Dear Parents/Carers,

Week 6 Term 1

Tuesday, March 1 2016

Next week we will be seeing a number of changes to staff in Stage 1. Rachael Gooley will be 2A’s class teacher for the remainder of this year while Ms Anderson is on leave. Rachael has been teaching at CPS over the last two years in Stage 1 classes and has been co-teaching in 2A’s classroom over the past two weeks. Lisa Taylor is returning from leave on Fridays and will be taking 2TG for the full week. Lyn L’Estrelle commenced supporting 2TG as SLSO (School Learning Support Officer) last week. Casey Rankin is working with 2A as SLSO while Cindy Reeves is on leave. Welcome Casey.

Parking signs and markings You should always check parking signs carefully near schools as they are stricter than normal parking rules. The type of parking restriction, and the times which it applies, will be on the sign. Signs and markings you are likely to find near schools include:

No Stopping signs – This means NO STOPPING even to quickly drop off or pick up anyone.

No Parking signs – This means you must remain with your vehicle, and are usually found at drop-off and pick-up areas.

Bus Zone signs – This means buses only, other vehicles will be fined and parked cars may also be towed.

Footpath Parking – This is the path/verge area between a house fence line and the roadway. Council will heavily enforce these areas during school zone operating hours, and on a complaint-basis outside these times.

Reporting parked vehicles If someone parks a vehicle illegally or dangerously they can be given a fine and their vehicle may be towed. You can help keep your children’s school zone safe by reporting badly parked vehicles. Contact Richmond Valley Council on 6660 0300 to report an illegally or dangerously parked vehicle.

Drop-off and pick-up areas Drop-off and pick-up areas are usually allowed in the No Parking zones, where you can quickly set down and pick up your children without leaving your vehicle. They are common outside schools (always on the school side of the road). They create a safe environment for children and keep traffic moving. Drop-off and pick-up areas are signed with passenger loading zone signs or 5 minute parking zones. These signs mean you have a maximum of 5 minutes to drop off or collect your children. (see inside this newsletter for more information)

Garry Carter – Principal
WHAT'S HAPPENING........

2 March        Early Stage 1 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
2-4 March      Year 4 Midginbil Excursion
3 March        Stage 1 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
8 March        P&C - AGM and Meeting - 9.30am
10 March       Kinder Picnic in the playground - 1pm
16 March       Mufti Day  Change of Date
17 March       Stage 1 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
21 March       Harmony Day
22 March       School Photos
23 March       Early Stage 1 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
23 March       Mufti Day
24 March       Easter Hat Parade
25 March       Good Friday
28 March       Easter Monday
31 March       Stage 1 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
6 April        Stage 2 & 3 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
6 April        Stage 3 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
7 April        Stage 2 Assembly - 2.10pm - School Hall
8 April        Last day of Term 1
27 April       First day of Term 2 for students

OFFICE HOURS - 8.30AM – 3.20PM

Please do not phone the office with messages to parents to order school lunches.

Drop off & Pick up of children

When using a drop-off and pick-up area you:
- must use the area like a quick moving taxi rank;
- can get out of your vehicle to quickly help your children get in and out safely (once in the signed area). However, you must not walk away from your vehicle;
- are only allowed 5 minutes in the signed area (if you take any longer you can be fined);
- should only let your children out once you have pulled into the signed area (it is dangerous to let them out while waiting in a queue);
- should teach your children to look out for your vehicle and to get in quickly when you pull up; and
- must enter front in (never reverse).

Fines and Penalties (as of January 2016)
- Disobey No Stopping Sign (School Zone) $319 + 2 Demerit points
- Disobey No Parking Sign (School Zone) $177 + 2 Demerit Points
- Stop on/near Children’s Crossing $319 + 1 Demerit Point
- Stop on/near Children’s Crossing (School Zone) $425 + 2 Demerit Points
- Stop on/near Pedestrian Crossing (School Zone) $425 + 2 Demerit Points
- Stop in a Bus Zone (School Zone) $319 + 2 Demerit Points
- Double Park (School Zone) $319 + 2 Demerit points
- Stop on Path/Strip (School Zone) $177 + 2 Demerit Points

Please send a note in the morning to your child’s teacher after afternoon changes (except in an emergency situation) as this is a large school, with a busy office. It is not always possible for messages to be delivered to students on time.

Students must order their lunch before 9.05am each morning. REMINDER: the canteen does not book up children's lunch.

The school canteen does not take calls from parents to order school lunches.
SCHOOL PHOTOS
The school photos will be on Tuesday 22 March. The envelopes will be sent home next week. There is a bit of a change this year as each child has a pre-printed personalised order envelope (please do not lose it). Prices range from $20 for a Group only, $23 for a Portrait only and from $34 to $39 for packs. If you would like sibling photographs, you will need to collect a sibling envelope from the office. Packs are $15 & $20. All students need to return their envelope on the day (even if not purchasing) and taken to the photographer. Payment can be cash, money order or online payments, CHEQUES are no longer accepted. Correct cash needs to be placed in the envelope, no change will be given from the office.

PLASTIC BOTTLE LIDS
3/6T still need plastic bottle lids of all shapes, sizes and colours. Thank you to those who have bought some in already, if you have any lids for Mrs Turner & 3/6T to use, please drop them off to the school office. Many Thanks, Mrs Turner & 3/6T.

AWARDS

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SWIMMING FOR SPORT
Please ensure that your child has their swimmers and $3 entry to the pool on their swimming day.

YEARS 1 & 2: TUESDAYS
YEARS 3 & 4: FRIDAYS
YEARS 5 & 6: THURSDAYS

MIDGINBIL
The Year 4 Midginbil excursion is this week. The bus will be leaving the school at 9.30am on Wednesday 2 March, students will need to be at school by 9am for roll call. They will need to bring a packed lunch for their first day. The students will be participating in activities such as: Initiative Games, Pioneering, Rock Climbing, By the Creek and Canoeing. Payment should have been finalised by now and Consent and Medical Information Forms completed and returned to the school.

YEAR 6 CANBERRA
An expression of interest letter has been sent home to all Year 6 students for the Canberra Trip. The excursion is organised for Term 3, 28 August to 2 September. The proposed cost of the excursion is approximately $550. Please complete the form on the back of the letter showing whether or not you would like your child to attend and return to the school. Based on the information received from these expressions of interest a determination will be made to proceed with the excursion or not.

P&C NEWS

THE UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY 9AM TO 12 NOON. HATS AND UNIFORMS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE FROM THE OFFICE.

The AGM will be next Tuesday March 8, 9.30 in the Cultural Room where all positions will be declared vacant with the new 2016 committee being voted in. New members welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.
SHIPPING CONTAINER

The P&C have purchased a shipping container that has now been delivered. This will be used to store all the P&C's equipment in one central location.

EASTER RAFFLE

With Easter approaching the P&C will be holding its annual Easter Raffle. Tickets will go home this week. Tickets are $2. If you need more books there will be more books available at the office. All eggs for this raffle are donated by the P&C. All tickets either sold or unsold must be returned to the office as soon as possible. The raffle will be drawn on the 23 March 2016. Proceeds will be used towards playground upgrades and equipment. GOOD LUCK!!!

1st Prize: Large Basket of Easter Eggs
2nd Prize: Medium Basket of Easter Eggs
3rd Prize: Small Basket of Easter Eggs
4th Prize: Gift Pack of Easter Eggs

Next term: The P & C will be holding a Mother's Day Stall. Notes will go home early next term. Gifts will be able to be purchased for mum, nana/grandma, auntie, carer or that someone special. It is important to pre pay for your gifts when notes are sent home as this ensures that there are adequate gifts available.

Thank You

I would like to thank my 2015/2016 committee for their continuing support and dedication towards the P&C and the school. My thanks also go to all of our volunteers that make it possible to hold our events. Volunteers are a vital part of our P&C. A special thanks to all of the Casino Public School Staff and wider community that have also supported our efforts. I wish all our committee members, members, volunteers and staff the very best and to the future incoming committee for 2016.

Yours sincerely Alison Bienke - 2015 P & C President