Welcome to Week 7
PRE SCHOOL INTO KINDERGARTEN

Great to see our new students faces for 2016 and meeting their new buddies every week. We look forward to having our preschool students here for a whole day next Friday. A reminder that Kindergarten start school on Thursday 4 February 2016. All enrolment forms can be dropped in to the front office along with your child’s Birth Certificate, Immunisation Records and proof of your current address.

WHOOPING COUGH

There is an outbreak of whooping cough in NSW, mainly affecting school aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

If you have any concerns or require further information then please contact your doctor or your local public health unit on 1300 066 055 or visit NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

BEACH TO BUSH

Next week we welcome the water safety awareness program supported by Surf Lifesaving New South Wales. The presenters are very experienced lifesavers from South Narrabeen Surf Lifesaving Club on Sydney’s Northern beaches and look forward to sharing their stories and safety messages to all the students.

P & C

We look forward to celebrating school achievements with the P & C next Tuesday, 24 November, for the final meeting of the year and EOY dinner at the Imperial Hotel at 5:15 pm. Meals will be ordered and purchased by the individual. Everyone welcome

Have a great week!

Jennifer Bird
Principal
Reports
Reports are being finalised and will be sent home in Week 9.

Swim School
Letters have been sent home with Stage 4 students regarding Swim School, which will be held during Week 9 and Week 10. Please complete the slip and return it to the school as soon as possible so we can organise the program. If we don’t have enough students attend we cannot run Swim School due to staffing.

Northern Schools Steer Competition
Mr McGowan and selected students attended the Northern Schools Steer Competition in Narrabri over the last two days. We look forward to hearing their stories in next week’s newsletter.

Coffee Course
Students who attended the coffee service course completed their course in the school’s Hospitality room this week due to an equipment malfunction last time. Students prepared a range of coffees for students and staff, which was very much appreciated. Well done to our Stage 6 students.

Platinum Excursion
Plans are underway for the Platinum Excursion this year. Students who are on the Platinum merit level will be notified of the details as soon as they are finalised. Students who are close to Platinum need to see their Year Advisor for advice on how to reach that level.

Work Experience
Well done to the Stage 5 students who are on work experience this week. We hope you enjoyed your time at your chosen workplace and gained a lot of experience in the field you had worked in.

Scot Crispin & Gary Hansen
Head Teachers

MUSIC NOTES
I have promised the Gwydir Band that we will have an end of year party as soon as they can play "Klezmer!" Last week those who were able to attend went really well and David and I think that if we all practise hard we will be able to play it by next Monday.

So next Monday we will record this piece and after that we will have our band party. The length of the party will be determined by how long it takes us to get the recording right!

Everyone please bring food and drink to share.

We will finish by 5pm and this will be the last Gwydir Band rehearsal for this year.

Remember that from Monday 30th will be the Narrabri workshop.

When I look back at the easy pieces we played at the end of last year (like "Jellybeans") I realise that we have made unbelievable progress this year. I am so proud of you all. Thankyou all for your commitment, support and encouragement over the past 12 months. It has been a great year.

Thanks also to: David Brown, Mr West, the Bingara Band Support Committee, the Principals and staff of all the schools and all our wonderful families for helping to make it all happen.

I am looking forward to 2016 as it promises to be a very exciting year. Already there are quite a few amazing opportunities on the calendar.

I hope you all have a Merry Xmas and a safe and happy holiday.

Robyn Conway
Music Teacher

Warialda High School
Bingara Central School (Thursdays)
Uniform Draw: Congratulations to the following students who have had their names drawn this last week: Chloe Drysdale, Benji Ricardo, Cooper Cory, Dianna Frewin, Andrew Bancroft, Eliza Hansen, Isaak Johnson, Sarah Heaton, Sam Perrin.

Sport: Swimming
Primary students will stay at school for sport this week rather than going to the pool.
Due to the change in Department of Education guidelines in regard to swim schools, we have postponed our swim school until early Term 1 2016.

Beach to Bush
Lifesavers from NSW Surf Lifesaving will be visiting our school next Tuesday morning, 24 November. All students from K-6 will be involved in learning about beach and other water safety. The following topics will be presented to the students.

- General beach safety messages
- Sun smart strategies
- Rip and wave identification
- Sea creatures and first aid
- Rescues and getting help
- Safety in other aquatic environments (pools, creeks, waterholes)

Stage 3 Public Speaking Competition
Students in Year 5 and 6 participated in a Public Speaking competition this week. The adjudicators, Mrs Kidman and Mrs Mill were very impressed with the delivery of the speeches and the wide variety of topics.

The finalists were announced today. These students will present their speeches again next Thursday morning at 9.15am. The winners will be announced at Presentation Night on the 12 December.

Stage 2 students will present a speech that they have been working on to their peers next Wednesday morning.

Transition Day
Next Friday 27 November is our final transition day for our 2016 Kindergarten students. As they are here all day, it gives our K-6 students the opportunity to move up to the class that they will be in next year. Year 6 will spend their day in Secondary.

School Buses
Students have been reminded that the expected Positive Behaviours at School are to continue when travelling to and from school. Students catching buses should also adhere to the rules on the bus to remain safe at all times. All bus students must now line up under the Primary COLA each afternoon where a teacher will walk them down to the buses.

Fundraising
Bingara Central School wristbands are available for purchase for $3.00 each. All money raised will go towards resources to support learning in the Primary School.

Alison Johnson & Jane Kidman
Assistant Principals

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Year 3-12 PRESENTATION NIGHT
MONDAY 14 DECEMBER
6.30pm
ROXY THEATRE

K-2 PRESENTATION & CHRISTMAS
PERFORMANCE
“What! No Santa?”
TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER
12.30pm
ROXY THEATRE

All welcome to attend to celebrate our students achievements.

K-2 CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

We are running a Christmas Raffle and are asking that every K-2 family bring in a Christmas item for the raffle. The raffle will be drawn on K -2 Presentation Day. All items can be left at the office.

Students will be bringing home raffle tickets home tomorrow.

Thank you!
**CANTEEN**

**NOVEMBER**
- Friday 20: Ann Lewis
- Monday 23: Robin Robertson
- Tuesday 24: Michelle Tanner
- Wednesday 25: Julie Drysdale
- Thursday 26: Angela Todd

**SWIMMING CLUB NEWS**

Swimming club is well underway with squad training on Tuesdays, starting at 3.45pm and Wednesdays starting at 4.45pm.

A very successful club night was held last Thursday with the children having a great time and recording some impressive times.

*Club nights will be every Thursday starting at 5pm. It is not too late to join swimming club. Nicole Dixon will be at the pool Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to join you up.*

Membership fees for 2015 are $66.50 for a swimmer and $21.00 for a non swimmer (each child must have a parent as a non swimmer member).

Membership for children 7 and under is free. So join them up and bring them along to club night to participate in some fun races!

See you at the pool.
The Future of Gwydir Shire

Gwydir Shire Council is embarking on a process to consider the long term future of the Gwydir local area. We want to hear from residents what they think about the future of Gwydir, and what Council needs to do to support this.

We want to hear a range of views from the community on a range of topics relating to local government. We are seeking expressions of interest from residents to come together and discuss important issues for the future of the Gwydir local area on 4th and 5th December 2015.

As part of the process, you will be expected to partake in meaningful group discussions about the future of the Gwydir local area. You will be compensated for the time you spend participating.

Please note, your expression of interest is just that – it does not guarantee you will be selected to participate. Participants will be selected on the basis of ensuring a diverse range of views about the future of the Gwydir local area. This initiative is open to residents of Gwydir local area only.

If you are interested in participating, please fill out a short survey including your contact details at www.1ka.si/futuregwydir

To request a hard copy of the survey please call Council Offices – Bingara (02) 6724 2000 and Warialda (02) 6729 3000 and one will be posted out to you with a reply paid envelope.

Expressions of interest close 5.00pm on Wednesday 25 November 2015. Once you have expressed your interest, the University of Technology Sydney may be in contact with you by phone or email to provide further information.