Welcome Kindergarten 2015
Congratulations to our new Kindies and their families on a fabulous start to 2015. All of our Kindies are in attendance and coping well with the big changes in their life. If you have any questions about school routines please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Anaphylaxis
As you know, we have several children in our school who have anaphylaxis. As a community you have been incredibly supportive in the efforts to keep these children safe. On behalf of these families, we thank you for limiting nut products given to your children and hope you continue this practice.
We ask for that continued support for our new student, Byron, who is in kindergarten. Byron is allergic to nuts, dairy and eggs.
We are not about to ask you to limit these products for your children, as growing bones need dairy and the omega 3 that eggs provide.
What we are hoping for is that you encourage your children to:
1. Not share food
2. Not buy food for others at the canteen
3. Wash their hands regularly after eating.

Allergies
New regulations require specific paperwork to be completed by your child’s doctor if your child has **anaphylaxis, asthma or allergies**. Once you have returned the medical note sent home last week, the office staff will provide this paperwork that **MUST BE SIGNED BY A DOCTOR**.
We appreciate your support in this matter.

Assembly
Assembly has moved to **WEDNESDAY afternoons at 3pm**. There will be a performance assembly at the end of term.

Keeping them safe
We hope all our families can help us keep these boys and girls safe. Santi, Fergus, Byron, Ben, Harrison and Jazmyn are all at risk of an Anaphylaxis reaction to various items and insects.
ASCIA action plans and Epi-Pens are located in the office and teachers red playground first aid kits.
Classes
We will hold six classes this year. The classes vary in size. While planning classes last year, we had a balance in the 4/5 and 5/6 classes. We now have a small class in 4/5 while 5/6 is filled to capacity. If you are a parent of a year 5 child and would like them to move to the 4/5, this can be easily arranged. However, we can’t move any year 5 children to the 5/6 class. Please be assured that regardless of whether your child is in 4/5 or 5/6 the year 5 students are accessing the same stage appropriate curriculum.

Parent-Teacher Interviews
All teachers will be speaking to all parents before the end of term 1. If teachers feel they need to speak to you sooner, they will call you to arrange a meeting. Likewise, if you feel there is something of an urgent nature that you think your child’s teacher should know, please arrange an interview by contacting the office. Interview request sheets will be sent home later in February.
All teachers have staff meetings to attend Monday and Thursday afternoon, and Tuesday and Thursday mornings, so they are not available at these times. It would also be very much appreciated if you not approach teachers when they are in control of a class. Please wait until outside the room until after the bell and the teacher has dismissed the whole class.

Change of Routine
When there are changes to how your child is to go home, even for a day, please provide a note or call the office by 3pm.

District carnival
There is a short time between our swimming carnival and the district carnival. All children participating in the district carnival will be given their permission note on Monday 9th February. Notes will need to be returned by Thursday 12th as the district swimming carnival will be held on Friday 13th February.

Parking
When parking on the front oval of the school, please try to reverse park, watching for children. We have had some very close calls when parents leaving in the afternoon, reverse out of their parking and nearly collecting children who are running on mass to their cars. Also please ensure that you turn left and go around the round about to leave this area.
Please do not park in the staff car park when you are collecting children. There is a blind spot when parents are coming out of the car park and children are crossing the drive to get to cars. Our younger children have not yet developed their peripheral vision so won’t necessarily see cars driving out of the car park.

Bus
Some children have changed their bus habits. If your child gets different buses on different days, please send a note to the office so we know your routine. Phone calls after 3pm to the office are very difficult to manage with advising students and teachers. We would also appreciate you confirming with your children in the morning how they are getting home in the afternoon to avoid confusion.
Bus 1 (afternoon) → Alstonville
Bus 2 (afternoon) → Lennox, Cumbalum, Ballina

Bus passes
Bus passes for Ballina Buslines and Blanches are automatically posted to students as they move through the years, with the exception of students moving from Year 2 to Year 3. The note went home last week if your child was one of these children. If you are one of our new Kindergarten families and you need to set up your students bus travel, please also ask for a form at the office.

Staffing
A panel, consisting of the principal, a teacher and a parent are currently in the process of selecting the new teacher for year 1. We hope to have this finalised by the end of next week.

Milo Cricket
Exciting news, today we had a visit from Cricket NSW to promote an after school cricket program.
There will be a trial day next Thursday it runs from 3.30pm-4.30pm. The program will run for 7 weeks and costs $65.00.
The students have been given a note explaining the online registration process. Once you have paid the students will receive a cricket pack that contains a bat, ball, t-shirt and drink bottle.
Given that the Cricket World Cup starts soon it is a great way to get to learn to the cricket basics. If you need any more information or a new note please see Mrs Sawras.
This Cricket program is run independently from the school and the first aid rooms and office will be closed.
Register online at www.incricket.com.au
Milo Cricket Contact: Colin Earl
Phone: 0419 608 775
E: cea10605@bigpond.net.au
Swimming Carnival

Our school swimming carnival is this Friday 6th February. A program of events is included below. Specific times for races cannot be provided. Children will be able to purchase from the shop at our designated break times. Please ensure your child has healthy food to eat and limit their money so they don’t fill up on lollies and ice-creams. They will only be allowed to purchase milk, juice or water - no soft drinks or energy drinks.

Placings and therefore ribbons, will be awarded for junior and seniors as this is the way it works at district level.

Please note: As we only have a small number of children in our senior group, we are running their races as one group, but times will be recorded as per district carnival rulings, where there are sometimes separate races for 11 year olds. Example: if in one race, there was an 11 yo and a 12 yo. Both could technically ‘win’ the race as they are in different age groups.

Ballina Pool has some new rules which they have asked us to follow. The children are not allowed:
- body paint,
- paper and tinsel (eg paper pompoms and tinsel wigs).

If you can help on Friday with time keeping, please see Mrs Lasserre or Mrs Sawras at the pool.

Due to time constraints the carnival will run on Friday regardless of weather, except if there are thunderstorms. If it is too wet for your child to attend, you will need to decide if they are still going to attend.

All teachers 2-6 will be attending the carnival so there will be no supervision for the children at school.

WAR CRIES

50 metre freestyle (age races) boys followed by girls 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

50 metre Breast stroke
Senior boys, senior girls, junior boys, junior girls

50 metre back stroke
Senior boys, senior girls, junior boys, junior girls

Individual Medley
GREEN WRISTBANDS ONLY

50 metre butterfly
Senior boys, senior girls, junior boys, junior girls

Open 100m Freestyle
GREEN WRISTBANDS ONLY
This is an OPEN event- ie ALL ages in the one race.

House Relays

Year 6 race

Uniform Shop

Opening hours for the uniform shop are changing. We will now be open on Wednesday morning from 9am to 9:45am.

We are in desperate need of good quality second hand school uniforms. If you have any second hand uniforms please wash them and leave them at the school office. Please do not include any items that were not purchased originally through the school uniform shop. These uniforms are a wonderful helping hand to our families.

Choir at Ballina Fair

Thank you to Miss Slingsby and the choir for representing our school at Ballina Fair and bringing some Christmas spirit to the shoppers.