PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Our enrolments in 2015 have now increased to 310. This is positive news for our school. We have changed a few of our daily routines to accommodate this increase in student numbers. Most noticeably we now only have one daily assembly. The students now line up at the classrooms in the morning and after lunch. Daily assemblies are held after recess where general announcements are made. Also as part of this change, students in K-2 and 3-6 now meet in separate areas. With smaller numbers at the different assemblies we have found that students are more attentive and assemblies are shorter, ensuring students are in classrooms more quickly. We have been impressed with the students’ reactions to these changes.

Last year I consulted with the Department of Education and Training - Assets to discuss the issue of movement for students, staff and parents from the trees down to the oval. After this positive conversation we are pleased to announce that contractors are here for the next few weeks to build some steps down to the oval. We are very excited that everyone will now be able to access the oval in a safe manner. Photos will be published when the steps are completed.

Rita Pittman, Principal

“Don’t let what you can’t do stop you from doing what you can do.” - John Wooden

DIARY DATES 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm – staffroom Zone Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Stage 3 swimming commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>School photos</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MERIT CERTIFICATES

At last week’s assembly, Merit Certificates were awarded to the following students:


ASSEMBLY

All parents and carers are welcome to attend the school assembly held each Friday in the school hall at 12.15pm. This week's item will be presented by 5/6B.
LIBRARY NEWS

It is wonderful to see children from Kindergarten through to Year 6 keen to borrow and read books of their choice from the school library. Parents, carers and grandparents you don’t have to miss out on all the fun of reading. I encourage you to join in the fun and read loud the books your children bring home from the school library. Children are never too young or too old to enjoy you reading aloud to them. Here’s is a lovely thought from Australian author, Mem Fox:

When we take the time to read aloud to children in our lives we bond closely with them in a secret society associated with the books we’ve shared. The fire of literacy is created by the emotional sparks that fly when a child, a book and the person reading make contact. Don’t forget: “You’re never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child.” Dr Seuss.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all the swimmers who participated in our annual carnival. There were some fantastic war cries from each house and Parkes received the trophy for the best decorated house area. The students dressed in their house colours and could be heard encouraging swimmers from their house beside the pool. Many students improved their PB (Personal Best). School Champions for 2015 are:

Junior Boy: Joshua Wicks
Junior Girl: Ellie D’Elboux
11 Years Boy: Jordan Barwell
11 Years Girl: Taliyah Scarr
Senior Boy: Jordan Darby
Senior Girl: Josephine Manks

The winning house for 2015 was Macquarie. Thankyou to the following parents who helped with timekeeping:

Roslyn Deal, Susan Watson, Ian Scarr, Renae & Andrew Gilbert, Maxine Manks, Masako Urquhart, Monique Farmer, Mrs Aiken, Emma Tisdell, Mrs Wicks & Mrs Moore. Special thanks to Mrs Moore for making her delicious banana cake for the staff and timekeepers.

The Zone Swimming Carnival will be held Wednesday 25th February at the Taree Aquatic Centre. Congratulations to the following swimmers who have qualified for the Zone Swimming Carnival:

Josephine Manks, Taliyah Scarr, Lea Urquhart, Kate Rourke, Joshua Wicks, Damien Manks, Sean McDean, Jonathon Aiken, Jacob McDean, Reid Watson, Emen Smith, Jordan Darby & Mitchell Smith.
SWIMMING

All students in 5/6B, 5/6W & 4/5J will be participating in a weekly swimming program at the Wingham Pool. This will now be commencing week 5. Every level of swimming ability will be catered for. Our teachers are Austswim trained and will provide swimming activities to encourage students to be water confident and to improve stroke correction for more competent swimmers. We ask you to encourage your children to participate in this vital program to ensure your child can swim.

The cost will be $2.50 for the bus and $2.70 for pool entry. (Season pass holders need not pay).

Lessons will be held every Friday till the end of term.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

WINGHAM FC SOCCER 2015
Register online at live.myfootballclub.com.au. Payment via cash or cheque can be made at the Wingham Bowling Club Saturday 14th & 21st February between 10am-12pm but please note, all registrations must be completed on line. For information call Narelle Walker on 0429655063.

LIFE SKILLS 4 KIDS FORUM
Forum for parents, carers, teachers struggling with children who have difficulties with behaviour at school and home. Limited seating at Club Forster, 16 March 2015, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Book seats ($20 each) at 6555 9877.

BMX COME AND TRY DAY
Manning Valley BMX Club are holding a come and try day on Saturday, February 28 from 10am. No charge. Manning Valley BMX track, Urara Lane, Taree.

WINGHAM JUNIOR LEAGUE
Register online www.winghamjuniortigers.

RITCHIES SUPA IGA
When shopping at Ritchies and by using a community benefit card/tag linked to Wingham Public School, Ritchies will donate money back to us. These cards/tags can be used at ANY Ritchies store throughout Vic, NSW and Qld by staff, students and their families, grandparents, neighbours and so on. If you would like to support our school and you don’t already have a CB card/tag please collect one at the registers next time you shop at ANY Ritchies store. All you do is nominate Wingham Public School, it’s that easy! Use your card or tag every time you shop, even if you only purchase a couple of items it all adds up.