VALUES FOCUS: Respect

SPORTS AWARDS
Congratulations to the following students for displaying great sportsmanship;
Jaxon, John, Luka, Ry and Mcailah.

CONGRATULATIONS to
Abigail who has sung her way into the Tweed Small School's Choir. The choir will be
performing in the area during the year with a final performance at the Sydney Opera House
in October.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE
Thanks to everyone for a great SRC disco last Thursday night. Mr Visser was our fabulous DJ
for the night and everyone had lots of fun dressed as their favourite celebrity! Thanks also
to our ladies in the canteen who provided a great menu for all our families.

Next Monday we will be walking to the Burringbar Community Hall to sing for Senior’s
Week. Our Grandparents day and Harmony day Assembly will be held on Friday, 27th
March. The children will fly their Harmony day kites with their families at recess time. We
are all looking forward to making our kites in a “Doing Things Together” session next
Monday to encourage all students to help each other and learn together. Please note we
have changed K/1 D assembly date. It was advertised for 27 March. Their class item will
now be held in Term 2.

Our Values Program over the next few weeks is focusing on RESPECT. Teachers will be
discussing what it means to be respectful at home, at school and in the playground. Parents
are asked to continue this discussion with their children at home as this really reinforces
the values we teach at school.

Parents and visitors to the school are asked to go to the office rather than straight to the
classroom. This is to ensure the safety of all students and staff in our school. Our friendly
office staff will take any messages that may need to be passed onto teachers or students.
We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Parent/ Teacher interviews will be starting next week. Thankyou to everyone for their
enthusiastic response to the invitations sent out by the class teachers. Please be reminded
that interviews are for 15 minutes and students are encouraged to discuss their learning
goals during the interview.

Thankyou for your continued support and cooperation.
Helen Atkins

Our newsletter is posted on our school website.
SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK
As part of Senior Citizens week we have been invited to sing to our local senior citizens in the Burringbar Hall on Monday 16 March. All students will walk to and from the hall on this day. Students will be supervised by their class teacher. All students are required to be in a clean school uniform with shoes and socks. School hats must be worn while walking. Please complete the permission note to allow your child to participate.

PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Notes have been sent home with each student with information regarding times teachers are available for interviews. Please phone the office to secure your interview time with your child’s teacher.

ASSEMBLY
Class 2/3/4M will present their class item on Friday 20 March at 10:30 am.

2016 HIGH SCHOOL
On Tuesday 10 March the Principal of Murwillumbah High School visited our year 6 students and spoke about high school enrolments for 2016. Each year 6 student received an Expression of Interest Enrolment form. All students are to return this form regardless of what type of high school they wish to enrol in Government or private school. Please read, complete and return the form by Friday 20 March.

THE NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY
Mr Visser and our 4 SRC members will travel to Brisbane on Friday 20 March to attend a seminar on leadership. This is a great opportunity for our young leaders.

FEES
Thank you to the 14 families who have paid the school contribution and work book fees.

TWEED DAILY NEWS
Our kindergarten class photo will be published in The Tweed Daily News on Saturday 28 March.

P&C NEWS
Easter Hamper Raffle
Donations of Easter Eggs or items for the Easter Hamper and basket(s) for the hamper are required. All donations will be greatly appreciated and can be left at the school’s office. We are asking all items be in by Wednesday 1 April. A raffle book was handed out with each newsletter today for the Easter Hamper. Please return all raffle books and money to the office Thursday 2 April. The raffle will be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade. The money raised from the Easter raffle will go towards the Year 6 farewell.

Hot Cross Bun Drive
Attached to this newsletter is an order form for Hot Cross Buns. Please return all orders and money by Thursday 26 March. Orders can be collected on Wednesday 1 April. Please indicate on the order form how your order will be collected.

Easter Hat Parade
The P&C are hoping all students will get creative at home and bring in their hats for The Easter Hat Parade held on the last day of Term 1 - Thursday 2nd April. The P&C will award prizes for the Best Dressed Hat for each class and look forward to seeing many wonderful and wacky headpieces.

COMMUNITY NEWS
Free Dental Health clinics from Tweed to Yamba provide free clinics for children under 18 years of age. The contact number is 1300 651 625.

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Senior Citizens Week
I give ______________________________________, _______________________________________,
______________________________ permission to walk, under the supervision of their class teacher, to
and from Burringbar Hall where they will be singing to senior citizens, on Monday 16 March. My child will be in school uniform including the school hat.

Signed: ___________________________________________ Date: ____________________________
Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:
Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day.
Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine.
Give students time to greet their friends before class.
Reduces classroom disruption.
Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:
being sick, or having an infectious disease.
Having an unavoidable medical appointment.
Being required to attend recognised religious holiday.
Exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral).

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?
You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?
It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken: Compulsory Schooling Conferences. You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order. If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

Prosecution in the Local Court—School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?
All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership
The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Bakers Delight Murwillumbah would like to offer you the opportunity to purchase delicious Hot Cross Buns and make a profit for our school. The more buns you purchase the more profit for our P&C. For every 6 pack of Hot Cross Buns you order, Bakers Delight Murwillumbah will give $2.50 to our P&C. Simply fill in the details below and select how many and which Hot Cross Buns you would like to order, bring your order form together with full payment back to school by Thursday 26 March and your buns will be ready to collect on Wednesday 1 April. Remember to ask family and friends if they would like to order some too.

Please indicate by a ✓ how your order will be collected.

I will collect my order □ or My order can be given to my child to take home. □

Family Name: _________________________________ Contact No: ____________________

Student’s Full Name: ___________________________ Class: _______________________

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Burrinbar Public School
P&C Association