Dear Parents and Carers,

I am really looking forward to our “Meet the Teacher” evening tonight, and from the number of children I have spoken to who have told me they are coming along, we should get a good turn-out. The evening is very informal, with you encouraged to say hello to your child’s teacher and to the families of other children. During the evening I have a couple of things to show you, and then you will be invited to your child’s classroom to hear from their teacher. At this point you will be given the opportunity to book a time at a later date to meet individually with them. We are very keen to hear from you, both giving us an idea of how your child learns best and for you to say what you want for your child this year. Don’t forget, there’s a free sausage sizzle and drink too. I hope to see you from 5pm...

Our continuing focus is to do with respect, with classes participating in lessons to do with showing respect towards others and to the school systems. It is really important for children to hear this message from home as well as school. Please reinforce the message – for our students to be safe, fair and especially learners, they need to be respectful at school.

I am very excited about the classroom sound amplification equipment that has been installed in the K-2 rooms. Whilst both the students and teachers are still getting used to it, the equipment is going along way to ensuring that our children will be able to hear much more clearly. I am sure you can picture the obvious benefits that this will bring. Please feel free to visit a classroom to have a look (or listen!)

You have heard me speak of having your children arriving at school at an appropriate time (before 8.45am is too early). I ask now that you ensure that your child travels straight home after school. We receive regular reports of children visiting shopping centres or other places on their way home, and many times their behaviour can be inappropriate. Please insist that your child travels home straight from school so that they are under your supervision.

Regards

Peter Flannery
Last week students in 3/4Mac were asked to describe what they saw in a picture. The kids generated questions and discussion through observation of the painting, using the ideas they'd created to write their pieces. Their written work is both persuasive and descriptive.

Rocket Tepees - I think the tepee’s are rockets and the sticks are made of hollow bamboo that shoots missiles and one of the sticks bends down and it’s a flame thrower. The Indians are going to fly up to space and have roast alien for dinner. By Maddison

I think that his name might be Dojo. He might be god. Some people are sitting on a chair. I can see a dog sleeping. There are so many people there and there is a river. There are mean people there because they might shoot them. Some people will be nice to them. Some are standing up and he put his hand up. By Jasmin

Fight of the Indians - I think that the people that are sitting down are Indians that live the tepees and are declaring war on the English people who are trying to buy the Indians land. The English people have guns but the Indians have hollow bamboo sticks that shoot sleeping and poison darts. The Indians won the fight. By Netikah

The Story of Fleasus - This guy has a name and his name is Fleasus. Fleasus is holding a meeting, he is telling the people there is a load of meteors about to hit their island. They think they should sail across to another island, but Fleasus said “no we cannot, there is a cyclone in the rest of the world”. So they thought for 5 minutes of silent thinking and then Fleasus said “why don’t we build a shelter out of the strongest thing on earth.” The town agreed. They built a long room, about 3 schools long! It had food for free, drinks for free, they had EVERYTHING! Everyone had 30 minutes to do what they wanted, then they had to sit down to be ready for meteors. Once that 30 minutes was over, they had food and drinks in their hands. They made a count down, 5,4,3,2,1,0. There were 10 loud bangs. Everyone looked around. No one was hurt, they were fine. Fleasus won the world’s biggest trophy. The whole island was happy. THE END. By Mikayla

I think that in this picture the man with his hand up might have just bowed to the man with the helmet on. They might have just had a discussion about something. The dog might be scared of what they’re doing or they are shouting too loud. I really don’t know why some people are under a shelter and some aren’t. By Milly

The tepees are there because the Indians are preparing an attack in case the Germans start shooting the Indians with DK 16’s. The bamboo is used for missile attacks and in the tepees are bow-men with flaming arrows. The man standing up is probably calling the spirits to help if war begins. The dudes under shelter are trying to buy the Indians land. All the other Indians are there to persuade him not to let the men buy the land. By Jay

’Specials’ -
* Fried rice is available to order - $2.00 a serve.
* Banana/Mango smoothies will be available this Friday - $1.00
* Look out for extra counter snacks, from - 50c.

We are urgently in need of more volunteers to help in the canteen. If you can spare an hour or two, a week or fortnight, please contact me. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

*Did you know: Every time you help in the canteen your child/children receive a voucher for a free zooper dooper and your name goes in the draw for an end of term prize,(TBA).

Thanks

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<td><strong>Preparation</strong></td>
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Kindy News

The Northern Star will be having the 24 page liftout keepsake of the Kindy classes on the 25th March.

If you would like to pre-order a copy, you can do so at your local newsagent.

Colleen.
Mrs O is using a microphone in class so we can all hear her voice clearly. It's really cool and she uses it every day! We also have a hand microphone and we have been using it to read stories and recounts. We hope you like our photos.

Years 1-2 Museum Excursion
Clean Up Australia Day
Ballina Public School students joined in on helping clean up Australia this week!

News from 5E

Yes that’s me
Yes that’s me
Look and you’ll see
My hair is long brown and thin
My eyes are big and dark brown
My arms are long, muscly and thin
My hands are small, soft and strong
My heart is loving, caring, sometimes hateful
I’m shy, not really out there
I never miss a chance to play
My friends are the coolest
I live away from family
I hope I become a famous rapper
I dream of rapping
It’s clear as can be
That’s positively absolutely me
By Andrew in 5E

Yes, that’s me
By Chloe
Yes that’s me.
Look and you’ll see.
My hair is naturally brown and thin.
My eyes are the windows to my soul.
My hands are useful and gentle.
My heart is gentle and kind.
I’m kind regardless who I’m with.
My arms wobble when I walk.
I never try to break someone’s heart.
My friends are who I can count on.
I live with lovely family and friends.
I hope my family know they’re loved.
I dream of peace and possibilities.
It’s all clear as can be.
That’s positively me.

News from 5E

Yes that’s me

Yes that’s me
Look and you’ll see
My hair is thin like a ruler.
My eyes have a sparkle like flowers.
My arms wobble when I say good day.
My hands have the touch like a baby bottom.
My heart has never been broken.
I’m into hip hop Music.
I never eat carrot.
My friends mean the world to me
I live in west Ballina

I hope I never fail at what I’m good at.
I dream of being an artist when I grow up.
It’s clear as clear can be
That’s positively absolutely me

By Mariah

Yes that’s me

Yes that’s me
Look and see
My hair is brown and wavy.
My eyes change colour sometimes and are shiny.
My arms are strong and good.
My hands are strong but flexible.
My heart has never been broken.
I’m into hip hop Music.
I never eat carrot.
My friends mean the world to me
I live in west Ballina

I hope I never fail at what I’m good at.
I dream of being an artist when I grow up.
It’s clear as clear can be
That’s positively absolutely me

By Douglas 5E
Band and Choir News

Band
I apologise for cancelling Junior Band rehearsals after school yesterday afternoon with such late notice. To avoid the office staff having to make individual phone calls to parents, I would love to be able to send a text message to as many of the band parents as possible. I will access student files through the office to make a list of these mobile numbers - If you do not wish me to contact you via text message, please advise the office staff of your decision.

Beginner Band
I am so impressed with the calibre of our new band students. I can tell that most students have taken their instruments home and are practicing with some great results. The 4 trumpet players have some very healthy competition between the group and their competitiveness is motivating them to practice more, the same is happening with the 4 saxophone players. Keep up the great work everyone.

Choir
I have almost completed the prototype CD for both Alto and Soprano sections. If your child hasn't paid their yearly fee yet, please have this paid by the end of week 7 because I envisage having all of the CD's and music ready to give out by then. ($20 per student for the year).

Senior/Combined Band
I am off school for the rest of the week because of a back injury so there will be no band on tomorrow morning. I will send a text message to confirm this. Please encourage your students to keep practicing, particularly the Anzac Hymns and Advance Australia Fair as Anzac Day is fast approaching (and this year it is in the school holidays again - please advise me ASAP if you know that you can't make it).

Stay healthy, Yours musically
Amanda Drinkwater

Banking News

Ballina Public School students with their bank books and prizes from school banking. Keep on banking!

PBL Message

This week’s message is the same as last weeks as we are still focusing on being respectful to all and in all areas.

In classes over the next few weeks we will be looking at a few different areas where respect is expected and the ways that we can show it. Some examples of this are:

- looking at a person if you are speaking to them.
- looking at a person if they are speaking to you.
- waiting your turn to speak.
- listening to the person speaking.

All of the above expectations are things we can practise at home.

Other areas we will be talking about in coming weeks are wearing hats at appropriate times and being at the right place at the right time.

Showing respect by speaking appropriately and listening attentively is a skill we can practise in all situations. As always we encourage our families to discuss our weekly expectations and we would love to hear from families who do this over the coming weeks. Let us know what you did at home to enhance this skill.

Our PBL team met last week and are well on the way to developing our action plan for an exciting 2013.

The PBL focus for next week will be wearing hats appropriately.

Yours in bee-haviour
Mrs Parker
PBL Coordinator
Community News and Advertising

These advertisements are accepted in good faith and the school does not vet them. Parents are advised to request further information or credentials, if they seek product use or participation in the activity.

Photo from Years 1-2 Museum Excursion