Dear Parents and Carers,

It is not that often that a teacher at a school moves into retirement after 34 years of service. Nor is it often that a school is visited by the Minister for Education. So it was especially exciting this week to see Education Minister Mr Adrian Piccoli at Ballina PS to present our school leaders with some books for our library and to wish Mr Graham Brown all the best on his retirement. I am sure you would join me in wishing Graham a wonderful retirement and to congratulate him on the magnificent service he has put into primary school education, especially here at Ballina PS. He will be missed!

We are excited to have Mrs Melanie Franklin returning to our school after her maternity leave, and she will move straight onto Year 5/6, with Mrs Louise Owen working on Mondays.

Congratulations Mrs Presgrave
Congratulations are also in order for Mrs Johanna Presgrave who has been appointed as Relieving Principal at The Pocket PS, beginning next term and running through to the end of 2014. I am sure she will do a magnificent job. In her absence Mrs Julie Streader will relieve as Assistant Principal.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
The dates for the annual assessments for Year 3 and 5 students are coming up:
13th May – Language Conventions and Writing
14th May – Reading
15th May – Numeracy
Parents and carers of students in Years 3 and 5 should have received further information about this recently. Please contact the school if you would like to discuss this further.

Year 5 Opportunity Class Placements 2015
Opportunity Classes are provided at various schools to cater for those students who are excelling in their education and who perhaps require extension or acceleration. Over recent years several of our students have attended the OC class at Alstonville PS, and there is another one at Goonellabah PS. If you have a child moving into Year 5 in 2015 and who you think would be suited to this program, please contact me at school.

ANZAC Day
Our school held a lovely, moving service to commemorate ANZAC Day yesterday. Thank you to our school leaders, choir and presenters for the work they put into it. ANZAC Day falls on the last Friday of the holidays and it would be great to see as many of our students participating in the Ballina ANZAC March as possible. Please meet me at the end of Martin St at 10.30am on the 25th.

Finally, I would like to wish all families a happy and relaxing Easter. Enjoy the holidays (and don’t eat too much chocolate!) School resumes for students on Tuesday 29th April.

Regards

Peter Flannery
PRINCIPAL
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age/Class</th>
<th>Hobbies</th>
<th>Favourite Movie</th>
<th>Favourite Colour</th>
<th>Favourite Food</th>
<th>Best thing about being a royal bee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kate</td>
<td>10, 3-4T</td>
<td>Playing tips</td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Watermelon</td>
<td>Sitting up on the stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>She’s the Man</td>
<td>Blue and Purple</td>
<td>Watermelon</td>
<td>Everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie</td>
<td>11, 5-6C</td>
<td>Running</td>
<td>The Lion King</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Watermelon</td>
<td>Sitting on the stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marielle</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Soccer, reading</td>
<td>My Little Pony</td>
<td>Blue and Pink</td>
<td>Apple and Banana</td>
<td>Sitting on the stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry</td>
<td>6, K-1N</td>
<td>Playing soccer</td>
<td>Scary Movie 1</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Ice-cream</td>
<td>You get to sit on the stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takhobi</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Playing football</td>
<td>Monsters University</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Rissoles</td>
<td>Everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Playing soccer</td>
<td>Don’t have one</td>
<td>Blue and green</td>
<td>Chips and sauce</td>
<td>Everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie</td>
<td>8, 3-4W</td>
<td>Playing Soccer</td>
<td>Scooby Doo</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>You get to be in the newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattaya</td>
<td>8, 3-4W</td>
<td>Playing Kick It</td>
<td>Jaws and She’s the Man</td>
<td>Blue, red and purple</td>
<td>Everything</td>
<td>Sitting on stage at assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcy</td>
<td>7, 1-2W</td>
<td>Soccer and football</td>
<td>Monster House</td>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Tomato</td>
<td>It’s fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin</td>
<td>5, K-1N</td>
<td>Playing football</td>
<td>Monster High</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Being on the beehive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illarrah</td>
<td>11, 5-6C</td>
<td>Touch footy and running</td>
<td>Hop</td>
<td>Green, blue and purple</td>
<td>Tacos</td>
<td>Everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Watching movies</td>
<td>Kelly’s Heroes</td>
<td>Black and red</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
<td>Being in the newsletter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**More Royal Bees...**

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sasha</td>
<td>7, 1-2H</td>
<td>Swimming, running and dancing</td>
<td>Nancy drew</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Pies and chips</td>
<td>Sitting on the stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex</td>
<td>11, 5-6C</td>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>The Lion King</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Chocolate</td>
<td>Getting my face on the royal wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe</td>
<td>11, 5-6C</td>
<td>Riding my bike with my brother</td>
<td>Five Children and It</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>Watermelon</td>
<td>Everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaiya</td>
<td>7, 1-2H</td>
<td>Playing with my brother</td>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Sour lollies</td>
<td>Going up on stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy</td>
<td>9, 3-4W</td>
<td>Football and cricket</td>
<td>Real Steel</td>
<td>Don't have one</td>
<td>Chips</td>
<td>Being proud</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COFFEE CLUB**

All Parents & Carers are welcome to join us for free afternoon tea, every second Thursday from 2:30 - 3:00pm, near the Canteen. It’s a great opportunity to have a chat and meet other families from our school, and also to have an informal chat with Peter Flannery. The first Coffee Club for next term will be Thursday 8th May. Hope to see you there.

A Big Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter Raffle and to everyone who donated goods for the prizes. It was a great success, the money raised was close to $2,000. Well Done! Hope you all have a wonderful break.

Thanks for your support,
P&C Committee.

**Banking News**

Banking continues next term, as always, on a Wednesday. There’s a fantastic new banking promotion starting after the holidays, with lots of prizes to be won for our banking children, and for our school. Information packs regarding this promotion will be sent home during the first week back in term 2.

The banking team.

**Canteen News**

Thank you to everyone who has supported the canteen during Term 1. A special thanks to all my volunteers for supporting me and doing an excellent job. Hope you can join me again next term.

**Congratulations** to Kristeena for winning our canteen volunteer draw for term one. Kristeena has won $10.00 canteen credit.

*We are still looking for volunteers to help in the canteen. If you would like to join the ‘canteen team’ next term, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.*

Hope you all have a relaxing and well earned holiday.

Thanks
Colleen. 0457 641431

**Did You Know**

Every time you volunteer in the canteen your children receive a free Zooper Dooper! You also go into an end of term draw!
Band and Choir News

Junior Band News

It has been a very productive term, with some students making some great progress on their instruments. I had a chat with all of the Junior Band students on Monday about really making a commitment to their practice, so that they can get the best out of the experience of being in the band and learning a new instrument.

There were many of the students who worried that they weren’t as organised as they would like to be in having a weekly practice schedule, so together we came up with a weekly timetable (just a Microsoft word document). I have printed each student off a copy and I encourage them to write in all of the things that they need to remember to do throughout the week. Put in soccer training or dance or any other extra curricular activities and see where they have some time available. You might also want to use it to put things like library and homework and other school based things on it too. I have asked that the kids find 4 times a week to do some short practice sessions. Now that we have an extra hour of daylight before school starts, perhaps they can be super organised in the mornings and get all of their chores done, have breakfast, pack bags and get ready for school and once totally organised – play their instrument for 20 minutes.

I encouraged the students to take this timetable home and display it somewhere prominent (like on the fridge).

In my experience these things only work with the help of the parents and care givers, so I encourage you to take an active part in helping your child to become organised. During our discussion today, the students agreed that “screen time” should be something that they get once they have completed all of their other necessary tasks. They were all keen to be more organised so hopefully the timetable will help make the start of term 2 more organised for everyone.

Senior Band/Combined Band

I have been in contact with parents via text messages about Anzac Day, but as well as this, your children should have received a note about the Southern Cross Musical with some added information about the Ballina RSL Club’s Anzac Day ceremony (on Friday 25th April at the Ballina RSL Cenotaph). Please chase this note up with your child if you haven’t yet received it. ALL Senior Band students need to be practicing their Anzac Hymns and Advance Australia Fair for the ceremony. Please ensure that your child is doing this, and once again, if you are unable to make the ceremony, please let me know ASAP.

Choir News

The choir are making such beautiful music, it is hard to believe that some of the students have only been singing with us for one term. Almost all students have now paid their fees and have been supplied with a CD and a repertoire book. If your child still has money outstanding and I haven’t spoken with you to arrange a payment plan or the like, unfortunately your child will be unable to attend choir next term. The CD and book are an integral part to how the choir is run, and without them your child would be at a distinct disadvantage.

5/6 Choir Sydney Trip

Thank you to the many parents who have paid the deposit for their child’s trip to Sydney in August. The children are eagerly anticipating this trip and are already talking about who they want to share a room with and what animals they want to see first at the zoo! If you would like your child to attend, but have been unable to pay the deposit, please contact me at amanda.drinkwater1@det.nsw.edu.au to discuss your options. If your child received the invitation, then this means that I REALLY want them to attend. I would love to talk with you about how we can help make this trip happen for them.

I hope that everyone enjoys a lovely break with their families.

Warm Regards

Amanda Drinkwater. ♪
Meet Our Students

NAME: Tykia
YEAR/CLASS: 6, 5-B
MY FAVOURITE MOVIE: Pitch Perfect
WHAT I DO FOR FUN: Playing with friends and shopping
MY FAVOURITE FOOD: Ice cream
MY FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Jessie
MY FAVOURITE BAND: One direction and Justice Crew
MY FAVOURITE SUBJECTS: Maths
I LOVE COMING TO BPS BECAUSE... I get to learn new things

NAME: Brandonlee
YEAR: 6
CLASS: 5-6T
MY FAVOURITE MOVIE: Alpha and Omega
WHAT I DO FOR FUN: Play computer games
MY FAVOURITE FOOD: Grapes
MY FAVOURITE TV SHOW: The Regular Show
MY FAVOURITE BAND: Imagine Dragons
MY FAVOURITE SUBJECTS: Maths
I LOVE COMING TO BPS BECAUSE... It's fun!

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Everyone!
SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS
JUNIOR CLINIC

When: Tuesday 15th - Thursday 17th April 8.00am - 12noon daily
Where: Ballina Tennis Club
Age/Level: 5 - 18 years

For more info or to register call Brandon Rowe on 0400 403323 or email impacttennis.net.au@gmail.com

Lifeline Northern Rivers
School Holidays Crazy Sale!
12\textsuperscript{th} - 26\textsuperscript{th} April, 2014 at our Ballina, Lismore, Casino and Byron bay stores.
All Children’s and Teen’s clothing $1! (excludes shoes)
Come and grab a bargain!