Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of our school counsellor Colleen Visser. Colleen died suddenly but peacefully in her home last Wednesday. She had been school counsellor here at Ballina PS for over ten years and carried out her duties to the utmost of her abilities, keeping the educational and social wellbeing of our students at the forefront of all her thoughts and actions. Samantha Gibson and I represented our school at Colleen’s funeral at Goonellabah today.

Partners in Learning Parent Feedback Surveys
As I mentioned last week our school is participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey regarding student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement. This survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child’s experience at school. These include communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 17 August and 16 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary; however, your responses are very much appreciated.

To access the survey please type the link below into your browser:
https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/login.htm
Username is parent18650  Password is Bal1112

Congratulations to our school leaders Bianca and Will who represented our school at the Victory in the Pacific & Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony at Ballina RSL on Tuesday evening.

Regards

Peter Flannery
PRINCIPAL
Seeing Daylight

Why is short-sightedness (myopia) becoming so common in many countries? 30 – 40% and rising in the US, Europe and Australia? Too much reading? Too much screen time? It would appear that myopia, once rare in human beings, is the result of too much artificial light and not enough natural daylight, which is a thousand times stronger and has more blue and green wavelengths. Children who spend more time outdoors have sharper eyesight than those who play indoors, research from Queensland, Taiwan and Denmark have all revealed, and the reason for this is that artificial light weakens the eyeball’s focussing mechanism. The answer: get your children outdoors for an hour a day, which is enough to improve eyesight in the growing years.

North Coast Zone Athletics Carnival

On Friday 14th of August, 16 students travelled to Byron Bay for the North Coast Zone Athletics Carnival. The students represented the school with pride and were supported by family and community members. 7 of the students have made it through to the Regional carnival to be held in Lismore on Friday the 28th August. They are:

Justine 1st 10yrs 100M, 1st junior girls 200M
Dayle 1st 11yrs 100M, 1st senior girls long jump
Biega 2nd senior girls shot putt
Claire 3rd junior girls shot putt, 3rd junior girls discus
Seth 3rd senior boys 200M
Kenneth 1st 13yrs 100M, 1st senior boys high jump

Thank you to all parents and family members who attended on the day, we are very proud of your young athletes!
All Parents and Carers are welcome to join us for free afternoon tea, every second Thursday from 2.30~3pm. The next Coffee Club will be Thursday, August 27th. It’s a great opportunity to catch up, and meet other families from our school, and to have an informal chat with our Principal, Peter Flannery. Hope to see you there!
The P&C Committee

BOOK WEEK
On Thursday, August 27th, the Canteen will become ‘PIZZA PLANET’ from Toy Story. Home made pizza will be available on this day. Ham & Pineapple or Chicken & Pineapple ~ $3.00 Garlic Bread ~ 50c (No other HOT Food is available on the day) Other Yummy Toy Story Treats will be available over the counter.

Did you know ~ if you yell ‘Andy’s Coming!’ in front of the Toy Story Characters at Disneyland, they will stop what they are doing and drop to the ground!

Next Weeks Meal Deal ~ T-Rex Toastie
Chicken or Ham & Cheese toasted sandwich, Nudie Juice Popper, Watermelon Cup, plus a surprise. $5.00.

Colleen 0457 641431

Kindergarten Enrolments 2016
Do you have a child, or know of a child who is starting Kindergarten next year? We are currently organising Kindergarten for 2016 and would appreciate it if you could return the form below to the office please, so that your child’s name is on the invitation list for Kindergarten Orientation scheduled for early in term 4.

Enrolment for Kindergarten 2016
Child’s name: _______________________________
Date of Birth: ______________________________
Address:____________________________________
Phone number: ______________________________
Parent Name/s: ______________________________
Sibling’s Name/s: ____________________________
Email Address:_______________________________

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Preparation 9.15-11</th>
<th>Lunch 11.15-12</th>
<th>Recess 2-2.30</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>Teresa</td>
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Ballina Bears Cricket Club Junior Sign On 2015/2016 Season

The Ballina Bears Cricket Club caters for Junior players from under 10’s through to under 16’s with games played on Saturday mornings & 1st Grade through to 4th Grade on Saturday afternoons.

Under 5’s to 8’s will participate in Milon2Cricket Program and Under 8’s to 11’s this year will participate in the Milo T20 Blast Program to both be run on a Wednesday afternoon leaving weekends free.

Sign on days for the above programs for Under 8’s and Under 11’s, plus for Under 12’s Under 14’s and Under 16’s will be Friday 4th September from 4pm till 6.00pm at Fripp Oval Clubhouse Canal Road Ballina.

Registrations will then continue each Wednesday during September at 4pm at Fripp Oval.

Club contacts for
Juniors are Dave Kapeen 0402530222 for Under 12’s 14’s and 16’s
For 5’s to 11’s Shane Jacobs 0401211929, Luke Cleaver 0432630162

Follow the club on facebook.com/ballinabearscricket or visit the Club website ballinabearscc.nsw.cricket.au