Dear Parents/Carers,

Week 3 Term 1

Tuesday February 12 2013

The first P&C Meeting for 2013 is being held this evening in the School Hall commencing at 6.00pm. Refreshments will be available. This is a general meeting with the focus on building the numbers of Parents/Carers who participate in the P&C by hearing from them information, such as, what meeting time best suits the majority of people. Please come along as the P&C does a fabulous and much needed job in supporting the students at CPS.

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the Annual Swimming Carnival at the Casino Pool last Friday. Mr Bennett did a fantastic job in organising the carnival. As usual, he was well supported by members of staff, students and parents who all contributed to making the day a success. The swimmers who qualified on their times from the carnival will now compete at the Northern Rivers Zone Carnival on Thursday 28 February in Lismore.

The Best Start “beginning assessments” for Kindergarten were completed with individual children during the first week of school. The information and knowledge gained from the assessments is being used to plan lessons so that each individual child’s learning needs are being catered for. Parents/Carers have been provided with a feedback report which contains information about what the teacher has learned about their child. Also included are some ideas for how Parents/Carers can assist their child’s learning at home. You are very welcome to discuss this feedback with your child’s teacher.

Parent information evenings are being held this week for Stages 1 to 3. Stage 1 – Monday, Stage 2 Tuesday and Stage 3 Wednesday. The sessions commence in the school library at 6.00pm with classroom and support teachers available to present information and to answer any questions that Parents and Carers might have. This will be followed by each classroom teacher meeting with the Parents/Carers of students from their class. Please take the opportunity to come along and meet your child’s teacher. You are very welcome.

This year the regular Stage Assemblies will be held in the school hall. Early Stage 1 (Kinder) Assemblies will be held every second Thursday (in even numbered weeks) after recess at 2.10pm. The first Early Stage 1 Assembly will be held on Thursday, February 21. Stage 1 Assemblies will be held every second Tuesday (in odd numbered weeks) after recess at 2.10pm. The next Stage 1 Assembly will be held on Tuesday, February 26.

Entrance to the Casino Public School site is via the gates located at the front of the school, either to the Support Unit or to the front office. Please do not use the gate located at the car park of the School Hall to gain access to the school site. This entrance is used to access the North East Public School of Distance Education. The gate at the footpath leading into the Hall will be opened and provide access to the School Hall when events are being held in there.

Garry Carter, Principal
WHAT'S HAPPENING

12 February  Stage 2 Parent Meeting - 6pm
12 February  P&C Meeting - 6pm - School Hall
13 February  Stage 3 Parent Meeting - 6pm
13 February  AECG Meeting - Cultural Centre - 12.30pm
21 February  Early Stage One Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
25 February  SRC Induction - 9.30am - School Hall
26 February  Stage One Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
27 February  Mufti Day
28 February  Northern Rivers PSSA Zone Swimming - Lismore
05 March    Canteen AGM - 12.30pm
06 March    North Coast PSSA Swimming Carnival - Coffs Harbour
12 March    P&C AGM - 9.30am
13-15 March Year 4 Midginbil Camp

OFFICE INFORMATION

Office Hours 8.40 AM TO 3.30 PM

Notes:
- School Record’s Update Sheet
- Publication of Students’ Names and Photographs
- Information on any Illness, Injury, Allergy and Severe Allergic Reaction Form
- Permission to Leave School Grounds - Kinder - Year 2 will be sent home with the newsletter

Please complete these forms as soon as possible to be returned to your child’s class teacher

School Contributions: Note sent home with newsletter

Absences
Pass Outs
No student is permitted to leave the school grounds for any reason unless special permission is obtained from the Principal. This permission will only be granted if supported by a note from home, the student is leaving in the parent’s company or if the Principal is satisfied that the reason for leaving the school is acceptable.

Parents and care givers who wish to collect their child from school before 3.12pm are asked to obtain a pass out from the office before collecting their child from their classroom. The pass out provides a record of the children who have left the school during the day which is essential in emergency situations and provides evidence why the child is out of school during school hours. If you are taking your child from school for an appointment etc during school time, you should ask at the office for a pass out. Members of the NSW Police Force and Home - School Liaison Officers from the Department of Education and Training have the power (for example in the street or in a shopping centre) to stop children or adults accompanying children of school age to gain an explanation as to why the child is not attending school. The pass out is a concept developed by interagency co-operation, the presentation of a pass out will be accepted by officers of all agencies responsible for the care and safety of children.

Late Notes
Students are expected to attend classes punctually at the beginning of all lessons. If students are late to school for any reason they are to report to the office for a late note before going to their classroom. In such cases the student should be accompanied by an adult or have a note from their parent stating the reason for late arrival to school. This procedure needs to be followed, especially in case of an evacuation, each child needs to be accounted for.

MUFTI DAY

Our next Mufti Day will be on Wednesday 27 February. The students are allowed to wear casual clothes (no strappy singlets please and proper covered in shoes need to be worn). Students are asked to bring along a gold coin donation, this money goes to the SRC who choose charities at the end of the year to donate the money to.
STUDENT ABSENCES

Students learn best when they attend school regularly. Parents or caregivers have a legal obligation to see that their child attends school on a regular basis.

Class rolls are marked each day and are checked three or four times each term by the Home School Liaison Officer. The officer is responsible for ensuring that children in their District attend school regularly and supports families to achieve this. Parents of children who have frequent or unexplained absences are contacted by the Home School Liaison Officer to develop a plan and support to improve the child's attendance.

Parents can advise the school of the reason for a child's absence in any of the following ways:
1. Write a note to the class teacher
2. Telephone the school office and leave a message, or
3. Use the absence notes provided by the school.

All absences need to be explained. This applies to partial as well as whole day absences. The explanation for a child's absence should reach the school within two days of the absence occurring.

Parents who are planning on their child/children being away for an extended period (eg. a family holiday) are asked to inform the Principal in writing as this is a Department of Education requirement. Your child's class teacher will also arrange for lesson materials to be made available for your child to complete while they are on leave.

CANTEEN NEWS

CANTEEN - Weekly Roster

Wed 13 Feb: S Roach, F Frahm
Thur 14 Feb: J Yabsley, S Gill
Fri 15 Feb: J Wilson, K George, S Aarts
Mon 18 Feb: N Tapper, J Donnelly
Tues 19 Feb: C Richards, S Gill
Wed 20 Feb: E Trustum, J Hancock, K Beek

The Canteen Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 March at 12.30pm.
All positions will be declared vacant.

NEW FOR 2013

If children have an order written on a lunch bag with the correct money inside, there will be no need for them to line up anymore. There is a special box at the canteen window for them to simply place their order into.

Danielle Parker – Canteen Co-ordinator

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOKCLUB – ISSUE 1

Order forms for Issue 1 have been distributed to classes. There is no obligation to buy. If you choose to order, please ensure carefully completed order forms and correct payments are made to the Office no later than 9.30am, Tuesday 19 February.

CLASS LIBRARY DAYS

MONDAY: 5G, KP, 1H & 3/4T
TUESDAY: 5/6G, 3S, KS, 1C & 3L
WEDNESDAY: 5/6M, 3/6S, KLS, 2H & 4B
THURSDAY: K/1H, K/3Y, 4C, 5J, 2R & 1D
FRIDAY: 3/6B, 6P, KK, 2D & 1B

Children in Kindergarten may borrow 1 book per week, Stage 1 may borrow 2 books per week, Stage 2 may borrow 3 books per week and Stage 3 may borrow 4 books per week.

Children must have a library bag to borrow. Library bags are available to purchase from the office for $8.

SPORT NEWS

Well done Stage 2 and Stage 3 on a fantastic day at the swimming carnival on Friday. The great behavior and excellent participation of students resulted in another very successful swimming carnival. After a long day of competing GORDON won in a very tight contest.

From this carnival students will be selected to represent Casino Public at the Northern Rivers Zone PSSA Swimming Carnival in Lismore on 28 February. Qualification for this event is based on the time students swam on Friday.
P&C NEWS

Just a friendly reminder....tonight is the evening P&C Meeting trial at the School Hall. Come along for a coffee, snack and chat. See you there. Remember - the Annual General Meeting is 12 March, where we will be putting together the new 2013 committee. Please express your interest to us and come to the meeting.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Dear Parents and Carers,

Casino Public School has for some time, been involved with Scholastic Book Clubs. Eight times a year, your child(ren) will have the opportunity to purchase books and educational products aimed at their reading level (and most importantly their interest.)

Our school receives bonus points for these purchases which can then be redeemed for books and equipment to be used in classrooms.

There is no obligation to buy from any of the brochures, but we do hope you take a little time to browse through them with your child(ren) and consider Book Club as a way of encouraging reading and learning outside normal classroom activities.

Each issue will be distributed to children and dates for ordering will be advised through classroom teachers and through the CPS Newsletter. If you do allow your child(ren) to order it would be appreciated if their name and class are clearly marked on the order form and returned (with correct payment) in advance of the closing date to the Administration Office.

Orders usually take 1-2 weeks to arrive. In the event that items ordered are unavailable, credit vouchers can be supplied for future use, or, alternatively, refunds can be arranged through Scholastic.

Please contact school for further information.

Garry Carter - Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

TRIPLE P – POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

We will be running a Group Triple P Program at Jumbunna. The aim of the group is to teach parenting skills and help parents become more confident by: helping parents to manage common behavior problems, helping parents learn positive ways of disciplining children, improving communication and reducing stress.

Parents can discuss and share ideas about parenting and receive practical ideas about parenting skills that they can use with their children.

Dates: Tuesday 19 & 26 February and Tuesday 5 & 12 March

Times: 5.30 – 7.30pm. Light supper provided.

Cost: No charge.

Facilitator: Wendy Ferguson

Contact Karen McDermott if you would like a place. Telephone: 6662 2866 or karen@jumbunna.com.au

Zumbatomic - Fitness for kids ages 4-12
Monday’s 4:15pm-5pm
Cost: 4-8 years $6 - 9-12 years $8
Zumba - Fitness for adults
Monday & Wednesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm
North Coast Community Church
(between the town pool and tennis courts)
For further details, please contact Fiona 6662 6804 or 0422 326 422

Casino Netball Sign On Days

Saturday Feb 16 & 23, March 2.
Fees for 2013
Senior $165, Junior $150
Netta’s $80, Net Set $50 $70
** $20 discount applies off Senior & Junior fees if registration is paid on the allocated sign on days.

More information: 6662 6610 – 0457 866 610
Facebook – Casino Netball