HUNTINGDON PUBLIC SCHOOL.

NAME: ........................................................................

Fortnightly Newsletter 1. Tuesday, 3rd February, 2015.

Missed a copy of our newsletters? You will find them on our school website. Our school’s website is found at: http://www.huntingdon-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/

RECEIVING OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTERS BY E-MAIL … Please contact the school so we can add your name to our ever growing list of families receiving their newsletters by e-mail. Many thanks!

FEBRUARY MONTHLY PLANNER …

Monday 2nd No Scripture today. Scripture will start at 9.00 am next Monday morning.
Tuesday 3rd BUSWAYS Bus Safety Talk. Visit by bus drivers Mr Robert Sanders and Mr Terry Wright. 9.30 am.
Wednesday 4th School Counsellor Mr Robert Hirst visit.
Thursday 5th Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival at the Wauchope Swimming Pool. Good luck to all students participating! Meet Mrs Elliott there at 9.00 am (Not before.)
Friday 6th Speech Pathologist Mr Craig Suosaari visit.

Monday 9th Huntingdon P & C AGM starting at 3.00 pm at school and immediately followed by our first Huntingdon P & C general meeting for 2015. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Tuesday 10th Safer Internet Day. Mrs Pamela Smith - Learning Support teacher visit. 3.00 pm.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY PLANNER CONTINUED …

Tuesday 10th Safer Internet Day. Mrs Pamela Smith - Learning Support teacher visit. 3.00 pm.

Wednesday 11th Happy Birthday Luke Tomkkins! Hastings Small Schools’ Collegial meeting. Principals and staff. Huntingdon P.S. 4.00 pm.

Friday 13th (EAFS) Mrs Leanne Parker visit. Whole School Assembly Kindergarten RED Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a red item for show and tell.

Saturday 14th Happy Valentines Day!

Wednesday 18th Hastings Camden Haven PSSA District Swimming Carnival. Port Macquarie Pool. Happy Birthday Isabelle Leslight! NSWTF Hastings Meeting. Wauchope P.S. 4 pm

Thursday 19th Happy Birthday Isabella Rollan! Mobile Library Van visit with Mrs Virginia Cox and Mrs Elizabeth Robinson. Students will need their Hastings library cards to be able to borrow.

Friday 20th Whole School Assembly Kindergarten YELLOW Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a yellow item for show and tell.

Saturday 21st Happy Birthday Jacob McDonald! Byabarra Craft Markets. St. James’s Anglican Church 9am – 1pm.

Wednesday 25th Lower North Coast Zone Swimming Carnival. Kempsey Swimming Pool. BAGO Community of Schools’ meeting Wauchope H.S 4 pm.

Friday 27th Schools’ Clean Up Australia Day. Speech Pathologist Mr Craig Suosaari visit. Rebecca Walker visit. Soccer. Whole School Assembly Kindergarten PURPLE Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a purple item for show and tell.

MARCH MONTHLY PLANNER …

Sunday 1st Clean Up Australia Day.
Monday 2nd Happy birthday Lachlan Golden! Seaweek.

Tuesday 3rd World Wildlife Day.
**MARCH MONTHLY PLANNER CONTINUED ....**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| Wednesday | 4 th | Happy birthday Mrs Elliott !  
Lower North Coast Regional Swimming Carnival.  
Lismore Swimming Pool.                          |
| Thursday  | 5 th | Mobile Library Van visit with Mrs Virginia Cox and Mrs Elizabeth Robinson. |
| Friday    | 6 th | Whole School Assembly Kindergarten BROWN  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a brown item for show and tell.  
Gwenda Stanley  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten PINK  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a pink item for show and tell. |
| Sunday    | 8 th | International Women's Day.                                            |
| Friday    | 13 th| Young Australia Workshop. Performance for the small schools at Huntingdon P.S. Cost is $ 4.50.  
Gwenda Stanley  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten PINK  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a pink item for show and tell. |
| Saturday  | 14 th| Happy birthday Emile Luke !                                           |
| Monday    | 16 th| Students leave for Stewart House for two weeks.                      |
| Tuesday   | 17 th| St Patrick’s Day.                                                    |
| Wednesday | 18 th| Huntingdon students present the 2WAY FM Community Radio Station School's Out Program.  
Listen in from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm.  
Gwenda Stanley  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten GREEN  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a green item for show and tell. |
| Thursday  | 19 th| Mobile Library Van visit with Mrs Virginia Cox and Mrs Elizabeth Robinson. |
| Friday    | 20 th| Small Schools’ Tennis Gala Day.  
Wauchope Tennis Courts.  
Speech Pathologist Mr Craig Suosaari visit.  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten GREEN  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a green item for show and tell. |
| Saturday  | 21 st| Byabarra Craft Markets.                                               |
| Sunday    | 22 nd| Happy birthday Shaun Hennessy !                                      |
| Wednesday | 25 th| Happy Birthday Ashwin Nath !                                         |
| Friday    | 27 th| Happy Birthday Lyla Cunningham !                                     |
|           |      | Students return from Stewart House.  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten BLACK or GREY Colour Day. Students wear and bring in a black or grey item for show and tell.  
NSW State Elections. Set up polling booths. 3.00 pm |
| Saturday  | 28 th| Happy Birthday Calleigh Platts !                                     |
|           |      | NSW State Elections. Don’t forget to vote at our school             |
|           |      | Purchase a raffle ticket or cake at the cake stall.                  |

**APRIL MONTHLY PLANNER ...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1 st</td>
<td>National Smile Day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>2 nd</td>
<td>Final school day in Term 1.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Easter Bunny visits.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
|           |      | Mobile Library Van visit with Mrs Virginia Cox and Mrs Elizabeth Robinson.  
Whole School Assembly Kindergarten ORANGE  
Colour Day. Students wear and bring in an orange item for show and tell. |

**APRIL EASTER HOLIDAYS HAPPENINGS ...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>3 rd</td>
<td>Good Friday. Easter holidays start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>5 th</td>
<td>Daylight Saving ends. Put clocks BACK one hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10 th</td>
<td>Wauchope Show Day 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>11 th</td>
<td>Happy Birthday Indyana Hamilton !</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wauchope Show Day 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>18 th</td>
<td>Byabarra Craft Markets.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>St James’s Anglican Church 9am – 1 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12 th</td>
<td>Happy birthday Gideon Marr-Grogan and Mrs Michelle Styles !</td>
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**APRIL TERM 2 MONTHLY PLANNER ...**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20 th</td>
<td>Term 2 School Development Day. All staff return.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>21 st</td>
<td>First day back at school for ALL students. Welcome back !</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>22 nd</td>
<td>Happy Birthday Mrs Wendy Trotter !</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Friday    | 24 th| Happy Birthday Sienna Leslight !  
School ANZAC DAY Ceremony. 10.00 am – 11.00 am.  
Whole school assembly. Kindergarten students will be looking at their Jolly Phonics blends term this. Students are asked to bring in a noun containing aɪ in it. Eg A nail. |
| Saturday  | 25 th| Official ANZAC DAY March. Huntingdon students will be marching in the official ANZAC DAY March in Wauchope.  
Meet outside the Wauchope RSL. 10.15 am – 11.30 am |
| Monday    | 27 th| ANZAC DAY Public Holiday.                                           |
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT …  
WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!  
A special welcome back to all Huntingdon staff, parents and volunteers and students both new and old! 2015 is The International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies and in China they are celebrating the Year of the Sheep.

After the recent rains and humid weather Mr Anderson and Mrs Ellis have been kept extremely busy trying to get our classrooms and school playground looking as good as they did prior to the school holidays. It has proven to be an onerous task with Mr Anderson trying to get most of the mowing completed before school started.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday and it’s great to see everyone returning to school so refreshed and keen to start working at the beginning of the year. It certainly is great to be back! We are anticipating and endeavouring to make 2015 a truly rewarding and enjoyable year for everyone. After all, our school motto is “Having Fun As We Learn.” It certainly looks like it is going to be another busy year.

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTERS …  
We want our school community to be well informed about what is and what will be happening at our school so we will endeavour to send out a newsletter each fortnight. Our newsletters will be sent home every Tuesday unless we have photocopier problems or a power failure stopping us from getting the newsletter out. Please check that you have received the newsletter electronically or have a look for it in your children’s bag when they come home each Tuesday if you aren’t connected to the Internet.

GET YOUR FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER E-MAILED TO YOU …  
If possible we will e-mail you the newsletter every Tuesday. Please contact the school and provide us with your current e-mail address so that this can take place if you haven’t done so already. The number of our families receiving our newsletters via email is increasing and it enables families to read, enjoy and also save any of the weekly newsletters including the colour photographs.

By selecting to receive your weekly newsletter electronically you will also save Mrs Trotter and Mrs Carpenter valuable time and the school money because we do not have to run off as many hard copies.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE …  
This term we are fortunate to have three wonderful ladies in our front office. Mrs. Wendy Trotter will be in every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs. Merridy Golding will be in every Thursday and Friday and Mrs. Cheryl Carpenter is in every Tuesday as well. If you need to call the school for any reason then Mrs Trotter, Mrs. Golding or Mrs Carpenter will be available to assist you on the days they are in.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW KINDIES AND NEW FAMILIES …  
As well as our eleven new Kindergarten students we also had the pleasure of welcoming several new families to our school. Isabella Rollan has re-joined us from Queensland and is in Year 4 and Luke Tomkins has joined us from Long Flat. Luke is in Year 6.

Judging by all of the smiling faces it appears that the majority of our Kindies and new students have settled in really well. Please let me know if this is not the case so we can endeavour to make the transition for all students from Kindergarten to Year 6 a more positive and rewarding experience.

New students Luke Tomkins and Isabella Rollan.

On behalf of all of the staff, parents and students of our school I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome the Barber, Bates, Crombie, Love, Simmich-Peterson, Rollan, Trommels and Tomkins families and their children to our school and we hope that your association with us is a very memorable, happy and rewarding one.
OUR NEW KINDIES RECEIVE THEIR FIRST AWARD! At our whole school assembly on Friday our new Kindies received a special award after having survived their first week at school.

Our eleven new Kindies are all smiles after receiving their award.

SMALL SCHOOLS’ SWIMMING CARNIVAL ... The Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival will be held this Thursday, 5th February at the Wauchope Swimming Pool. This carnival is designed for competent swimmers only and we have been encouraging **all** primary students and any capable students in Year 2 who turn 8 years of age this year and who can confidently swim 50 metres to attend. Our four fastest swimmers will make up our relay team.

If our students are fast enough at the Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival they can then represent the school at the District, Zone and Regional Swimming Carnivals. From there they could go on to the state championships at Homebush. Our last relay team to manage this was in 2009. Good luck to everyone attending!

*Mrs. Janet Elliott* will be Huntingdon’s Small Schools’ Swimming Carnival Team Manager on the day. Students attending will need to bring in their costume, hat and sunscreen, towel, morning tea and lunch as well as something to drink during the day.

HUNTINGDON PUBLIC SCHOOL P & C’S AGM AND FIRST MEETING FOR 2015 ... A reminder that Huntingdon P & C’s Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, 9th February starting at 3.00 pm in our school library. This will be followed by our first P & C meeting for the year. We would love all Huntingdon families to attend and at our Annual General Meeting we will be selecting our P & C Executive for 2015.

Our 2014 P & C President *Mrs. Amanda Platts* is unfortunately unable to fill this position in 2015.

Please make the effort to attend and have a say in what happens in your school. We couldn’t survive without the wonderful support of our P & C Association and we will have some vacant executive positions to fill. Coffee and tea will be available and we will endeavour not to make the meeting a long one.

On behalf of all of the staff, parents and students a **BIG** thank you to our outgoing executive for all of their hard work and efforts during 2014. It really has been appreciated!

**Our 2014 P & C Executive members were:**

- **President** Mrs. Amanda Platts.
- **Treasurer** Mrs. Kylie Magennis.
- **Secretary** Mr. Patrick McCann.
WANTED! CAN YOU HELP? We are looking for all interested, fun loving and enthusiastic parents who would like to volunteer to be on our P & C Executive for 2015. If that’s YOU then please attend our P & C AGM on Monday.

I am really looking forward to catching up with everyone including some of our new parents and families. If you are unable to attend but would like to be nominated for an executive position then please contact the school.

CANTEEN FOR TERM 1… Our 2015 Canteen Committee will meet after our P & C Annual General Meeting to discuss all aspects of our canteen operations for the year. This will include looking at the current items we have on offer and our price list. Hopefully we won’t have to increase our prices as everything else is going up. Our current Canteen Menu with the current price list is attached.

OUR CRUNCH AND SIP PROGRAM…. Each day the staff and students stop working at 10.00 am for ten minutes to have a piece of fruit or crunch on some vegetables such as celery sticks or a carrot. Some enjoy having a sip of water or some fruit juice. It would be appreciated if students have a piece of fruit or some vegetables available each day so they too can join in with this valuable program. Many thanks!

OUR SCHOOL TIMETABLE HAS CHANGED… Please note that our school bell times and school timetable have changed for Term 1 2015 as we trial a change of our lunch and recess times. Our bell times are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.55 am</td>
<td>Bell rings to come in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00 am</td>
<td>School starts. (2 hour morning session.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 am</td>
<td>Crunch and Sip. (10 minutes.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 am-11.45 am</td>
<td>Lunch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45 am-1.15 pm</td>
<td>Mid morning session for 1 1/2 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.15 pm-1.45 pm</td>
<td>Afternoon tea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.45 pm-2.55 pm</td>
<td>Afternoon session. 1 1/4 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.55 pm</td>
<td>Bell rings to pack up and line up for buses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00 pm</td>
<td>School ends. Students go home.</td>
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</table>

Why the changes? We discovered many students were hungry and eating their lunches at morning tea time. Coming out for lunch earlier enables students to not play in the extreme heat of the day.

The timetable change enables us to have a shorter afternoon session when many of our Kindies and Stage 1 students become lethargic and tired. A reminder that this is a trial and our Pupil School Council and the staff will decide if it’s been a beneficial one for everyone at the end of the term.

OUR 2015 SCHOOL NUMBERS … It’s wonderful to have so many new families joining us this year. Currently we have 54 students enrolled and we are anticipating more local enrolments arriving during Term 1 with one new family moving into our local area around Easter time.

The break up of class sizes and numbers is as follows:-

Ms OSZPET has 17 students in her class. Six students are in Year 1 and eleven students are in Kindergarten. Yeah!

Ms Oszpet and her Kindergarten Cricket Team!

Mrs Elliott has 15 students in her class. Seven students are in Year 2 and eight students are in Year 3.
Mr FUHRMANN has 22 students in his class. Nine students are in Year 6, three students are in Year 5, ten students are in Year 4.

The McDonald Family attended our 2014 Annual Christmas Tree.

We are looking forward to making 2015 our most successful and rewarding year ever. We will join the other small schools as often as possible to allow our students to make new friendships. This year our Small Schools' Major Excursion will be to Myuna Bay in Term 3.

**ZERO TOLERANCE TO ANY VIOLENCE, INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE, INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR AND NOT WEARING A HAT AT SCHOOL ...**

At Huntingdon Public School we pride ourselves on having a happy, safe and caring environment so please let us know if your child is experiencing any difficulties or problems at school or on the way to and from school.

With the co-operation and input of our Pupil School Council we have adopted a zero tolerance to any forms of anti-social behaviour and we try to encourage all students to keep themselves safe. Parents are informed by way of a note if their child or children are violent in any way, use inappropriate language, behave inappropriately at school or on the bus or forget to wear their hat. We ask for your co-operation in these matters.

This is a copy of our **Conflict Resolution Procedures** chart.

**Huntingdon Public School's**

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROCEDURES**

If someone annoys or pesters you at Huntingdon Public School then please remember to follow these **five steps**:-

1. Politely tell them to stop what it is they are doing because you don't like it.

2. Ask them why they're doing this? Both of you then try to come up with a resolution so it won't happen again.

3. If they continue to annoy or pester you then go and tell someone in your network. You should have at least five people you can go and talk to about any concerns you have.

4. **DON'T** retaliate! If you do you could get into trouble too!

5. Remember to always be:

   - COURTEOUS ☺
   - CONSIDERATE ☺ and **CO-OPERATIVE ☺**

   Let's try to make our school and the world a better place by being kind, caring and spreading good 'ripples'!

**HAT PRICES ...** At Huntingdon School the welfare of your children is paramount. This includes protecting them from skin cancer. We have and enforce a **No Hat No Play In The Sun Policy**.

Please ensure your child has and wears their hat every day!
Congratulations to our newly elected 2015 school leaders. They were announced at our Final Assembly. We are looking forward to working with you so we can continue to make our school the special place that it is.

Our school leaders in 2015 are :-

CAPTAINS: - Jorjia-Rose Styles and Thomas Driver
VICE CAPTAINS: - Amelia Paulson and Jye Baker.

Congratulations Captains Jorjia-Rose and Thomas!

We have selected our 2015 Pupil School Council representatives from each grade. Our Pupil School Council meets on the first Monday of each month and plays a big role in helping to determine the needs of the school and the needs of all of our students. The input of the Pupil School Council helps us in the effective running of our school.

Congratulations Vice Captains Amelia and Jye!

Patrick, Flinn and Cooper. Our new Kindies also get a say when our Pupil School Council meets on the first Monday of each month.

WEEKLY TIMETABLES / ORGANISATION 2015 ...

LIBRARY / BOOKCLUB: - Please note that Library will be held on Tuesdays for the Infants, Wednesdays for the Middle Primary students and Thursdays for the Upper Primary students, each week. A reminder that students will need to bring in their library bags so that they can borrow books without getting them damaged.

Please also note that students who don't take good care of the books that they borrow and who lose or destroy them will be given a note explaining that the book has gone missing and parents may be asked to pay the replacement cost.
Mrs McCann has sent out our first book club order. Orders are due back at school on Monday, 23rd February. Please encourage your child to read on a regular basis each night. At Huntingdon Public School all children know that “...students who read – succeed!”

LIBRARY BAGS ... Please provide a library bag for your child. Any heavy duty cloth bag will be fine. We are unable to let students take books home without a suitable bag to protect them.

SCRIPTURE ORGANISATION ... Scripture classes will start next Monday. Sadly Mrs Phyllis De Verteuil has retired and will not be returning to teach the Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 students Scripture. Currently, a replacement for her is still to be found.

Aunty Colleen will be back to teach the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 students. Our Scripture lessons are multi denominational and they go for half an hour every Monday morning. Mrs Driver has very kindly been taking the Jehovah’s Witness Scripture class and Mrs McCann takes students who are exempt from Scripture in the Ethics Class. If any of our new parents would like their children to be exempt from Scripture classes then we need to have this confirmed in writing please.

NEW SCHOOL UNIFORMS ... A big thank you to Mrs Amanda Platts and any other mums who have helped with the ordering and sorting of our school uniforms. If your children have outgrown their uniform and you would like to donate any items to our Pre-Loved Clothing Pool then this would be greatly appreciated.

MR ANDERSON AND MRS ELLIS ... Mr David Anderson is our General Assistant and he will be in every Thursday during 2015. Mrs Gwen Ellis keeps our school looking spotless and great. She will be in every day after 12.45 pm.

BUS SAFETY TALK / BUS PASSES ... We always remind our students about acceptable behaviour and safety while travelling on buses at the start of each year. Please note that we are giving out students’ 2015 bus passes as soon as they arrive, although some should have already been sent to you during the holidays by mail. Please check that the information on them is correct and let us know if it isn’t.

Please note that it is important and a legal requirement that students have their bus passes with them every day. We suggest securing them to their bags in some way so that they don’t become damaged or lost. Lost bus passes have to be replaced by parents. This includes bus passes that have gone through the wash or have fallen apart. It costs $11.00 to get a replacement.

BUS SAFETY TALK ... Mr Robert Sanders and Mr Terry Wright from Busways visited the school today to talk to all students about keeping themselves safe when they travel to and from school on the bus.

SCHOOL CANTEEN ... Students are allowed to purchase a wide variety of healthy canteen items after they have eaten their lunch and their afternoon tea each day. My thanks to Canteen Organiser Mrs. Michelle Styles for organising these. New supplies of yoghurts, poppas and a wide selection of healthy snacks are currently available. We will send home an updated price list after our P & C Annual General Meeting and after our 2015 Canteen Committee has met.
2 WAY FM SCHOOL’S OUT PROGRAM ... Once again Huntingdon students will be given the opportunity to participate in the School’s Out program during 2015 at the 2WAY FM Community Radio Station located next to the Wauchope Swimming Pool. Our guest panellist will once again be Mrs Julie Anne Murphy. During 2015 we will only be presenting the program once a term. I will be calling for all interested students who would like to attend from Years 2 – 6 and they will be given a permission note to complete and return.

KEY LEARNING AREAS.

LITERACY FOCUS... We have purchased new resources including new readers and Basic Skills work books for students to help them with their Grammar, Spelling, Vocabulary and Punctuation. All Year 4 and any new students in the Upper Primary classroom have already received a copy of their Essential Facts and Tables Book and Word Companion book. These books are theirs to keep and use. Hopefully they will also come in handy when they go to high school.


Unfortunately Mrs Besseling is still not well and therefore is unable to come in this term to implement the special computer skills program. We are hoping that she is well enough to return to do this later in the year and we all wish her well !

NUMERACY FOCUS. We have continued to use Mathletics this year and will continue to work on improving all students Maths skills including the learning of their 2x – 12x Multiplication Tables in the Upper Primary classroom.

ON-LINE MATHS RESOURCES ... If your child needs a Maths Dictionary and you have Internet access at home then look up the following site. It’s excellent !

http://www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com/dictionary.htm

There are also more than 200 Maths Charts available for you to print and use at home. I always tell students to paste an A3 copy of the Multiplication Times Tables on the inside of the toilet door so they can practise them even in the toilet.

USING THE COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY ... This year we will continue targeting improving students’ literacy skills with a focus on utilising our Interactive Whiteboards, I-pads and technology in all aspects of teaching and learning. We will continue to use the Reading Eggs and ZIPTales reading sites for students to use on line if they would like to at school as well as at home.

http://www.ziptales.com/

User name:- hunting15 Password :- hps

ART AND CRAFT:- We are always on the lookout for some skilled parents or grandparents to help the students with their art, craft, needlework and sewing skills. If any of our new parents or grandparents wish to be involved in Art and Craft or any aspect of school then you are more than welcome to. Please let us know if you would like to be involved.

Huntingdon Public School has won the highest points score at the Wauchope Show for more than twenty years and this year we hope to continue to display the many talents of our students.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT ... We pride ourselves on the level of parental and community involvement that occurs in our school. We would, however, like to see an even greater involvement of parents and our school community in various aspects of our Literacy and Numeracy Programs plus the other Key Learning Areas. These can include Swimming, Athletics, Music and Creative Arts, all Sports, P & C meetings, attendance at Working Bees and other P & C functions.

We are always looking for your suggestions on ways that we can improve parental and community participation in all aspects of school. We will discuss some of these at our first P & C meeting on Monday.

EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESS CHANGES:- If any parents from returning families have had their Emergency Contact...
Information changed since last year then please contact the school so we can amend our records. Many thanks !.

HOMEWORK ... Weekly Homework Contracts for all of the Upper Primary students have been given out and will be given out every Monday. All primary students are asked to read for approximately 15 to 20 minutes each night.

Our students with some of our wonderful volunteers at our 2014 Special Helpers’ Morning Tea.

HAND HELD ELECTRONIC GAMES, MOBILE PHONES, JEWELLERY, LIPSTICK, AEROSOL CANS, TOY KNIVES, GUNS AND OTHER TOY WEAPONS ... Please note that these are not to be brought to school by students unless they have been given permission to do so. Eg Book Week dress up days. If students have their electronic games stolen or accidentally broken then it can be very costly. We have lots of games and activities for students to occupy themselves with at school. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

If any student needs to use a mobile phone after school they need to hand these in to their teacher when they get to school with a note from parents explaining why the phone is at school. It will be returned by 3.00 pm.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILDREN AFTER SCHOOL :- Please note that if you are picking up your children in the afternoons then we require you to come into the school to pick them up. For safety reasons we do not allow students to run across the car park area as they could be run over. Your co-operation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK ... Food for thought !

If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change. Dyer

OUR WINNING BACK TO SCHOOL JOKES OF THE WEEK ...

Q ... Why are fish so smart ?
A ... Because they always swim in SCHOOLS !

Q ... Why did the teacher see an OPTOMETRIST ?
A ... Because she was having problems with her PUPILS !

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO ... everyone who celebrated a birthday during the holidays. They are:-

Harry Jakobsson who celebrated his birthday on Friday, 2nd January.
Ms Katherine Oszpet who celebrated her birthday on Tuesday, 13th January.
Flinn Trommels who celebrated his birthday on Saturday, 24th January.

Many happy returns !

Flinn Trommels celebrated his birthday during the holidays.
OUR PHONE WAS OUT OF ORDER … Due to recent heavy rains we had no telephone or fax connection for several days last week. To overcome this problem we are looking at purchasing a school mobile phone so it’s possible to make any emergency calls in these situations.

OUR MOBILE LIBRARY VAN WILL BE HERE ON THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY… Students are reminded to bring in their Port-Macquarie Hastings Library cards so that they are able to borrow books from the Mobile Library Van on Thursday, 19th February. Students who have not joined or who have lost their Library cards will be able join when the van arrives or prior to that if they have filled in the appropriate form.


THIS FRIDAY IS KINDERGARTEN BLUE COLOUR DAY … Every Friday afternoon at our Whole School Assembly we ask all students to find and bring in ONE coloured item so that our new Kindergarten students can learn their colours. This week it is the colour BLUE and next Friday it will RED.

Students are also able to come to school wearing something that is the colour of the week if they would like to. Last year we had a fantastic display of interesting items that the students not only brought in but also talked about. Students also enjoy having a mufti day every Friday and being able to wear something different each week.

Bailey Gavin, Leo Kidd, Nicholas Atkins, Calais Gavin and Indyana Hamilton with their winning BLUE items they brought in last year.

THE PAINTERS ARRIVE … Last week the painters completed painting the Principal’s Office and pressure cleaned the outside of the Administration Building to remove all mould and dirt. It now looks great!

It’s amazing what a coat of paint can do!
SPECIAL MENTIONS / THANK YOU's ...

A BIG thank you to Mrs. Sheila Gee for her generous donation to our school at our Final Assembly last year. We will certainly put it to good use! Unfortunately Mrs. Gee is unable to come in and assist with reading during 2015 and her input in the Infants and Upper Primary Classrooms will be sorely missed.

A BIG thank you Mrs Gee !

Mr. and Mrs. Gee’s association with our school goes back as long as I can remember and we all hope that she is able to return as one of our wonderful volunteers in 2016!

HEAD LICE, TICKS AND IMPETIGO … Could all families please be vigilant and keep a regular lookout for any head lice, ticks - especially at this time of the year - and school sores (impetigo) that could appear on your children. If you notice any of these things then please contact the school and begin treatment immediately. Many thanks!

COMMUNITY NEWS ...

BYABARRA CRAFT

Byabarra Craft Market is held on the third Saturday of each month in St. James’s Anglican Church, Byabarra between 9 am and 1 pm.

Items for sale include:-

- Quilts, cushions and tablecloths
- Pottery and decorated glassware
- Woodwork items
- Knitting items
- Crochet items
- Jewellery and small clocks
- Cards and much, much more!

Money raised from the sales is used for the much needed restoration of the church building and for missions.

Contact:  St. Matthew’s Parish office, Wauchope - 6585 2019
or
Liz Wilmot, Byabarra - 6587 1232

Dates for Byabarra Craft Markets are:

- Saturday February 21st 2015
- Saturday March 21st 2015
- Saturday April 18th 2015
- Saturday May 16th 2015
- Saturday June 20th 2015