Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to the CPS swimmers pictured who were champions at CPS Swimming Carnival and went on to compete in the Northern Rivers Swimming Carnival in Lismore. Breanna Skinner (not present in the photo) and Martin Roberts received the NR Zone PSSA Para Athlete Swimming Champion trophies. Congratulations also to Xailyn Ellis and Kalani Ellis who qualified to compete in the North Coast PSSA Swimming Carnival in Coffs Harbour tomorrow. We wish them every success in their events.

On Monday next week CPS will be farewelling Mr Gray who will be taking long service for the remainder of the year. Ian has been teaching at CPS since 1988. Mr Gray will be very much missed by students and staff. His quiet and sincere manner has earned him respect from us all. Enjoy your leave Ian and we do hope you will drop into CPS to say hello. Thank you from all of us at CPS.

There have been some rearrangement of staffing to begin next week. Mr Frost will be teaching RFF on Monday and Tuesdays in the Support Unit and taking Mr Gray’s place in the preschool and computer lab for the remainder of the week. Ms Mclean will be taking 3/6SF on Wednesdays and 1/4BF on Fridays.

This term our school will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Students in Years 4 to 6 have the opportunity to complete this online survey. More information about the survey is available at: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents. The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. The Department of Education is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students’ personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law. This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school before Tuesday 22 March. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above. Each student in Years 4-6 has received a consent form to take home with today’s newsletter.

Garry Carter – Principal
The school canteen does not take calls from parents to order school lunches. Students must order their lunch before 9.05am each morning. **REMEMBER: the canteen does not book up children's lunch orders.**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

The school photos will be taken on Tuesday 22 March. The envelopes have been sent home today. This year, each child has a pre-printed personalised order envelope (if your child has recently enrolled and did not receive an envelope, please come to the office).

**PLEASE DO NOT LOSE YOUR ENVELOPE!!!** If you would like sibling photographs, you will need to collect a sibling envelope from the office. Payment can be cash, money order on online payments, **CHEQUES are no longer accepted**. Correct cash needs to be placed in the envelope, no change will be given from the office. Students bring the envelope (with correct payment inside) and give to the photographer on photo day.

**YEAR 7 - 2017**

All Year 6 students were given a “Moving into Year 7” guide and expression of interest, regardless of which high school your child will be attending, please complete the forms and return to the office by Friday 18 March.

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

Students need to bring their swimming gear and $3 on the day (to be given to the teacher).

**SWIMMING FOR SPORT**

**YEARS 5 & 6 - THURSDAYS**  **YEARS 1 & 2 - TUESDAYS**  **YEARS 3 & 4 - FRIDAYS**
AWARDS

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<td>Tarryn &amp; Brielle</td>
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LIBRARY NEWS - BOOKCLUB ISSUE 2

Order forms for Issue 2 have been distributed to classes. If you would like to place an order, please ensure fully completed order forms and correct payments are made to the office no later than 9.30am, Wednesday 16 March.

MESSAGE FOR 6C STUDENTS

6C students are reminded that their homework this term is selecting items off the GREAT BARRIER REEF MATRIX that interest them and completing these by Friday Week 9 this term. Some class-time is also allocated for these individual projects, however they should also be creating these at home. Our other homework is "RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS" and Reading for 15-20 minutes a night. Let's continue to achieve greatness 6C.

HEADLICE

Head lice are still going around the school. Please check your child's hair and treat if necessary.

EASTER HAT PARADE

Early Stage 1, Stage 1, the Support Unit and the Djanenjam Pre-school would like to invite all parents/carers, grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends to our Easter festivities to be held at Casino Public School in the Central bottom playground. The children will be parading wearing hats which they will be making in their classrooms. A variety of dances will be performed for your entertainment.

When: Thursday 24 March Time: 10.00am to approx 11.00 am Easter Bunny: Will be making an appearance Easter Raffle: Drawn after dancing Children may wear casual clothes on this day.

A whole class photo with the Easter Bunny will be taken and can be ordered from the front office after the Easter break for $1. Look forward to seeing you at the parade; we all know just how much the children enjoy showing their families just how clever they really are!!

MEGA EGG DRAW

Once again, to celebrate Easter, Stage 2 and 3 are going to have a Mega Egg Draw! It will be held in the School Hall at 12.15 on the Thursday before Good Friday after Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 Easter Hat parade.

We are asking each family from Stage 2 and 3 at Casino Public School to make a donation of one Easter egg or Easter gift to the school. We will then package them up into prizes.

Every student in Stage 2 and 3 will get a ticket in the draw! Every student will have a chance to win!

Easter Eggs and gifts can be handed into the front office or to the classroom teacher. Thank you for your support!

THE UNIFORM SHOP IS OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY 9AM TO 12 NOON

The AGM was held this morning the 8th March 2016. Then new committee will be announced in next week's newsletter.

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
**EASTER RAFFLE**

With Easter approaching the P & C will be holding its annual Easter Raffle. You should have received your tickets now. 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 24 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.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Where:** Commercial Hotel Casino  
**When:** Friday 11 March from 5:00pm  
**Who:** Val McLean

Come along and join us for a sausage sizzle in the beer garden

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**How your donation can help**

- $36 can give emotional support to help someone overcome the initial shock of being diagnosed
- $58 can provide free transport to someone who is too ill to drive before and after chemotherapy
- $80 can give a regional family a free place to stay close to treatment in the city, for one night
- $120 can fund a scholarship to give essential support to a major blood cancer research project, for one day

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**How to Sponsor Me On Line:**

Go to [worldsgreatestshave](http://worldsgreatestshave) and follow the links, type Val McLean in the name boxes.