Dear Parents and Community Members,

I would like to start off by saying a very big thank you to our P&C who are diligently working to host a wonderful afternoon for ladies, called “Cocktails in the Canefield”. The organisation and thought going into the occasion is outstanding and I have no doubt the ladies attending will have a very fun time. Anticipation is growing that is for sure! Remember, if you would like to keep updated with news and information about the event, please like the “NESS P&C Cocktails in the Canefields” page on Facebook. Tickets can be purchased at the office.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to the parents, staff and students who took the time to complete the School Opinion Survey. I look forward to receiving the data back to see what we are doing well and where we can improve.

This week there are a few changes. I am off to Cairns for the annual QASSP Conference from Wednesday afternoon to Friday. During my absence Mrs Hildred will be teaching the class on Wednesday afternoon and Mrs Nilsson will be teaching Thursday and Friday. Bernie is also away on these days and Mrs Leanne Clark will be replacing her.
Congratulateons to our students who have been demonstrating a lot of hard work throughout the term. Progress is being witnessed and goals are being met which is exciting to see. I would also like to say a very big “Well done” to Jorja who ran parade on Monday. This is part of the Year 6s showing leadership, confidence and responsibility. You did a wonderful job Jorja!

Please ensure that you let the school know if your child is going to be absent. I may sound like a broken record regarding this, but every day counts! In fact, every minute counts! I am adamant about this. Please follow the simple process by sending a text, leaving a message or flicking an email, there are many ways to contact the school. There’s no excuse as to why the school has not been notified.

School photos on Friday were great fun! Paul and Donna from Country School Photos had the staff and students giggling and we are thoroughly looking forward to seeing the photos.

Have a wonderful fortnight.

JAZMYN

for outstanding reading!

LOUIS

Amazing Journal Writing

ALANNAH

Excellent Modelled Writing during Library time.

BRIDGET

Completing tasks during class.

Rule of the week

We line up respectfully outside classrooms.
**Why talking about school is important**

Talking with your child about the school day shows you’re interested in what’s going on in his life. This interest boosts his mental health, happiness and wellbeing. It can also have a very positive effect on your child’s behaviour and achievement. It shows your child that you value school and education, which encourages him to value it too.

Talking together about school also helps you get to know more about what’s expected of your child at school, how she learns and how she handles challenges. It can help you understand when she’s feeling less interested in school or experiencing problems.

When you’re in touch with your child’s feelings about school, you’re more likely to see problems when they’re molehills, not mountains. This way you can work on overcoming challenges together.

And talking about school issues – such as school projects or friendship problems – is also a great chance for you to express your family values about things like teamwork, respect for self and others, friendships, relationships, problem-solving and so on.

**Strategies for talking about school with your child**

Your child will probably be tired and hungry or thinking about other things when she first gets home. So easing the transition from school or after-school activities to home can help your child feel more like talking.

---

**Rule of the week**

Pencils are used for writing on work, not tables.
Simple, specific questions about parts of the day can get your child talking. For example:

- What was fun?
- What did you like best at school today?
- What does your classroom look like at the moment?
- Who did you play with/talk to at school today?
- What subjects did you do today?
- What projects are you working on at the moment?

Tips for talking about school with primary school children

These tips can help you get a conversation going:

- Give your child your full attention. Put aside whatever you’re doing and look at her when she talks to you about anything, especially school.
- Take seriously whatever your child tells you. For example, you can say things like, ‘That’s really interesting. Then what happened?’ or ‘And how do you feel about that?’
- When you talk about the school and teachers with or in front of your child, use respectful language. For example, ‘I can see that’s frustrating, but Mrs Adams is your teacher and you need to speak respectfully to her’, or ‘Yes that seems unfair, but perhaps you don’t know the whole story’.
- Use informal moments to talk with your child about his day at school – for example, car trips, walking together, cooking or watching TV together.
- Use active listening techniques. These can help you pick up on your child’s feelings and work out whether she wants to talk.

By Raising Children Network - raisingchildren.net.au