Principal’s Report
Hello Again

Week eight has mysteriously passed us by, week nine is upon us and next you know it will Christmas. I am regularly amazed at the rapid passing of time and how we appear to be early in the term on top of it, but lose some perceptive control when we are so often surprised by the approach and passing of events. We’re always assuming it was for next week, or next month but …… no it’s tomorrow?

We are continuing to field enquiries from prospective new enrolments and while we lose approximately six students at the end of this year our numbers will remain reasonably solid for the commencement of 2015. As you are all aware year seven from the beginning of 2015 will be accommodated by the secondary schools and primary schools will not be offering a year seven program. This of course impacts on the school’s enrolment numbers but I believe we will still maintain above ten initially with hopefully more perhaps later in the year.

Website
I have recently updated our website and while it continues as work in progress I am pleased with what I have achieved so far. Currently I am looking at organising a blog posting facility in order to update daily / weekly info and would respectfully request you bookmark the site for further updates, reminders and feedback from our community. I am regularly making changes and welcome your feedback regarding any changes or alterations necessary. I have not yet explored every link but most have been updated and are current. I also intend posting some photos and keeping parents updated while we are on camp through our website around daily activities and photos.

Soccer / Netball
As you are aware we have our soccer netball carnival at Mallawa Drive on Friday. Disappointingly we’ve not received all our permission forms back as yet. As you can see I’ve included a map to assist those who’ve not been to the facility before. I anticipate that most will have arrived by 9:15 / 9:20 am with appropriate footwear, hats, water bottles, lunch (with perhaps some additional snacks) and sunscreen applied. We will be taking sunscreen along as well to ensure reapplication is promoted. We have emailed parents with regard to tuckshop orders needing to be completed by Wednesday this week. There are no shops of any description nearby so therefore it is prudent to ensure you’ve prepared accordingly. I will mention again that this is a school day and full attendance is expected. We are hoping to finish around 2:30 pm in order to provide sufficient travel time for those who travel a little further. This whole day is developed around the opportunity for students to interact with a variety of other children from different schools and participate to have fun. The event can work even better if we have a few supportive parents along to get together to support their children and each other. Hope to see you there.
but that would only be in an extreme emergency.

We will contact parents when we depart Lennox on Wednesday as to our estimated time of arrival back at school. Please support your child by having someone here to pick them up as they will be tired especially after the bus trip. I know they’ll have a great time and we’ll make sure that we take plenty of photos to support the process. If you continue to have any queries, questions or uncertainties please don’t hesitate in letting us know so that we may address your situation sooner rather than later. I want to take this opportunity in advance to publicly acknowledge and thank John and Shana O’Rielley for providing their vehicle and to Mick Spittle for organising a luggage trailer.

Camp – Lake Ainsworth
If finishing week nine with a soccer netball carnival isn’t good enough we’ll be commencing week ten with a trip to Lennox Head for a 2 night camp. We will be departing at 0900 on Monday morning and therefore will require everyone at the school at the normal school time to ensure we can pack and organise in good time.

It will take us approximately an hour travelling time to Lennox and there will be no real rush if we get away at that time. Please ensure you have utilised the packing checklist and children have their morning tea in a disposable container as our first provided meal will be lunch on Monday.

Should you need to contact your child or children during camp I would suggest the following contact information:
Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre
P.O. Box 121, Lennox Head, NSW. 2478
Tel: 1800655248 or (02) 66877168
Fax: (02) 66877920
E: lake.ainsworth@communities.nsw.gov.au
I would suggest that there would be few reasons that contact is necessary however both Danni and I can be contacted via mobile

Classroom
Students in our senior class-3/7 have recently completed their response to Emily Rodda’s ‘Rowan of Rin’. We’ve had many pleasant class discussions over the previous 6 weeks around this story. Students have all provided their thoughts and ideas around how the character of Rowan has grown as a member of a team of villagers departing on a quest into unknown terrain. The mythical village of Rin and how the main character Rowan, a young boy developed and matured makes for great
reading and is one of this great author’s triumphs.

We are currently forging ahead exploring the comparison between books and subsequent films made from the book. Here we’ll be investigating the ‘Lorax’ by Dr Suess and to a greater extent ‘Storm Boy’ by Colin Thiele. I am looking forward to both these as they both have thought provoking storylines.

Our juniors have just completed an in depth look at ‘Our Rooster Jack’, an Australian book by Kathryn Dodd-Farrawell and illustrated by Jason Russell. Here our students explored the rich, colourful language and realistic descriptions of life in Rockhampton as part of a big family and a back yard dominated by a rogue rooster named Jack. While initially, that may not appear unusual, the fact that the toilet (dunny) is located in the back yard adds ‘a challenge’ to visits which we all know are quite necessary. Our boys enjoyed the book and all contributed various ideas and thoughts around Jack’s antics and his eventual demise. This light hearted book was a pleasant, fun exploration into every-day language and a great reminisce for me.

Facilities
We are currently having the large pine trees just inside our western boundary trimmed. This process was commenced last Saturday and I’m confident Mark will complete the job on the weekend. This has provided us with mulch that will be used to revamp our gardens around the school buildings. The P&C are sharing the cost of this project. In addition, we are having shade sails mended over the sandpit/adventure playground.

Veggie Garden
Jodie has volunteered to support the school and students in working in our garden on Monday afternoons. For the kids this is a wonderful arrangement allowing them that specific time each week to get into the garden. As we progress I will be allowing students opportunities during lunch if they wish to work in the garden when it is necessary. We are hoping to install the sprinkler system over the holidays and mulch the garden ready for spring planting in term four. Again, if we have any parents who would like to come out and support or assist on Monday afternoons or any other day for that matter please let us know, you would be most welcome.

Yesterday I finalised our Bunnings account at Nerang to ensure we are able to more conveniently maintain our garden and arrange purchase orders where applicable.

Tennis Courts
Just a quick reminder that as the weather warms up a game of tennis is a great way to generate social interaction and stimulate a whole bunch of community spirit. Bring your balls along, drop your coins in the slot and enjoy a couple of sets of twilight tennis. Don’t forget to grab some happy snaps for the newsletter and the noticeboard at the café.

On that note I hope this newsletter finds you happy, healthy and having an extremely productive week.

Until next term.
Regards
Warren

After School Sport
Next term Jodie will be running After School Sport on both Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Tuesday afternoons will be learning about horse safety and riding. Thursday afternoons the students will then work with real horses. Students must attend Tuesdays (as they will learn important information regarding horses) to be permitted to work with the horses on Thursdays. A full program will be sent home for your perusal. We look forward to Jodie working with our students.

P&C Executives & Officers
At the last P&C meeting the following executives and officers were established:

- President – Sam 0478925996
- Vice President – Mick 0438654725
- Treasurer – Helen 0418774074
- Tuck-shop Officer – Jodie 0418147399
- Uniform Officer – Nicole 0408907929
Numinbah Valley State School

Japanese Dinner

The Bullocks