ARD Visit
Ms Deb Hails, our Assistant Regional Director will be visiting the school on Monday as part of her support role to schools. She will be speaking to staff and visiting classrooms. We welcome her visit so we can show her how and what we do every day.

Spelling Lessons
Progress is going well with the new spelling system implementation. To make sure this is comprehensively done, there will be a lesson each Wednesday for the rest of the term. This will most likely drop off from then on.
An information pamphlet about “Words Their Way” is included in the newsletter for your information.
It is important to note that the focus with this approach is around “what is heard”, rather than just learning lists of words.
Younger students spend considerable time learning to focus their attention to the sounds they hear, then they progress to understanding letter combinations and the sounds they make.
When they investigate a new word, students are being taught to identify how many syllables, then what sounds they hear, followed by looking at vowel and consonant combinations, then whether syllables are open or closed (important for correct pronunciation).
Older students also spend considerable time understanding affixes and word origins.
Our goal is to have students with far greater knowledge and application of how to spell.

Nanango Bus
Students are going to be assembled on the path, away from the entrance, so that others leaving the school have better access.

General Bus Behaviour
All students who travel on either bus to and from school are reminded that the behaviour expectations and standards are the same as when at school. Quiet, controlled and courteous students make for a safe journey.

School Swimming
Any families who have not yet paid for their child/ren’s lesson are asked to do so ASAP. All fees must be paid before events.
Thongs – students are NOT allowed to wear thongs on swimming day. Normal shoes are appropriate.

Parent Information Sessions
Following this week’s 3 sessions, the remaining Parent Information sessions will be held in week 7 – Tuesday 10th March.
5.00 Yr 3 Mr Newton 6.00 Yr 5-6 Mr Johnston
7.00 Prep Mrs Pegrem

School Photos
This year’s whole school, class, family and individual photos will be taken on Tuesday 10th March at 9.00am. Students are all expected to be in their best school uniform.
Bright head bands, shoes or laces really stand out and detract from the photo.

Year 6 Leadership Camp – Barambah EEC
Students received their participation certificates – Jordan Weerheim, Louis Somerville, Joshua Feakins, Lily Joyce, Shannon Hartley, Lillian Davey & Jade May.

GRIP Leadership Conference for Students

Generosity    Responsibility     Integrity     People
Five Year 6 students travelled to Highfields with their small schools colleagues yesterday to experience their first GRIP Conference.
The conference was both relevant and inspiring. In a fun and fast-paced way, students were given strategies and challenged to think about how they can support their school and peers. They learned how to Stand-up and make the best of opportunities / Pay It Forward – which means to do things for others / look for opportunities to lead / develop a Leadership Plan.

We will certainly be continuing to attend this event in the future.

125th Celebration Planning Meeting
The school celebrates 125 years of education in Coolabunia on Saturday 28 May 2016.
The P&C is holding the first of the planning meetings required to ensure a suitable event is ready, on Tuesday 24th February, 7.00pm in the school library.
An interim sub-committee has been established to begin the process. Permanent sub-committee positions will need to be arranged to take on the organisation of PRIORITIES / ENGAGING SUPPORT & IDEAS / SELECTED ACTIVITIES / PLANNING ALL ACTIVITIES. This will occur at this meeting.
Past & present school families are invited to become involved to ensure all sectors of the community and school life are included. We will be looking for contributions of any kind. We ask that every school family offer their assistance in one way or another.

Student Contribution
Payment of the Student Contribution are now DUE
– Please pay ASAP.
- $20 ea for first 2 students and $10 each for each additional student per family.

Thought for the Day ‘Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.’ Benjamin Franklin
Handwriting /Maths Workbooks / RE Workbook
All Handwriting (Prep – Yr2) and Maths Workbooks (Prep – Yr 6) have arrived and are available from the office.

Prices:
- Handwriting Books Prep – Yr 2 - $13.00ea
- Maths Books Prep – Year 6 - $19.00
- RE Workbooks Year 1- Year 6 - $6.00ea

Cleaner Position
A substantial number of applications have been received. The successful candidate will not be finalised and announced for approx. 2 weeks.

P&C CHOCOLATE DRIVE FUNDRAISER
- Families are responsible for keeping the chocolates in good condition and looking after the funds taken.
- Please just ask at the office if you need more boxes to sell.
- The prize this year will go to the family who raises the most money. The winners will be advised on parade on the 9th March.
The P&C thankyou for your support and HAPPY SELLING/SAMPLING CHOCOLATES.

The closing date for the return of all money and unsold chocolates is Wednesday 4th March.

Healthy-e-Screen 4 Kids - Hearing Screen Program
Students from our school have been invited to participate in this Hearing Screening Program again this year.
- Please find attached an Information Brochure and Consent Form.
- If you wish your child/ren to be screened please complete and return the form ASAP.

Students who have current Consent and those who do not require further screenings, will not receive this data.

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H Johnston
Principal
Thought for the Day: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." Benjamin Franklin