.

We look forward to seeing you there – bring a favourite book to share!

Jessica



Upper news

We have been exploring natural resources and the products made from them. This unit has a strong sustainability focus and looks at renewable vs. non-renewable resources, ethical consumption, modes of production, waste management and environmental restoration.

In maths, we have been looking at place value and decimals while our literacy this term is focussed on journal writing and narrative texts.

The children have been thoroughly enjoying our class text "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind". This is an autobiography of a Malawian child who taught himself about physics and electricity by visiting the library. He then built a functioning windmill to help his starving village using materials from a junkyard.

Our maker-space is nearly complete and I will be purchasing the tools for this exciting addition to our school this week. This space will allow students to explore the inner workings of technology and to create new inventions and artworks from "waste".

At this point I would like to ask parents and the community for donations of scraps of timber (soft-wood such as pine is ideal) as well as old electronics (nothing too big please) or any tools which may be lying around gathering dust. If there are any parents who would like to come in to volunteer their time one lunchtime a week so that the children can use the space and equipment safely that would be fantastic.

The upper camp this term will be on 19-21 March at Kononia Camp Ground in Evans Head. An information sheet and permission slip will be sent home once the costs have been finalized. This excursion is by private vehicle so there will be a form authorizing this as well.

The whole school excursion will be visiting the Lismore Recycling Centre on 28 March. More information about this will also be sent home soon.

Have a fantastic week everybody!

Akash