Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those parents and friends who came along to our Welcome BBQ. This was the first of several opportunities this year for parents and staff to get together informally. Sadly numbers were down which made it difficult for teachers to share information about what’s happening in their classrooms this year.

Over coming weeks teachers will be contacting you to arrange a time to discuss your child and their progress. This is vital in helping them individualise the learning programs for your child and I urge you to take up this opportunity. Of course you are welcome to speak to the teachers at any time but they are keen to learn more about your child as soon as possible.

Thank you to the staff for giving up their evening to attend and to the P&C for its support.

Student Leaders Showing the Way
Leadership is a major focus for Ballina Public School and the recently elected student leaders are certain to do their best in this regard. Ruby, Harry, Laura and Deon were elected as school leaders for 2016 after a series of nominations, campaign speeches and voting last year.

In 2016 they have hit the ground running, already leading school assemblies, chairing the Student Representative Council and welcoming new students to the school. Over the year they will also be representing the school at major ceremonies as well as being involved in the PBL induction of new students.

General Permission Note
In today’s Communication Folder you may find a General Permission Note to complete (new families probably have already done this). It provides a reminder of school supervision times and behavioural expectations, but also asks for permission regarding the application of sunscreen, participating in local excursions around Ballina, media permission and acceptable use of the internet. If you haven’t already done so this year, please complete and return it to the office. Parent email addresses would also be appreciated.

Regards
Peter Flannery
PRINCIPAL
Band and Choir News

All choir auditions for interested members were completed last week (if your child missed out for whatever reason, please ask them to see me at a recess time). We have some wonderful singers in our midst. If your child didn't make it through, I spoke with them about how pitch recognition develops over time and can be improved upon by singing more. I applaud their bravery in auditioning (it can be scary to sing on your own!) Please encourage them to audition again next year if you think that their singing has improved over this time.

I am still playing around with the timetable for band and choir and much of this depends on the new band students who are still returning notes and money. Can all past band members please bring their instruments on Thursdays and Fridays for the coming weeks so that they can be flexible about when their lesson will be over those two days. Once instruments have been allocated to Juniors, they will also need to bring them to school on both Thursdays and Fridays. Instruments can be stored in the band room over night on Thursdays.

Tuesday afternoon band rehearsals will begin in April to save confusion (I am away for three Tuesdays in March!) Tuesday afternoon rehearsals will not involve everyone, but individual notes will go out to students who this will involve.

Please be patient while I organise instrument allocation and music over the coming weeks.

On Wednesday next week I will travel to Sydney to learn some new choir repertoire at the Sydney Conservatorium so choir resources will not be distributed until approximately week 5 or 6 when I have had an opportunity to liaise with the students about song choices as well as burn CD’s and copy 50 something folders!

"The Sound Of Music" - band, choir and dance troupe students are being offered the opportunity to see the professional performance of “The Sound Of Music” in Brisbane during the last week of term. There are only 40 places and many more students than this number in those groups, so please return your permission note and money as soon as possible. You are able to sell fundraising chocolates to assist with payment. Please see the permission note for more information. If your child did not receive a note and is a member of one of these groups, please see me (or ask them to see me) to get another copy.

If parents or carers require any further information about choir or band, please do not hesitate to call the school and leave me a message, or email me on Amanda.drinkwater1@det.nsw.edu.au.

Warm regards
Amanda. Drinkwater
Band and Choir Co-ordinator

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PBL News

Be Safe Be Fair
Be a Learner

The PBL focus for this week was boundaries. Children understand the boundaries are in place to keep them safe. There has been a noticeable improvement in this area throughout the week. Well done to all children for recognising that this is an important part of our school expectation and helping to make our school a safe place to be. Next week’s focus will be eating in the eating area.

Thank you
The PBL Team

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Friday Folders

You may have noticed that we have our ‘Friday Folders’ system running again this year, where all notes go home on the one day, in the one folder. Please be on the lookout for a new 2016 ‘General Permission Note’ that will be sent home. Please fill this in and return it to the front office at your earliest convenience.

There will also be a form sent home regarding student dental services. There is a consent form and questionnaire to fill in. Please consider this and return as soon as possible.

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Scripture

Please note, we are currently referring to our existing school records with regards to scripture. If you would like to change your preference for scripture attendance, please send in a note with your child.
Welcome back to all our banking students for 2016. We are very excited to say an even bigger welcome to our new banking students! If you would like to know more about school banking, please contact Joan Gibson, by calling the school on 66862205 and leaving a message, or alternatively, Joan will be near the canteen every Wednesday morning before the start of school bell.

This year’s program is themed the Outback Savers and we’re taking students on a wild adventure through the Canyon of Savings, where they’ll learn to master smart saving habits. There will be new savings rewards and prizes available this year, more information will be available in the coming weeks.

Thanks for banking!
The Banking Team

**Banking News**

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The Banking Team

All Parents and Carers are welcome to join us for a free afternoon tea, every second Thursday from 2.30~3pm, near the canteen. The next Coffee Club will be Thursday, February 18th. 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

**Slushies**  We have a new slushy supplier this year, we have been selling it for the last week. They taste a lot nicer than the previous one, I hope you all agree. They are made from 99% fruit juice concentrate with all natural flavours and colours. They are $2.00 each.

**Spoons**  If you pack something in your child’s lunch box that needs a spoon or fork, don’t forget to put one in. There has been a number of students already asking for spoons, if it continues we may have to start charging, at 5c each, as they are an added cost to the canteen which adds up over the year. Thanks for your cooperation.

*Next Weeks MEAL DEAL*  'Chicken Meal', fresh crumbed Chicken fillet & salad, a mini water, a brownie, plus a surprise. Only $5.00.

**Did you know**– Our Chicken burgers are made with fresh chicken breasts crumbed here in the canteen with bread crumbs and mixed herbs.

**We need you!!**  If you would like to help out in the canteen, come and see me, call or text. It would be great to hear from you.

Colleen 0457 641431

**P & C News**

Welcome back to all of our previous P&C Members for 2016. It was great to see some familiar faces at our recent meeting. We would REALLY LIKE TO WELCOME SOME NEW MEMBERS! It’s easy to sign up, simply come along to our next scheduled meeting, and join. It’s a great way to have some input into the daily happenings of our school. The P&C normally meets from 6pm in the school staff room on the second Monday of each month. These meetings are advertised in the calendar section of the newsletter whenever they are happening. The next meeting will be on the 14th of March.

We would love to hold a Fete later on in the year (the last one was held in 2013), but help is desperately needed if this is to take place. It would be our major fundraising event for 2016, and the kids really really enjoy it. All suggestions for stalls and/or activities for a fete are welcome, just write it down and send it in to the canteen.

Lindzi Moore
P&C Secretary.
Ballina Rugby Union

2016 Registration
17th February 5pm

From under 8’s

$95 includes shorts, socks and shirt

Kalinga St, West Ballina
Contact Kahli Milner 0415797494

LEARN JAPANESE OR CHINESE

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Phone 0422 569212

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LENNOX HEAD NETBALL CLUB 2016 SEASON

COME AND JOIN THE FUN - NEW PLAYERS WELCOME !!!

Register and Pay online at: www.lennoxheadnc.nsw.netball.com.au
Lennox Head Netball Club sign on Day
Saturday 13th February 2016
9.00 am – 12.00 pm
Ballina Netball Courts

For further information see:-
Facebook – www.facebook.com/LennoxHeadNetballClub
Contact – Leanne Rodgers – lrodgers@bigpond.com

Rainbow Children’s Centre Inc

Before School Care 7am-9am
After School Care 3.15pm-6.20pm
Vacation Care 8am-6.00pm
Operating from Ballina Public School
5-12 yrs olds
Phone Jan or Jodi for Information (02) 6686 6621
Government Child Care benefits and rebate available
Website: rainbow@nsw.edu.au

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.