Principals Report

A fantastic week at Mallawa Public School. On Monday, students did an amazing job at the Narrabri Eisteddfod in the Small Schools Choir section. Students were awarded a Highly Commended for their efforts. The adjudicator was very impressed by the size of our students and that they did not get too shy in front of such a large crowd. I was very proud as were the parents that attended with the efforts of the children. It was interesting to see the makeup of other school groups that were performing - we were the only school that had Kindergarten and Year One students participating. Congratulations to all students and thank you to the parents for transporting students on the day.

Also we have had NAPLAN testing this week. Congratulations to Izaak and Dylan who completed all four tests. Results for these tests will be sent to parents in Term 3. It is a big three days for students so well done boys.

This coming week is proving to be extremely busy. We have the Set Poem competition at the Narrabri Eisteddfod on Tuesday and Wednesday. Good luck to all students that are participating.

I am looking towards making the newsletter more informative for parents especially my Principals Report. If parents would like to know more about different aspects of the department I would like to assist you. If you would like to know more about a particular guideline or policy quite often you are not the only one that is wondering. I would encourage parents to ask questions I will endeavour to answer these questions through the newsletter so that everybody is getting the same information.

The hot topic for school at the moment is School Uniforms so I thought I would address the Schools School Uniform Policy.

The School Uniform is developed in consultation with School Management and the School Parent body. We have addressed the School Uniform in various meetings of the Parents and Citizens Association and these discussions have led to decisions and ultimately a new school uniform has been developed.

The wearing of school uniforms by students will assist school communities in:
- Defining an identity for the school by students within its community.
- developing students’ sense of belonging to the school
- providing an opportunity to build school spirit
- enhancing the health and safety of students when involved in school activities
- promoting a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- reinforcing the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment
- increasing the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier recognition of visitors and potential intruders in the school
- promoting positive community perceptions of public education
- Making school clothing more affordable for families by eliminating the risk of peer pressure to wear transiently fashionable and expensive clothes.

A school uniform should:
- cater for all students in the school community in a manner sensitive to gender and local cultural and social issues including cultural and religious diversity
- meet requirements of occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation
- promote the health and safety of students by identifying items necessary for particular activities e.g. items for sun protection
- Include items that are affordable, comfortable, made from easy-care and easy wear fabrics, appropriate for activity and suitable for all body shapes.
- Provide girls and boys with equal access to the full range of school activities include strategies for promoting the wearing of the school uniform.
- Be reviewed regularly and amended as needed.
If parents would like more information regarding School Uniform guidelines / policy you can contact me at the school.

I hope parents enjoy the newsletter this week and have a fantastic week. I will be absent on leave this Friday but will be contactable on my mobile if parents have any concerns.

**Moree Zone Cross Country**

On Friday, the Moree Zone Cross Country will be held in Yetman. Notes have been sent home with those students that were successful in qualifying for this event.

**This Week**

**Monday 21st May**

**Tuesday 22nd May**
Narrabri Eisteddfod Year 5 and 6

**Wednesday 23rd May**
Narrabri Eisteddfod Kinder - Year 4

**Thursday 24th May**

**Gold Coast Excursion**

Notes have been sent home today with students regarding the Gold Coast Excursion. The note that has been sent home today requires parents to indicate if their child is going to attend the excursion or not. The school has already made bookings for accommodation, travel and some activities.

A non-refundable deposit is required at this time of $20. I will then compile a plan for payment.

If your child is not going on this excursion can you please notify the school so that arrangements can be made.

Parent volunteers, due to the style of accommodation that has been booked I am only able to take three additional adults with me, four adults in total. If you would like to assist on the excursion you need to notify the school ASAP. Parents will be chosen on a first in first served basis. Parents that attend will not be there as a parent of their own child they will be in attendance to assist the teacher in charge and cater to the needs of all students on the excursion. A criminal check is also required.

**Narrabri Eisteddfod**

On Tuesday and Wednesday students will be participating in the Set Poem section of the Eisteddfod. Notes have been sent home with students and transport arrangements will be confirmed once all notes have been returned to the school.

**Dubbo ZooSnooz**

**NOTES DUE ON MONDAY**

Thank you to those parents that have indicated if their child will be attending the excursion. It is important that all notes and money is returned to school by Monday 21st May.

For students that are not attending the excursion it is a normal school day and they are expected to be at school. Any child that is absent from school on these days will need to provide a written valid reason for the absence. A casual teacher will be employed and work will be supplied.