MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those supporters who braved the elements at our school cross country competition last Friday. The determination showed by the students was outstanding and only injury prevented one or two students from completing the course. Just another reason to be proud of our school.

This week saw the first week of full days for our kindergarten students. They have settled well into life at school and the wearing of uniform, including hats, has been exemplary. Most students have formed friendships and are playing happily in the playground together.

Today was our first P&C meeting for 2015. The P&C meets at 2.00pm in the staffroom. Attending the P&C meetings is a great way of finding out what is happening in school and of finding out how you can help.

Our teaching staff is currently undertaking training in addressing reading disorders in students. We are learning to develop SMART goals for students and carefully consider what the intervention will look like. The next professional learning day will be on March 5 so your child will have a different teacher for half of that day.

Our school is a member of C.O.W.S. This stands for the Community of Wingham Schools. The membership of COWS consists of Wingham Brush, Wingham PS, Wingham High, Tinonee PS, Elands PS, Bobin PS and Mount George PS. This group meets regularly to address school and student needs across the whole group. It is a great way of finding out about great programs which are happening in schools and discussing issues common to all.

Although we like to feel that we can make ourselves readily available to our community, there are some times during the week which many staff have a responsibility to attend certain meetings. As a rough guide, the following table should let you know when staff are unavailable.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Meetings</td>
<td>Every Monday 3.30-4.00pm</td>
<td>Mr Rees, Mrs Newman, Mr McWhirter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Meetings</td>
<td>Tuesdays (Even Weeks) 3.30-4.15pm</td>
<td>All teaching Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage Meetings</td>
<td>Tuesdays (Odd Weeks) 3.30-4.30pm</td>
<td>Mr Rees, Mrs Newman, Mrs Cooling, Mrs Fieldhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Support</td>
<td>Wednesdays (Odd weeks) 8.30-9.10am</td>
<td>Mr Rees, Mrs Newman, Mrs Cooling, Mrs Fieldhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Meetings</td>
<td>Every Thursday 8.30-9.00am</td>
<td>All teaching and support staff</td>
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Regards,

Phil Rees

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS ROSTER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>MARCH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 26</td>
<td>Mon 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K Martin</td>
<td>T Oldham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K King</td>
<td>K King</td>
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<tr>
<td>R Whitbread</td>
<td>K Flewitt</td>
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<td>S Deacon</td>
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<td>Wed 4</td>
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P&C

The P&C AGM will be held on March 25. All P&C and canteen positions will be appointed.

CANTEEN NEWS

CANTEEN MEETING

The next canteen meeting will be held on Wednesday March 4 at 2pm in the staffroom. Those involved in canteen or anyone wanting to become involved are most welcome to attend.

GENERAL PERMISSION TO PUBLISH FORM

A General Permission to Publish and disclose information form is being sent home today with this newsletter. This form needs to be returned to the classroom teacher before Friday March 6. Please ensure there is a tick in the appropriate response box.
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
"Clean Up Australia" inspires and empowers communities to clean up, fix up and conserve our environment. A simple concept became an international success story. Every year Australia wide, hundreds of thousands of Australians get stuck in and Clean Up their local environment by collecting and removing rubbish.

Our school will be participating in this event on Friday February 27. Each class will be designated an area of the school to clean up. A number of gloves and bags will be provided to each class, however if students would like to bring in their own it would be appreciated.

We plan to start our clean up at 1.45pm and it should take around 20 minutes.

All students are encouraged to pick up rubbish on other days to give a sense of pride in their school.

SPAN
Some of you may have heard about the Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPANS) which involves over 100 schools in NSW. We are delighted to announce that our school has been invited to participate. This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in helping health professionals better understand children’s lifestyles such as their physical activity, fitness, food habits and movements skills. A team of specially trained teachers will collect the information on almost 8,000 students from Years K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The survey is being managed by a research team from the University of Sydney.

Children in Years K, 2, 4 and 6 will bring home information about the study and a consent form. If you receive this package, please read carefully the information statement; if you agree to allow your child to participate, please complete the consent form and send it back to your child’s teacher (using the envelope provided) as soon as possible. There is an additional questionnaire for parents of students in Kindergarten and Years 2 and 4. Year 6 students will be completing theirs at school so only need to return the consent form.

The survey will take place at our school on Wednesday 11 March 2015.

YEAR 5/6 AUSSIE BUSH CAMP DEPOSIT
A reminder that a deposit of $100 for attendance to the Year 5/6 Great Aussie Bush Camp must be received at the front office by Friday March 6. Payments can be made between 8-45am and 1.30pm. Total payment is due by Friday April 27.

VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION
Each year the school asks for a small contribution towards the resourcing of the school. This year the voluntary contribution is $23.50 per child or $28.50 per family. This goes towards stationary items and curriculum resources and is excellent value for money as well as significantly assisting the school.

Your payment of this contribution can be made at the front office between 8-45am and 1-30pm.

WINGHAM BRUSH CROSS COUNTRY
On Friday February 20 we held our Stage 2 and 3 Cross Country with all children performing very well. The weather was overcast and damp and the conditions were far from perfect but the gallant Wingham Brush athletes refused to let the rain dampen their performances. It was great to see such fitness, determination and enthusiasm from our students. Our philosophy of “finishing what you start” was very evident and the children should be extremely proud of their efforts.

Our Cross Country Champions for 2015 were:-

8/9’s - Zoe Hatton and Lleyton Moore
10’s – Delaney Todd and Oliver Saxby
11’s – Ashlee Riggs and Kaine Gale
12/13’s – Zali Baker and Sam McIntosh

The winning house was Kingfishers.

Thank you to all the teachers and parents for the support given on the day. Congratulations to all the boys and girls who qualified for the Manning Zone Cross Country which will be held on Friday April 24 (Term 2, Week 1) at the Wingham Sporting Complex. Those children who qualify from the Manning Zone Cross Country will then be eligible to attend the Hunter Cross Country at Broadmeadow Race Track on Friday May 8.

Weather permitting we will be holding the Stage 1 Wingham Brush Cross Country on Thursday February 26 commencing at 9.30am.

RUGBY UNION 7’S GALA DAY
On Tuesday March 24 Wingham Brush will be sending in a Boys and Girls team to participate in the Rugby Union 7’s Gala Day to be held at St Josephs Primary School, Taree. Mr Graham Sonter, Rugby Union Development Officer, will be coaching the children commencing Thursday February 26 from 1.30 – 3.10pm. Mr Sonter is a wonderful help and gives his time very generously.

He is always most impressed with the enthusiasm and discipline of Wingham Brush students.

FREE PAVERS
As a result of works during the holidays we have some pavers available for free. Please contact Mr Rees or Mr Reeve for details.

COMMUNITY NEWS
WINGHAM JUNIOR LEAGUE
Wingham Junior League are holding a “meet the coaches” on Thursday February 26 at Central Park in Wingham at 4pm. All players and intending players are welcome.

TAREE AND DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION
Taree and District Netball Association is calling for any girls turning 11 in 2015 to sign up for the 11 years training squad. If you are interested and would like more information please contact the coach Rachel Latham on 0439 301 270.

LUNG FOUNDATION SEMINAR
A seminar will be held at Club Taree on March 4 from 6-8.30pm on “What you need to know about asbestos” - Are you at risk with potential asbestos in your home? This is a FREE event. Please contact 1800 654 301 to register your interest.

YMCA SWIM-ATHON
YMCA Swim-athon and Family Fun Day will be held at Wingham Memorial Swim Pool on Sunday March 1 from 10am with the swim between 11am and 12pm. For more information check out ymcaswimathon.org.au