Principals Report

An extremely busy week this week at school. Students have enjoyed participating in extra-curricular activities that not all schools participate in.

Firstly, on Monday we enjoyed a visit from the World of Maths Day Roadshow. Bullarah Public School joined us for this event and we were the only two schools in the area to participate. It brings me great pleasure to offer the students at Mallawa Public School these opportunities. More information is included later in the newsletter.

Secondly, we have planted the new garden bed down with plants purchased using the grant that we obtained last year. It will be nice garden full of colour when they become established. The students enjoyed getting dirty! Also, this week we planted some vegetables in our vegetable patch. Students learnt through both of these exercises that it is important to water plants so that they can survive. Students have now been given the responsibility of maintaining the vegetable patch ensuring that it remains watered.

This coming week will also be very busy, students will be participating in the annual Cross Country and Athletics Carnival on Wednesday. Students have been practising hard during sport over the past ten weeks to be ready for some of the key events. I would encourage all parents to come along and support their child in all the events. It makes students so happy to see that their family is around on days like these to support them even if it is only for an hour.

There has been a lot of discussion this week about Excursions. I would like to address some of the points that have been raised so that everybody is aware.

Excursions are an important part of a child’s education, each excursion that a child attends during school is directly linked to broadening students understanding of the syllabus outcomes. If an excursion does not have any educational outcomes then it does not get approval and therefore does not go ahead. Excursions are also designed for the student’s enjoyment.

For example, the Narrabri Eisteddfod has direct links to the Talking and Listening Strands of the English syllabus and Creative and Performing Arts syllabus. If parents would like to discuss the educational perspectives of each excursion that their child attends please contact me at the school and I will happily discuss the benefits with each of you.

Secondly, still on the topic of excursions - parent volunteers. At Mallawa we are lucky that parents are able to attend overnight excursions with the children (as this is not usually done in other schools). When an excursion is organised it is taking into account the student to adult ratio that is required by departmental policy. I am happy to have more parent volunteers if they are available but those who volunteer need to be aware that they pay for their own trip, it will not be subsidised by the school in anyway. Also as a parent volunteer you are there to assist the Teacher in Charge of that excursion. This means that any discipline or decision making is to be the responsibility of the teacher in charge.

If parents would like to discuss issues arising about the excursion please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Athletics Carnival

The school will be holding a combined Cross Country and Athletics Carnival next Wednesday. Students are to wear school sports uniform, which is navy shorts, polo shirt and tracksuit if it is cold. The Parents and Citizens Association will be having a BBQ on the day. The day will begin the Cross Country at 9:30 a.m.
Dubbo ZooSnooz

Students will be given the opportunity to experience Taronga Western Plains Zoo behind the scenes. As stated in last week’s newsletter we are planning an overnight excursion to Dubbo where students will be treated to a night sleeping in the zoo.

Notes and information have been sent home today.

If parents would like to volunteer to attend the excursion they are most welcome, although we have limited seats and it will be first in first served basis. Please contact me ASAP if you would like to attend.

Parents that are volunteering are doing so with the understanding that they are there to support the teacher in charge which will be Miss Malone. Parents are also required to stay at the camping grounds with the children there will be no alternative accommodation.

World of Maths Day

On Monday, students were treated to a visit from the World of Maths Day roadshow. Students had a great time using maths to solve problems cooperatively in small groups. All aspects of the Maths syllabus was addressed using hands on and interactive equipment. One of the favourite activities was the Frog game which students had to make a secret word by working out which frog was heaviest. I would encourage parents to ask their child about the activities that they participated in, they all had a great time. They didn’t even know they were doing maths!

Narrabri Eisteddfod

All students should have their poems. If your child does not have their poem to practise at home contact the school ASAP. Year Five and Six students will be competing on Tuesday 22nd May and Kindergarten to Year Four will be competing on Wednesday 23rd.

The school will also be participating in the Small Schools Choir section which will be held on Monday 14th May at the Crossing Theatre Narrabri. The students will be singing, ‘Away in a Manger’ as our choral item and ‘Hakuna Matata’ as our conflicting item.

Students will be expected to wear full school uniform on all of these days. Uniform includes boys - navy / grey pants, light blue shirt, new school jumper / jacket. Girls uniform - tunic, red skivvy, navy tights, school jumper / jacket.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 will be participating in NAPLAN testing on the 15th - 17th May. Students have been exposed to the questioning techniques of the test through their homework each week which has been designed to resemble a NAPLAN test question. Students have also been working hard on writing in class, this year the writing task will involve writing an exposition using a stimulus. Please talk to your child about these tests and encourage them to put in 100%.

Gold Coast Excursion

This is the schools major excursion for the year. It was discussed earlier in the year that all students would be included in this excursion. It has been brought to my attention that some parents have concerns about their child going away without them. I would like any parent that has an issue to please contact the school ASAP as I am in the process of finalising details. I would also like any parent that would like to assist on the excursion to contact me as soon as possible so that I can accommodate you in the plans. Again parents are to be aware that they are there to support the teacher in charge and care for all children.

Claim the Date

May
2nd Impact Leadership Year 5 & 6
14th Choir at Narrabri Eisteddfod
15th - 17th NAPLAN Testing
22nd Year 5 & 6 Eisteddfod
23rd K - Year 4 Eisteddfod
25th Moree Zone Cross Country
28th Dubbo ZooSnooz (overnight)
30th SEG Meeting

June
11th Queens Birthday
19th Healthy Harold at Bullarah
29th Quad Sports at Rowena
**This Week**

**Monday 7th May**

**Tuesday 8th May**

**Wednesday 9th May**
School Athletics and Cross Country

**Thursday 10th May**

**Friday 11th May**

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**Best Start Assessment**

Parent Feedback Reports were sent home on Monday with students. I would encourage parents to read through their child’s results and if they have any questions to contact me at the school.

**Moree Show**

The Annual Moree Show was held in the holidays. Unfortunately, the school was not given a book of events as in previous years and therefore not all students entered. Some students entered work that they completed at home with excellent results. Elsie Traynor won the Free Choice section, Hamish Marshall got second in the Free Choice and Lizzie King got third. Elsie Traynor won the Portrait of Mum section and Lizzie King won Most Outstanding Junior Exhibit. Congratulations to all the prize winners.

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**Parents and Citizens Association News**

The Parents and Citizens Association are holding a drink stall at the ‘Moree on a Plate’. We need your help, the day runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Multi Purpose Centre next to Moree Secondary College. Any parents that are able to assist on the day, even if it is only for an hour can you please contact Georgie on 0409 031 940.

**Community News**

**MOREE AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB**

**ANNUAL PRESENTATION NIGHT**

**DATE:** Thursday, May 10, 2012

**PLACE:** Moree Hot Artesian Pool Complex

**TIME:**
Waterslide will be open for MASC Members ONLY between 5:30 – 6:30 pm (free of charge) followed by Presentation at 6:30 pm

Sausage sizzle and drinks will be on sale at the pool.

**Thanks**

2012 Committee